

THE SWEETEST MUSIC.

There's a music in
the patter of the rain,
As it drips so gently
downward through the night,
Just a soothing, quiet,
sleepy, soft refrain,
A lullaby to put
your wakefulness to flight.

There's a music in the
soughing of the breeze,
Just a singing, hardly
louder than a sigh,
As it lazily goes humming
through the trees
Fanning coolly on
your forehead as you lie.

There's a music in the
babble of the brook
As it ripples brightly
onward in its flow
Where the ferns and modest
violets bend and look,
In the limpid, lipping,
waters down below.

There's music in the
piping of the thrush
Just as sweet as any
sound you ever heard,
And you listen and you wish
all else would hush
Save the singing of
the russet-coated bird.

There's a music in
the cooing of the dove,
As he struts around
his nest-mate in the shade,
But the music in the voice
of one you love
Is by far the sweetest
music ever made.

—William Reed Dunroy.

QUALITY.

The spider weaves. A patient toiler, lo
How sure, how fine his touch!
The poet grieves. Alas, he does not know
He spins too fast, too much.

IN VAIN.

Sing to the narrowed soul
and hardened heart full well
Songs of the fairest truth
and purest love that be,
No thoughts rise up to greet;
no joy, no sympathy,
Nor hope nor aspiration
gladly answers thee;
For beauty stirs no soul
where beauty does not dwell.

It's a man's luck to quarrel with his
fiancee just after he has bought a tan-
dem.—Town Topics.

There are two kinds of men and a
woman must treat with insolence if she
would have her way—servants and
lovers.—Town Topics.

Pennect—Is your mother-in-law's ill-
ness serious?
Henpect—Well, I suppose it is from
her point of view.—Town Topics.

Doctor—I treated Robbins for appen-
dicitis and to day he is a well man.
Hawkins—So I heard. What do you
think was the matter with him?—Town
Topics.

Jones—So, you look upon Sunday as a
day of rest?

Brown—Yes, and if you owed as many
people as I do, you would see it in the
same light.—Town Topics.

"You used to call your wife a peach
and you are always fighting with her."
"Peaches don't agree with everybody."

Mrs. Talkerly—I see by the paper
that a woman was thrown from her
bicycle and knocked speechless, yester-
day.

Mr. Talkerly—My dear, I'll never
again object to your riding.—Town
Topics.

MUFFLED.

He—I am going to kiss you.
She—I shall scream—the moment
your lips touch mine!

Pessimist—The excessive use of coffee
dries up the liver.

Optimist—Well, thank heaven, I'm
boarding!

Cholly—What do you suppose I said
when she called me a fool?

She—Say! What could you say?

"She has no heart."

"How do you know?"

"She yawned while I was declaring
my love."

"What! Without covering up her
mouth?"

The Grumbler—I wish summer was
over.

Friend—Why?

The Grumbler—Oh, so's I could wish
winter was over.

One Fashion Explained.

Little Dot—Mamma says when she
was a girl little girls wore white stock-
in's wot didn't make their feet all
black like these do.

Little Dick—Then wot did they begin
wearin' black stockin's for?

Little Dot (after some thought)—I
guess it's because it's easier to wash
feet than to wash stockin's.

An Important Whistle.

Mother (severely)—Why didn't you
come when I called you?

Small Boy—Why, just as you was
calling me Tommy Traddles, down
street, whistled for me. I couldn't go
to both, could I?

Attended To.

Mother—My, my! What dirty hands!
Why don't you wash them?

Robbie—I just did.

"When?"

"Jus' before I played drum with th'
coal scuttle."

An Abused Wife.

Married Daughter—Oh, dear, such a
time as I do have with that husband of
mine! I don't have a minute's peace
when he's in the house. He is always
sailing me to help do something or
other.

Mother—What does he want now?

Daughter—He wants me to traipse
way up stairs just to thread a needle
for him, so he can mend his clothes.

Out of Observation.

Miss De Fashion—I've been having a
perfectly lovely time; teas and parties,
and music and dancing, and private
theatricals, and everything you can
think of. Haven't had so much fun for
a year.

Friend (shocked)—What? During
Lent?

Miss De Fashion—Oh, it's all right,
dear. We were in the country.

"Now, Mr. Winebiddle," said the
genealogist, "here is your family tree, as
you instructed me to chart it. But do
you want the collateral branches in-
cluded?"

"Gracious, no!" replied Winebiddle. "I
didn't know there were any pawnbrokers
in the family."

"What makes you so sad today?"

"Can't you guess?"

"No."

"This is the anniversary of our
wedding."—Town Topics.

He—I shall never have the courage to
propose to a girl.

She—Well, it will save you many a
disappointment.—Town Topics.

Daisy—If I marry you won't we be
be one?

Cholly—Certainly.

Daisy—And yet you tell me not to be
a fool.—Town Topics.

LINCOLN ONCE SAID

"God must love the plain people,
He made so many of them."

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the Price is only

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uppe."

"What does he say?"

"Thirty days after date, etc."

"There seems to be a smell of cooking
around here," remarked the traveler to
the Canibal king.

"Yes; that is the odor of sanctity," re-
plied his majesty, with a meaning
smile.—Town Topics.

She—I've about decided to marry your
father.

He—Great Scott! I'd rather marry
you myself than have you for a step-
mother.

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"the bearing of which lays in the applica-
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