

AN EASTER SONG.

Arise, my heart, and sing thy Easter song
To the great anthem of returning bird,
And sweetening bud, and green, ascending
blade,
Add thou thy word.
Long was the winter and the waiting long;
Heart, there were hours, indeed, thou wert
afraid—
So long the Spring delayed.

Shut in the winter's alabaster tomb,
So white and still the sleeping summer lay
That dead she seemed;
And none might know how in her magic
side,
Slept the young Spring, and moved, and
smiled, and dreamed.

Behold she wakes again, and open eyed,
Gazes in wonder, 'round the leafy room,
At the young flowers. Upon this Easter
Day
Awaken, too, my heart, open thine eyes,
And from thy seeming death thou, too,
arise.

Arise, my heart; yea, go thou forth and sing!
Join thou thy voice to all this music sweet
Of crowding leaf, and busy, building wing,
And falling showers;
The murmur soft of the little lives new born,
The swarms of the grass, the million feet of
marching flowers.
How sweetly blows the Resurrection horn
Across the meadows, over the far hills!
In the soul's garden a new sweetness stirs,
And the heart fills.
And in and out the mind flow the soft airs,
Arise, my heart, and sing, this Easter morn;
In the year's resurrection do thy part—
Arise, my heart!
—Richard Le Gallienne, in Success.

WHEN OLD AGE COMES.

Sometimes it is Natural and Sometimes
Artificial.

There seems to be a fatal epidemic
among exceedingly aged negroes in this
country. Hardly a day passes that we
may not read of the death of a colored
man at anywhere from 106 to 124 years
of age. A certain recollection of mine
may throw some light on the remarkable
longevity of these negroes.

In 1879 I was rambling through the
South with nothing better to do than to
stop and gas with anybody who seemed
to offer interest for the moment. On
my way from Nashville, Tenn., to The
Hermitage, Andrew Jackson's old home,
I met a negro who looked ancient
enough to have been on earth when the
Cumberland mountains were holes in
the ground.

"Uncle," I said, in the course of our
conversation, "how old are you?"
"Deed, suh," he answered, "Ah
cain't tell 'zact'y. Ah's a right smart
heap o' yehs dohough."

I pretended to be greatly shocked at
his ignorance, and said: "You ought to
be ashamed not to know your own age.
If I will tell you how old you are will
you try to remember it?"

"Deed Ah will, suh. Ah'd laik to
know how old Ah is."

I felt of his pulse, laid my hand on his
brow, looked wise and asked him some
very foolish questions. Then I said,
impressively: "Uncle you are 410 years
old."

"Ah reckoned hit was ebout dat," he
agreed. "Fo' hun'd an' ten, huh?"
Ah'll'member dat fo' suah."

Three years later I was recounting
this experience to a party of Nashville
men, when one of them said:

"I know that darkey. He lives on the
Liberty pike and does odd jobs of haul-
ing with an old white mule in a rope
harness and a two-wheeled cart."

"The same rig he was driving when I
met him," I said.

"Well," the Nashville man continued,
"he still tells everybody he is 410 years
old. He hasn't aged a day in three
years."

But then he really didn't have, to you
see.—*Brooklyn Eagle*

RECOGNIZING A VOICE.

It Cannot Be Done With Certainty Through a
Telephone.

Many persons imagine that the human
voice is as easily recognizable as the
human countenance; they think that
they could never be mistaken in the
voices of their friends, but in the branch
telephone exchange of a big business
house the other day an experiment
proved that this was not altogether true.
One of the employees of the house took
his place at the exchange and as various
persons called for various numbers he
guessed who was speaking. Out of 10
guesses 6 were wrong. He erred in the
case of his own brother's voice, mistak-
ing it for that of the proprietor. He
was sure that he had detected a fellow-
clerk on account of the pronunciation of
coffee—"cawfee"—that he believed to
be peculiar to this person, but the event
proved that there were others in the
building who pronounced coffee in that
odd way. The girl at the exchange
said that she never attempted to tell
people by their voices, especially over
the phone. "When you make a mistake
it is so embarrassing," she murmured.
"A roguish voice says: 'Do you know
who it is?' You answer: 'Yes; it's Harry.'
Whereupon the disappointed reply
comes: 'No; it is Jack.' That makes you
feel small."

Something Harder.

Autie (finding Jackie sobbing in a
corner)—Why, Jackie, what has hap-
pened to make you feel so bad this morn-
ing?
Jackie—M-ma m-issed some jelly.
Autie—Ho, ho! I see. And her sus-
picious fell on you, eh?
Jackie—No, ammie; it was her slip-
per.—*Boston Courier*.



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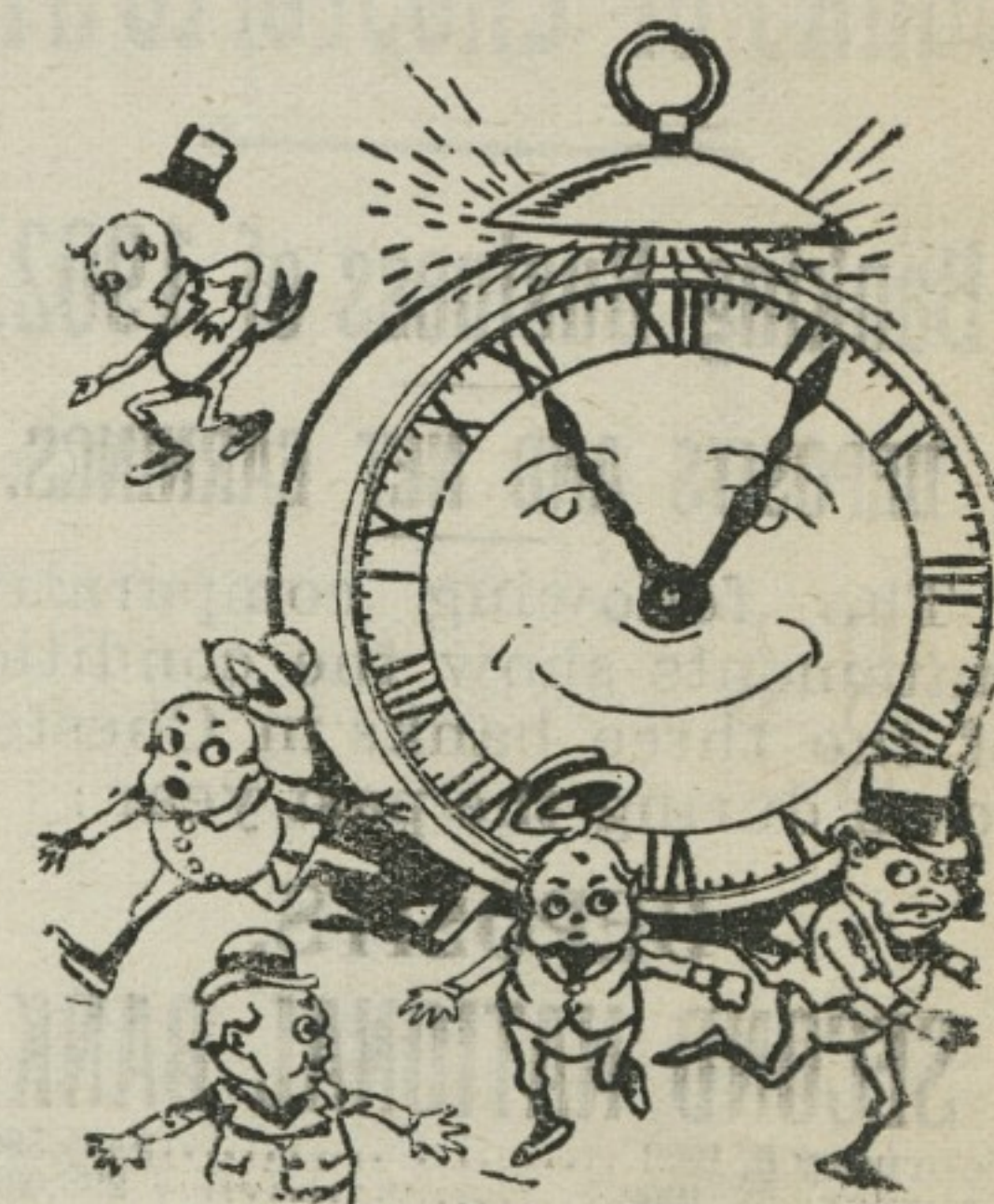
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