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The C. O. D. Man
He Tells How He Wrote Poetry and Lived High.

THAT'S all O. K.," said the C. O. D. man, as he received and pocketed a coin of the last vintage. "The C. O. D. system, on which I have been doing business for the last five years, saves bookkeeping, banking and lots of other trouble. You get what you pay for, and I get the money, and neither of us has to send out a collector.

"As a dilapidated gentleman, making a tour of the country every year, I have no rating in the commercial agencies, and as an interviewer your checks might be marked 'N. G.' at the bank. Now, to proceed.

"Three years ago I was up in Connecticut on the wander, and as my old shoes, which, by the way, once belonged to a member of the legislature of

in the poetic line," said the C. O. D. man, "but after a good supper, a good bed and a square breakfast she called me into the sitting room and explained that she was a widow. In fact, she was three widows in one. She had married three times and buried three husbands. I started out to sympathize with her, but she hinted that she was going to change her name soon for the fourth time and wasn't looking for condolence. She wanted poetry instead. She hadn't erected a gravestone for any of the three yet, but was going to give an order for the third in a bunch, and she wanted something better than 'Sacred to the memory of —' etc. I got her idea of what she wanted, and she said she'd give me board and lodging for a week if I hit it. I took pencil and paper to the barn and sat down, and in about an hour I was ready to show her the following:

"I grieve for Thomas lying here—
In health I never forsook him.
But held his hand until the last,
And wept when death o'ertook him.

"Full kind and gentle Thomas was;
His nature it was cheerful,
And though he died long years ago,
His widow still is tearful.

"That seemed to dispose of No. 1 all right," said the C. O. D. man, "and I sharpened my pencil and went after No. 2. It wasn't much of an effort to get off the following and add an extra verse for his being 'next':

"For thirty days James Speedwell lay
Upon his bed and groan,
And all this time the doctor, he
To save his life was trying.

"But death had marked him for his own—
A case it was of fever—
And though he clung to his dear wife,
He had to die and leave her.

"Her love for him will always last;
His kindness she'll remember,
Her tears will ever fall for him
In May or in December.

"That brought me down to No. 3," said the poet, "and as I had lots of time I did the handsome thing by him as follows:

"And now we come to Henry Clay,
So wise and good a lender
That if he is an honest dealer,
His neighbors will be wiser.

"No unkind words were said his lips,
No word but what was kind;
He thought the world of his dear wife
Until his back was broken.

"One summer's day he hid him forth
Into the field for hay,
And one short hour had only passed
When he was found a-laying.

"His back was broken and his neck
Was also badly twisted,
And though a doctor came at once,
On dying he insisted.

"He died at sunset, noble man,
And he was duly buried,
And never will Henry be forgot,
Though oft his widow grieved.

"When I submitted my humble effort for criticism," said the poet, "the widow kicked a bit over the last two lines of the last verse, but after thinking it over for a couple of hours she came to the conclusion that it was all right. For five days I had nothing to do but sleep, eat and lie in the shade, and when I at length jogged on she made up a suit of clothes for me out of what the three husbands had left and added a fifty cent piece and her blessing.

"That was the only time I ever entered the field against Longfellow, and I came out of the contest better than I hoped for." M. QUAD.

Lack of Order.
It is astonishing how all of us are generally cumbered up with the thousand and one hindrances and duties which are not such, but which nevertheless wind us about with their spider threads and fetter the movement of our wings. It is the lack of order which makes us slaves. The confusion of today discounts the freedom of tomorrow.



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"I CAME TO A GOOD LOOKING FARMHOUSE," that state and were run down at the heel, had blistered my feet, I looked for a place to lay up for three or four days and take things easy.

"You can understand by that I was willing to do light work for some farmer for a bed in the haymow and a few meals in the wood shed. That's the difference between a professional tramp and a dilapidated gentleman. The one won't work under any circumstances, while the other quits the road occasionally to take up the hoe.

"Along about sundown I came to a good looking farmhouse with a middle aged woman sitting on the piazza. I opened the gate to be told to go on about my business, and though I offered to work for my board the terms were refused. I was turning away when the woman suddenly changed her mind and called me back and said:

"Perhaps you are not a regular tramp?"

"No, ma'am, I'm not. I'm only a dilapidated gentleman making a farewell tour of Connecticut."

"What is a dilapidated gentleman?" she asked as she looked me over in a puzzled way.

"It's an ex, ma'am—an ex-Harvard man, an ex-swell young fellow, an ex-son of a millionaire who wouldn't marry the parlor maid his father had picked out for him, an ex-member of society who has become disgusted with the world and taken to sauntering over the country. I can hoe corn or potatofences, cut grass, milk cows, repair fences, sing a song, feed the hogs, write poetry or most anything else."

"You say you can write poetry?"

"I can, ma'am."

"Then you may stop tonight, and tomorrow I will talk to you further."

"I had no idea what she was after

J. C. Pettepher Auto Garage Register

OWNER'S NAME	NAME OF MACHINE	
J. B. Moore	Auto Car	Hartford, Conn.
L. O. Smith	Runabout	New London, Conn.
W. B. Smith	Runabout	Yonkers, N. Y.
J. H. Hathaway	Stanley Steamer	Boston, Mass.
H. C. Bennett	Runabout	St. Louis, Mo.
C. H. Young	Steamer	D. Land, Fla.

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The Gazette-News

THE GAZETTE-NEWS is a weekly newspaper published at Daytona, Florida, by Geo. F. Crouch, in the interest of Daytona and vicinity, is Democratic in political flavor, and is an advocate of prosperity, peace and good roads for our citizens. Its columns are devoted to bringing before our readers a brief and authentic account of the happenings of this place and of the adjoining communities. Our local writers are ever on the lookout for news items and are assisted by good correspondents from all nearby towns.

The Northerner who spends his winters here, the occasional winter resident, or those who are now making their first visit to our City, could invest no money where it would give them greater enjoyment for a year than \$1.50 spent for a subscription to the GAZETTE-NEWS. In the course of a year it will tell the Northern reader what Daytona really is, and if our section of the country would be better suited to him than his present location.

As to health, we firmly believe that Daytona is as healthy a location as any spot in the United States, and is briefly quoted as "Daytona is lost Paradise regained." To tell even briefly our advantages over other sections of the country in health, investments, pleasures, and a place one can call home, would consume too much space. And as a suggestion, for your personal enjoyment and business relations in the South, that you subscribe now for the GAZETTE-NEWS. We would be pleased to count you as a "Daytona advocate" and a GAZETTE-NEWS Reader.

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Gazette-News

GEO. F. CROUCH, Editor and Proprietor

Our Item Boxes.

For the convenience of those who have items of news for us, we have placed "Item Boxes" at convenient places about the city. They are located as follows:

Yacht Club Building Gramling Bakery Railway Station
Clark's Stationery Store Daily News Office

If you know of an arrival, a departure, a fish story, or any of the hundreds of little items that help to make a newsy paper, write it out and drop it in the Item Box nearest to you.

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