



### **RIDING IN A STAGE**

Creeping through the valley, crawling o'er the hill,  
Splashing through the branches, rumbling o'er the mill;  
Putting nervous gentlemen in a towering rage.  
What is so provoking as riding in a stage?

Spinsters fair and forty, maids in youthful charms,  
Suddenly are cast into their neighbors' arms;  
Children shoot like squirrels darting through a cage-  
Isn't it delightful, riding in a stage?

Feet are interlacing, heads severely bumped,  
Friend and foe together get their noses thumped;  
Dresses act as carpets-listen to the sage;  
"Life is but a journey taken in a stage."

From: *Six Horses* by Captain William Banning & George Hugh Banning,  
The Century Company, New York-London, 1928.