

## Whether Common or Not

### Pretty Good World

This world's a pretty good sort of world,  
Taking it altogether.  
In spite of the grief and sorrow we meet,  
In spite of the gloomy weather,  
Their are friends to love and hopes to cheer,  
And plenty of compensation  
For every ache for those who make  
The best of the situation.

There are quiet nooks for lovers of books,  
With nature in happy union;  
There are cool retreats from the noontide heat,  
Where souls may have sweet communion;  
And if there's a spot where the sun shines not,  
There's always a lamp to light it.  
And if there's a wrong, we know ere long  
That Heaven above will right it.

So it's not for us to make a fuss  
Because of life's sad mischances,  
Nor to wear ourselves out to bring about  
A change in our circumstances.

For this world's a pretty good sort of world,  
And He to whom we are debtor  
Appoints our place, and supplies the grace  
To help make it better.

—London Tit-Bits.

### Worth the Price

The following story, which an officer who is a member of the G. A. R. tells, appears in a western paper:

"In a Phoenix hotel one night," he said, "a number of veterans got into a dispute about the battle of Bull Run. The veterans—all men of high rank—argued at length, but a quiet man spoke up and said:

"Gentlemen, I happened to be there and I think I can settle the point at issue.

"And settle it he did. He settled it in a masterly manner. The hotel proprietor, much impressed, said to him when he got through:

"My dear sir, what was your rank in the army?"

"I was a private, sir; a full private," was the calm reply.

"A short time afterward the private asked for his bill, since he was

about to leave, but the proprietor said to him:

"Not a cent, sir! Not a cent! You owe me nothing."

"Why, how is that?" the other demanded, in bewilderment.

"I couldn't dream of charging you, sir," said the proprietor, warmly. "You are the first private I have ever met."—Youth's Companion.

### Like a Waffle

A western politician tells the following story as illustrating the inconveniences attached to campaigning in certain sections of the country.

Upon his arrival at one of the small towns in South Dakota, where he was to make a speech the following day, he found that the so-called hotel was crowded to the doors. Not having telegraphed for accommodations, the politician discovered that he would have to make shift as best he could. Accordingly, he was obliged for that night to sleep on a wire cot which had only some blankets and a sheet on it. As the politician is an extremely fat man, he found his improvised bed anything but comfortable.

"How did you sleep?" asked a friend in the morning.

"Fairly well," answered the fat man, "but I looked like a waffle when I got up."—New York Evening World.

### Knew Her Ability

The farmer was walking comfortably and happily along the lane leading to his own homestead when suddenly out sprang a strange dog. He yelled for assistance, and his cry was heard by his wife. But, alas! when she came upon him the dog had already fastened his teeth in her loved one's calf. Quickly she picked up a stone and was just about to hurl it when the husband realized the new and terrible danger he was now exposed to, but with presence of mind he called to her:

"Mary! Mary! Don't throw the stone at the dog; throw it at me."—Everybody's.

### Not Even That!

He was one of a large family of boys. Their mother hoped that at least one would have been a good Presbyterian minister, but they slipped through her hands. Zebulon was the youngest, and all her hopes centered in him, until he said:

"Mother, I am sorry, but I cannot become a minister."

"Why not? What is the reason?" He answered, "I am not good enough to be a minister."

She was sorely troubled, but at last faltered out, "Zeb, don't you think you are good enough to be a Unitarian minister?"—Pacific Unitarian.

### The Master's Voice

"We have come," said the chairman of the committee, "to ask you to take this nomination. The city needs a man like you—strong, brave, self-made, self-reliant, owning no master, fearing no man."

The great man was visibly touched. "I'll not deny," said he, "that your kind words have shaken my resolution. I trust that, if elected, I may justify your confidence and prove that I am indeed strong, brave, self-reliant; that I own no master and fear no man. Suppose you wait a minute till I see if my wife will let me accept?"—New York Times.

### Why Pat Wished to Know

Pat and Mike were standing along the highway one afternoon when reference was made to the death of an aged acquaintance.

"Spakin' of auld Dinnis, Mike," remarked Pat, after a moment's stud-

ied thought, "O! wish I knowed the place where I was goin' to die."

"Is that so, Pat," wonderingly responded Mike. "Shure, an' phat good would it do yez if ye did know it?"

"Phat good?" returned Pat, with some emphasis. "Begorror, O! would niver go near the place!"—Boston Advertiser.

### A Fit Characterization

"No," said the old gentleman, sternly, "I will not do it. Never have

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