



Whether Common or Not

By WILL M. NAPPIN.

The Day After

"Licked to a frazzle!" But, say,
What is the use of repining?
Home at the close of the day—
Arms of our loved ones entwining.
Out of the fret and the worry,
Out of the din and the strife;
Out of the battle and worry—
Home and the joytime of life.

Downed in the battle! But, say,
What is the profit in sorrow?
Love is still lighting the way
On to a glorious morrow.
Out of the turmoil and fuming,
Out of the worry and wiles,
Love with its welcome is looming,
Beckoning on with its smiles.

Whipped to a standstill! But, say,
Still there is joy in the losing
If love binds the wounds of the fray
After the battle's confusing.
Out of the smoke and the rattle,
After the heat of the fray;
After the din of the battle,
Love lights the close of the day.

Something Left

Driving up to the snug little home
setting back a few rods from the
main road we inquired the way to
town. After having received the re-
quired directions we ventured to re-
fer to politics.

"Quit thinkin' about 'em for a
while," said the farmer.

"You haven't lost interest in the
great issues, have you?" we asked.

"Not at all, friend, but just now
I'm taking a vacation."

"Not discouraged?"

"Discouraged, nothing!" was the
emphatic rejoinder. "Got my cellar
full of apples, potatoes and cabbage,
and the good wife has got the pantry
shelves bending under a load of
canned fruits, preserves and pickles.
I'm putting in my time getting the
winter's wood cut and piled, and the
boys are shucking corn."

"But they beat the guarantee of
bank deposits."

"Yes, but I've got a little cache
full of money that no bank cashier
can burgle."

"And Rockefeller can—"

"He can't eat bacon and corn-
bread and sirup and fresh pork and
cabbage and hot biscuits. It's a big
disappointment, of course, but I
guess I can trust Providence a lot
safer than a lot of fellows can trust
the promises of the trusts and tariff
protected barons. Light, stranger,
and help me get away with a good
dinner prepared by the dearest little
woman in the world."

An hour later we arose from the
table, and things really looked a
whole lot better.

Unfair Advantage

Just before a train crosses the line
into Oklahoma from Kansas or Mis-
souri a sign is hung up on the door
that divides the smoking car into two

A JEWELER'S EXPERIENCE

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ney trouble that I could hardly walk
a hundred feet. Four bottles of
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and recommend Foley's Kidney
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me after the doctors and other reme-
dies had failed.—Advertisement.

compartments, "This car for colored
passengers." This is what is com-
monly known as the 'Jim Crow car,'
and of course it is obnoxious to the
negro citizens of Oklahoma. There
are, too, "Jim Crow" waiting rooms
in all the depots of Oklahoma.

It is interesting to note the com-
plaints of the colored folk and then
compare their complaints with the
actual conditions. Oklahoma is a
busy and growing state, and of course
passenger traffic is immense. But
the colored folk do not travel in any
such numbers by comparison as the
white folk. The result is that while
the white passenger coaches are al-
ways crowded to suffocation, the com-
partment set aside for the negroes is
always amply sufficient to accommo-
date all. While the depot waiting
rooms occupied by white travelers
are invariably crowded, and filled
with all the odors of Cologne except
cologne, the negro waiting rooms are
seldom half filled. The result is that
the white folk who do not want to
associate with the negro in public
places are compelled to submit to
great discomfort, while the negroes
who want to mix on terms of equal-
ity are compelled to accept roomy ac-
commodations and sanitary surround-
ings. The whites pay for their se-
clusion by being crowded, and the
negroes would willingly exchange
their comfort for the privilege of
crowding into the already packed
waiting rooms and coaches occupied
by the whites.

Recently a traveling man who was
making his first trip into Oklahoma,
and unaware of the separate coach
law, walked into the compartment
set aside for the colored passengers.
He was the only occupant, and being
tired he curled himself up on a seat
and went to sleep. He slept for some
time without molestation, but at a
little station a negro boarded the
train and spied the white man in the
coach. He at once complained to the
conductor and the white passenger
was not only forced back into the
crowded coach of the whites and
compelled to stand, but was later
arrested and heavily fined.

While the traveling man stood up
for weary miles, one lone negro oc-
cupied half of a coach, solitary and
alone.

The northern tourist who experi-
ences all this for the first time is
wont to wonder why the negroes
should be so violently opposed to a
law which gives them all the best
of it. The northerner is inclined to
the belief that the whites, in their
endeavor to avoid association in pub-
lic places with the colored friend
and brother have taken the worst of
it and given an unfair advantage to
the latter.

Degrees of Patriotism

"Fellow citizens!" shrieked the im-
passioned orator as he stood upon
the soapbox and declaimed upon the
results. "Fellow citizens, I rejoice
at the glorious victory. The country
is safe. As one who would willingly
die for his country if need be, I—"

"Pardon me," quietly remarked a
gentleman standing by, "but are you
not the same fellow who last Tues-
day voted against your convictions of
what was best for the country merely
because you were afraid of missing
a meat or two?"

"Sir, this is no time for cavil or
calumny, for all patriotic—"
"O, fudge!" exclaimed the quiet
gentleman. "You fellows who are
willing to die when there is no call

for it and unwilling to go hungry if
need be are not the kind of patriots
I am banking on if this country has
to have defenders."

Before the impassioned orator
could recover his audience had faded
away.

L'Envoi

I thought we had 'em beaten
To a frazzle, so I did;
But I found I was mistaken
When the
landslide
slid.

I figured we would beat 'em
Every turning of the road,
But I missed my computation
When the
landslide
slode.

My multiplication table
Must have put me to the bad,
For I was humped a plenty
When the
landslide
slad.

When I awoke a Wednesday
And all the wreckage viewed,
What I saw was a plenty
When the
landslide
slewed.

The Problem

To politics and other tricks
We're giving no attention;
And high finance and games of chance
We do not pause to mention.
A greater problem than all these
This moment doth concern us—
Will some good friend now kindly,
tell,
How can we feed that furnace.

Brain Leaks

The Lord loveth a cheerful loser.
The joy of working is not the least
reward of honest labor.

He who carries hate in his heart
bears trouble in his arms.

After all it is never so bad but
what it might have been worse.

It is never so dark but what hope
can strike a light if given an oppor-
tunity.

A short prayer from the heart
tells more than a long prayer from
the lips.

The man who tirelessly blows his
own horn may know very little about
harmony.

A man never knows who his real
friends are until after misfortune
strikes him.

The political prophets will now
step aside and make way for the
political profits.

The man who is alive on Thanks-
giving morning has at least one thing
to be thankful for.

A lot of men who bravely combat
an evil afar shrink like cowards from
an abuse near at home.

People who share in the profits of
sin should be manly enough to ac-
knowledge the partnership.

"Every dark cloud has a silver
lining," says the optimist. "But it
is a dark cloud," says the pessimist.

It wouldn't be so bad for the av-
erage loser if he didn't have to ex-
plain to his wife just how it hap-
pened.

"Justifiable homicide" should be
the verdict if the defendant can
prove that the victim said "I told
you so."

What makes us sore is to read in
some newspaper a story of how much
easier and quicker we get election
returns than our fathers got them.

One feature of the election is the
surprising number of people who
would willingly die for their country
but protest strenuously against be-
ing threatened with missing a meal
or two for their country.

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