

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

JAPANESE LULLABY.

Sleep, little pigeon, and fold your wings—
Little blue pigeon with velvet eyes:
Sleep to the singing of mother-bird swinging,
Swinging the nest where her little one lies.

Away out yonder I see a star—
Silvery star with a tinkling song;
To the soft dew falling I hear it calling—
Calling and tinkling the night along.

In through the window a moonbeam comes—
Little gold moonbeam with misty wings;
All silently creeping, it asks, "Is he sleeping—
Sleeping and dreaming while mother sings?"

Up from the sea there floats the sob
Of the waves that are breaking upon the shore,
As though they were groaning in anguish and moaning—
Bemoaning the ship that shall come no more.

But sleep, little pigeon, and fold your wings—
Little blue pigeon with mournful eyes:
Am I not singing—see, I am swinging—
Swinging the nest where my darling lies.

—Eugene Field in Judge.

"Well, Patrick, what struck you most during your southern trip?"
"The mule, sor!" replied Patrick, with a grin that disclosed the absence of nine molars.

One Dr. Terc, in England, is advocating the sting of bees as a remedy for rheumatism. He declares that he has treated with success 173 cases, and has given in all 39,000 stings.

IS HE A WOMAN-HATER?—The only chance we can see for unfortunate man is to fix a limit of age, say 30 or thereabouts, for women voters, and swear them to their age. An unmarried woman who would publicly own up to 30 might perhaps be safely entrusted with a vote.

The British Consul at Mollendo, in Peru, states that a company has lately been formed there, with the object of searching for antiquities and valuables in the old Inca burial grounds in the district of Cuzco, a concession having been granted to the company by the Government for this purpose.

A TRAIN OF THOUGHT.—Surveyor—We're going to run a train through your barn, farmer!

Farmer—A thrain through moy barrn, be jabers! An' do you think O'im goin' to git out av moy bed an' opon that barrn due ivry toime a thrain comes?

NOT IN THE PICTURE.—Lady Thyra (reading catalogue)—Two dogs, after Landsaer. Lady Myra—Put where is Landsaer? I don't see him. Lady Thyra—Why, surely, you don't suppose he would stay there with those two ferocious looking brutes after him. I know I shouldn't if I were in his place.

De Smythe (rejected by his *namorata*)—"Ah, if I could but sleep I might forget her for a few short hours. So fair! so false!" Ye Thomas Catto—"Mee-ow-mee-ow-wow! wow!! wow!!!" De Smyth (rising from his couch)—"D—n him! Even he must come to flaunt his happiness before me!" Brains him with the traditional bootjack.

In 1861 one bushel of corn, remarks the *Wall Street News*, would buy one pound of nails. In 1889 one bushel of corn will buy ten pounds of nails. In 1816 a pair of woollen blankets cost as much as a cow; in 1889 a cow will buy five pairs of woollen blankets. In 1816 it required sixty-four bushels of barley to buy one yard of broadcloth; in 1889 64 bushels of barley will buy twenty yards of broadcloth. In 1816 it took twenty dozen of eggs to buy one bushel of salt; in 1889 twenty dozen eggs will buy ten bushels of salt. In 1816 it required a bushel of wheat to buy one yard of calico; in 1889 one bushel of wheat will buy twenty yards of calico.

The Chinese servant wished to draw a distinction between the servant and the friend. He had a Christmas present for his mistress, but he did not propose that it should be tendered in any impolite way. It was dinner time, and they had gone into the dining room. The Chinaman was not there. They called him, but there was no sign. Just then the door bell rang and one of the family had to go to the door. When the door was opened there stood the Chinaman with a package, which he handed with a polite bow. "For misses; a molly Christmas!" Then he disappeared, and before they could quite understand the affair he had gone through the garden and was in the dining room ready to wait at table.

"Yes," said Mrs. Slick, "I'm a martyr to rheumatism, and that's a fact. Why these early springs is regular rheumatism breeders, and most every other body in the city is a complainin' of it. There's Mr. Bain, he's agot it in his joints, and can't stir a step, but as to that, he never did anyhow. Then there's Mrs. Cranks, why she hain't been out of the house for weeks and weeks, but she's a great stay at home anyway. P'raps there's some truth in what the doctors say, that people as is well never get twisted up by rheumatism, but it lays itself out on them as is careless or is run down in constertution. I reckon the doctors ain't far out, and arter this I'm agoin' to be devoted to myself and mean to study up so as to diagknows myself."

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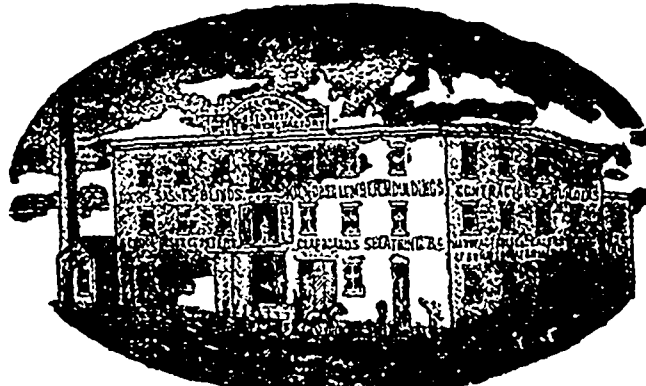
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