

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

UNREST IN PARADISE.

Two women met in Paradise,
Where they had recently arrived;
And each one of the other asked
How in the bright abode she thrived.

Then straightway each one made reply,
" 'Tis very beautiful and bright,
There's everything to please the ear,
And everything to feast the sight."

Then each exhaled a long, deep sigh;
And said, "I've searched in every nook,
But nowhere can I find a glass
To see how these new garments look."

Does the tide ever turn in the land of the dead?
Shall we stir at the kiss of the wave rolling back,
And lift, like the sea-weed, the death-draggled head,
And toss with life's flood, like the tangles of wrack?

We trust it is so; for the sea that God turns,
And sends flooding back into river and bay—
Is the sea more divine than the spirit that yawns,
And we will not believe that life's tide ebbs for aye?

One of the best double puns we have ever heard was perpetrated by a minister who had just united in marriage a couple whose Christian names were respectively Benjamin and Ann.

"How did they appear during the ceremony?" he was asked.
"They appeared both Anni-mated and Bonnie-fitted," was the clever reply.

The wealth of the United States is unofficially estimated at \$71,500,000,000, an increase in ten years of 42 per cent. England's wealth was placed at \$50,000,000,000 in 1885, but divided among a smaller population than that of the United States; while the value of France's property is put at \$36,000,000,000. Taxes in England average \$20 per capita, and in the United States, \$12.50.

A Scotchman who had been employed nearly all his life in the building of railways in the Highlands of Scotland, came to the United States in his last years and settled in a new section on the plains of the far West. Soon after his arrival a project came up in his new home for the construction of a railroad through the district, and the Scotchman was applied to as a man of experience in such matters. "Hoot, mon!" said he to the spokesman of the scheme, "yo canna build a r'alway across this kentry!" "Why not, Mr. Ferguson?" "Why not?" he repeated with an air of settling the whole matter; "why not? And dinna ye see the kentry's as flat as a flure, and you have naw place whatever to run your tooouls through!"

If report is to be relied on, the Chinese have still a long way to go before they will be in a position to avail themselves of the benefits of modern scientific progress. It is stated that the imperial palace, by order of the young Emperor, was fitted throughout with electric lights. The Imperial Cabinet was called together to witness the formal opening of the new system of illumination. Instead, however, of their expressing admiration of the brilliant light, they stood aghast. This wonderful sheen, which came and went at the touch of a button, could only be the offspring of supernatural powers, and was probably a machination of evil spirits. Thus in solemn conclave the mandarins decided, and in a few days the electrical plant was removed.

No SOUP SWINDLE IN HIS.—A Guest Who Laid Great Stress on the Hyphen.—"Waiter," said a man with long chin whiskers to the functionary that had handed him a bill of fare in a Madison street restaurant the other day, "where do you locate the hyphen in this soup?"

"Sah?" answered the waiter.
"I can't make out from the way it's printed here whether it is English-pea soup or English pea-soup."

"What's the difference?"
"There's a good deal of difference, my friend. If it's made from English peas I don't want it. If it's made from good American peas I reckon I can stand having it served up in English style, but I'm no Englishman—I can tell you that right now."

"Yes, sah."
"And you'll oblige me if you'll just find out whether this soup is for Anglomaniacs or whether it's called English to show that it isn't French or Portuguese."

"Yes, sah."
The waiter disappeared in the direction of the kitchen. He returned presently, and explained that the soup was made by a red-headed Irish cook from five or six kinds of strictly American vegetables that had been left over from the day before.

"Then it's a darned swindle!" said the guest. "Bring me some ham and eggs."

They poulticed her feet and poulticed her head,
And blistered her back till 'twas smarting and red,
Tried tonics, elixirs, pain-killers and salves,
(Though grandma declared it was nothing but "nerves,")
The poor woman thought she must certainly die,
Till "Favorite Prescription" she happened to try,—
No wonder its praises so loudly they speak;
She grew better at once, and was well in a week.

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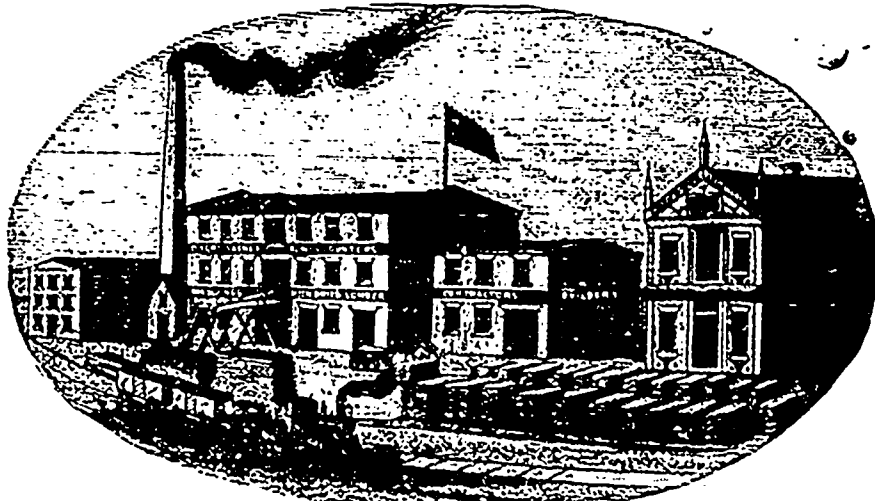
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