

CHAT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

"So, John, I hear you did not pass,
You were the lowest in your class,
(Get out a prize of merit;
But grunting now is no avail,
Just tell me how you came to fail,
With all your sense and spirit?"

"Well, sir, I mixed 'mong other things,
The list of Egypt's Shepherd Kings
(I wonder who does know it?)
An error of three years I made
In dating England's first crusade;
And, as I am no poet,

I got Euripides all wrong,
And could not write a Latin song,
And as for Roman history,
With Hun and Vandal, Goth and Gaul,
And Gibbon's weary 'Rise and Fall,'
'Twas all a hopeless mystery.

But, Father, do not fear or sigh
If 'Cram' does proudly pass me by,
And pedagogues ignore me;
I've common sense, I've will and health,
I'll win my way to honest wealth;
The world is all before me.

And, though I'll never be a Grecian,
Know Roman laws or art Phœnician,
Or slay of love and beauty,
I'll plough, or build, or sail, or trade,
And you need never be afraid
But that I'll do my duty."

—Mary E. Burnett.

"Love" is the egotism of two.

He (cautiously)—"What would you do, Fannie, if I were to kiss you?"
"Nothing, Harry. What would there be for me to do? You could attend to it, couldn't you?"

Mr. Wiman's next commercial union speech will be delivered from a phonograph by the turning of a crank. A crank and commercial union is a very appropriate combination.

It is claimed that a few drops of eau de cologne, ether and chloroform, in equal parts, poured on a handkerchief previously wetted with cold water, and placed on the seat of a neuralgic pain, gives instantaneous relief. It is also very efficacious for nervous headache.

George Stephenson thought that if a cow strayed upon a railroad it would be "bad for the coo." In Mexico the cow seems to get the best of it. Upon a railway there a cow was run into by a train and the shock caused the engine, tender, and three cars to tumble into a ditch. How the cow took it is not mentioned; but the average Texan or Mexican cow could no doubt upset a train without turning a hair.

WARMING ROOMS BY SOLAR HEAT.—Professor Morse, of Salem, Mass., has devised a simple stove for warming rooms by means of solar heat. It consists of a shallow box having a bottom of corrugated iron and a glass top. This device is placed outside the building, so that the sun can shine directly into it. The rays pass through the glass and are absorbed by the metal, heating it to a high temperature and warming the air of the box. The air, which on sunny days rises to a temperature of 90 deg. Fahr., is conveyed into the room which is to be heated.

The following, says the *Hartford Times*, is a little girl's essay on the cow: "A cow is an animal with four legs on the under side. The tail is longer than the legs but is not used to stand on. The cow kills flies with her tail. The cow has big ears that wiggles on hinges; so does her tail. The cow is bigger than the calf, but not so big as an elephant. She is made so small that she can go into the barn when nobody is looking. Some cows are black and some hook. A dog was hooked once. She tossed the dog that killed the cat that worried the rat. Black cows give white milk; so do other cows. Milkmen sell milk to buy their little girl dresses, which they put water in and chalk. Cows chew cuds, and each finds its own chew. That is all there is about cows."

The sayings and doings of Mrs. Slick have never yet been chronicled, although as she herself says "My life has been an eventful one and would fill a good sized book if I had time to write them down properly." As Mrs. Slick is a wife, a mother, a housekeeper, a member of the church, and a working member of several Local Societies she has no time for literary work and she has therefore agreed to let us jot down an account of her sayings and doings and publish them from time to time in the columns of THE CRITIC. Mrs. Slick thinks the modern five-o'clock tea parties a great social innovation. As Mrs. Slick says "How can a body be expected to have an appetite for apple sarco and hot biscuit when they go in for eatin betwixt meals, I tell you this nibble nibble from morning till bed time is a ruin to the consterntutions of our gals and onfitten of them for right down hard work. Five-o'clock tea parties is meant for lazy folks and for them that's too stingy to be good neighbors. Lazy folks do their entertainin by wholesale and mean folk pay off their social debts with thin bread and butter and a shavin of cake. I'm old fashioned enough to like to sit down comfortable like and give my friends a good tuck out, instead of crushin of them all into one small room and feedin of them by paltry snacks. Thoms my views and I guess there's some truth in them."

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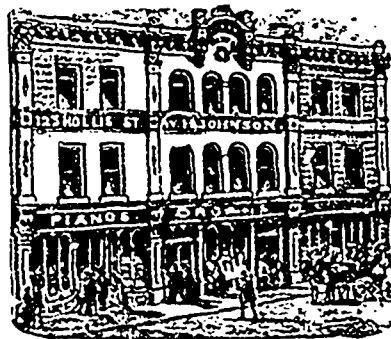
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