

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

When you see a man trying in vain to uproot a lamp-post you may be sure of one of two things—either the post is tight, or the man is.

"THE SCHOOLMASTER (ALL) ABROAD."—"You cannot," said the schoolmaster, "place a, the singular article, before plural nouns. No one can say a cows, a woman." "Why not?" said the good boy. "When we go to church we say a-mou?"

The *Rappel* tells a story of the late Marshal Polissior. The Marshal, who was a peppy warrior, one day flew into a rage and boxed the ears of one of his officers. The recipient seized his revolver and aimed at his superior, but the pistol declined to go off, and the officer was seized. "Fift-on days imprisonment," said Polissior quietly, "I'll teach you to keep your arms in that condition."

JOHNNY SPOKE BOSTONISE.—Little Johnny (Boston boy who has been permitted to see his new baby brother)—Are we goin' to keep it, mamma? Mamma—Yes, Johnny; won't you be glad?

Johnny (wiping his spectacles dubiously)—I fear, mamma, I cannot welcome it with the affection of a brother so long as it has that absurdly florid complexion. I have heard mond-meal recommended. Have we none about the premises?

Detailed estimates for a bridge over the English Channel have recently been laid before the French Minister for Public Works by Vice Admiral Cloué, of the French navy, in the hope of obtaining a government subvention for the project. It is expected by the sanguine promoters that this scheme will meet with less opposition from English military men than the tunnel project, as the former would always be accessible from the sea. The cost of the bridge is estimated at \$220,000,000, on which a net profit of \$20,000,000 per annum is expected.

THE MOTHER COUNTRY.—Bridget—Did yoz go around to the bloody Englishman's naturalization meeting, Patrick?

Patrick—Yis. I was there a little phile. They're not a bad lot, Biddy.

B.—They ain't?

P.—No, Biddy. Sure, when the spaker talked about America's mother country they all clapped their hands an' cheered; they cheered, Biddy, think o' that!

B.—An' phat is America's mother country, Patrick?

P.—Ould Oirland, ov coorse. Is y'z dreamin'?

"You musn't touch the top of baby's head," said a mother to her little four-year old; "She has a soft spot that is very tender."

The youngster gazed at it curiously for a moment, and then he asked: "do all babies have soft spots on their heads?"

"Yes."

"Did papa have a soft spot on the top of his head when he was a baby?"

"Yes," replied the mother with a sigh, "and has got it yet."

And the old man who had overheard the conversation from the adjoining room, saug out: "Yes, indeed, my dear boy, or he would be a single man to-day."

PROVISIONS ON A CUNARDER.—An interviewer has been inducing the steward of a Cunarder to furnish him with an estimate of the stores consumed on the double trip across the Atlantic. The figures are rather startling, even in these days of big things, but then eating and drinking seem to be going on all day long on board the Cunarder. For the single journey the steward provides 90 carcasses of sheep, 1,000 lbs. of lamb, 4,500 lbs. of mutton, 1,200 lbs of beef, 3,500 lbs. of ham, 550 fowls, and other perishable commodities in proportion. Amongst these must be reckoned 12,000 eggs, of which the daily consumption is reckoned at 1,500, and 2,000 lbs. of butter. Pretty well this for seven days? The non-perishable stores, which are to last for the return voyage, are on a commensurate scale: 20,000 oranges, 20,000 lemons, 500 lbs. of tea, and 1,400 quarts of condensed milk are supplemented by wines, malt liquors, and mineral waters sufficient to quench the thirst of an army of giants. The Cunarders, it may be observed, carry no live stock.

The following gems from school examination papers are taken from the *Dalhousie Gazette*:-

"Sir Walter Scott was a great dramatist. He is the author of Byron's poems of Scotland; Scots who hao wi' Wallace bled; The Fire King; Scotch Mary; Bonnie Dundee; Letters to the *Tattler* and *Spectator*; Gettrude and Wyoming; Macbeth; Duncan; She Stoops to Conquer; The Valley of Nile."

"The *Leith* is a small stream in the vicinity of the poem."

In answer to a question on the Pyramids, the following answers were given:

"The principal Pyramids are Cheops, Cherconeses, Sarcophagus and Sphinx."

"There are large Pyramids in lairs of various shapes. There is one called the Pillars of Hercules. It is shaped like a lion's head."

"The Pyramids were famous for their durability—some of them lasting 700 years."

"Martin Luther was a Methodist local preacher. He also lectured on Temperance and other subjects."

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