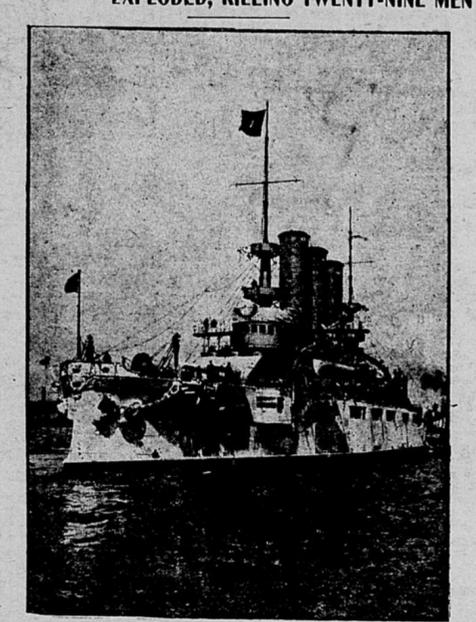


**UNDER THE SUN.**  
The men who have gone before us  
Have sung the songs we sing;  
The words of our clamorous chorus,  
They were heard of the ancient King.  
The chords of the lyre that thrill us,  
They were struck in the years gone by,  
And the arrows of death that kill us  
Are found where our fathers lie.  
The vanity sung of the Preacher  
Is vanity still to-day;  
The means of the stricken creature  
Has rung in the woods away.  
But the songs are worth retaining  
With the change of no single note,  
And the spoken words are ringing  
As they rang in the years remote.  
There is no new road to follow,  
Nor need there ever be,  
For the old, with its hill and hollow,  
Is enough for you and me.  
—Century.

**SECONDARY CONSIDERATION**

HER tall, beautifully formed girl settled her broad shoulders more comfortably against the sun-warmed rock behind her and gazed rather contemptuously at the small, well-knit man beside her.  
"I'm sure I never could endure a man who was not physically broad and strong," she said, with the irritation of a woman who is conscious of an inconsistency in herself. She was provoked to find herself liking this little man with his charming conversational powers.  
"And how about mental and moral courage?" he questioned.  
"Secondary consideration to me," she answered, curtly.  
"How you must admire Mr. Dent, our young football enthusiast," he said.  
"I do," she said, rising and going out to the farthest tip of the rock on which they sat.  
"How slippery this seaweed is," she called over her shoulder, and then with a little scream she slipped into the deep water around the rock. "Oh! Mr. Kendon," she cried, "please help me, it's so deep here."  
The young man remained where he was. "I happen to know, Miss Irew, that you can swim like a fish, and I am too dry to care to take another dip."  
She let herself sink once, and then the big form of Mr. Dent, in immaculate white suit, rounded a corner of the rock. He saw her rise and he flashed into the water and bore her to the rock. She turned with her head erect and walked with him toward the boat.  
Dick Kendon noticed a freezing temperature around Miss Irew the rest of the day, but next afternoon, regardless of Mr. Dent's hints at the danger of her running her own automobile, she commanded Mr. Kendon to take the place at her side in the London, and estimate the cost of five minutes' fighting, assuming that she could use all of her forty-six guns throughout.  
The London's four 12-inch guns, which by the way, cost no less than \$250,000, fire armor-piercing shells weighing 850 pounds each at the rate of two a minute, each projectile with its cordite charge of 107½ pounds, costing \$80. Thus in five minutes' fighting these four destruction-dealing monsters would hurl at the enemy forty projectiles weighing more than eighteen tons and costing \$320.  
Each six-inch gun, of which she has twelve, costing \$3,750 each, throws shells of 100 pounds weight, costing \$14 apiece, and in five minutes of rapid and continuous firing these guns would pour into the enemy's ships a barrage of projectiles weighing twenty-two tons, at a cost of \$6,988. So far we have only accounted for sixteen out of the forty-six guns.  
The London twelve-pounders number sixteen and cost \$555 each; from the mouths of these guns no fewer than 920 shells could be poured in five minutes, representing nine tons of metal and a cost of \$2,880.  
Each of the half-dozen three-pounders has a firing capacity of thirty shells a minute, so that in five minutes' fighting they would send 1,800 worth of metal into the enemy's side, while the eight machine guns would send out a storm of death-dealing bullets weighing more than six hundredweight and costing \$140.  
Thus, in five minutes' fighting, using all her forty-six guns, the London would vomit forth over fifty tons of

**BATTLE SHIP MISSOURI, ON WHICH A GUN EXPLODED, KILLING TWENTY-NINE MEN**



The battleship Missouri, on which a turret gun exploded, killing twenty-nine officers and men, has been in commission only since last autumn, her official trip taking place Oct. 21. She is a sister ship of the Ohio and the new Maine. Her displacement is 12,300 tons. She is heavily armored, and her armament is in proportion, being four 12-inch guns, sixteen 6-inch guns and a number of smaller weapons. The Missouri also has two submerged torpedo tubes. Her complement is 551 officers and men. She is commanded by Captain William S. Cowles, a brother-in-law of President Roosevelt. Recently the Missouri, owing to her defective steering gear, narrowly escaped sinking the Illinois.

47,050; to 65 6-inch shells, at \$21 each, \$1,365; to 12 6-pounder shells, at \$1 each, \$12; to 400 1-pound shells, at 12 shells \$6 each, \$2,400.  
Thus the five minutes firing cost the United States \$8,077, and during each minute of the duel the Brooklyn hurled 223 projectiles, the London at a cost of \$1,735. If we add to this the cost of the Viscaya's answering fire we see that the fight between the two ships could scarcely have cost less than \$2,000,000 a minute, or at the rate of \$180,000 an hour. We must remember, too, that on neither ship would it be possible to use all the available guns at once; so that there is still a large margin for increased expenditure when a man-of-war is in a position to use her fighting powers to the utmost.  
But let us take one of our own first-class battleships, the London, and estimate the cost of five minutes' fighting, assuming that she could use all of her forty-six guns throughout.  
The London's four 12-inch guns, which by the way, cost no less than \$250,000, fire armor-piercing shells weighing 850 pounds each at the rate of two a minute, each projectile with its cordite charge of 107½ pounds, costing \$80. Thus in five minutes' fighting these four destruction-dealing monsters would hurl at the enemy forty projectiles weighing more than eighteen tons and costing \$320.  
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**A SWITCHMAN'S DAUGHTER**  
Becomes the Wife of a Son of Former Senator Thurston

The marriage of Miss Nellie Colter to Clarence Thurston in St. Louis recently was invested with romance. The groom is the eldest son of John M. Thurston, the distinguished lawyer, orator and statesman, who was the intimate friend of Blaine, and who once represented Nebraska in the United States Senate. She is the daughter of a railroad switchman in Omaha. The romance began in Omaha fifteen years ago, when Clarence Thurston and Nellie Colter went to kindergarten together. The children grew up together and their love for each other became fond with the passing years. The fact that his father was general solicitor for the Union Pacific and her father was a switchman in its service was nothing to him when they were children. And then when the opportunity came he took her to his wife. When John M. Thurston was elected to the United States senate and went to Washington to live the son went with him, and in the gay society of the capital he met many beautiful women from all parts of the world, but his heart remained true and faithful to the Omaha girl.  
A curious local custom. A curious custom is in vogue in many parts of India. If a dispute arises between two landowners two holes are dug close together, in each of which defendant's and plaintiff's lawyers have to place a leg. They have to remain thus until either one of them is exhausted or complains of being bitten by insects, when he is judged to be defeated and his employer loses his case.  
When a girl isn't good-looking, her true friends blame it on the milliner and dressmaker.  
The first thing a woman plants in sweet peas; the first thing a man plants is potatoes.

**FIELD MARSHAL MARQUIS YAMAGATA**  
GRAND OLD SOLDIER OF JAPAN.



One of the most remarkable men of the age is Field Marshal Marquis Arimoto Yamagata, commander in chief of the Japanese army, under whose direction the land forces of the Mikado are preparing for a deadly grapple with Russia. Statesman, diplomat, soldier, organizer, reformer, he has been variously called the Japanese Marquis, the Bismarck of Japan, the General Grant of Japan and the Napoleon of Japan. In local conflicts in the Mikado's empire and in the Chino-Japanese war of 1894 he has made a record that military men envy, and now at the advanced age of 71 he again takes up the baton to win, if possible, more enduring renown in a triumph over the legions of the Czar.  
Marquis Yamagata first won distinction in the war of 1898, called "the war of the restoration," which resulted in the overthrow of the Tzooan and the placing of the present Mikado, Mutsuhito, on the throne.

**THE HAWKEYE STATE**

**NEWS OF THE WEEK CONCISELY CONDENSED.**

**Lynchings Hoax Frightens Old Negro to Death—Graves Convicted of Wife Murder—Muscatine Bomb May Be Warning—Boy Thieves in Jail.**

Practical Jokers at Hamburg have caused the death of an old negro named John C. Goodlow. He was taken out side the town by a party of young men, who tried to put an imaginary charge, and prepared to burn him at the stake. The negro's arms were tied to his side and his feet nailed to a board, and a rag soaked with kerosene was placed near his nose. Then a bucket of water, which he was informed was coal oil, was thrown over his head. Goodlow was told his end had come. The old man's screams ceased just at this time and his tormentors were horrified to find he was dead. The body was quietly deposited in an old corn crib, where it was found the next day, and buried after a coroner's jury had held that death was due to natural causes. The facts have only just come to light.

**Found Guilty of Murder.**  
Charles W. Graves, a Des Moines furniture dealer, was found guilty of murdering his wife and burning the body, was found guilty in the District Court, the jury recommending life imprisonment. His co-defendant, an actress, secured his conviction. Graves is said to have choked his wife to death in a fit of rage and then to have saturated her body with kerosene and set the fire. His stories relative to finding the body and his visits to the home the morning of the crime were conflicting. This, coupled with previous threats to kill her, led to his arrest and prosecution. Mrs. Graves' daughter, Winnie Reader, a member of the Grand opera company, then playing in Chicago, arrived home to spend the holiday, but her father's crime was committed. She buried her mother, accused her stepfather of the crime and secured his conviction.

**Bomb Found at Muscatine.**  
The discovery of a supposed bomb in Muscatine brought visions of another dynamite outrage occasioned by the temperance lectures of A. C. Rankin, the blowing up of the home of John Mahin ten years ago. It is alleged the bomb found at Muscatine was similar to the one used in some quarters as a warning if Rankin continued.

**Youthful Thieves Jailed.**  
Three boys, from 15 to 17 years of age, have been arrested in Ottumwa on the charge of breaking and entering. The boys were found in a house, one of whom drove a car on the night of March 25 and stole a quantity of tools and clothing valued at \$70. The boys arrested are Harry and Ed Johnson, and Ed Johnson.

**Fire at Shenandoah.**  
The plant of the Shenandoah Ice Company in Shenandoah was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of ten or eleven thousand dollars, on which was \$8,000 insurance. The plant may be rebuilt.

**Preacher Sent to Prison.**  
Rev. J. B. Taylor, the Methodist minister at Sigourney, was sentenced to a year in the penitentiary. Taylor had two wives, one in Delaware and one in Iowa.

**Within Our Borders.**  
Neola Catholics will build a \$10,000 parsonage.  
Pisgah will vote on the question of incorporation.  
Dubuque's drug store at Fort Dodge was robbed of \$30. No clue.  
Dubuque's City Council has passed a wood-measuring ordinance.  
John Palmer, a prominent pioneer of Washington County, is dead.  
Council of Jews have let the contract for a \$5,000 synagogue at Des Moines. J. W. C. A. building will not be erected this year.  
A monster exhibit, weighing 75 pounds, was captured at Burlington.  
The home of Austin Crawford, near Ainsworth, burned to the ground.  
Denison's Carnegie library will be thrown open to the public June 1.  
A campaign against fads in the schools has been started by the Keokuk press.  
Mrs. Ida Picher of Knoxville attempted suicide by taking morphine. She was unharmed.  
An opera house is assured for Spencer, nearly all of the \$30,000 stock having been subscribed.  
The members of Company II, at Burlington, are endeavoring to secure ten to fifteen recruits.  
Ottumwa now has an ordinance limiting the speed of automobiles to eight miles an hour.  
The home of David Peterson, near Galva, was destroyed by fire. Loss \$1,500, with no insurance.  
Labor troubles at Des Moines may result in an endeavor of the employers to secure the "open shop."  
George Waters of Davenport was seriously injured by falling down stairs. He was walking in his sleep.  
An electric freight line may be built at Des Moines to the brick plants and coal mines that vicinity.  
The Keokuk president of the United Presbyterian Church defeated the proposition to admit members of secret orders.  
Rev. H. M. Pinkerton, until recently a Congregational pastor of Colorado, has accepted a call from the church at Cass.  
Mrs. A. M. Waterman, for six years matron of the Anamosa penitentiary, has resigned, and returned to her home in Decatur County.  
Iowa live stock men have secured a promise from Chicago railroad officials to call a general conference of live stock interests to adjust their grievances.  
Subscriptions for the proposed railroad Y. M. C. A. home at Marshalltown have reached \$18,700. The contract for the building will be let when \$20,000 is subscribed.  
Citizens of Seymour claim the small-pox reports sent out from that place were grossly exaggerated. There are only thirteen cases of the disease in mid form; the schools are open and there is no excitement.  
After a service of three years as a teacher in the public schools in the Philippines, Miss Abby Pearson, an Iowa girl, has sailed for her home.  
Wires are reported to be numerous in Hamilton County, many farmers telling of the loss of poultry and young stock as results of their depredations.  
The 10-year-old child of Mrs. Henry Turner of Okonkosh was seriously, if not fatally, burned by her clothing catching fire from burning rubbish.  
Prof. Samuel Galvin, State geologist for Iowa, is at the head of a small party of Iowa men on the way to British Columbia to investigate the gold deposits along the Fraser river.  
Charles Anderson, who recently attempted suicide at Fort Dodge, will recover. It is learned that a quarrel with a girl was the cause of his sudden desire to seek another world.  
Grundy County school teachers were swindled out of several hundred dollars by agents for a "teachers' reading circle." The signed applications for membership were used to obtain money.  
Forty-three students in attendance at rural schools of Blackhawk County have succeeded in passing the examination conducted by County Superintendent Elliott, receiving a mark of 80 per cent or better. They will receive diplomas.

**LeMars will have a street fair in August.**

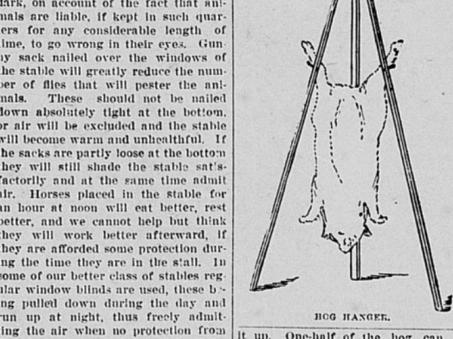
A factory is assured for Center Junction.  
There were 217 deaths in Ottumwa the past year.  
Webster City has an epidemic of petty thieving.  
The Dubuque Shippers' Association has incorporated.  
The Milwaukee will erect a new station at Monticello.  
The tile factory at Dows has been improved and reopened.  
Muscatine will have a box factory, capitalized at \$75,000.  
Dysart druggists have been enjoined against the sale of liquor.  
The Davenport Thrasher Society has passed the 800 mark in membership.  
Keokuk County will vote on a \$100,000 concrete improvement on June 7.  
Hon. N. E. Kendall of Albia will give the Memorial day orator at Des Moines.  
The new Bettendorf Catholic Church will be formally dedicated Sunday, May 15.  
The Frost Concrete Stone Company will probably remove from Dows to Waterloo.  
The Dubuque Boating Association will send crews to the Olympic regatta at St. Louis.  
Des Moines proposes to expend \$70,000 for the erection of levees to prevent floods.  
The Waterloo electric line will be extended to Westfield, that city's factory suburb.  
The order for machinery for the canning company at Monticello has been placed.  
Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Koontz of Albia celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.  
The Swedish Lutherans of Fort Dodge have decided to erect a \$7,000 house of worship.  
Mrs. Saul Upson, who disappeared from her home near Lewis, was found near Dexter.  
Eldridge will vote May 10 on the question of establishing a municipal water works system.  
Webster County farmers will undertake chicken raising on an extensive scale this year.  
Rev. A. O. Stevens has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Anamosa Congregational Church.  
Four Fort Madison boys, from 15 to 18 years of age, have been arrested on the charge of burglarizing stores.  
The dog poisoner is busy at Burlington. Nearly a score of canines have recently been put out of the way.  
Workmen remodeling a barn near Augusta uncovered a huge nest of rats, and in a short time killed 348 rodents.  
The old Anamosa Congregational Church is being torn down preparatory to the erection of a new one.  
The home of Edward Harris, living near Hillman, was burned and his 3-year-old child perished in the flames.  
Medford is short of dwelling houses and a company has been organized with a capital of \$40,000 to build residences.  
Rev. M. A. Breed of Brockton, Mass., has been extended a temporary call to the Congregational Church of Monticello.  
A motion for a rehearing has been filed in the Supreme Court in the Davenport case, recently decided against the city.  
Farmers of Geneseo township will build another telephone line to Dysart, which it will be connected with the exchange.  
The prompt imprisonment of the hen is the leading issue in the smaller towns where the garrulous rooster is up to the eyes in mischief.  
L. J. Young of Iowa, who lived in Chickasaw County half a century, is dead. He was a very prominent and respected citizen of Hamilton, Mo.  
When the present term of District Court opened at Avoca, there were found to be no jury trial cases, and the jury was discharged.  
The contract for building the Chicago, Anamosa and Northern Railway from Anamosa to Prairieburg has been awarded to an Anamosa firm.  
David Pijah, elected Mayor of Clarence at the recent election, refuses to qualify, and the Council will fill the vacancy by appointment.  
The Clarion and Northwestern Telephone Company proposes to put its wires underground, as a protection against fires and other causes of interruption.  
Rev. Father Gidinger has informed the Davenport authorities that unless the saloons obey the midnight closing ordinance prosecutions will be begun.  
The Fort Dodge Commercial Club has decided to erect an establishment of a watch factory. The promoters' demands were considered too great.  
Tax farmers have instituted suits against the numerous Chicago County banks for the collection of taxes on property alleged to have been withheld from the assessor. A fine legal battle is in progress.  
The numerous mysterious robberies of the Litzrodt drug store at Burlington have been solved. A young man prominent socially, who has been a frequenter of the store, has confessed to the robberies and will make restitution.  
Clarence Anderson, aged 21, a stranger, refusing to give his home, shot himself just below the heart, in the Great Eastern depot at Fort Dodge. He said he wanted to die. He would give no reason. He will probably recover.  
The jury in the case of the State against Martin Wescott, the Fertile blacksmith, for the killing of George Logan, a blacksmith at Hamilton, on Dec. 11 last, returned a verdict of manslaughter after being out seven hours.  
Thirteen new rural routes have been ordered established in Marshall County, and when they are in operation the county will be completely covered by rural routes.  
Oil has been discovered on two farms, near Fort Dodge, and the residents of the vicinity are badly excited. A stock company will be organized to sink wells and incidentally some money.  
Louis Messner has been elected chief of the Iowa City fire department for the fourth consecutive time. This is his ninth year as chief of the department and the eleventh in the service of the company.  
Of the sixty-two seniors who are candidates for graduation from the West Des Moines high school this year, twenty-seven are boys. This is the largest percentage the school has ever known, the girls' preference having predominated by a large majority.  
There are now 802 convicts in the State prisons. A year ago there were 750. No explanation for this decrease of 52 in a year. But it is probable that a better record. They have decreased 125 in a year, so far as the number who are confined in the State penitentiary is concerned. The number of insane has increased 106 during the year.  
The 19-month-old child of Mr. and Mrs. John Hopkins of Iowa County, who fell from the floor, picked up and tried to swallow a wood screw. The little one choked to death in a short time, although the parents tried every way to dislodge the screw from his throat.  
In the trial of C. W. Graves, accused of strangling his wife in Des Moines and then of pouring kerosene over her body and setting fire to the house to conceal the evidence of his crime, four doctors swore that Mrs. Graves' death had been caused by strangulation. Evidence was also produced to the effect that Graves had intended to leave the house twenty minutes before the body was found.



**FARMS AND FARMERS**

Farmer's intelligence. Shiftless farmers are not inclined to pay out money for reading matter. Ignorant farmers consider money spent for reading matter wasted. There is no better sign of prosperity than to see upon his table farm papers, church papers, magazines, etc.

**A Simple Hog Hanger.**  
Here's a sketch of a hog hanger, which is a good one for the farmer. Take three 9-foot poles, 2½ inches in diameter. Put a ¾-inch bolt through the top and two 3-inch bolts in the outside poles, as in the cut, 18 inches from top, so that they stick out 3 inches. Lay the hog on its back, slip the little bolt under the cord, and raise



it up. One-half of the hog can be taken down and the other half left hanging.

**Stock Raising by Electricity.**  
According to a recent issue of the Chicago Tribune, an electrical system of stock-raising has been developed on a moderate scale at the University of Michigan. Small animals, such as rabbits, have already been forced into matured size and plumpness in two-thirds of the period required by nature, showing the possibility of reducing the tedious development of larger stock, especially sheep or cows, by many months. In several rooms of the electro-therapeutic laboratory, cheap wood pens, circular in form, have been wound to the height of two feet with electric wires. A moderate current of one-half horse power circles these electric pens. From its influence the inside pens is made electro-magnetic, becoming a strong magnet, with sixty-two lines of force to the square inch. In these pens rabbits have grown to maturity in two-thirds of the time that rabbits near them have developed in non-electrical pens. These electrically nurtured animals did not become larger than normal rabbits; they merely arrived at normal size quicker. Furthermore, as is the case with hot-house flowers, they were found less hardy than their stow-away brethren. But, in the livestock market, the forced animals had an unexcelled tenderness and plumpness.

**Disking Land for Corn.**  
A correspondent writes us that having heard of quite a successful corn growing in Illinois without plowing the land first, inquires whether one can safely disk the corn land, list and plant without the usual breaking. Sometimes the lighter prairie soils are prepared in this way and corn is planted and does fairly well without first breaking the land. This has been done, however, in seasons following deep winter freezing, and little spring rain to run the soil together. Only the light blank soils mixed with some sand have been successfully grown to corn by disking, rather than breaking. In wet spring seasons some risk is taken even with these soils to plant in this way. It is far safer to break the ground first and pulverize it for corn. And the clay loam should be always so treated, and it is best to break them deeply. Disking light soils and listing for planting would be a great mistake in any kind of a season. These soils are run together and hardened by the usual spring rains more than others are, and our correspondent would make a mistake to undertake corn growing on his clay loam lands by merely disking them. Exchange.

**Swelled Leg Treatments.**  
Horses that have run at pasture are often troubled with swollen or "stocked" legs when first brought to the stable in the fall, and others that do not run to grass are so affected when suffering from "general debility." The following is an excellent remedy for such cases:  
Powdered sulphate of iron (coppers) three ounces, powdered gentian root three ounces, sulphite (not sulphate) of soda three ounces. Have the drugs mixed these ingredients thoroughly in his mortar and then divide the compound into twenty-four powders.  
Give one of the powders night and morning mixed in the grain feed, until all are used. Moisten the grain slightly before putting in the powder.  
If this does not effect a cure, give a tablespoonful of glauca salts in the grain feed every night for two or three months, if necessary. Cases where the legs have been "stocked" constantly and quite badly for some time have been permanently cured by glauca salts alone.  
Incubator Don'ts.  
Don't use oil less than 150 test.  
Don't help the chick out of the shell.  
Don't fail to fill the lamps every evening.  
Don't set the incubator near the window.  
Don't use the same wick for more than one hatch.  
Don't worry with moisture gauges or hygrometers.  
Don't turn nor cool the eggs after they are pipping.  
Don't neglect cooling the eggs; it makes strong chicks and keeps the eggs in the same incubator.  
Don't try to hatch duck and hen eggs in the same incubator.  
Don't trim the wick with scissors; scrape off the charred part with a match.  
Don't think you are smarter than the manufacturer of the incubator, for you have a lot to learn.  
Don't leave the large ends of the eggs pointing in different directions; have them all pointing one way.



**JOLLY JOKER**

A man may be perfectly square and move in the best circles.—Philadelphia Record.  
He—if I tried to kiss you would you call for help?—She—Would you need it?—Smart Set.  
Mrs. Buze—Have you any low evening gowns?—Salsbury—Low cut or low price, madam?—Boston Free Press.  
The Debutante—I think she's just as pretty as she can be. The Wallflower—Most girls are.—Detroit Free Press.  
Between the acts: Guberness—Well, Marjorie, have you done crying?—Marjorie—No, I haven't. I'm only resting!—Punch.  
"Didn't you feel like killing the waiter when he stood up for you for a tip?"—"Yes, I felt like giving him no quarter."—Cornell Widow.  
"So Jagsby has absconded. Another good man gone wrong."—"Nonsense. It's merely a bad man who has been found out."—Philadelphia Ledger.  
Mrs. Wackum—How did that naughty boy of yours hurt himself?—Mrs. Snapper—That good little boy of yours hit him on the head with a brick.—Tit-Bits.  
"So you think your country will be lost?"—"I haven't quite made up my mind," answered the King of Corea, "whether it is going to be lost, strayed, or stolen."—Washington Star.  
Ma—Oh, how cruel! In India they whip children with young palm-trees. Willie—Huh! Don't you spank me with your palm? And it ain't such a young palm, either.—Boston Post.  
"Marriage," remarked the moralizer, "is a lottery."—"Yes," rejoined the demoralizer, "but it's one of the games of chance that chergymen do not try to discourage."—Cincinnati Enquirer.  
Passenger—Why don't you pronounce the names of the stations so that we can understand them? Brake-man—What do you expect for thirty dollars a month—a college professor?  
He—Yes, I remembered you at once as the girl I was engaged to in the mountains some seasons ago. "What a remarkable memory for faces you have, haven't you?"—"No—for rings."  
"I wonder if he's really any of us in the world," remarked the girl in blue.—"Oh, yes," replied the practical girl in gray, "but he can't make other men jealous."—Chicago Evening Post.  
"Are you at all familiar with Plato?" asked Mrs. Oldcastle.—"No, that's one thing Josiah always blames me for. He says I never make real close friends with anybody."—Philadelphia Ledger.  
Kate—Charley and Bessie are very fond of each other. Bertha—Rather, say they are both very fond of Charley. It is a case of two souls with but a single thought, you know.—Boston Transcript.  
Mamma—Why did you take little brother's candy and eat it up? Why didn't you ask him if you could have it? Little Alice—Why, I did, mamma, and he said I couldn't.—Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune.  
He—I suppose you hold that a man should never drink wine or beer. She—Oh, no, I wouldn't go as far as that. How would it be possible for the average man to get a wife if he didn't deceive her?—Boston Transcript.  
Detained: Mrs. Smith—We missed you so much on our party. Mrs. Jones—And I was engaged to be married. Come! You see, our cook had company unexpectedly, and she needed us to fill out the card tables.—Detroit Journal.  
"Hoping Against Hope: Gayboy (time 1 a. m.)—I say, old chap, isn't this a little late for you to be out? Aren't you afraid your wife will miss you? Expect I hope she will, but she can't throw pretty straight for a woman.—Chicago News.  
Mrs. Collie—And when you told him I was married did he seem to be sorry? Friend—Oh, yes; he said so quite frankly! Mrs. Collie—Did he really? Friend—Yes, indeed; but she can't throw extremely sorry, although he didn't know the man personally!  
"No, thank you," said Miss De Mure. "I don't care to meet any new young men."—"My!" exclaimed Miss Gaddie. "You are select all of a sudden!"—"No," replied Miss De Mure, "I'm getting lonely at her new ring. I've merely been selected all of a sudden."—Philadelphia Press.  
Another brute: Mrs. Pretty—Isn't it strange? Mrs. Beaufort has not put on mourning for her husband. Mr. Pretty—I understand you were engaged to be married, particularly requested that she should not. Mrs. Pretty—The brute! I suppose he knew how lovely she would look in it.—Puck-Me-Up.  
"You ought to have a place in grand opera," remarked the sarcastic passenger who was trying to read. "Oh, I don't know," replied the fat passenger across the aisle, who was giving an imitation of a song. "I've got a place in Grand Rapids that's good enough for me.—Detroit Journal.  
"Yes, sir," said the Denver hotel clerk to the new arrival, "that white-capped mountain avarice that is in the Rockies, and it is a hundred and fifty miles from here." "Who would have imagined it was so far?" commented the guest. "Oh," was the reply from the clerk, "if the atmosphere was only a little clearer it would be three hundred miles away."—Judge.  
As to Joe Chamberlain.  
In London clubs they are telling of a bon mot of Winston Spencer Churchill, the Prince Rupert of the crusade against Chamberlainism. He was asked if he thought there was any truth in the report that Mr. Chamberlain was suffering from "softening of the brain." "No fear," snapped the young commoner viciously. "He has a malady of a different sort—hardening of the heart."  
An Improvement.  
"Isn't it grand," cried the girl at Niagara, "to see that great mass of water falling down, down, down! Could anything be more impressive?" "Why, yes," replied her father-of-fact escort. "It would be more extraordinary and worthy of comment, it seems to me, if that great mass of water fell up, up, up."—Chicago Post.  
School for Critics.  
A school for theatrical critics is to be opened in Paris. The students are to attend dress rehearsals and write them up for practice.  
It doesn't cost very much to think as long as you don't back your conclusions with hard-earned cash.