

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

Dr. Wolcott's (Peter Pindar) description of Dr. Johnson's prose style is commended to the notice of newspaper reporters and writers generally:

"I own I like not Johnson's turgid style,
That gives the inch the importance of a mile;
Uplifts the club of Hercules for what
To crush a butterfly or brain a gnat;
Creates a whirlwind from the earth to draw
A goose's feather, or exalt a straw;
Bids ocean labor with tremendous roar
To heave a cockle-shell upon the shore;
Alike in every theme his pompous art,
Heaven's awful thunder or a rumbling cart."

The Romans seemed to realize how obstinate a woman can be when they called her *mulier*.

Lady—How delightful to have such a family of interesting daughters. They will be such resources to you as you grow older!

Gentleman—doubtfully—Ah! ye-es, but the difficulty is to husband one's resources.

"The Old Order Changeth."—By-the-by, I wish you would get me a card for the Duchess of Beaumorris's dance. "I'll try. But you'll have to get a costume from her, or a bonnet, or something as she only asks her customers.—*London Punch*.

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES.—Grandmother (to Kenneth, who is making her a little visit)—Kenneth, dear, do you love grandma?

Kenneth dear—Yes, I love 'oo, and ma love 'oo, but papa says he finks 'oo is a ole fool.—*Texas Siftings*.

"Jenny" a pig raised at Shado Park weighed, at 6 months old 250, at 12 months 500, and at 2 years 800 lbs., and "Betty," another sow weighed at 22 months and while sucking a litter 855, and at 3 years 1050 lbs. Surely this the triumph of mind over matter!

Mrs. S.: "See, here, my boy, Farmer Brown doesn't like you to swing on his gate." Precocious boy (who has lately been to Sunday-school): "Well, I don't care for Brown, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, or his ass, nor anything that is his."

Many years ago two men were in the barber shop. One had red hair and the other was bald headed. Red hair (to bald head): "You were not about when they were giving out hair?" Bald head: "Yes, I was there, but they only had a little red hair left, and I wouldn't take that."

Another craze in the way of Volapuk, Esperanto or Universal Language is "World English" which Alexander Melville Bell proposes by kindly "amending" our alphabet and spelling on scientific principles. Nine new characters would be introduced for consonant sounds and all the rest of it.

Mistress (to cook)—Your name, Mary, and my daughter's being the same, makes matters somewhat confusing. Now how do you like, say, the name of Bridget?

Cook—Shure, mum, an' it's not meself that's particular. Oim willun to call the young leddy only thin' yez loike.

Two soldiers, observing a rather fine-looking girl in a milliner's shop, the one, an Irishman, proposed to go in and buy a watch ribbon in order to get a nearer view of the "sweet cratur." "Hoot, mon," said his chum, a Scotchman, "there's nae occasion to waste siller; lets bath gang in an' spur if sho can gie us twa saxpence for a shilling."

The *Scientific American* answers the old question as to the commencement of the next century, that it will begin January 1, 1900. Some years ago the *New York Journal of Commerce*, in response to a question sent from St. John, decided that the twentieth century would begin on 1st January, 1901, and this seems to be correct. It certainly takes nineteen hundred full years to complete nineteen centuries.

If ever Mr. Gladstone comes back to power, he is bound to make the Rev. Wm. Theseby a bi-hop. That worthy minister has just published a "Service of Song" on the life of Mr. Gladstone, and the page headed "The People's William" is occupied by the hymn "Hark, my soul, it is the Lord, 'Tis the Saviour, hear his word." Mr. Gladstone says, "I appreciate very much the compliment you have paid me."

FIRST JOLLY ANGLER, (peckish after their walk,) "Got the sandwiches and —"

SECOND JOLLY ANGLER, (diving into crul,) "Oh, yes, here they are, all right, and here's the the whisk— but— tut-t-t, by Jove—I've forgotten the fishing-tackle."

FIRST JOLLY ANGLER—"Oh, ne'mind—we'll get along quite well without that."—*Punch*.

There has been an official enquiry into the loss of the British ship *Athelstan*, which was burned from the spontaneous ignition of her cargo of coal. According to the account given by a London contemporary, during the time the fire was confined below the deck, the captain and chief mate were surprised to find flames issuing from the tops of the iron fore and main masts, which were hollow, and had a number of perforations in them below deck for the purpose of ventilation. They operated like two chimneys, to make a furnace of the ship's hold.

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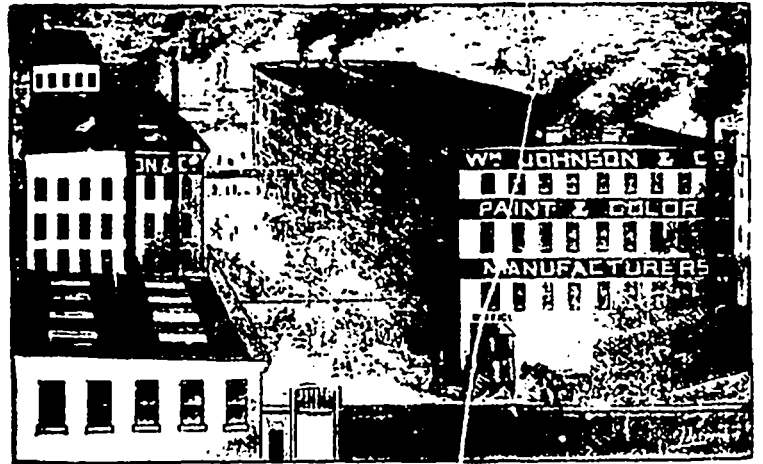
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