

WHEN THE WOODS TURN GREEN AGAIN.

Tussock's a warm wind comes from the south
With a promise and a song—
A song that wells from a rose-lipped mouth
In cadence full and strong.
It whispers, whispers through the day
To the hearts of longing men,
That the time is coming on the way
When the woods turn green again.

When the woods turn green in the sunshine's kiss,
And dream o'er the lazy pool,
Where the dappled shadows hit-and-miss,
Sway slowly, dark and cool,
And the long, long dawns bring the tune
Of the robin, thrush and wren,
Till they hush to the day-held moon
When the woods turn green again.

When the woods turn green, and the sky's rich hue
Takes a deeper, truer shade,
And the blood-red poppies dot the view
In a pattern God has made,
Then the song the south winds sing so low
Will fly on hill and glen,
And its mellow notes into being grow
When the woods turn green again.

—W. D. A. Smith.

A SONG OF THE SUMMERTIME.

Let's sing a song o' Summertime—no matter if the
blast
Of twenty blended blizzards freeze the pin'g' lines
at last!
Let's sing o' hills an' dells—
Where music heavenward swells—
The silver tenor o' the thrush—the tiarkin' cattle-
bells.

Let's sing a song o' Summertime: The Winter stayed
so long
We're weary for a Summer sun to shimmer in a song!
To wander where the breeze
Shakes the tresses o' the trees
And the Lily's heart is honey to the golden, thievish
bees!

Let's sing a song o' Summertime—let's sing, an'
ring it sweet
As the music o' the waterfalls—the wind that waves
the wheat!
While Love, in meadows green,
Enraptured views the scene,
The roses for Love's recompense, and Summer sweet,
his Queen.

—Frank L. Stanton.

PUSSY WILLOW

LITTLE pussy willow,
Robbed in Quaker gray,
Open all your blossoms
By the winding way.
Swaying in the breeze,
Gently up and down,
Graceful as a maiden
Charming all the town.
Coming in your beauty,
Ere the wild birds sing
All the children love you,
Harbinger of spring.
Dainty pussy willow,
Robbed in Quaker gray,
Open all your blossoms,
By the winding way.

THE COMING OF THE CROCUS.

Is her cozy house of mold, sheltered from the sleet
and cold,
And the winds of March that whistled overhead,
A little crocus flower waited, eager for the hour
When she might dress up and leave her wintry
bed.

Said Wild Rose and Buttercup: "It is foolish to get
up
Till we hear the pattering drops of April showers,
Till the south winds drift and fleet and the bluebird's
silvery note
Wakens all our family of sleepy flowers."

Dandelion called: "O wait, Crocus dear, it is not
late."
Violet and Daisy echoed the advice.
But sweet crocus quickly dressed in gold hood and
rough green vest,
And crept up the cold, dark stairway in a trice.
It was dapp'ry, bleak and bare till a sunbeam kind
and fair
Saw the little blossom trembling in the snow:
Then she shone with all her might, called a million
sunbeams bright,
Bluebird sang, and warm south winds began
blow.

—Oliver A. Smith.

MARCH.

THE sun is languishing above the meadow,
With pale gold rays he wokes the sleeping grass,
And underneath the hedge a cold gray shadow,
Like some magician, makes his evil pass.

While over on the hill the frost still lingers,
Nor heeds the warmth of heaven, but reaches
down,
And tracks its icy way with ghostly fingers—
That climb to woodland branches, bare and
brown.

And yet I hear, from out some leafless bower,
A little bird his hopeful challenge sing,
And in a sheltered spot a tiny fower
Proclaims the resurrection of the spring!

—Alice Gerland Steele.

LOOKIN' FORWARD.

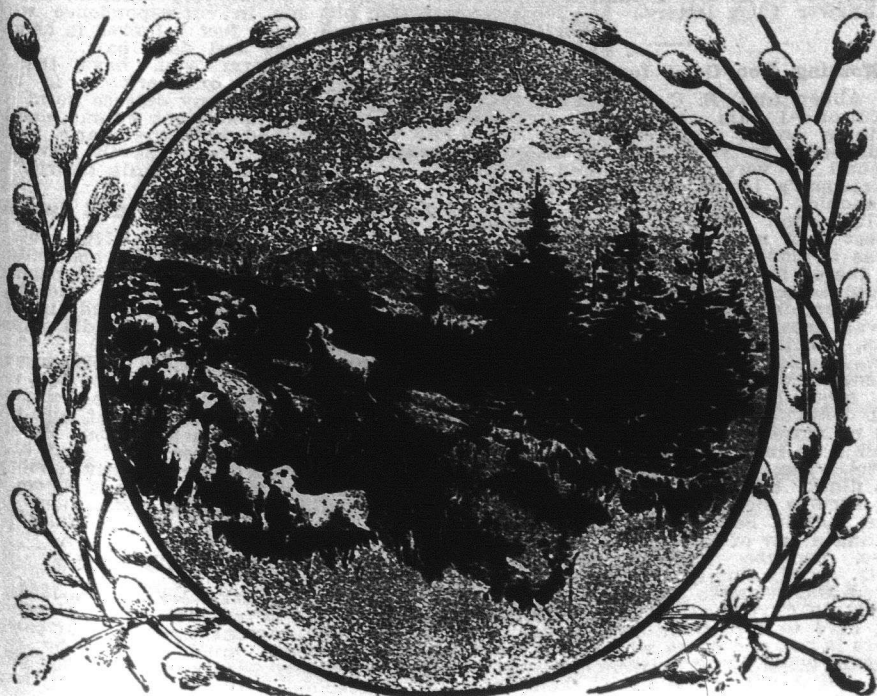
SING a song of sunshine,
Spring is on the way,
Blossom time is nearin'
Every blessed day.

Days are gettin' longer,
Winter's almost done,
Soon th' ice-locked rivers
Will begin to run.

When th' little crocus
Tells you it is spring,
Then th' merry robins
Will begin to sing.

Violets are waitin'
Underneath th' snow,
Savin' to th' winter:
"Hurry up an' go."

Sing a song of sunshine,
Sun is climbin' high,
Good old tired feelin'
Gets you by an' by.

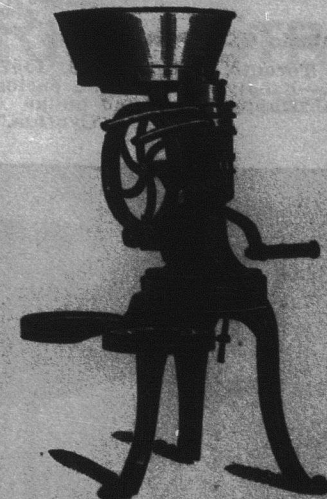
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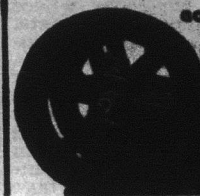
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