

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

A Hoboken girl is learning to play the cornet, and her admirers speak of her as "the fairest flower that blows."—*Scot. Am.*

Some favorable event raises your spirits, and you think good days are preparing for you. Do not believe it. Nothing can bring you peace but yourself. Nothing can bring you peace but the triumph of principles.—*Emerson.*

Tradesman (to country customer who has come to complain of the quality of his Lucifer matches): "Not light? Why, I have only to draw them smartly across my cord breeches, and they blaze instantly." Customer: "Yes; but what's that to do with me? I can't come a matter o' four miles for your old breeches every time we wants a light."

By the completion of the great Russian railway into the heart of Asia, it is now possible to leave London by rail, and after crossing the Channel to make the railway journey to the borders of the Chinese empire in 12 days. It will probably be but a few years till the British Indian railway system will join with the Russian through Afghanistan, when all parts of India will be within easy rail connection of Europe.

Miss Gushington—"Why don't you follow Ruskin's suggestion, and write a novel which doesn't stop at the marriage of the couple but goes right on?"

Old Bachelor Author—"No use; no publisher would print it."

"Why not?"

"Oh, the publishers nowadays insist that every novel must end pleasantly."

PRECEDENCE BY COURTESY.—M. de Rothschild, the elder, and an Archbishop met at dinner at a house, when some distinguished guests were present. They had been talking till dinner was announced, and on entering the dining room there was the customary readiness to give precedence to each other. The Archbishop, waiving his rank, insisted on M. de Rothschild going first, as being senior in years. "Monsignor," the layman said, "I obey you, and I precede you by virtue of antiquity, as the Old Testament is placed before the New."

TWO MEALS A DAY.—In spite of what our Elizabethan forefathers said and did to the contrary, and notwithstanding the opinions of some eminent physicians of recent times, evening is the only rational time to dine. There should only be two really substantial meals a day, and those should be breakfast and dinner. A solid and highly-nutritious meal ought to begin the day's work, and an equally solid and equally nutritious meal should end it. What is taken in the course of the working hours may be such as merely to satisfy the urgent craving of the appetite, and to maintain in a condition of steady movement the ascending or descending course of the nerve energy.—*The Hospital.*

SHAVING ALL ROUND.

The barber shaves with polished blade,
The mercer shaves with ladies trade;
The broker shaves at twelve per cent.,
The landlord shaves by raising rent;
The doctor shaves in draughts and pills,
The tapster shaves in pints and gills;
The farmer shaves in hay and oats,
The banker shaves in his own notes;
The lawyer shaves both friends and foes,
The peddler shaves where'er he goes;
The wily merchant shaves his brother,
The people all shave one another.

FOUR EPIGRAMS.

A KIND WORD.

A kind word often so endears
It echoes sweetly through the years,—
Forgotten by the tongue that spoke,
Remembered by the heart it woke.

CURIOSITY.

Watching the bees, he oft is stung
Who o'er the hive too close his head has hung,
So, too, and righteously, he fares,
Who thrusts himself in other folks' affairs.

IMAGINATION.

Oft our imagination brings
Such pleasant things to view,
We fold them in our memories,
And love to think them true.

FORGIVENESS.

Crush the rose, its odor rises,
Giving sweetness for the pain:
Grieve a woman, and she gives you
Sweet forgiveness, poured like rain.

—George Birdseye in *Brooklyn Magazine.*

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