

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

When music, heavenly maid, was young,
She was a lovely creature;
Simplicity in what she sung
Was her most charming feature.

But, woman-like, as years came on,
She sighted for decorations,
Her truest grace is almost gone—
'Tis no exaggeration.

With symphonies, and fugues and such,
She's bloused in gorgeous splendor;
We sigh in vain, though ne'er so much
For that maid, fair and tender.

Washington Post.

A WASTED LESSON.—Nell (inculcating generosity)—“Supposing your chicken should lay a nice egg, Tommy: would you give it to me?”
Tommy—“No; I'd sell it to Barnum. That chick's a rooster.”

“That was a great shame,” said Mrs. Smart, looking up from her paper. And in reply to an interrogation point in her husband's gaze, she explained: “The Browning mill near Arcadia has been destroyed by lightning—and it did turn out most wonderful poetry.”

The use of gentian is recommended as a cure for blushing. But a careful investigation fails to disclose any general need for such a specific. If some beneficent herb could be discovered which will cure the disease of not blushing, it might be found to be of great use in political and financial circles.

AN EXPENSIVE AGE.—Father (looking over the paper)—“More bad news! A hitherto unknown frog pond has been discovered in Central Africa.” Mother—“What is that to us?” Father—“What is that to us? It means that every one of our eight children will have to have a new and revised edition of Highprice's Geography.”

The value of an old newspaper was well illustrated the other day in New York. It was necessary in a law-suit to secure a copy of the New York Herald, which was issued about two years ago. The law firm sought for a long time before they could find a copy of the required date, but finally succeeded in obtaining it at a cost of \$1.10. And this for a two-cent newspaper only two years old.

There is a man in our town and he is wondrous wise; when'er he writes the printer man he dotteth all his i's. And when he's dotted all of them, with great sang froid and ease, he punctuates each paragraph and crosses all his t's. Upon oneside alone he writes and never rolls his leaves, and from the man of ink a smile and mark “insert” receives. And when a question he doth ask, (taught wisely he hath been,) he doth the goodly penny stamp for postage back put in.

Professor Simon Newcomb doesn't like to be drawn away from scientific research by social dissipation, and on the occasions when he is thus drawn away he is apt to express his dissatisfaction with refreshing frankness. Thus the Detroit Free Press relates that toward the close of a reception at his house a lady, who had enjoyed the affair greatly, approached the host and asked him with much enthusiasm: “How often do you have these delightful reunions, professor?” No polite provarication delayed the reply: “Thank God, madam, but once a year.”

“Now, the best thing you can do,” said the Judge to an old negro who had applied for a divorce, “is to go home and behave yourself.” “Yes, sah.” “I do not see why you should not get along all right.” “Yes, sah.” “We all have to make sacrifices.” “Yes, sah, so I heah 'em say, but mighty few men hister put up wid sich er wifo ez I's got. I kin stan' do common ruu o' wimmen, but dat pusson, j-dge, is rank pizen. W'y, sah, if she wuz er sleep an' wuster dream dat I wuz enjoyin' mysof, she'd wako hersef up an' see dat do enjoyment was stopped right dar. She liko ter died some time ergo. Wuz mighty in hopes dat I wuz gwino ter lose her, but when she found dat I wuz pleased blame ef she didn't turn ober an' git well. She's a bud 'oman, sah.”

Statistics are sweet things, and fall of startling surprises. Like the Frenchman in “Killaloe,” “you never know what they'll be up to next.” Here, for instance, is a “statement showing the decrease in price in the United States of many articles within the past ten years largely consumed by the agricultural community.” And among these “many articles” “largely consumed” are “mowing machines, barb fence-wire, horseshoes, forks, wire-cloth, slop-buckets, wheel barrows and putty.” No wonder dyspepsia is the national disease in America. Fancy “consuming” French staples, pie-plates (though they sound almost edible), and putty!!! The ostrich is supposed to be capable of digesting such delicacies as broken bottles and tennypenny nails, but that voracious fowl is evidently not “in it” with the “agricultural community” of America.

It was Ben Johnson, we believe, who, when asked Mallock's question, “Is life worth living?” replied, “That depends on the liver.” And Ben Johnson doubtless saw the double point to the pun. The liver active—quick—life rosy, everything bright, mountains of trouble melt like mountains of snow. The liver sluggish—life dull, everything blue, molehills of worry rise into mountains of anxiety, and as a result—ick headache, dizziness, constipation. Two ways are open. Cure permanently, or relieve temporarily. Take a pill and suffer, or take a pill and get well. Shock the system by an overdose, or coax it by a mild, pleasant way.

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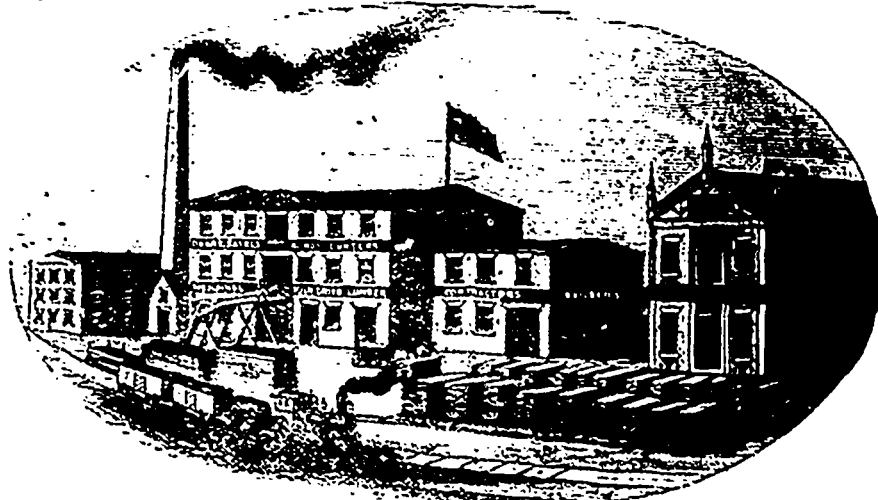
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