

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

FORSAKEN.

"Twas in the Town of Brotherly Love  
I met a dear little Quaker dove,  
So simple and so modest,  
She dressed demurely in drab or grey,  
And smiled in a bewildering way;  
Her ways were quite the oddest.

To her I offered my heart and hand  
With all the cash that I could command,  
But coldly she forsook me.  
I called her Quaker; 'twas incorrect,  
For she was one of the Shaker sect—  
At all events, she shook me.

—The Rambler.

Conscience, dead as stone, is a heavy thing to carry.

A true man never frots about his place in this world.

"Are you fond of diamonds, Mr. De Snythe?" said a young lady.  
"Well," said he, absentmindedly, "that would naturally depend on what was trumps, wouldn't it?"

Rev. Mr. Primrose—"Even the dumb animals teach us a lesson."  
Merritt—"Yes. I ventured too near a mule the other day and he taught me a lesson I'll never forget."

Beatrice—"A French doctor complains that man has too many bones."  
Benedict—"Well, Adam thought so once, but he always regretted that one of his ribs was taken from him."

"Pa," inquired Bobby, as they were returning from a revivalist meeting.  
"Why do those people shout so loud; is God deaf?" "No, Bobby, but in a case of that kind He is a good way off."

The stealing of an umbrella on a clear day is held to be a theft by an Omaha judge, but the stealing of the same article on a rainy day is held to be justifiable on the ground of self-defence. We presume this decision was rendered in order to protect the court.

In a little town in the far west of the United States a shopkeeper has engaged a young assistant; and this is how the local newspaper announces the event amongst its fashionable and personal news:—"Miss Lillie Crockett has accepted a position in the store of McConnell, Chambers & Co."

Bridge-jumping bids fair to become a popular way of beguiling the medium of summer holidays. The great danger with this amusement is that the bridge jumper may fail to kill himself, that others tempted to follow his example may also escape, and that thus several valueless lives will not be lost.

Of students' blunders, few surely can equal in ingenuity the following answer to a question in a French examination paper.—Q. "Give the gender of" (among other compounds,) "tête-à-tête, with comments." A. "Tête-à-tête is of the common gender, because it usually takes place between a man and a woman."

In legal parlance a contingent fee is generally supposed to be a fee dependent upon the lawyer winning his case. But Senator Everts the other day gave the term a unique definition. He said:—"It is a very simple thing. I can explain to you what a contingent fee means in a few words. In short, if I lose your suit I get nothing. If I win your suit you get nothing." Never did the Senator combine brevity and frankness in a happier vein.

Mrs. Slick was so completely overworked during carnival week that she has not been good for much since that time. As she herself says: "When a body has but one spare bod, and has to rack her brain as to how sho's goin' to put up near a dozen folk, and then have to feed them all a little extra like, and at the same time see to it that they take in all that's goin' on in the way of shows and dear knows what, its enough to tire rheumatic knees and weary anybody's head. I like carnivals, but next time I'm goin' to the country so that I can enjoy the holiday."

THE DIFFERENCE.—Small boy—"Pa, what is the difference between a pessimist and an optimist?" Pa—"Well, let me see if I can illustrate. You know I am often discouraged, and things don't look to me as if they'd ever go right. Well, at such times I can be said to be a pessimist. But years ago, when I was a young man, everything looked bright and rosy, and I was always hopeful. Then I was an optimist. Now, my son, can you understand the difference between a pessimist and an optimist?" Small boy—"Oh, yes; one is married and the other isn't."

"No," said Mrs. Slick, "I didn't go to the carnival ball because I weren't invited. Of course I was mad, because it's a sin to neglect the widows and orphans and shove attentions on people as can pay for them. Now there's a good fellow on the *Bellaruffen* called Crunch, who's a bit sweet on my Sal. Well, he's got lots of money, and my poor fatherless Sal hant got too much. What did that ball committee do? why they sent Crunch a deadhead ticket, and forgot the widow and her orphan. Crunch is hoppin' mad, and says that its just another instance of Halifax snobbery and toadyism, but thank heaven that sort of thing is fast being crushed out in Halifax."

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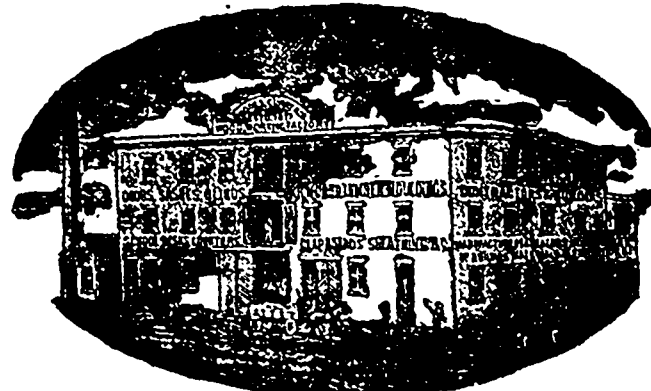
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