

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

BEFORE THE FIRE.

The wintry air seems full of snow,
The laden clouds are hanging low,
The frozen ground
Reverberates beneath your tread,
The bare boughs creak above your head—
A dismal sound.

December now is almost here—
December, chill, and dark, and drear—
And soon the snow
Will heap itself up drift on drift
And into every cranny sift,
While fierce winds blow.

Well, never mind: the glowing coal
Within the grate will cheer your soul,
And send a thrill
Of joy all through you till dismay
Eases at thought of how you'll pay
The coal man's bill.

"This is a regular sugar loaf," said the candy-store clerk when business was dull.

The author who is seriously depressed by unfavorable notices of his work may be said to be critically ill.

HAND ON HIM—Mabel—I suppose you heard of sister Lou's marriage? She's taken a flat up town.

Miss Jellus—Yes, I heard she had taken a flat, but I didn't hear where she had taken him.

A STREAK OF LUCK.—Bad boy—I'm in luck. When I do anything I tell pop mama said I might, and tell mama pop said I might.

Good boy—Don't they find out?

Bad boy—Nope. They don't speak.

LIFE.

What is life? The incessant desiring
Of a joy that is never acquired,
And instead of that joy the acquiring
Of enjoyments that are not desired.

TIME HE NOTICED—Penelope—Do you notice anything striking in this room?

Staylate—No; did I look as though I did?

Penelope—I didn't know but that you heard the clock.

FAMILIAR.—Mrs. Hicks—My husband is not at home, but you may leave your name.

Stranger—It's no matter. Just say a man called to see him.

Mrs. Hicks—I remember the name; he often speaks of seeing you at the theatre.

THE PESSIMIST.—"My man," said the woman, who was leaning across the fence, "is one of these here pessimists."

"An' what's that?" asked the other woman.

"Why one of these here fellows that is always sure bad luck is a-coming to him, and is mightily surprised when it comes."

To change vague and aimless wishes to strong and effectual desires is an important part of all improvement. It is the earnest and persevering effort to do the present duty in the best possible manner, to relax no power in its discharge, and to waste no time in lamentations over what might have been, that is the secret of all good work and the element of all progress.

DID AS ORDERED—Mrs. Malaprop has a host of followers who never heard of her, or who if they should hear of her would see nothing out of the way in what she said. The following true story could perhaps be matched by other Mrs. Malaprops. A well known Rochester physician was hastily summoned to attend a sick child, whom he had already visited once.

The Physician (entering)—What is the matter with the child?

Mrs. M.—Oh, sir, I don't know.

The Physician—Well, what have you done for it?

Mrs. M.—I only gave it what you told me—the condemned milk and impaired food!

It is little wonder that the child had indigestion.

OH! YES THEY HAD.—Once at a little dinner party in New York, one of the guests, the younger brother of an English nobleman, expressed with commendable freedom his opinion of America and its people.

"I do not altogether like the country," said the young gentleman, "for one reason, because you have no gentry here."

"What do you mean by gentry?" asked another of the company.

"Well, you know," replied the Englishman, "well—oh, gentry are those who never do any work themselves, and whose fathers before them never did any."

"Ah!" exclaimed his interlocutor, "then we have plenty of gentry in America. But we don't call them gentry. We call them tramps." A laugh went round the table, and the young Englishman turned his conversation into another channel.

Out of 47 replies for an office position 45 wanted to know if he was a stenographer. Pernin Shorthand taught by mail.

"SNELL'S COLLEGE, Windsor, N. S."

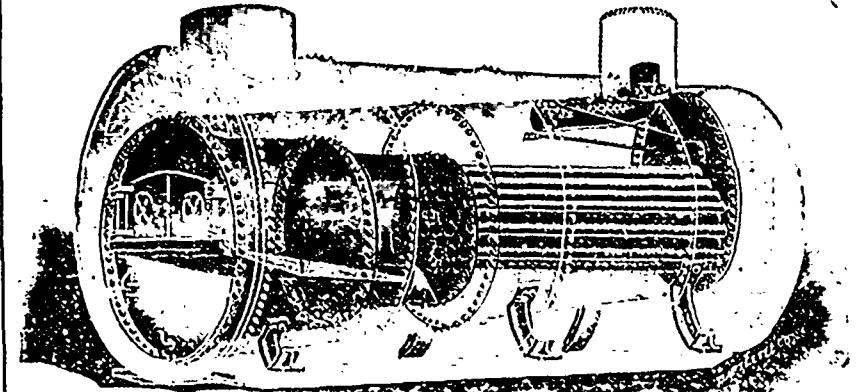
ROBB ENGINEERING CO., Ltd.

SUCCESSORS TO

A. ROBB & SONS.

All departments running full blast.

Heavy Stocks on hand of Iron Pipe, Steam Fittings, Hose, Belting Packing, Oils, Copperine, Emery Wheels, Saws, Laco Leather, Inspirators, etc. Orders filled promptly for Engines, Boilers, Rotary Mills, Shingle Machines, Lath Machines, Turbine Wheels, Saw-filers, School Desks, Fence Railings, Crestings, Church and Fire Bells, Bone Mills, Steam Pumps, Oil Filters, Governors, Hay Presses, Portable Forges, etc.



Loss Heavy, but Health and Pluck left yet.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

AMHERST, N. S.

Send along your Orders and Remittances and thus help us out and up.

LEITH HOUSE.

Established 1818.

KELLEY & GLASSEY,

SUCCESSORS TO ALEX. McLEOD & Co.

Wine and Spirit Merchants,

HALIFAX, N. S.

HARD COAL.

CHESTNUT,
STOVE,
EGG,
BROKEN.

2500 TONS JUST ARRIVED PER STEAMSHIP VALETTA AND SCHRS
GEORGIA, J. E. SHATFORD AND PEFETTA.

—FOR SALE BY—

S. CUNARD & CO.

North-End Depot, - - - - - O'Neill's Wharf.
South-End Depot, - - - - - Dominion Wharf.

W. B. ARTHUR AND CO.

—IMPORTERS OF—

Hardware & General Merchandise,

MINING SUPPLIES!

Including Dynamite, Powder, Fuse, Detonators, Cotton Waste, Steel, Lubricating Oils, Candles, &c.

SAFES! AMERICAN NEW and SECOND HAND OFFICE SAFES for sale LOW.

W. B. Arthur & Co.

Successors to W. B. REYNOLDS & Co.

238 to 240 LOWER WATER STREET.