

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

THE TERRORS OF MODERN JOURNALISM.

Though with a frame like Hercules,
 As stalwart as a king,
 He prostrate lay upon his couch—
 A limp and lifeless thing.

Eight doctors stood about his bed,
 In consultation grave,
 But shook their heads; there was no hope
 This shattered wreck to save.

They worked upon him all the day,
 All night, until the dawn.
 "Alas!" quoth they, "our toil is vain—
 His mind is wholly gone."

Al, wretched man, for days he'd bought
 All papers, great and small,
 That printed guessing coupons, and
 Ho'd tried to guess them all.

Many a wise man has picked up a good suggestion where some fool dropped it.

Buggins says the man who did his plumbing is the most bilious person he ever saw.

It will be a good time to buy thermometers pretty soon; they are going down every day.

"Is this a free translation?" asked the girl in the bookstore.
 "No, Miss," replied the clerk. "It costs fifty cents."

Jamie had caught cold in some way, and was very stiff in consequence. "I think, when I had my bath yesterday," he said, "somebody must have put starch in the water."

A small boy in a Brooklyn grammar school has furnished the latest information about girls in a recent composition: "Girls is pretty and afraid of guns. They wear toe rubbers and look at the clouds and say, 'O, how perfectly lovely!'"

Contributor—"Here is a manuscript I wish to submit."
 Editor (waving his hand)—"I'm sorry. We are all full just now."
 Contributor (blandly)—"Very well; I will call again when some of you are sober."

FAR AHEAD.—Optimist—I'm not going to worry about things. It'll be all right when my ship comes in.
 Pessimist—But when does the ship come in?
 Optimist—Haven't the slightest idea. Don't believe she's even launched yet.

PREMATURE REJOICING.—"Horray!" screamed the young turkey;
 "Thanksgiving day is gone and I'm still here."
 "Shut up!" said the old gobbler; "you evidently have never heard of Christmas."

AN INSTANCE GIVEN.—Teacher—Does heat always expand and cold always contract?
 Tommy Taddles—Cold expands sometimes.
 "Indeed? What does cold expand?"
 "Coal bills."

Father—"My son, do you not know that all the rich men of to-day began poor?"
 Small Son—"Yessir."
 Father—"And yet, instead of saving your pennies, you spend them."
 Small Boy—"Yessir. When I start out I want to begin poor."

SHE NEVER SMILES.

Poor Edith never smiles now;
 What can have happened to her?
 Some awful disappointment—
 Can she have lost a wooer?
 Poor Edith never smiles now;
 Why is her life joy dulled?
 Who once was always smiling?
 She's had a front-tooth pulled.

MARY UNDERSTOOD.—"Mary," said her mistress, "I understand you had two visitors last night."
 "Yes, mum," replied Mary, with an upward inflection and a smile.
 "Was either of them the young man who called last week, Mary?"
 "Oh, no, mum."
 "Or the one that came last Sunday?"
 "Oh, no, mum—nor him neither."
 "Well, who was it, Mary?"
 "Just two boys from home, mum—Tommy Kennedy and Willie Murphy."
 "It seems to me you have a great many beaux, Mary!" severely.
 "Sure thim's not me beaux at all, mum," replied Mary with dignity.
 "And what do you call them, Mary?"
 "Jes' boys, mum. Sure if they was beaux, mum, would I be havin' thim come two at a time, mum?"

At this evidence of Mary's sagacity her mistress retired from the field.

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