

GIFT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

AFTER TENNYSON.

Sneeze, sneeze, sneeze,
Ye nose that is weary and red;
But all too utterly utter
Is the pain that I feel in my head.

Oh, well for the happy man
Who laughs at our awful woes:
Next week we may all be laughing at him
As he waits on his weary nose.

And our joints are full of aches
Of racking fever and chill:
And oh, for a lot of something hot
And a ten-grain quinine pill!

Sneeze, sneeze, sneeze,
Oh, when will it ever skip?
Life isn't fun for the happiest one
Who is in the grasp of "la grippe."

He—"What did your father say when you told him that we were engaged?" She—"O, Augustus, you must not ask me to repeat such language!"

The man who works like thunder for four or five years in order to get a mother-in-law, and then begins to kick against her as soon as the victory is won, is no gentleman.

Aristocratic New York Lady: "I'd like to know, Bridget what has become of all the roast beef and cake that was left over from dinner yesterday?" Bridget: "Sure, mum, didn't yer niver have a perlaceman callin' on yer when ye were of my age?"

"Is marriage a failure?" asked the elderly Spilkins of a former flame, who had been a party to a May and December marriage. "No," she replied, with a glance toward her husband in the next room. "Not a failure. Only a temporary embarrassment."

Scotch Host (beaming with smiles, "Noo, say freens, there's an auld sayin'—mak yersel's at hame, for I'm at hame and I wish ye were a' at hame." Amiable Hostess (wishing to put matters right)—"Hoot, toot, never mind my auld mon. He jist says what he thinks!"

"Goliath," one of the big trees of California, is a solid tree measuring 23 feet through at the ground. It has been estimated that its weight is about 100,000 tons, and that it would make 1,600,000 feet, board measure, of clear lumber, the branches and top piling up 1000 cords of wood.

BILLING AND COOING.—Mrs. Wickwire—"Why don't you quit that stupid habit of saying, 'By Jove?' What do you know about Jove, anyway?"

Mr. Wickwire—"I will, if you will stop saying 'the idea' every time you are spoken to. What do you know about ideas, anyway?"

TEMPORA MUTANTUR.—She (age 18)—"When I go upon the stage it shall be as a star. My proud spirit shall never sink to the level of a common actress." Same she (age 28)—"O, girls, ain't it nice? The stage manager's going to let me have a speaking part to-night, one of the pages is sick."

On the introduction of boots into New Zealand the vanity of the natives was so great that when one of them was happy enough to become the possessor of a pair, and found that they were too small, he would not hesitate to chop off a toe or two, stanching the bleeding by covering the stump with a little hemp, and then force the feet into the boots.

The New York boy is not precisely a child of the devil, but for malicious mischief he is hard to beat. One of them was overheard initiating a strange boy from the lawless South into the mysteries of New York life. "Winter is the best time to throw stones at windows," said the New York boy. "Why is winter the best time?" asked the unsophisticated youth from the South. "Because, you see, the houses have double windows, and you can break two panes with one throw, and you only get one licking, just the same as if you had only broken one pane."

Cards are of French origin, having been invented about the year 1390 to drive away the melancholy moods of Charles IV. of France. Printing not being one of the arts, cards were painted by hand. Their inventor intended the four suits to represent the four classes of men in the French kingdom. The hearts represent the choir-men or ecclesiastics, termed in French "gens de chœur." The "chœur" was corrupted into "cœur," meaning hearts. The Spaniards, who obtained the use of cards from the French, have chalices as one of their suits instead of hearts, proving conclusively the ecclesiastics were intended to be represented. What we call "spades" were originally intended as pikes or the points of lances, being representative of the noble or military class. The "diamonds," which all fortune-tellers tell you are indicative of wealth, were originally intended as square-stone tiles and are representative of the order of citizens, merchants, tradesmen and artisans. "Clubs" are nothing more than the three-leaved clover, which was originally intended as the symbol of the husbandmen and peasants.

CONSUMPTION CURED.—An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellow-men. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 320 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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