

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

MAUD MULLER AND THE MOWER.

Maud Muller at the close of day  
Was out in the front yard cutting hay.  
Maud was a very pretty sight  
Pushing the mower trim and bright.  
She wasn't specially fond of work  
But she lingered there where she might flirt,  
In an innocent, quiet sort of a way,  
With the dudes who chanced to past there stray.  
And one who looked at her pretty face  
Quite fell in love with its tender grace.  
As the days went by the twain were wed,  
And the hay's now made by the boys instead.  
But whenever the children are cutting grass  
She sighs a sigh and she says "Alas!  
Of all sad words of pen or tongue,  
The saddest are those by the mower sung."  
Omaha World.

You cannot always tell the amount of gas in a poem by its motor.

Ardent lover—"Will you marry me, Helen?" Young widow—"No, George, I think not." "And why?" "Well, you see, I love you, and I want to continue to love you."

Woman is really at the bottom of the latest trouble between the United States and Great Britain. The chief subject of dispute in the Behring sea affair is the raw material for the seal skin sacque.

SEMPER PARATUS!—"But, George," said she to the handsome young Grenadier, "what would you really do if there was a sudden cry, 'to arms, to arms!'"

"Well," said George, "it would depend. If the cry issued from your lips I think I should come."

HAD SEEN PRAIRIES.—Fond Mother.—"Yes, the dear little fellow is just full of good impulses. Eddie, if you were rich what would you do with your money?"

Eddie (who has travelled some)—"I'd buy a billion stones, and take 'em out to Iowa for the poor little boys out there to throw at cats."

"The young man who accompanied you to church last evening Laura," said Miss Garlinghouse, has a fine intellectual face, but it seems to me that his—pardon me—his trousers were somewhat baggy at the knees." "Quite likely, Irene," replied Miss Kajones, with some hauteur, "Mr. Hankinson is, if I mistake not, one of the heaviest stockholders in the bagging trust."

Says Josh Billings.—There iz menny a person who kan set a mouse trap tew perfeckshun; but, not satisfied with sich small game, they undertake tew trap for bears, and git kitched bi the bears Moral: Studdy yure genius, and stik tew mice.

Young man, don't marry abuv or below yure rank; not that I think there iz evry virtew in rarrk, but there iz custom in it, and custom often ontranks law and gospel.

GOOD MANNERS.—There is a charm in well mannered children that everybody recognizes. "Such well behaved children," everybody says. They have been taught to be respectful, polite, courteous. When you come across an ill-mannered group who make themselves generally disagreeable, you go away muttering, "What a lot of young savages! What foolish people their parents are to permit such rowdyism! These ruc young fellows who can't answer a question politely are sure to turn out ill except they mend their ways." Yes, be sure of it, they got their tone under the roof-tree; and if it is a low tone and a rude tone and an insolent tone, it maintains its harshness after they go out into the world. Manners and morals are closely allied. If home and school education have failed to mould and guide them, then, even though, as the result of six years' drilling, the much-lauded three Rs are at their tongue's end and finger tips, the result of all this minute training for life purposes is almost nil. It is culpable folly to send them adrift with boorish manners. By unwearied training and tact give them the right tone.

What is the legend as to the origin of the flower "asphodel?" When Persephone, the daughter of Demeter, was in her youthful days, she amused herself by wandering about the fields of Enna, in Sicily, in search of white daffodils to wreath into her hair. Becoming tired, she fell asleep; and while she thus lay, Pluto, the god of the infernal regions, carried her off to become his wife. The white flowers she wore were turned by his touch into a golden yellow. While passing through the meadows of Achoron, some of the flowers fell from her hair to the ground, and there grew as asphodels, the meadows afterwards abounding with

\* \* \* \* \* daffodils,  
That come before the swallow dares, and take  
The winds of March with beauty.  
The Winter's Tale, Act iv., Sc. 3.  
She stepped upon Sicilian grass,  
Demeter's daughter, fresh and fair,  
A child of light, a radiant lass,  
And gamsome as the morning air.  
The daffodils were fair to see,  
They nodded lightly on the lea;  
Persephone, Persephone.  
INGELOW—Persephone.

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