

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

One firm of envelope manufacturers in London is said to make 1,000,000 envelopes a day.

Wichita, Kan., is six miles wide and nine miles long, and contains a population of about twenty four thousand real estate agents, male and female.—*Ex.*

The many uses found for wire netting have led to its greatly increased production of late years. In 1842 its consumption in Europe is stated to have been only 10,000 per annum, while at the present time it is estimated to be about 40,000,000 yards per annum.

"As you grow in your art," said Gounod to a young poet, "you will judge the great masters of the past as I now judge the great musicians of former times. At your age I used to say 'I;' at twenty-five I said, 'I and 'Mozart;' at forty 'Mozart and I;' now I say 'Mozart.'"

He was just on the point of proposing, and she, with a palpitating heart, was straining her ear to catch the words she so longed to hear, when a little mouse ran across the floor. "Did she scream or faint?" you ask. Oh, no, gentle inquirer, she did not. She paid no attention to the mouse.

Johnny laboriously lugged a pail into the parlor where the family were assembled, and asked his maternal grandmother to kick it. "Why should I kick it, Johnny?" grandmother inquired in amazement. "Just to amuse papa," said Johnny. "He said he would give ten dollars to see you kick the bucket."

"What a stupid play that is, Henry; I have half a mind to go home." "Why, Clara, this is the fourth time you have seen it, and you liked it so well before that you insisted on coming again." "Yes, I know; but I've got my new bonnet on, and they are too stingy to turn on their old gas between the acts."

A CLUMBY GALLANT.—At the last party given by the Countess de Troubleville, the Viscount the Hautemaison in waltzing stepped on the toes of his fair young partner. She uttered a cry. "Sir, you have trodden on my foot!" "Oh, madame, that is quite impossible!" "How impossible?" "It is such a little one."

Three Frenchmen who were studying a volume of Shakespeare in their native language endeavored to translate into English the well-known opening to Hamlet's soliloquy—"To be, or not to be." The following was the result:—First Frenchman: "To was or not to am." Second ditto: "To where, or is to not." Third ditto: "To should, or not to will."

FAIR FIELD FOR SATIRE.—There is a rumor that Gilbert and Sullivan are preparing an opera on an American subject with special reference to the Wild West craze, which Buffalo Bill has made fashionable in England. Cow-boys, scouts, and good and bad Indians will figure in it extensively, and it will be produced simultaneous in London and New York.

Mr. Hedges, who has recently returned from a voyage to the Sandwich Islands, reports a curious experiment that was tried there. A convicted murderer was given his choice of a sentence of death or becoming a subject for inoculation for leprosy, and chose the latter. He was inoculated and subjected to the closest personal contact with lepers, but after sixteen months of such exposure betrayed no symptoms of the disease.—*Stockton Independent.*

Prince J. R. Tarkhan-Motravoff, Professor of Physiology to the St. Petersburg Military Medical Academy, has lately applied to the Russian Ministry of the interior for a patent securing a "method of preparing transparent alkaline egg-albumen, and converting it into various articles," the procedure being an invention of the learned aristocrat. Scientific aristocrats are not so common amongst us as they are on the continent.—*Sanitary Record.*

The new tobogganing slide just patented by Messrs. Whellams & Beswetherick is an admirable improvement, in fact it is a true toboggan. Wheels are abolished, and steel runners used in their place. The steering apparatus is most delicately arranged, so that an upset is next to impossible. The machine is light, weighing about 20 lbs. The slide, which can be erected at the cost of about £100, is faced with toughened glass instead of wood, and held down with five steel rods. As the toboggan runs down the slide the noise it makes is infinitesimal. The models are on view at the American Exhibition.—*English Exchange.*

Dr. William A. Hammond comes to the defense of cocaine, declaring that there is no such thing as a cocaine habit, except in the case of some "feeble minded opium eater" who has tried to cure himself with it and only made his case worse. He says it should not be used indiscriminately, or habitually, any more than any other drug, but "large doses can be taken without injury, and no dose that has yet been administered has caused death. We do not know," he asserts, "what a killing dose is, and until we do the Legislature of the state of New York had better not make itself ridiculous by meddling with a matter it does not understand." And Dr. Hammond regards it as a useful drug, and prescribes it every day of his life.

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