

## Whether Common or Not.

### The Optimist.

When the world seems dark and dreary,  
Stern and cold;  
And the days are long, and weary  
Cares unfold;  
Keep your mind upon the morrow;  
Care and trouble never borrow;  
Sing of hope, and not of sorrow,  
Brave and bold.

Set to work with cheerful smiling  
Ev'ry day.  
Sing glad songs to be beguiling  
Hours away.  
Life is always what you make it;  
Joy is yours if you will take it;  
Grasp the tree of hope and shake it,  
And be gay.

Waste not golden hours in grieving  
For the past.  
Up and on, the dead past leaving—  
Travel fast!  
Struggle on with strong endeavor;  
Bid farewell to blues forever;  
Shackles forged by failure sever,  
From your cast.

Rouse yourself! Be up and doing  
While you may.  
Opportunity pursuing  
Day by day.  
Back of each dark cloud is shining  
Joy's eternal silver lining;  
In your heart sweet hope enshrining,  
Work away.

To your task your best work giving  
Day by day,  
Life will be well worth the living  
All the way.  
Waste not time in idle weeping;  
Sowing must precede the reaping;  
Put your fate in God's safe keeping—  
Work and pray.

### Next Day.

There was a young man in Cadiz  
Who went on a terrible whiz.  
When he cured his sore head  
His employer said  
He didn't need him in his biz.

### Strictly Parliamentary.

"Do you mean to call me a liar?"  
"Not at all, my dear sir. I only  
mean to say that your ratiocination  
is marked by a plentitude of digres-  
sions from the strict line of veracity."  
"Well, that's all right. Your ex-  
planation is perfectly satisfactory."

### The Strenuous.

"It appears to me," remarked Aunt  
Jerusha, as she pushed her spectacles  
up over her forehead and laid her  
knitting aside, "that the executive defi-  
nition of strenuous is that if another  
man calls him a liar he will hit the  
other man, but if he calls another man  
a liar the other man should be con-  
tent with demanding an official inves-  
tigation."

### Reversible.

"It is the opinion of the court," re-  
marked the judge, "that in this case,

where there is opportunity for our  
great captains of industry to make a  
stake, the constitution should be sus-  
pended. Its operations are calculated  
to retard the work of civilization and  
assimilation, to say nothing of grab-  
allinsightization. Therefore it is held  
that the constitution shall be ignored.  
In this other case before us, however,  
it seems that ignoring the constitution  
would work an injury to the great  
captains of industry, therefore we feel  
that it is necessary to insist upon a  
strict interpretation and enforcement  
of the constitution, because any other  
course would only result in great good  
to the masses who should delight in  
adding to the good work performed by  
the aforesaid captains."

So saying, it was entered of record  
that the looting should continue and  
that the people of the northwest  
should submit to the merger unless  
they succeeded in discovering some  
other way of stopping it.

### Calculations Upset.

Meandering Mike—"Please, mum  
would you give a poor man a small  
bite o' sumthin' t' eat. I regret de  
necessity dat compels me t' ask dis  
favor, but de troot is me calculations  
has been upset"

Mrs. Nuwed—"Certainly, my poor  
man. Step right in. May I ask what  
arrangements you had made and were  
forced to abandon?"

Meandering Mike—"Cert, mum. You  
see I had a date t' eat wid de president  
t'day, but owin' t' circumstances he  
pulled back de invite an' I hadn't made  
any other arrangements f'r me grub."

### Brain Leaks.

True friendship says little and does  
much.

The earnest Christian lives in a con-  
tinued state of repentance.

Stealing is not confined to taking  
the product of men's hands.

Lovers' quarrels are popular because  
it is such fun "making up."

Some creatures that wear trousers  
are only called men through courtesy.

Duty well done is the seed from  
whence springs the flower of pleasure.

While waiting for your ship to come  
in busy yourself building a safe harbor.

Interest on the church mortgage is  
money taken from the missionary  
field.

The man who neglects the primaries  
has no moral right to object to the  
ticket.

The influence of a well ordered home  
makes better boys than curfew ordi-  
nances.

The Bible and Shakespeare are the  
most talked about and least read books  
in print.

It is no sign of a Christian to wear  
a face long enough to eat oats out of  
a churn.

If every good resolution was car-  
ried out Hades would be a howling  
wilderness.

Time never hangs heavily on the

hands of a man who faces a promis-  
sory note.

This would be a happy world if the  
rich would do what the poor would  
like to do.

It is well to be slow in following the  
advice of the man who does not set  
the example.

Manhood would be a heavy burden  
were it not for the recollections of our  
youthful days.

Satan always uses the finest look-  
ing bait, but it never tastes good when  
it is swallowed.

Too many people give God promis-  
sory notes in order to have cash to  
spend with Satan.

It is no disgrace to be poor, unless  
your own laziness and improvidence  
is the cause of it.

The man who waits for something to  
turn up is never disappointed—but it  
is usually his toes.

There are a number of men in this  
country who are travelling on the re-  
putation their fathers made.

Worrying about trouble that may  
come is like taking medicine for a  
disease that we are afraid we may con-  
tract.

This is the season of the year when  
nine men out of ten are preparing to  
put \$100 worth of work on a \$1.75  
garden.

Disease and death would disappear  
forever if every young medical grad-  
uate understood his business as well  
as he thinks he does.

The young man who works just  
hard enough to hold his situation is  
always complaining because of a  
scarcity of chances for promotion.

The young man whose chief ambi-  
tion is to accumulate a large stock of  
neckties usually becomes the husband  
of a woman who has to hustle to sup-  
ply the family larder.

—Will M. Maupin.

### The Bugle Song.

He went away to the war that day,  
To the swinging bugle song;  
All stanch and true in his suit of blue,  
And sturdy, brave and strong,  
Mid the tramp of feet and the loud  
drum beat,  
And the ringing of the cheers,  
There were none to see such a one as  
she,  
Who could not see for tears.

And back again came the marching  
men,

With the bugle singing still;  
Yet the music's surge was a sighing  
dirge,

All sad and slow and shrill.  
For a woman wept; and a soldier slept  
In the dreamless, silent sleep;

And the bugle song had a measure  
wrong,

For the buglers sometimes weep.

And the bugles' lure while the years  
endure

Will coax them to the line,  
And the lilting strains on the hills  
and plains

Still echo far and fine.  
But the suits of blue, and the sabres,  
too,

And the worn and battered caps  
Will tell some maid what the bugle  
played

When it sighed the song of "Taps."  
—W. D. Nesbit, in Baltimore Ameri-  
can.

### STOPS THE COUGH

#### And Works off the Cold.

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\$1.25, for a limited time only. Sub-  
scriptions must be sent to THE COM-  
MONER, Lincoln, Neb. No commis-  
sion allowed to agents on this club  
offer.

### Journalistic Asininity.

The weakest part of the Minneapolis  
Journal has for years been known to  
be its editorial page. More senseless  
drivel appears upon that page than in  
any other daily in the northwest. In-  
stances could be cited by the score,  
provided anyone kept track of them;  
but nobody accords them more than  
passing notice as they occur from day  
to day. Here, however, is a recent  
sample:

"According to the methods of ex-  
pression adopted by our democratic  
friends during the last campaign, we  
yesterday bought 40,000 people in the  
Danish East Indies at the rate of \$100  
per head. Yet we didn't observe any  
determined opposition to this purchase  
of human beings by the democratic  
senators. Perhaps it was the rate they  
were objecting to in the case of the  
Philippines. It may be that they con-  
sider \$2 per head a little cheap for  
such a fine national problem."

What resemblance is there between  
the two purchases, anyhow? In the  
case of the Philippines the republican  
party, in the name of the United  
States, purchased at \$2 per head a given  
number of rebels against Spanish  
tyranny, in the hope that it might be  
able to subdue and make use of them  
quicker than Spain could. It literally  
purchased the inhabitants of the  
islands for the sake of acquiring the  
right to murder them if need be in  
taking from them their possessions.

In the case of the Danish East Indies  
the islands and not the inhabitants  
were sold. The treaty in this case  
stipulated that the inhabitants may  
remain Danish subjects if they so  
choose, and that they are to have two  
years in which to decide as to which  
government they prefer to swear al-  
legiance to. Quite a different propo-  
sition, is it not?—Anoka (Minn.) Free  
Press.

### GET MAD

#### When Friends Tell the Truth

Many people become coffee toppers  
before they realize it, and would be  
angry if thus described even by a  
close friend.

It will pay anyone to examine care-  
fully into whether or not coffee has  
gained the mastery over them. A cof-  
fee toper may suspect that his or her  
ills come from coffee drinking, but  
they will invariably charge the disease  
to some other cause, for right down in  
the heart they realize that it would  
be practically impossible to give up  
coffee, so they hope against hope that  
it does not hurt them, but it goes on  
with its work just the same and the  
result is complete collapse and nervous  
prostration, lasting sometimes for  
years, unless the poison that causes  
the disease is discontinued.

There are hundreds of thousands of  
illustrations of the truth of this state-  
ment.

Any person addicted to coffee can  
make the change from common coffee  
to Postum Food Coffee without trou-  
ble provided the Postum is  
properly prepared so as to bring out  
the color, flavor and food value. It  
has a rich black brown color and  
changes to the golden brown when  
good cream is added.

The change will work wonders in  
any one whose nervous system or  
stomach has been unbalanced or dis-  
turbed by coffee.