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Spring.
I hear the wild geese honking
From out the misty night—
A sound of moving armies
On sweeping in their might:
The river ice is drifting
Beneath their northward flight.

I hear the bluebird plaintive
From out the morning sky.
Or see his wings a-winkle
That with the azure vie;
No other bird more welcome,
No more prophetic cry.

I hear the sparrow's ditty
A near my study door;
A simple song of gladness
That winter days are o'er;
My heart is singing with him,
I love him more and more.

I hear the starling flutter
His liquid "O-wa-lee";
I hear the downy drumming
His vernal reveille:
From out the maple orchard
The nuthatch calls to me.

O, spring is surely coming,
Her courtiers fill the air;
Each morn are new arrivals,
Each night her ways prepare;
I scent her fragrant garments,
Her foot is on the stair.
—John Burroughs.

The Stimulus of Rebuffs.
Hard conditions, desperate circumstances, great poverty and hardships have ever developed the giants of the race, says Orison Swett Marden in Success Magazine. The resources the powerful reserves lie too deep in many people to be aroused, awakened by any ordinary conditions or circumstances. These people are like the great Maximite shells that can be thrown about with impunity, that children may play with, but which require the terrific impact caused by being blown through the steel armor of a warship to explode them. It takes a great crisis a tremendous emergency to explode the giant powder in many people.
Some natures never come to themselves, never discover their real strength until they meet with opposition or failure. Their reserve of power lies so deep within them that any ordinary stimulus does not arouse it. But when they are ridiculed, "sat down upon," or when they are abused, insulted, a new force seems to be born in them, and they do things which before would have seemed impossible.

England in the Time of Queen Elizabeth.
The population of England in the time of Queen Elizabeth was only about five millions. The wonder is, not the population was so small, but that life survived at all under the conditions then existing. Many of the streets of London were not paved at the time when good Queen Bess was on the throne, and the Strand was a lane of mud. In the smaller houses of England chimneys were rare until towards the close of her reign, fires being built on the bare clay of the floors and the smoke left to find its way through a hole on wall or roof. Frequently the lower story

served as kitchen, dining and living room, the floor being covered with rushes, while refuse was left to lie about until the condition became unbearable from foulness. Then the rubbish was swept out the front door into the gutter, or left in a pile against the outer wall. It is not surprising that plague came with great regularity every ten or twenty years and that one fifth of the population of Stratford-or-Avon was swept off in the summer of 1561. The only clean place seemed to be in the Thames, which at that was described as a silver stream, no sewage having as yet been poured into it.

How it Feels to be Starving.
Sir Ernest Shackleton told a fashionable audience the other day what it feels like to be ferociously hungry.
During the last stage of his Antarctic expedition, he said, when the members of his party were sitting in their tent, each nibbled his own biscuit, a man happened to drop a crumb six pairs of eyes would follow it on its downward path to the floor. If he had not noticed it, which was a very rare occurrence, his attentions would be drawn to it and he would wet the tip of his finger and pick it up. Not a morsel escaped.

In his diary for the same day last year he found the entry: "Very hungry, dreaming of food all day." They were hungry for three months, he continued, and during that time had only one full meal, on Christmas Day.
They often asked each other what people in the cities did when they were dying of starvation, because no law of man would have stood between them and a baker's shop if they had had an opportunity of getting in. When they came back to civilization they were so shrunken in size that at first they were unable to eat as much as an ordinary man, but they afterwards made up for it. They then made up their minds that they would never see a hungry person flattening his nose against a cookshop window without giving him something.

A Sign of Insanity.
An Irishman over the age of fourscore and ten, who by strict economy had accumulated a modest fortune, and was about to die, called in the parish priest and the family lawyer to make his last will and testament. The wife, a grasping, covetous old person, was also in the room. The preliminaries of the will having been completed, it became necessary to inquire about the debts owing to the estate. Among these were several of importance of which the old lady had been in ignorance, but was nevertheless pleased to find that so much ready money would be forthcoming after the funeral.
"Now, then," said the lawyer, "state explicitly the amount owed you by your friends."
"Timothy Brown," replied the old man, "owes me £50, Jim Casey owes me £37, and—"
"Good! Good!" ejaculated the prospective widow; "rational to the last!" put in the eager old lady again.
"To Michael Levy I owe £200."
"Ah!" exclaimed the old lady, "hear him rave!"

His Trouble.
The manager entered the office, his face clouded, his brow wrinkled in angry thought. He called the office boy. Regarding the youth sternly he said: "Boy do you smoke cigarettes?"
"I d-do a l-little sir," stammered the youth. The manager fixed him with his eagle eye. "Then give me one," he said. "I left mine at home."

To a Chemist.
"I want you to prepare for me a formula for making the best pumpkin pie that can be made," said the pie manufacturer to the chemist. "I've used turnips and achre and potato flour and all the things my rivals use, and have beaten them a little bit at their own game, but now I want to put out a pumpkin pie that will simply outclass all other brands. I will pay you whatever fee is right for the work."



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12.15 A EXPRESS—For all points North, M. Plaster Rock, Grand Falls, Edmundston, Fort Fairfield, Caribou and Presque Isle.
5.00 P MIXED—For Fredericton, etc., via Gibson Branch.
5.33 P EXPRESS—For Houlton, St. Stephen (St. Andrews after July 1st), Fredericton, St. John, and East; Vanceboro, Sherbrooke, Montreal, and all points West, and North-west, and on Pacific Coast, Bangor, Portland, Boston, etc. Palace Sleepers, McAdam Junction to Montreal; Pullman Sleepers, McAdam to Boston; Pullman Parlor Car, McAdam to St. John.
ARRIVALS.
11.50 P. M.—MIXED—From Fredericton, etc., via Gibson Branch.
12.15 A. M.—EXPRESS—From St. John and East St. Stephen, (St. Andrews after July 1st), Boston, Montreal and West.
5.33 P. M.—EXPRESS—From Fort Fairfield, Caribou, Presque Isle, Grand Falls, Edmundston and Rivere du Loup.
11.00 P. M.—MIXED—From Fredericton, St. John and East; St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Houlton, Vanceboro, Bangor, Portland, Boston, etc.
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