

Whether Common or Not.

The Little One-Ring Circus.

You may talk about you triple rings, of hippodroming track,
Of acres upon acres of great snowy, flapping tents;
But I would fain invite you just to gently wander back
To days when every circus could with truth be called immense.
Just call to mind the glories of its aggregated joys,
Its monsters of the jungles and its panoplied arrays;
Its gorgeous equestrians, its newness and its noise—
The little one-ring circus that we saw in childhood's days.

Surely earth was searched for wonders to exhibit to our eyes
'Neath the waving tops of canvas spread upon the village green;
And we feasted on its glories, were dumfounded with surprise
At the great array of talent, far the best the world has seen.
Ev'ry act without confusion, riding, tumbling, flying leap;
Not another act to bother as on one we fixed our gaze.
Even yet we see its glories as we close our eyes in sleep—
The little one-ring circus that we saw in childhood's days.

City dead walls may inform us that "The Greatest of Earth's Shows"
Will exhibit all its glories on a certain given date,
But the gray-haired boy's suspicious, for he's certain that he knows
The new show announced as "greatest" is a generation late.
It may post the finest pictures and by steam may swiftly crawl,
And may pitch the largest canvas and the greatest tumult raise;
But he knows it's not a marker to the greatest show of all—
The little one-ring circus that he saw in childhood's days.

Premature.

"I see by the papers that Carnegie has given ten million dollars to libraries during the last ten days."

"That's nothing. I was just getting ready to sign a check for \$20,000,000 the other morning when my wife called me for breakfast."

Because.

"What makes the ocean roar?" she asked,
And snuggled to his side.

"Because it sees one Morgan halt and figure to control its salt,"
Her lover quick replied.

Those Dear Girls.

"John was awfully akward when he proposed to me."

"That's funny. He had proposed to me often enough to know how to do it gracefully."

Pulte Plagne.

He flooded his tank with campagne
While seeing the sights up in Magne.

The justice benign
Said, "Ten dollars sign,
And ten days if you do it agagn."

Tough.

A little tale I would relate
About a bit of unkind fate.
I bought a bran new mackintosh,
And now it never rains, b'gosh!

Same Fit.

J. Pierpont Morgan's coffin may cost more than yours, but it will not please him any better.

A Good Excuse.

Wroust A. Boutt—"I would gladly go to work, mum, if I could; but de inventors keep me from it."

Mrs. E. Z. Thyng—"You poor man! Have another piece of pie. Why

do the inventors prevent you from working?"

Wroust A. Bout—"Thanks, mum. De inventors are ruinin' me. You see, mum, I'm an airship pilot an' de inventors can't invent airships f'r me t' steer."

Modern Maud Muller.

Maud Muller concluded to ditch her wheel
And take a spin on an automobile.

A judge came riding in rattletrap chaise
And rubbered around in various ways.

The auto said, "Watch me!" and its steam then blowed
And Maud and judge were spilled in the road.

Alas for his honor! Alas for the girl!

They flew through the air with many a whirl.

Of all sad words of pen or tongue,
The saddest are these. "We've all been flung."

—Will M. Maupin.

At Altgeld's Bier.

'His is a solemn hour: Altgeld is dead.

Deep is the sorrow of those who pass with bowed head.

A mournful silence pervades the place
As on; still on; the sorrowing friends
Pass by and look upon his face:
Cold; still; expressionless—and yet
It fills our minds with living thoughts
We never can forget.

His purpose; his aims; his work:
The fruits of his great mind
Were e'er unmixed with selfishness—
He wrought for all mankind.

His warning voice was ever strong
Against the doer of public wrong,
For wrong to public from his view
Was wrong to all men; to me; to you.
And all his efforts to defend
Embraced his foe as well as friend.

His justice, like the written law—
Stands unimpeached—without a flaw.
His courage in defense of right

Was dauntless; like the sun's great light;

As shining in the places where
Obstructions stand—their shadows are,
His courageous acts oft left
The plunderer of loot bereft;
At the same time marked the one
Like as the shadow, marked by the sun.

His fearlessness was frequent cause
For saving others breach of laws.
His love of right and right's defense
Called forth his purest eloquence.

He believed that liberty would come
To all men; that "God's pendulum"
Would swing to left; then to right,
Moved here; then there; by error;
might;

Then man's contentious overthrow
And stop, and point the way and show
How man toward man should try to be
His brother's helper—to make all free.

Long live this noble sentiment
While voicing which his life was spent.

And now ye throng as past his bier
Ye move, shed not a tear.

Ye men of state, in vigor strong—
Make new resolves, and pass along.
Ye lawyers, merchants, doctors; all
Who pass today this sacred pall—
Take lessons from the life of one
Who listens now to God's "Well done."

Ye young men, students, artisans;
And all who labor with your hands—
Remember now as ye pass there
His hope was one continuous prayer.
That God would to oppressors lend
A law to make oppression end.

Now as we leave our reverend dead
With saddened heart and bowed head,
Let us remember his every plan
Was for the betterment of man.

A shroud of grandeur rests upon
His tenement. His work is done.

—By H. O. Nourse, in Lincoln Post.

Which Book Shall I Send?

Please tell me which book I may send to you, or to some sick friend. A postal will bring it. Let me tell you a way that I have found to get well.

I have spent a lifetime on it. I have watched it cure in thousands of cases as difficult as physicians ever meet. I have proved its power; and I will guarantee that it cures you. I will pay for your treatment if I fail.

With the book I send you an order on your druggist for six bottles Dr. Shoop's Restorative. I will authorize him to let you test it one month. If it succeeds, you may pay him \$5.50. If it fails, I will pay him myself.

Don't question my word, for I do just as I say. Such an offer is possible, because the remedy is almost certain. I have furnished the treatment to over half a million people in just that way, and 39 out of 40 have paid for it, because they were cured. Where it fails it is free.

My success is due to learning how to strengthen the inside nerves. I bring back this nerve power which alone makes each vital organ perform its functions. I overcome weakness anywhere by restoring the power to act. There is no other way. Where I fail there is some organic disease, like cancer, for which man knows no cure.

This offer shows my confidence. I know the remedy and you may not. Let me take the risk. Ask for the book that will point out the way to get well. Be fair with yourself; write to-day.

Simply state which book you want, and address Dr. Shoop, Box 515, Racine, Wis.

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BOOK NO. 5 FOR MEN. (revised.)
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The Fowler Coinage Bill.

A bill to maintain the gold standard, provide an elastic currency, equalize the rates of interest throughout the country, and further amend the national banking laws.

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, that there shall be, and is hereby, created and established a division of banking and currency, which shall have the entire supervision of all national banks; and said division shall be in charge of a board consisting of three members, which shall take the place of and shall have, exercise, and enjoy all the powers and authority heretofore lawfully vested in the comptroller of the currency and be known as the board of control of banking and currency.

The members of said board of control shall be appointed by the president, by and with the advice and consent of the senate. The term of office shall be for a period of twelve years, except that the terms of the first three members shall be for twelve, eight and four years, respectively. The member appointed for four years shall be known as the first comptroller and shall preside over the board of control, and the two remaining members shall be known as associate comptrollers, and thereafter that member of the board whose term next expires shall become the first comptroller.

The salary of each member of said board of control shall be seven thousand and five hundred dollars per annum, which shall be paid out of the taxes collected from the banks upon their note circulation; and the members of said board of control shall be removed only for cause stated in writing.

Sec. 2. That if any national bank shall assume the current redemption,

as hereinafter described, of an amount of United States notes equal to twenty per centum of its paid-up capital, it shall have the right, without depositing United States bonds as now provided by law—

First. To immediately take out for issue an amount of bank notes equal to ten per centum of its paid-up capital, and may circulate the same by paying a tax, on the first days of January and July of each year, of one-eighth of one per centum upon the average amount of such notes in actual circulation during the preceding six months.

Second. To take out for issue an amount of bank notes equal to ten per centum of its paid-up capital at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of the assumption aforesaid; and it shall pay into the treasury of the United States, on the first days of January of each year, a tax of one-eighth of one per centum upon the average amount of such notes in actual circulation during the preceding six months.

The foregoing taxes shall not be increased so long as said bank shall continue to currently redeem said United States notes, but whenever said bank shall cease to currently redeem said notes it shall pay into the United States treasury, on the first days of January and July of each year, a tax of five-eighths of one per centum upon the average amount of such notes in actual circulation during the preceding six months.

Third. To take out for issue an amount of bank notes equal to ten per centum of its paid-up capital at

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