

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

THAT NIGHT.

You and I, and that night with its perfume and glory!—
 The scent of the locusts—the light of the moon;
 And the violins weaving the waltzers a story,
 Emmeshing their feet in the web of the tune,
 Till their shadows uncertain,
 Heeled round on the curtain,
 While under the trellis we drank in the June.

Soaked through with the midnight the cedars were sleeping,
 Their shadowy tresses outlined in the bright
 Crystal moon-smitten mists, where the fountain heart, leaping
 Forever,
 Forever, forever burst, full with delight;
 And its lip on my spirit
 Fell faint as that near it
 Whose love like a lily bloomed out in the night.

O, your glove was an odorous sachet of blisses,
 The breath of your fan was a breeze of Cathay,
 And the rose at your throat was a nest of spilled kisses'
 And the music, in fancy, I hear it to-day,
 As I sit here, confessing
 Our secret, and blessing
 My rival who found us, and waltzed you away.

James Whitcomb Riley.

"Can you tie a true lovers' knot, my dear?" inquired Morrill.
 "No," replied Mamie, hiding her blushes with her fan; "but our new clergyman can do it very nicely."

Marriage and Divorce:—

"A little kiss; a little bliss; a little ring. 'Tis ended.
 A little jaw; a little law, and lo! the bond is randed."

"Did that lady buy anything?" asked the jeweller of his now boy, as the lady in question left the store, apparently in a temper.

"She did not. She asked me for an old-gold breast-pin, and I asked her if she took this store for a junk shop. Then she went out."

"It just turns me sick," said Mrs. Slick to her cousin Matildy, "to have our newspapers for ever harpin' on the question as to whether marriage is a failure. Why there's no sense in the question to begin with, you might as well argue that cookin' was a failure, that housekeepin' was a failure, or that nursin' of children was a failure. Cookin' may sometimes be poor, house-keepin' careless, nursin' bothersome, and marriage unsatisfactory, but afore these people destroy human organizations, let em come right out and tell us what their goan' to give us as a substitute for husbands, and who's to pay the butchers' bills."

"Yes, Doctor, I knowed them was measles, and I just told Bess she had better stay to home, and not go gaddin' about and looking for all the world like a frocked up ghost. Well, Doctor, I'll look arter her now but I must say notions about measles, and hoopin' cough and vaccination is all different now from my galhood days. Then, if a body got struck down with one of these epperdemicks, they knew as it was an end on it, and they never counted on a double dose, but now a body may take one of these complaints two or three times, and still be liable to another outbreak. I tell you, Doctor, I've sifted for the reason of it and I've come to the conclusion that these things is the outward illustration of the rashness of the age, and if folks don't look out they'll become chronic!"

When eight Quaker ladies had an appointment and seven were punctual and the eighth, being a quarter of an hour too late, began apologizing for keeping the others waiting, the reply from one of them was: "I am sorry, friend, that thee should have wasted thine own quarter of an hour, but thee had no right to waste one hour and three-quarters more of our time which was not thine own." And of Washington it is said when his secretary on some important occasion was late, and excused himself by saying his watch was too slow, the reply was: "You will have to get another watch or I another secretary." Napoleon used to say to his marshals, "You may ask anything of me but time." And of John Quincy Adams it is said that in his long service in Congress he was never known to be late, and one day when the clock struck and a member said to the speaker, "it is time to call the house to order," the reply was, "No, Mr. Adams is not in his seat yet." And while they were yet speaking, Mr. Adams came in, he being punctual, while the clock was three minutes fast.

"No," said Mrs. Slick, "its not that I'm agin my gals a skatin' with the officers, but I wont stand such a shockin display as that of Bess and Captain— of the new regiment, in the exhibition rink this week. The truth was he couldn't skato better than a three year old, and he kept a jerkin of Bess about until he sprawled on the ice in front of her, and Bess skipped over him, did what she calls 'the dutch roll,' and then, catchin' the Captain by the hand dragged him to his feet. He said 'weally ya must excuse me, ya know, but I am such a wretched hand on smooth ice, I assure you at home I was an awful jolly skater, and p'waps it will all come back to me, ya know.' Ah me!" sighed Mrs. Slick, "just to hear my Bess astuffin' of that army chap, why she told him he was just getting on lovely, that he skated better than any of the officers of the Y. and L., and that she would feel so proud when he was able to waltz with her on band days, all of which," said Mrs. S., "was humbug, and if the officer hadont a beon a ninny, he'd have gone away like a small boy to some quiet pond afore makin' a show of himself in company!"

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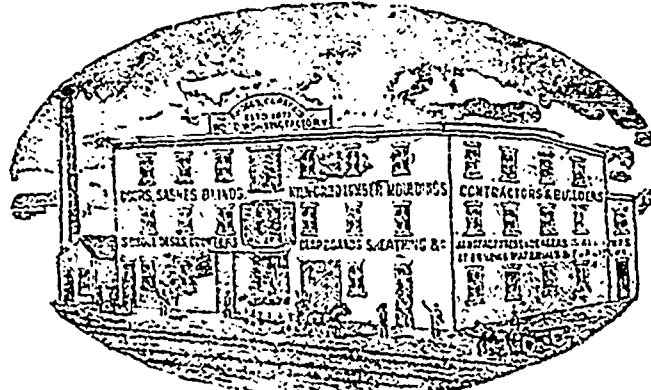
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