

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

GOD BLESS YOU—AND GOOD-BYE!

When hope is chidden  
That fain of bliss would tell,  
And Love forbidden  
In the breast to dwell,  
When fettered by a vile woe chain,  
We turn and gaze, and turn again,  
Oh, death were mercy to the pain  
Of them that bid—Farewell

'Tis hard—'tis hard—my darling,  
To give up all our dream,  
To be no more together,  
By wood and wold and stream,  
To say good-bye for ever  
To the love of long ago.  
But oh, 'tis harder, darling,  
To think it better so.

The Governor of North Dakota will not be able to say truthfully to the Governor of South Dakota that it's a long time between blizzards.

Somebody says that Patti's farewell tours resemble a serial story, in that they are "to be continued." But it should be remembered that a serial story does end sometime.

That was a cool Scottish "aside" of an old dealer, who, when exhorting his son to practice honesty in his dealings, on the ground of its being the "best policy," quietly added, "I hae tried baith!"

It is not necessary to look up your Latin dictionary to find what a *mare clausum* is. It means a bay three miles wide on the Canadian Atlantic coast, and a sea seven hundred miles wide on the United States Pacific coast.

Whenever the English bishops have reason to suspect that the public are beginning to think them indifferent to the duties of their high calling, they go in a body to the House of Lords and vote against the Deceased Wife's Sister bill.

When Foote was at Salt Hill, he dined at the Castle Inn, and when Partridge, the host, produced his bill, which was rather exorbitant, the comedian asked him his name. "Partridge, sir," said he—"Partridge! It should have been Woodcock, by the length of your bill!"

SHE WUD RIDE, BEDAD.—(Patrick to daughter about to marry)—"Do yer realize the step ye air about to take, me girrl?"

Bridget—"No, papa, Oi don't, fer Oi'm not going to take a single shtep. Af we don't go in a cab, papa, be jabers there'll be no widdin' the day."

Anxious wife—"Oh, its overwork. Why, he can't even go to the theatre without rushing out half-a-dozen times to see his business partners."

Polite doctor (cautiously)—"Your husband is suffering from overwork or excessive indulgence in alcoholic stimulants—it is, ahem a little difficult to tell which."

A SUCCESSFUL STRUGGLE—"Charley stayed pretty late last night, didn't he, Lil?" asked sister Kate the next morning. "Yes," said Lil, sleepily; "we were trying the pigs in the clover puzzle till nearly eleven o'clock."

"And did you get the pigs in the pen, Lil?" asked Kate, eagerly. "No, we didn't; but I got my finger in this solitaire diamond ring."

The military custom of saluting by bringing the hand into a horizontal position over the eyebrows is thus accounted for: It is supposed to date back to the tournaments of the middle ages, when, after the Queen of beauty was enthroned, the knights who were to take part in the sports of the day marched past the dais on which she sat, and as they passed shielded their eyes from the rays of her beauty.

Mr. John Sergeant's portrait of Ellen Terry as Lady Macbeth is thus vividly described:—"Arrayed in her gorgeous beetle-wing green robes, with Rossetti red hair in ponderous coils, and holding with both hands a crown of power above her head, Lady Macbeth, heroically tall, stands out against a daring background of deep blue. As a picture the work is brilliant in color; as a likeness it is strikingly true to nature."

The King of Siam recently made an alarming innovation upon the ancient customs of the country by issuing an edict for the abolition of crouching, crawling and prostration at his court. The courtiers were a good deal alarmed when they were told to get off the floor and brace up. But they were disgusted when they were forbidden to allow their inferiors to crawl before them. This is quite natural. The man who likes to crawl likes to be crawled to.

There is something curiously interesting in the marked tendency of modern poetry to become obscure. Many critics, writing with their eyes fixed on the masterpieces of past literature, have ascribed this tendency to willfulness and to affectation. Its origin is rather to be found in the complexity of the new problems, and in the fact that self-consciousness is not yet adequate to explain the contents of the Ego. The unity of the individual is being expressed through its inconsistencies and its contradictions. In a strange twilight man is seeking for himself, and when he has found his own image he cannot understand it. Objective forms of art, such as sculpture and the drama, sufficed once for the perfect presentation of life; they can no longer suffice.

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