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GROWING OLD

Do not be fretful because you have come to spectacles. While glasses look premature on a young man's nose, they are an adornment to an octogenarian's face. Besides that, when your eyesight is poor you miss seeing a great many things—unpleasant things that the younger are ob- cause your ear is becoming dull. In that way you can escape being bored with many of the things that are said, if the gates of sound keep out much of the discord. If the hair is getting thin, it takes less time to comb it, and then it is not all the time falling down over your eyes; or if it is getting white, we think that color is as respectable as any other—that is the color of the snow and the blossoms and the clouds and all angelic habiliments. Do not worry when the time comes on that you must go into the next world. It is

only a better room with brighter pictures, finer society and sweeter music. Robert McCheyne and John Know and Harriet Mewell, Mrs. Hemans, John Milton and Martin Luther will be good enough company for the most of us. The corn stalk standing in the field to-day will not sigh dimly when the huskers leap over the fence, and throwing their arms around the stalk swing it to the ground; it is only to take the golden ear from the husk. Death for the aged Christian is only husking time, and then the load goes in from the frosts into the garner. Our congratulations to those who are nearly done with the nuisances of this world. Give your staff to your little grandson to ride horse on. You will have no need for crutches. May the clouds around the setting sun be golden and such as lead the "weather wise" to prophesy a clear morning.

MOURNING FOR THE DEAD

There are few things in which men and women show themselves so irrational as in prolonged and consuming grief for the dead. It is not in human nature to be philosophic when the earth has closed over one we love, but to nourish agony and sorrow is nearly an addiction of reason itself. The God who orders our births, orders likewise our deaths. All must die. To die is as common and as natural as to live. Being common, universal, certain, it cannot be an evil. Those who have gone before, no matter how long their days, seem to have lived and vanished as creatures of the hour, so we should not lament at the seeming untimeliness of their taking off. It is indiscreet to assume that the death of the young is a peculiar calamity and hardship. How can we tell what they have es-

aped, or decide that they are not singularly fortunate? Who finds life such an unmixed blessing as to grieve long over the translation of those who are yet innocent and happy to serene spheres. It is vain and un- availing to grieve over what has hap- pened and cannot be altered. It does no good to the dead and injures the living. It is also mutiny against the Presiding Judge of all. To honor the dead aright is to cherish fondly the memory of good dispositions and deeds and make that memory a guide for our own spiritual attainments. This is better than marble slabs, glowing memorials or devouring pangs of fruitless woe. The ancient world never clothed death with the terrors which came in with the church and the middle ages. Who grieves forever has no faith in a re-union. Such tears silently pro- claim the fear of annihilation, the despair that forgets God.

If we will only look around us we will see there is not a person we meet but there is something lovable about—a smile, a motion, a feature, a voice, walk, act. All have some good trait. If they have a sweet voice, tell them you think so, and it will make them happier and gain you a friend. If they have some feature you admire, or act or motion, tell them and they will like you far bet- ter. Do you know that is the true way of gaining friends—tell them for them to find out? If we hear a their good traits and leave the bad singer and love the voice, tell her, and every song will be sweeter be- cause of a loved one. If anyone has a pretty feature, tell her.

A gentlewoman never fails in the small, sweet courtesies. Instinctively she respects the feelings of others and having the golden rule by heart, it is from her heart that all lovely love compelling graces flow. In her tongue she has the ready tact which takes advantage of every opportu- nity to render the lives of others hap- pier.

"And every morning with good- day, Makes each day good." Her winning smile and gentle min- istrations, her soft voice and unfail- ing sympathy, insure her always a ready welcome.

WHAT HOME MEANS TO THEM

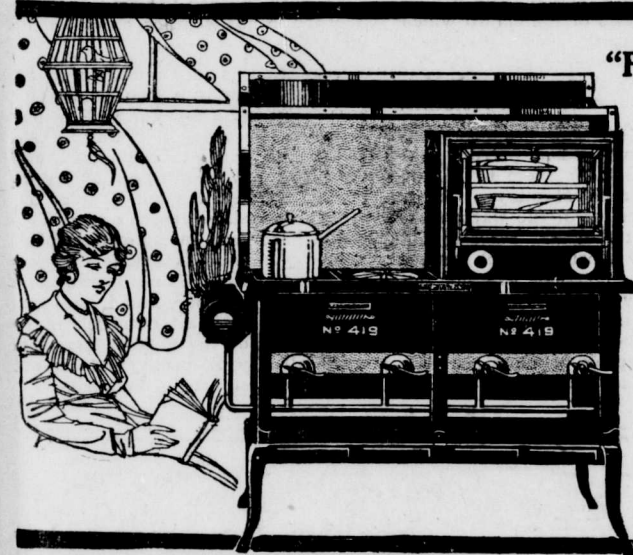
To the small boy—The service of supply.
To the young lady—The theatre of operations.
To the young man—Headquarters for expeditionary forces.
To grandma—A rest sector.
To the black sheep—An awkward salient.
To the maiden aunt—No man's land.
To mother—The base hospital, sal- vage depot and camp commissary.
To father—Headquarters disbur- sing office and adjuster of claims.

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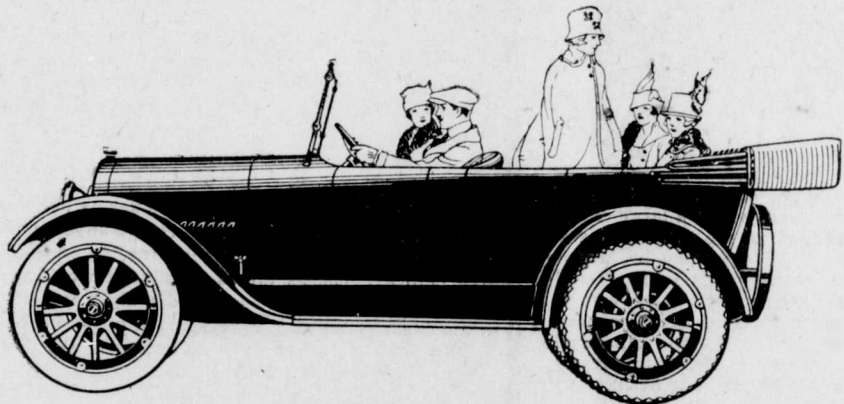
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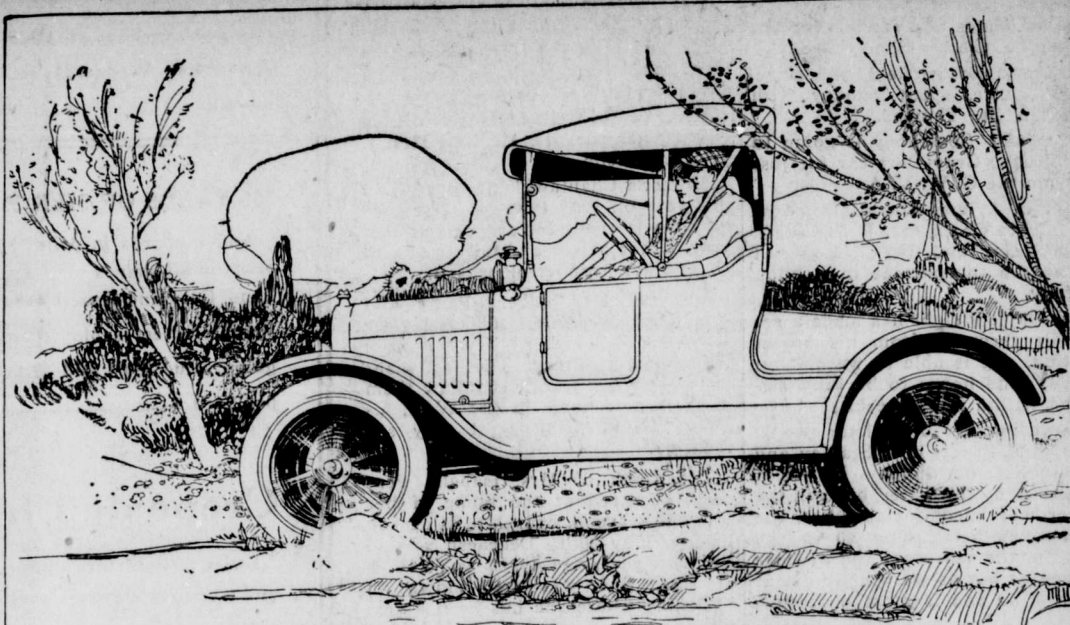
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BE CHEERFUL

Multitudes of people are discour- aged. Because of this fact they fail. In spite of training and talent they go down in life's struggle. A word of cheer would have turned the tide for them, and would have led them far from the gloom and into the clear light of the best possible living.

Cheer the tempted. Temptation is on every side of us. A kind word, a sympathetic expression, a warm handclasp, and sometimes only a smile, gives the tempted one courage enough to fight, and the victory is won.

Cheer the tired ones. The most of us do not intend to fail. We are courageous at heart, but sometimes because we are physically weak or a bit discouraged or have a sense of loneliness we give up when trouble comes, and as a result of failure we are greatly weakened, when we might have emerged from the conflict with a new conscientiousness of power and be more ready for the next trial when it appears.

Cheer the young man. Life is more of a struggle to-day than it used to be. Temptations are greater by far

and sin is vastly more insidious in its approach.

"Speak a good word of cheer. It costs you nothing. It means every- thing to the one whom it is address- ed. It is a good thing to remember that this is the spirit of Jesus Christ, who was always helpful, always up- lifting. If we are Christians, we will seek to be like him.—J. Wilbur Chap- man.

GUNNY SACKS HANDY IN GETTING AUTO OUT OF MUD

The statement comes to us that an autoist has found that when he is accompanied on a trip by gunny sacks folded into a compartment of the car he can feel he is assured in a measure against getting stuck in the mud holes. The following is the way the gunny sacks are used:

When he strikes a muddy spot in the road where there is danger of being mired by the repeated slipping of the driving wheels, he makes use of the sacks. They are folded length- wise and laid directly in front of the driving wheels. This gives the nec- essary traction and the car soon draws itself out of the mud. The sacks are recovered if the probability is that they will soon be needed again and they may be washed at a near- by pump or stream, if necessary.

OUR DEBT TO THE ONION

"Kill the onion and you leave a gap in the universe," said a famous doc- tor. "Kill anything else and there is a substitute. The potato is akin to the cereal; cabbage and turnip and cauliflower are of the same fam- ily; beans are elongated peas; the lemon is a pessimistic orange, water- melon the survivor of the cucumber, and so on. But the onion is sui gen- eris, alone, unique, triumphant. It is a special creation to tempt the palate of a weary world. Man in his wisdom might have quessed ev- erthing else under the sun, but he never would have guessed an onion. Science may deduce a new star be- fore it becomes visible, or radium before its discovery, but the onion would have gone uninvited for ever had not its own insinuating, yet not bashful, quality forced itself into our tea-brimmed eyes and upon liques- cent anticipatory lips. With what a mixture of gratitude and awe should we view the spectacle of nature turn- ing her energy to the transmuting of mere clay into vegetable with an artistic temperament."

WHAT IS IT?

One of our exchanges tells us of a little girl who "fooled" her grand- father. Maybe some of our readers can try the same joke upon grandpa or grandma. This is the story.

Mr. Brompton is very clever, yet the other day his little granddaugh- ter utterly confounded him.

"Grandpa," said she, "I saw some- thing so funny running across the kitchen floor without legs. What do you think it was?"

Grandpa thought and thought, but at last he had to give it up. "What was it?" he asked.

"Water," replied the little lady tri- umphantly.

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