

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

DRIFTING.

Lazily, slowly drifting
Down with the quiet stream,
It seemed to me in my gladness
That it all must be a dream.

For Mabel, my Darling Mabel,
Was trying to steer the canoe,
And as I lay there watching,
I fell in love with the crew.

I thought how pleasant it would be
To—Thunder! Where are we now?
The canoe had gone down to the bottom.
With a hole a foot long in the bow.

—Yale Record.

A correspondent asks.—“Which is correct, ‘Lo, the Conquering Hero Comes,’ or ‘See the Conquering Hero comes?’” It depends upon the location. If the correspondent should be out west and see an Indian making for him with a scalping-knife, the former would be the correct way of using the quotation.

“Whistling jugs” have recently been found in the ancient burial places of Peru. Many of the whistles in the mouths of these jugs produce sounds representing the notes of birds and animals. It is possible that the saying “Wet his whistle” may have originated with the use of these quaint Peruvian vessels.

Mrs. Sam Slick is of the opinion that anyone who has visited her house never saw dust, and she says “when I see the papers full of the saw-dust question, I feel sad like as to the education of our gals.” Mrs Slick thinks that the gal who saw dust and did not wipe it away shouldn't be courted by any man of sense.

Mrs. Slick recently visited Mr. B. W. Chipman's farm at Milford, and after having been shown the herd of Jerseys, and having tasted the quality of the butter and cream, she was shown a fine Jersey calf, and told by Mr Chipman that it was worth \$100. “Well! well!” said Mrs Slick, “that's the worst of this National Policy. Even an innocent calf can scarce open its eyes and gaze around upon this wicked world before up goes its price like a rocket. Well, a \$20 fillet of veal may be well enough for some of these new titled folk, but the Slick family eschews veal from this day out.”

A little Digby girl now at school in Halifax was corrected by her teacher for saying “I have wrote home,” and told that she should say “I have written home.” A few days since the same little girl was being taught to recite a piece of poetry and was encouraged by the teacher to learn it by rote. The child hesitated, but, having imbibed the idea that correctness was an essential feature in her training, she asked the teacher whethershe did not mean that she wanted her to learn the piece by ritten. It is not surprising that children sometimes make such mistakes, the wonder is that they make so few.

COMPRESSION VS. CREMATION.—Dr Cooper, of Pittsburg, has invented a process which he expects will supersede embalming and cremation, being much less expensive than either. He subjects a dead body to hydraulic pressure, and condenses it into a small, solid block, like veined marble. The body of a full-grown man can, he claims, be reduced to a cube of twelve inches. Dr. Cooper exhibits a small cross, apparently of marble. “That,” says he, “is the body of a child converted into a handsome ornament.” The material is tasteless, odorless, and seemingly imperishable. Cremation costs £10. Compression will cost only a fifth of that sum. Rather a disagreeable kind of ornament all the same!

“Hark you,” said Mrs. Slick, “I'd just like to be a pollertician these times. I'd stump this country, that's a fact, and I'd raise a howl agin these fellers that's a sgortatin' of us about the future of Canada. Future, is it? I wish they'd let the future look arter itself, and let decent folk tend to matters that's to hand. Why nobody gets fussy over posterity as isn't born, because posterity's able to make its own bed, so I reckon the country will go j'ggin' on for the next generation or two, and if the folks then alivin' want to annex the States, or England, or go off on its own hook, I don't think we'll have much to say on the matter, but just now we don't want to be allers a singin' out for some change, when we're a doin' well enough as we are.”

Mrs. Slick's daughter Bess, is a rather wayward girl and, having several admirers, she found it difficult to decide as to which of the young men she should encourage. Having asked her mother's advice Mrs. Slick said to her “my dear Bess, I just feel for you in this trial. When I was a gal I had four fellers to the one time, and my father told me I'd have to saw off with three of them or he'd see about it. Well, I was abothered about it. Says I, Joe has no money and can't make any, I don't want to have to keep a man, so I just rubbed Joe off the list. Then there's Jack: he's a flirt and I couldn't trust him, so I sponged Jack out. Then there's Jim: he was too fond of nipping, and was at it all day, so he soon wiped himself out. Now that only left Jerry, and as he had money, could make money, didn't know the smell of whiskey, and was always true to me, I made up my mind and acted according. Now, Bess, the men has the proposin' but the women has the choosin', so you just settle your mind on the feller that has the best prospects, and let the others go. Senterment is all well enough at times, but senterment won't butter your bread nor put shoes and stockin's on the youngsters.”

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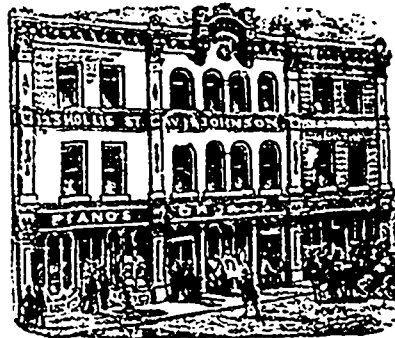
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