# The Commoner.

wanted a green hand at the reporting business so I could train him the way I wanted him to go?" "Yes, sir."

"And didn't you tell me you had

never done any newspaper work?" "Yes, sir."

"Well, you told one of those short and ugly word things!"

"Why, sir; I never-"

"Cut it out! I guess I know. Here's your report of that fire. Now show me where you said anything about the 'greedy flames,' or the 'brave fire laddies,' or the 'fire fiend,' or the 'terrible holocaust,' or the 'devouring element!' Show me, I say! Not a thing like 'em in here, and yet you try to get a job under false pretenses. Here's an order on the cashier for what's coming to you, and you needn't come back.'

### **Brain** Leaks

Broke 'em yet?

Easy won, soon wasted.

shrift to sorrow.

best advance agent.

mistakes of 1908-not by regretting them.

game. We think so, with a little different inflection.

would for a three-story chocolate

Every time a man makes a good guess he swells up and wants everybody to acknowledge his superior judgment.

Speaking of "currency reform,"



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Writing It at Home

A bunch of four-four happy kids Chock full of fun and pleasure. All four a mighty big expense, But ev'ry one - treasure. And when I want it quiet like So 1 can do my writing, The noise that bunch begins to make Sounds like two armies fighting.

One clambers over my machine; One asks for help with "numbers." One for my pencil makes demand:

One my tired knee encumbers. "A dozen eggs cost forty cents, What will three dozen cost?" And by the time I work it out

My thread of thought is lost.

One sticky hand is reaching out To grasp my thinning locks. One piercing voice makes loud de-

mand

For help with building blocks.

My pencil's broke; please sharpen it So I can write the rest"-

And then the thoughts I've garnered in

Are knocked galley west.

But when, at last, the sandman comes

And all four little heads

Are resting on the pillows white Of two soft, downy beds:

And all is quiet 'round the house Where once the noise did ring, start to write-and then can't think

Of one dodgasted thing!

### **Of** Course

Now comes the unregenerate With merry whistled tune, And always leaves ajar the door He loudly slammed last June.

### Pleasure



come erlong wif me an' I done show you plenty visible means o' suppo't. Ain't my wife got two wash tubs an' a patent wringah w'at she done bought on de inducement plan only las' week?"

### **Grave** Mistake

"Look here, old man; I thought you were going to turn over a new leaf the first day of the year!"

turnin' over new leaf all ri', but I wash sho flustered I got th' book upside down when I turned 't."

Gotagrouch-"Why don't you quit blowing in your money, Spenderly, and save up something for a rainy day?"

Spenderly-"What's the use? If I began that stunt today it would cloud up before tomorrow morning."

### **Modern Definitions**

Vested Right-A skin game that the general public pays for.

Practical Politics-Euphonism for corruption.

Protective Tariff --- Heads, the trusts win; tails, the people lose.

Contempt of Court - An easy method of punishing a man for doing something the law does not prohibit but which the court does not want done.

### Wise Man

"They say 'marriage is a lottery,' " remarked Mrs. Bildad.

"Well, if it is I drew the capital prize," replied Mr. Bildad.

And it made Mrs. Bildad feel so

The Pessimist

"Thash all ri', my friend. I tried

A heart full of faith means short

A square meal is a religious tract's

We'd rather be the E. Z. Mark than the skin game operator.

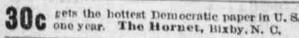
Begin 1909 by profiting by the

Mr. Taft says golf is a poor man's

If you do not think your town is the best one of its size in the country, it's time you moved out.

When a young man "makes a night of it" he usually has to spoil two or three good days to do it.

Right now we'd give more for a slice of "salt risin" bread than we cake.



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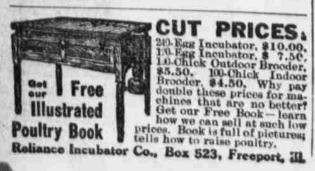
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"Reading any fiction these days?" "Lots of it. I'm spending my evenings reading the automobile advertisements in the monthly magazines."

### Both Sides

"Christmas comes but once a year," mourned the pessimistic child. "But pay day comes once a week," chirped the optimistic parent.

### Degrees

He went to Yalevard college And won his "Ph. D." And then, post graduating, Won double "D" degree. He married, then, a million, And folks say he's "N. G."

### The Buttinski

"I hold," declared the habitual quoter, "that 'woman's crowning glory is her hair.''

"Rats!" exclaimed the buttinski, who always managed to spoil everything.

### Defined

"Pa, what is these bacilli that the papers are talking about?"

"Huh, the ignorance of the present generation," snorted Mr. Fossilum. You ought t' know they're a kind of soup printed in French on the bill of fare."

### **Proof Positive**

"I guess I'll have to send you up it." as a vagrant," remarked the police judge. "You do not seem to have any visible means of support.' "Now jus' look hyar, jedge," in-sted Rastus White. "You jus' city editor.

sicted Rastus White,

good she didn't have the heart to strike Mr. Bildad for the money to float her past all the bargain counters.

But far be it from us to insinuate that Mr. Bildad was actuated by ulterior motives.

### Queer

"Yes, sir," remarked the garrulous bill collector, "I've been reading up on this thought transference business and I think it's great. Why I believe I will soon learn to read your thoughts even if I'm miles away."

"I hope so," growled Mr. Im P. Cunious, "because it will save both of us a lot of time that is now being wasted."

And the garrulous bill collector was four blocks away before he saw the point.

### Rebellion

"Look here, Mr. Jiner," said the irate Mrs. Jiner; "you are an Elk, I believe?"

- "Yes, my dear."
- "Quite correct."
- "Also an Eagle."
- "Very true."

"And a Moose?"

"Well, you just look here. I've been the goat 'round this house about long enough, and you're going to join another one. Tag, you're

## Deceptive

"Look here!" shouted the irate "Didn't I tell you I

will somebody please invent a currency that will have a little more adhesiveness?

We fear the business world would take a slump if men spent as much time fixing their hair as the women do fixing their own.

## THE BRAVEST SONG AND THE SWEETEST SONG

The bravest song is the song he sings who is hoping the best he may,

While he faithfully helps to do the things that have to be done each day;

The warrior may sing a glorious song as he marches to meet his foe,

And the hunter may sing as he hurries along where the quarry is crouching low,

But the bravest song is the song of the man who goes when the light is dim

To faithfully labor as best he can for the ones who depend on him.

The sweetest song is her song whose eyes are filled with a righteous

pride As she watches the cot where her

baby lies while her needle is deftly plied;

The prima donna may grandly trill, and her bird-like notes may be

So pure that they never may fail to fill her hearers with ecstasy.

And her song is sweet who in rapture brings her lover the faith she should:

But the sweetest song is her song who sings in the joy of young motherhood.

-S. E. Kiser, in Chicago Record-Herald.

"Just recently."

"And a Bison?"