

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

CONVERSATIONAL POSSIBILITIES.

What a halcyon time
In what heavenly clime,
If the myriad tongues through the year
Would only give speech,
As we come within reach,
To the things that we want to hear.

And what ages of bliss
Would be merged into this,
And make joyful each wearisome day,
If, with wisdom untold,
We would only unfold,
The things that we meant to say.

—EMMA CARLETON.

"Capital punishment" so the boy said when the schoolmistress seated him with the girls.

Man is a good deal like a fish. You know the fish would never get in very serious trouble if it kept its mouth shut.

"I see through my error," said the boy, who broke through Jones's window with a snowball. And Jones forgave him.

"And why, Jennie, did you tell Willie you wouldn't be his little wife?" "Tause he didn't ask me 'till he knowed I had five cents."

Bingo—"What's the matter with your clothes, Bobby?" Bobby (meekly)—"I fell down on my way from school." Bingo—"Who licked!"

'T WAS EVER THUS.

When you're disposed to make a match,
If poor, she is not hard to catch;
But when you love a maid with tin,
Some other fellow's sure to win.

SPIRITS—Watts—"I was at a spiritualistic seance." Potts—"Were any spirits exhibited?" Watts. "There were. I exhibited a spirit of investigation, the faithful exhibited a spirit of resentment, and that's what is the matter with my eye."

BOBBY'S DILEMMA.—Bobby—You go into that store an' get me a package of cigarettes. Here's the money.

Bessie—Why doesn't you go yourself?

Bobby—They told me they don't sell cigarettes to boys.

DOES THIS MEAN YOU.—"The man I wed must be handsome, brave and noble; he must have no bad habits and love me devotedly."

"But, my dear, that is impossible, you know, quite impossible."

"Why?"

"Because there is only one such man in all the wide world, and he is going to marry me."

RESOLUTION.

I'm feeling very blue to-night—
My girl has gone away.
I do not know what I shall do,
My spirits are at bay.

But come what will I am resolved
No white flag to unfurl.
By Jove! I know. That's what I'll do—
I'll see some other girl.

THE RELATIONSHIP CHANGED.—Little Bessie's doll had lost one eye, one arm was gone, and most of its internal sawdust had departed. She placed it in a sitting posture on the floor in the corner of her play-house, examined its forlorn and shrunken figure with a critical eye, and said regretfully, yet decidedly:

"You can stay in the family if you want to, Dolly, but after this I'm only going to be a stepmother to you."

A MOTTED QUESTION.

He holds the letter in his trembling hands,
'T'wixt hope and fear he undecided stands,
Nor breaks the seal. (The reader used to jokes
Will now pronounce this opening thrill a hoax—
" 'Tis from his tailor," he will say, and sneer;
" Ah, no," sweet girls will say " that fear
Which blanches cheek and brow and palsies hand,
Naught but consuming love could e'er command!"
What can it be that causes him such woe?
Dear friends and readers, really I don't know.

UNANSWERABLE ARGUMENT.—Chinese Mandarin—You Americans are very smart, but you are inconsistent.

American Citizen—In what way?

"You spend millions of dollars sending missionaries to us."

"That is true."

"And the object is to fit us for the Kingdom of Heaven?"

"Yes."

"But still you refuse us a residence in the United States. Now explain that."

"Well, you see we are afraid if you go to our country to live you will get into American politics."

"What of that?"

"That would unfit you for the Kingdom of Heaven?"

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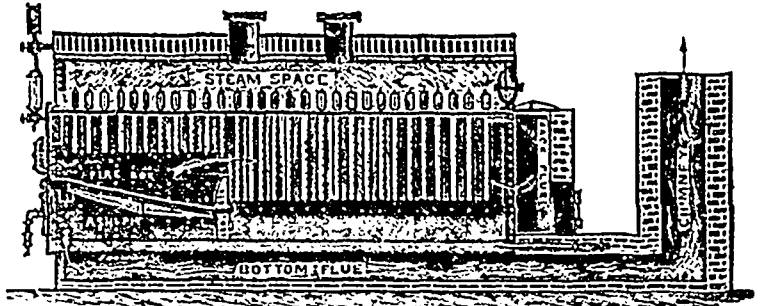
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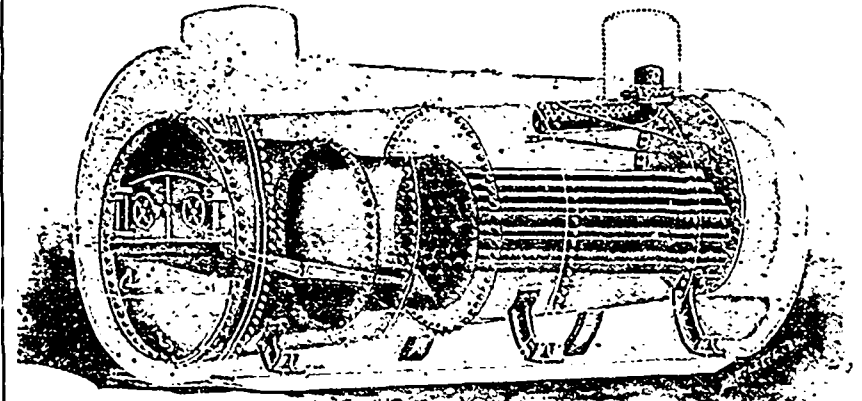
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