



**LOVE'S QUESTIONINGS.**

**MAIDEN**, tell, and tell me truly,  
Can you make a pigeon pie?  
Can you deal with bacon duly,  
Slice it thin, and watch it fry?

Can you, filled with plaintive sadness,  
Make a dainty mayonnaise;  
Compassing its ordered madness  
Still by new and subtle ways?

Can you with ambitious fingers  
Salads tenderly contrive,  
Such that while their mem'ry fingers  
It is good to be alive.

Sweet, I would not seem to doubt you;  
More than all for you I care;  
But I still must live without you  
If you cannot jug a hare.

Do you e'er with rapture quiver  
Crimping salmon newly caught?  
Can you deal with fried pig's liver  
As a skilful artist ought?

Gentle maiden, blue-eyed maiden,  
If such deeds your hands can do,  
Lo! my heart with love is laden,  
And I'm fain to marry you.

THE GOURMET.

**AT THE SEASIDE.**

**CHARLOTTE**: 'Oh, how slippery these rocks are. Take a good hold of my arm, John, and if I slip hold on like grim death; but if you slip, for goodness sake let go.'

**TO BE EXPECTED.**

**JOHNNY**: 'Yass, we missed each other in the crowd.'  
**Penelope**: 'That's just like her. She's always losing things.'

**AT THE RACES.**

**DICK**: 'Been to the races to-day?'  
**Tom**: 'Yes, and had great luck.'  
**Dick**: 'What on?'  
**Tom**: 'On the way home. I didn't have to walk.'

**POOR TOMMY.**

**BELLE**: 'Why doesn't Tommy get married?'  
**Nell** (contemptuously): 'Can't afford it.'  
**Belle**: 'Well, he and his wife could live on "bread and cheese and knees," couldn't they?'  
**Nell**: 'Yes, they might; but Tommy hasn't been able to find any girl who could provide the necessary bread and cheese, as yet.'



**GIVING HIM ENCOURAGEMENT.**

**ARTIST**: 'It is the best thing I ever did.'  
**Dealer** (sympathetically): 'Oh, well, you mustn't let that discourage you.'

**PLENTY LIKE HIM.**

**MRS PARVENOO**: 'And what does your husband do?'  
**Mrs Heavyplate**: 'He chases silver.'  
**Mrs Parvenoo**: 'So does mine, but he never seems to be able to catch it.'



**PROCRASTINATION.**

**ALGY**: 'You now scorn my advances? Why it is only a short time ago I consented to wait until you should know me better.'  
**Phyllis**: 'Just so. That's where you blundered.'

**SAD BUT TRUE.**

**FATHER**: 'Why is it that you have no money the day after you receive your salary?'  
**Son**: 'It is not my fault, daddy—it is all owing to other people.'



**HER OWN FAULT.**

**ADA**: 'You are a fat, Freddie—nothing more!'  
**Freddie**: 'What else could you expect? You sit on me at every possible opportunity.'

**SOCIETY.**

I entertain. You dine. She dances. We break. Ye chatter. They 'cut.'

**SLANDER.**

I talk. You repeat. She adds. We forget. Ye spread. They believe.

**A SCANDAL.**

I love. You love. She selects. We marry. Ye dally. They gossip.

**THE ORIGIN OF REPUTATION.**

I offend (unintentionally). You dislike. She detests. We separate. Ye calumniate. They perpetuate.

**LIFE.**

I live. You lie. She lies. We die. Ye die. They live (the lies).

**HOW SHE DID IT.**

THE older married woman thought she would have some fun with the newly-married one, so she went to see her and turned loose a lot of household questions on her.  
'By the way,' asked the visitor after some sparring, 'how do you wash your fine china?'  
'Usually with water,' responded the young one demurely, and the catechism closed for that day.

**UNCONCERNIAL.**

**JASPER**: 'They say, "The fool and his money are soon parted."''  
**Jampappa**: 'That's all right. What beats me is why the deuce they should be together to begin with.'



**EQUALLY TO BE CONSIDERED.**

**MISTRESS** (exasperatingly): 'Don't prevaricate. You know that nothing injures my health so much as being contradicted.'  
**Maid**: 'Indeed, marm, an' it's just the same wid me.'

**TO MAKE YOU SMILE.**

**ENGAGED YOUNG LADY** (at birdstore): 'Has this parrot any accomplishments?'  
**Proprietor**: 'He can speak a little, but he's too old to learn anything new.'  
**Engaged Young Lady** (hesitatingly): 'Would he imitate any sounds he might hear, such as a sneeze or a cough, or anything of that kind?'  
**Proprietor**: 'No. The girls were trying the other day to teach him to imitate the sound of a kiss, but he wouldn't do it.'  
**Engaged Young Lady**: 'I'll take him.'

**SATIETY.**

WHEN artful Cupid was their guide,  
Before their banns were celebrated,  
They cleaved unto each other's side,  
And never could be separated;  
But, as the circling years whirled round,  
In matrimony's yoking tether  
Although inseparably bound,  
They never could be seen together!

**TIT FOR TAT.**

**MR YOUNGER** (meeting Miss Winters in the street): 'Why, how do you do?'  
**Miss Winters** (trying to cut him): 'You have evidently made a mistake, sir.'  
**Mr. Younger**: 'I beg a thousand pardons, I mistook you for your mother.'

**A CURIOSITY.**

**WIDOW**: 'Well, Mr Brief, have you read the will?'  
**Mr Brief**: 'Yes; but I can't make anything out of it.'  
**Heirs**: 'Let's have it patented. A will that a lawyer can't make anything out of is a blessing.'

**HE WAS INSURED.**

**THE WIFE**: 'Why don't you play football, John?'  
**The Husband**: 'Why, my dear, I might get maimed for life.'  
**The Wife**: 'Yea, darling, but you might get killed.'



**TWO POINTS OF VIEW.**

**WIFE**: 'How the people did stare at my new dress. No doubt they thought it came from Paris.'  
**Husband**: 'More likely they wonder if I have been robbing a bank.'