

CHIT CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

SWEET JOYS OF CHILDHOOD.

I long and I pine with a yearning intense
For the joy of a day that is fled;
I steep ev'ry feeling, I merge ev'ry sense
In a wish for old pleasures now dead.

With sorrow unfeigned I dream of a time
When care was a stranger to me,
When life was filled full of a quiet sublime
My spirit was tranquil and free.

With passionate longing I think on the days,
Untouched by the rude hand of ill,
When youth was untroubled by blame or by praise,
And father was fooling the bills.

Aunt Jane—"Is the water where you live now soft or hard?"
Wee Neico—"I guess its pretty hard. The girl scattered some on the
lamp chimney the other night an' it broke all to pieces!"

THE POOR BOY'S COLLEGE.—The printing office has been called "the
poor boy's college," and such it has not unfrequently proved, for literature
and science have been to no small extent indebted to members of the craft
for their contributions. In fact, the names of the eminent men who began
life as printers would fill a scroll whose length would astonish its readers.

Young Mr. Slummer (to his class at the mission school)—"Now, boys,
as I was telling you, David was first a shepherd, then a courtier, then a
king. Can you tell me what a shepherd is?"

The class (in unison)—"Him what takes care of the sheep and lambs."
Young Mr. Slummer—"Yes, and now what is a courtier?"

A long pause, and then one very small boy pipes up, "please sir, him
what goes after a gal!"

STRONGER THAN A GIANT.

The smallest woman in the land
A wondrous power possesses;
An influence she may command
That curses or blesses.

In love with her, the strongest man
Beneath her smiles will linger;
And wind the giant, then she can
Around her little finger.

THE PROFESSOR'S PRACTICAL JOKE.—"Gentlemen you do not use your
faculties of observation!" said an old professor, addressing his class. Here
he pushed forward a gallipot containing a chemical of an exceedingly
offensive smell. "When I was a student," he continued, "I used my sense
of taste," and with that he dipped his finger in the gallipot, and then put
his finger in his mouth. "Taste it, gentlemen, taste it," said the professor,
"and exercise your perceptive faculties." The gallipot was pushed toward
the reluctant class one by one. The students resolutely dipped their fingers
into the concoction, and with many a wry face sucked the abomination
from their fingers. "Gentlemen, gentlemen," said the professor, "I must
repeat that you do not use your faculties of observation, for had you looked
more closely at what I was doing you would have seen that the finger which
I put in my mouth was not the finger I dipped in the gallipot."

THE FISHERMAN.

Soon will the gentle liar rise
Before the morning sun
Has taken off its nightgown red,
It's dally course to run,
And his him forth to where he knows
There's soft and yielding sod;
And having dug the bait he needs,
Will take his fishing rod
And other things he wants for fish,
And go forth for to try
If he can catch one big enough
So he won't have to lie.

A BENEFACTOR.—It is said that the first person to utilize a clever remark
for quotation is entitled to as much credit as the person who wrote it, and
often a play upon a phrase is as bright as the original. Oliver Hereford, the
talented illustrator and son of Rev. Brooke Hereford, is noted for his droll
variations upon old-fashioned proverbs, and a few recent examples are worth
repeating. Who that has ever been photographed, with all that it implies,
could fail to appreciate this: "You may lead a man to the photographer's,
but you can't make him smile." And what heartfelt assent will be given by
many a man—and perhaps some women—to, "A little widow is a
dangerous thing." Somewhat in the same vein was his characterization on
the last day of the week of an egg that failed to please his taste, as "a
Saturday night egg," explaining when asked: "Because it has tried all the
week to be good." We may praise the stage, the concert platform, the
founder of colleges and professorships, but the real benefactor to mankind is
he who goes through life with a jest on his lips.

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