



Whether Common or Not

By Will A. Mumpie.

The Baby

He's a roly-poly, cunning little mite,
Such a smiling, dancing, cooling, elfin
sprite,
That his smile makes burdens
lighter,
And his love makes dark days
brighter,
And his presence gives a feeling of
delight.
Such a constant source of happiness
and joy
To this rosy-lipped and brown-eyed
little boy.

Such a funny little language that he
speaks—
Little gurgle, little coolings, little
squeaks.
But each little intonation
Bears its bit of information,
And the cunning little dimples in his
cheeks,
Coming, going, like the sunbeams in
their play,
Lighten up my little cottage ev'ry
day.

When I feel his cunning fingers on my
face,
Feel the little lines of love his fingers
trace,
With no king, though high his
station,
Loyal, strong or wide his nation,
Would I trade "for keeps" my humble
lot or place.
For no kingly place could ever give
the joy
That I feel when playing with the
baby boy.

When the angels hover o'er him as
he sleeps,
And their loving care a constant vigil
keeps,
Who can tell the joy I'm feeling
When the love light is revealing
Ev'ry smile that o'er his rosy visage
creeps?
Such a joy no kingly ransom e'er could
buy;
And we have it daily, darling, you
and I.

God watch over you, my baby, every
day;
Guard thy footsteps as you journey
on life's way.
Keep your feet from ever straying,
Every wrongful action staying—
Be thy life a life of service— this I
pray.
May your heart be ever loyal, brave
and true—
All our hopes, dear little boy, are
fixed on you.

One Sided

As Mr. Crushley crawled under the
plano he ventured to make a protest.
"Well, didn't you take me for bet-
ter or for worse?" snapped Mrs.
Crusherly.
"Yes, that is what I did," moaned
Mr. Crusherly, gently rubbing as
many bruised spots as he could reach.
"But the trouble is I haven't had any
share of the first part of the bargain,
my dear."

Too Realistic

The trust magnate who owned all
of the public franchises and saw a
few more that he wanted, had long
been talking loudly about his desire
for reform. On every conceivable oc-
casion he prated about "preserving
the honor of the municipality," and

none was more emphatic than he in
denouncing municipal corruption.
But on this especial occasion the
magnate sat in his private office, fum-
ing with rage. The mayor whom he
had supported had actually had the
temerity to veto a franchise ordinance
secured after hard work and the ex-
penditure of much money.

"I'll go right up and see him,"
spluttered the enraged magnate.
Seizing his hat he rushed to the
mayor's office and was at once ad-
mitted.
"You have betrayed me," declared
the magnate.

"But that ordinance was a deliberate
robbery of the people," said the mayor,
"and you were one of the chief men
in demanding my election because I
would stand by the people."

"But you forget that the gentlemen
who are associated with me in this
enterprise are the people," shouted
the magnate.

"I must stand by my pledges," in-
sisted the mayor.

O, if you are going to make this a
realistic performance instead of a
mere imitation, I might as well go,"
said the magnate. "But I do hate to
see a man like you take things so
seriously. That's the very thing that
is ruining the business of practical
politics."

The Trouble

"What made you bolt Hussler's nom-
ination? He is an honest man, isn't
he?"
"O, yes; he's honest."
"And he'll carry out the pledges
your party's platform contains, will
he not?"
"You bet he will, and that's just
why I am opposing him."

A Vision

Talk about the joys of autumn
I am ready to relate
That they've got 'em good and plenty
Down in old Missouri state,
Down in fertile old Missouri!
Where the juicy possums climb,
They're a having lots o' pleasure—
Pawpaw and persimmon time.

Mr. Possum in the oven,
Sweet potatoes in the grease;
'Simmon sauce a gently stewin'
While our appetites increase.
Corn-cob pipe a waltin' handy
And the cider in its prime;
Old Missouri's in her glory—
Possum and persimmon time.

I have heard the tree of knowledge
Was in fact a pawpaw tree,
Which, if true, condones Eve's action—
Couldn't help it, don't you see?
And the pawpaw, fat and luscious,
Now is in its frosty prime,
And they're happy in Missouri—
Pawpaw and persimmon time.

Statistical

"I tell you, Mrs. Bildad, figures are
wonderful things!" exclaimed Mr. Bil-
dad, looking up from the sheet of
paper upon which he had been fig-
uring for an hour.
"Uh-huh," said Mrs. Bildad, who
was industriously darning a sock.
"I've just figured out how high a
stack of ten thousand silver dollars
would reach, just how far ten mil-
lion dollar bills would reach if placed
end to end, and just how many square
miles of surface the paper used in
a Sunday edition of our daily paper

would cover, and I'll read you the
results."

"Excuse me, my love," said Mrs.
Bildad, laying the sock aside. "But
before you do that just figure a little
more. You get the hatchet and figure
out just how many licks it takes to
prepare enough kindling for morning;
then just get the coal hod and figure
how many steps it is to the coal bin
and back, and while you are out just
count how many shovelfuls of coal it
take to fill the hod. And when you
get all that figured out you can give
me the results of your—"

But Mr. Bildad had torn the paper
into shreds, and what he said as he
started for the kitchen was warm
enough to heat the house for a week
in midwinter if some one could only
invent a way of storing and applying
the heat.

Brain Leaks

A bird on the hat costs a plenty.
Perfect faith means perfect trust.
Only the foolish measure life by
length of years.

The man who loves his work seldom
wants for a job.

The wise man will not put his trust
in the labels on the can.

The man who boasts of his partisan-
ship exposes his narrowness.

The easiest man to deceive is the
man who thinks he knows it all.

The father who is not a hero to his
children should hasten to reform.

Jealousy and true love never get
along-well together in the same heart.

Big successes are never won by
taking little troubles home with you.

The lover of the bowl who tries to
"taper off" is pretty sure to "toper
off."

Some people who imagine them-
selves to be critics are merely fault-
finders.

People who get to heaven will first
have to start tributary establishments
down here.

The average man does not have to
go far from home to find a place to
begin reform work.

Good citizenship finds better ex-
pression at the ballot box than in
the street corner discussion.

Some people must think they are
paper mills, judging by the way they
are always chewing the rag.

The public always suffers when it
elects a man to office for the sole
purpose of affording him a way to
make a living.

You may be able to postpone coal
buying time by thinking of the price.
It is calculated to make the average
man quite hot.

The young man who tries to be "one
of the boys" may succeed at it, but
he is pretty apt to be a failure at
everything else.

A lot of men have been made mis-
erable by reason of being forced to
try to live up to an accidental reputa-
tion for brilliancy.

The man who is always boasting
of his willingness to fight for his
rights is usually the man who wants
more than is coming to him.

After you have noticed the way a
little wife can rule a big husband you
will no longer wonder that David had
such an easy time with Goliath.

The report that the California prune
crop will reach 110,000,000 bushels is
another bit of information that will
not be relished at the boarding house.

The most popular young lady in
our neighborhood is the one who is
equally as good at making bread as
she is at playing the piano, and she
is an artist at both.

Young man, if she suggests when
you bring a box of candy that you
would better be saving your money,
it is a sign that it is a good time to
ask the momentous question.

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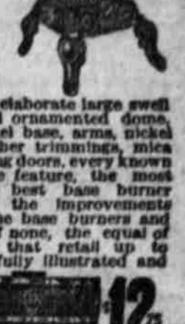
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