

THE AMERICAN MONTHLY REVIEW OF REVIEWS

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THE REVIEW OF REVIEWS COMPANY.

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GEMS IN VERSE.

Little Johnny.
Johnny listened to a phonograph
And danced in childish glee;
He thought it was the nicest thing
That ever he did see.

He could not tell just how it played,
But got the curious whim
That he could sing those songs himself
If the records were in him.

So he broke one up in pieces
And swallowed it one day,
And in the quiet of evening
His spirit soared away.

And they carried upon his tombstone
This little paragraph,
"Johnny learned to sing with the angels
By eating a phonograph."
—Lynn.

Down With the Slang Habit.
'Tis a hideous practice, this using of slang,
A blot on the language we speak!
The bells of progressiveness never yet rang
A more inexcusable peal!

The mouth it pollutes of the old and the young
With its vilely contaminating touch!
Makes a flippant, degenerate slave of the tongue
When it comes gets it into its clutch!

It throws all politeness clear off of the track!
Our delicate instincts it rips up the back!

Young fellows just starting upon a career
That promises honor and fame,
Whose trail means a smooth one, whose heavens
Are clear.

Who holds all the trumpets in the game,
Fall into the habit so fearfully rank,
Their language is that of the slum!
They try with the monster while trying to yank
From the tree of distinction the plume.

Their shining escutcheon of language they stain
With the foulness of slang! Oh, it gives us a
pain!

A maiden as fair as the blush of a rose,
A gem of the sex that we love,
A model of grace from her lock to her toe,
As sweet as a sprig from above,
Will riddle her chinking with hideous things,
With blunt phraseology, till
The language she so inadvertently slings
Would give a cadaver a chill!

Each flower of speech is attached to a bar
Of slang, and that's just what's the matter with her!

And even the old, whom we ought to revere,
Knock our true veneration to wreck
By giving the language we all hold so dear
A chickeny slant in the neck!

The ones who as shining examples should pose
As models of good for the young
Low respect for their training, and everything
gone.

As they slang they fire off from the tongue!
And though at their slang riddled spellings we scoff
They keep it a-comin' and never ring off!

Oh, ye who believe in the chasteness of speech,
Sit down on this idiot fact!
This science covered peddle that litters the back
Of purity, give it the gad!
If all will unite in a vigorous war
And hustle for all we are worth,
We'll knock out the habit we all so abhor,
Just make it get off of the earth!
If we all make a vow at the Spring
To give up the slang that's ailing to the
—Denver Post.

The Harvest.
Oh, I saw her at the time of the sowing of the grain!
The April sun had broken through a filmy mist of rain,
And a little wind and sweet
Swayed the grasses at her feet
As I turned to look and turned to smile and turned
to look again.

And I said, "How good a thing
Is the promise of the spring!"
At the time of the sowing of the grain.

Oh, I kissed her at the time of the growing of the grain!
Her laugh was like the melody that threads the
lark's refrain:
And blossoms everywhere
Sent their perfume through the air,
And the branches bent above her where the ripening
fruit was laid.

And I said, "Lo, love hath grown
Like the seed thy hand hath sown!"
At the time of the growing of the grain.

Oh, I won her at the time of the mowing of the grain!
We guided o'er the empty fields the heavy laden
wain,
And my life was like to sing
With the joy of harvesting!
Oh, love's sowing nor his growing nor his mow-
ing was in vain.

And I said, "Give thanks, my heart,
For the store that is thy part!"
At the time of the mowing of the grain.
—McCrea-Pickering in Smart Set.

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How to Make Corned Beef Hash.
Chop the trimmings and poorer portions of meat very fine, being careful to remove the stringy membranes, gristly portions and fine bones. Chop an equal amount of cold potatoes, and add one tablespoonful of onion juice for each pint of mixture. Season highly with pepper and carefully with salt. Moisten with the meat liquor and turn into a skillet with hot beef dripping to cover the bottom. Let it cook slowly until a brown crust has formed, then fold over and turn out. It may be served without the crust if preferred.

Can't Stop the Sign Man.
The scenic beauties of Niagara falls are to be increased this summer by a sign 280 feet long and 37 feet high which is to be placed on the Canadian side of the falls on the site of the burned Clifton House.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Washing Cut Glass.
Housekeepers know that cut glass carafes or water bottles are very hard to keep clean and new looking. When a lime deposit has formed on the inside, fill the carafe with sour milk and let it stand a day or two; empty and wash in soft warm water to which a teaspoonful of ammonia has been added. Rub thoroughly with a soft brush, tie a paper or cloth over the mouth, and, while it is still wet, bury it in a box of fine sawdust. Leave a day or two to dry, rub off the sawdust with a soft brush, and the carafe will glisten as it did on the shelf in the shop. All cut glass is improved by this treatment. Jewelers realize the value of fine sawdust in cleaning diamonds and other fine jewelry.—Good Housekeeping.

How to Make Rhubarb Pie.
Skin and chop two cups of rhubarb before measuring. Mix 1 1/2 cups of sugar and two tablespoonfuls of flour together and add to the rhubarb; then add the yolks of two eggs slightly beaten and one tablespoonful of butter. Line a pie plate with plain paste. Fill with the mixture and bake in a moderate oven until the rhubarb is soft. Cover with a meringue made of the whites beaten stiff, add two tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar and continue beating. Bake lightly on the pie and bake in a slow oven about 15 minutes. If the rhubarb is scalded before using, some of its acidity is lost, so less sugar is required.

No Permanent Creed.
Man builds no permanent creeds. They are all temporary dwellings—tents on the line of march to the promised land.—Rev. A. D. MacKinnon, Presbyterian, Boston.

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