



## Whether Common or Not

By WILL M. MAUPIN.

### Keep Singing.

The world's all right if you're doing your part,  
With smiles on your face and with joy in your heart;  
And chill blasts of winter that blow will ere soon  
Be banished by sunlight and roses of June,  
The sunshine and flowers of June.

If cloudy today do not sit with a sigh,  
For even the darkest of clouds will roll by;  
But look for the lining of silvery hue  
That sparkles with light in the bow of the blue,  
The beautiful sheen of the blue.

Press onward with hope, though the shadows are deep,  
And burdens grow heavy and pathway is steep;  
For sooner or later will come a glad day  
When burdens and shadows will vanish away.  
Forever and ever away.

With songs in your heart and with smiles on your face,  
Press steadily onward in life's busy race;  
And, sure as the seasons, when toiling is done,  
You'll get the reward of a race that's well run,  
Successfully, earnestly run.

### Good Remedy.

"I have been compelled to take something for my appetite lately."  
"What are you taking?"  
"Three meals a day."

### Speaks From Experience.

"I see that Dr. Wiseman says that no young man should go into politics unless he has plenty of money."  
"Well, there's something in that," said Senator Graball. "It's always well to have plenty of capital when you go into business. It insures quicker dividends."

### Quid Pro Quo.

"You are a lazy wretch!" exclaimed Mrs. Henry Peque. "You pretend to work at your office, but you merely loaf away your time. You never earned a dollar in your life!"  
"And yet," murmured Mr. Henry Peque, so low his wife could not hear, "and yet people say I married you for your money."

### Great Scheme.

"You say you have a great thing, eh?" queried the promoter. "You think there is big money in it, eh?"  
"Think? I know it, sir. This is the biggest thing ever thought of by mortal man. All it needs is a little money to push it along."  
"What have you got?"  
"I've got a substitute for all substitutes for coffee."  
And the promoter immediately reached for his check-book.

### Envy.

"Look here, pard," remarked Hitte de Rhodes, "dis is what I call rubbin' it in."  
"What's de matter now, cull?" queried Waydown Pike, pushing another splinter under the can.  
"Matter enough," growled Hitte. "It's been only a year or two since we wuz a-weepin' over th' woes o'

poor Cuba, an' here she goes an' borrys t'irty-five millions o' plunks. T'ink of it, Pikey boy—t'irty-five millions. An' we who wuz allus weepin' over Cuba's woes can't borry de price of a duck."

"Well, it is a disgrace, Hitte, me boy. But jus' t'ink o' de hustlin' Cuba had ter do t' git it!"

### Glorious Victory.

"The Russian batteries have been silenced, sir," reported the Japanese captain.

"Good!" exclaimed the general commanding. "How did you silence them?"

"We shot every vowel out of 'em, sir," proudly replied the brave captain.

### Uncle Jason.

"I have noticed," remarked Uncle Jason, crowding a little nearer to the stove, "I've noticed that the men who are quickest and loudest to demand goin' to war for a principle, usually have a whole lot of interest dependin' on the result."

### Solved.

"I believe Cumso has solved the problem of aerial navigation."

"What makes you think so? Has he made a flying machine and tested it under all conditions?"

"He's made the machine all right, but he hasn't tried it yet."

"Then how do you know it will work?"

"He's made the wings out of five dollar bills, and everybody knows that money flies."

### Six Years Old.

Six years old? O my, O my!  
Goodness sakes, how time does fly!  
It seems no longer than yester night  
The angels came from the vaulted blue,  
Bearing on wings of the purest white  
A tiny bit of an elfin sprite—  
A little baby—and that was you.

Six years old? Well you don't say!  
Where's my babe of yesterday?  
Going to school? Well I declare!  
A big girl now, but you'll always be  
The same sweet babe with blue eyes fair  
And curling wealth of golden hair—  
The same sweet little babe to me.

Six years old? And goes to school!  
Sings by note and works by rule.  
My, how time takes rapid flight!  
And I—perhaps I'm growing old.  
But still I sing from morn till night  
Because at eve I'll catch a sight  
Of sweet-faced girl with curls of gold.

### Compromised.

"Sir," haughtily exclaimed the member-elect, "you insult me with your proposition."

"But I assure you that such was not my intention," was the hurried reply of the gentleman who had offered a consideration in return for a postmaster-ship.

"The idea of offering me money for my official influence!" snorted the member-elect.

"But, sir," said the seeker, "permit me to call your attention to the fact that you are not yet an official, as you have not taken the oath of office. Therefore my insult, as you call it, can only be technical."

"Technical?" murmured the member-elect. "Technical? Ah, that makes a difference. Kindly leave me your

name and address and I will look up other applicants for that postoffice. Your mention of technicalities gives me an idea. Good-day; glad you called."

### Brain Leaks.

He who sows doubt reaps despair.

Tomorrow's time is easily spent today.

You cannot cure faults by watering them with tears.

You can't carry soul insurance without paying the premiums.

The worth of the son is not measured by the wealth of the father.

We'd hate to endure anything more melancholy than the average fashionable call.

You cannot tell by the size of the monument the worth of the man who lies beneath it.

The man who jokes on the subject of gas meters seldom uses gas. The gas meter is no joke.

There may be more comfort with a furnace, but there is more enjoyment with the old-fashioned fireplace.

If we judge a man's knowledge by the size of his head, why not judge how far he can walk by the size of his feet?

A lot of men build reputations for being "good fellows" at the expense of the happiness and comfort of their wives.

The cold that a woman will endure in order to appear in a fashionable dress would freeze a Minnesota lumberjack to death.

A Lincoln man recently resolved to spend an hour a day thinking of his faults. He is now in a thoughtful mood most of the time.

We are thinking seriously of offering gold medals for the amateur champion woodsawyer and coal carrier. Would there be any contestants?

When a man finds it inconvenient to live according to the will of the Master he usually finds it very easy to invent a theological system of his own.

Perhaps we are wrong, but we never hear of a lot of girls organizing a "Bachelor Girls' Club" but what we think it is a plain bid for matrimony.

It will grieve a lot of good people to learn that the popular game of "finch" is nothing more than the Chinese game of "fan tan," with a few slight changes to make it easier.

Just as soon as the people begin electing special representatives in legislative bodies the special representatives of selfish interests will have to work harder to earn their money.

### Golden Passes.

Five Englishmen enjoy a distinction conferred on no other Britons. They are the possessors of special solid gold railway passes, issued only to person whom the railway companies desire to reward for services of signal value to the companies. In one instance such a pass was given for services rendered to passengers in a disastrous railway accident. The recipient in this case was the Bishop of Gloucester, whose pass is of solid gold, carried by the bishop as a watch-chain charm. London Answers names four owners of gold passes for services rendered directly to the companies. Lord James Hereford was thus rewarded for his work as arbitrator, or intermediary, in a dispute between the directors of the North-western Railway company and some of their "outdoor staff." In other words, he was presented with the gold pass for settling a strike. Three members of parliament, directors of the

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### The Needs of Japan.

During each of the last five years the United States has purchased more of the products of Japan than any other country, and more than all of Europe, yet British India and Great Britain each sell more to Japan than does the United States. During 1903, however, the imports from the United States increased 13 per cent, as compared with 1901, while those from most European countries fell off. The United States continues to surpass all other countries in furnishing Japanese importations of electric light apparatus or instruments, electric motors, fire engines and pumps, flour, sole leather, kerosene oil, lubricating oil, paraffin wax, cardboard, leaf tobacco, timber other than teak, bicycles and electric light wire. The exportation of flour by the United States to Japan is threatened by Canada. The Dominion people are making a strong effort to increase their trade in the east, and, at the Osaka Exposition, now open, the Canadians are spoken of as having the largest and best exhibit of any of the foreign countries. They are striving especially to advertise the merits of Canadian flour. As a result it is reported that several large orders have already been received for that product. The United States has been furnishing from 96 to 99 per cent of all the flour imported into Japan, and last year this commodity ranked third in value among the imports from the United States, raw ginned cotton being the first and kerosene oil the second. The most important import from Canada during 1902 was salted salmon and trout, of which she furnished nearly twice as much as the United States.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.