

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

YEA, OR NAY?

Low the sun slopes to the west;
In his heart is high unrest.

Rarest rose-tints flood the air;
Notes his but her golden hair.

Rose and amber glow the skies;
Truest blue are his love's eyes.

Vanished quite the god of day;
Will she say him yes? or nay?

Yearns the lover, hoping yet,
Margaret, fair Margaret!

Will she say him yea? or nay?
Will she say him yea?

EMILY McMANUS.

It is estimated that the amount of gold and silver coin at the bottom of the Atlantic ocean is about \$50,000,000, and it is further estimated that most of it will stay where it is.

Mr. Bowie (of Arkansas)—"A committee of our best citizens, Mr. Smith, is waiting in the hotel parlor to receive you." Mr. Smith (who is visiting the town)—"Best citizens! Great Scott! What have I done to be lynched?"

Anxious wooer—"Then, sir, I have your consent to pay my address to your daughter? Ah! if I only thought I could win her affections." Eager father—"Why not, my dear sir, why not? Plenty others have succeeded."

He—You remind me of an angel.

She—O, now you are going to pay me some sill, compliment.

He—Not at all. Your dress this evening is so like the kind the angels wear.

Call Him Anything.—Some folks pronounce Boulanger as "Bo-lan ja." others give it as "Boyle-an-gee," others still as "Boo-long-a." It might have made a difference six months ago, but it doesn't now. You can even call him a dead duck and not stretch the truth.

WITH FORLORN REASON.—Miss Lina (*making a call on her washerwoman*)—"You look depressed to-day, Mrs. O'Grady. What is the matter?"

Mrs O'Grady—"Shure an' the ould man sold the pig lasht noight whin I was out calliu,' and divil the frind hev Oi left in the wur-ruld."

Rather objectionable.—Macmillan: "I should like you to paint me on a nice large canvas, Mr. Flaykewhite. Of course, you know, money is no object." Flaykewhite (under the impression he is saying something rather neat): "No, indeed, Mrs. Macmillan, in this case the *sitter* is the only object."

—Under a rough exterior they are truly polite at the West, as witness the following floating item: "Gentlemen," said the Texas man in the restaurant, when the waiter dumped a plate of hot soup down his back, "gentlemen, don't laugh." As he had risen to his feet and drawn two revolvers, his wishes were respected.

Medium Size as Regards Animals.—The largest animal known is the rorqual, which is about 100 feet in length. The smallest is the twilight monad, whose dimensions are one 12,000th of an inch. It is evident that the middle term is one-third of an inch, about the length of a common house fly, which may, therefore, be considered as an animal of medium size in the creation.

Kind lady—"Here is an old dress coat of my husband's that you might wear." Tramp—"What, before sundown? No, madam; I appreciate the kindly motive which has prompted you to offer me this small token, but—a dress coat before sundown! Has it, indeed, come to this!" and gathering the remnants of a flannel shirt around him, he strode majestically away and was soon lost to view.—*Clothier and Furnisher.*

Johnson Misunderstood Her.—Mistress of the House (widow): "Well Johnson, of course I'm very sorry to lose you, at the same time I must congratulate you on your good fortune in having this money left you. (Pleasantly) I suppose you'll be looking out for a wife now." Johnson: "Well, mum, beggin' your pardon, and I'm sure I feel greatly honored at what you propose,—er—I am engaged to a young woman already."—*Judy.*

An English paper gives this explanation of the familiar phrase, "by hook or by crook." About a century ago two celebrated King's counsel flourished, whose names were respectively Hook and Croke (pronounced "Crook"). They were generally opposed to each other in all important cases, and people said; "If you cannot win your cause by Hook you will by Croke." Hence across the idiom which is now so firmly grafted in the English tongue.

A Lady author claims that in 1880 she wrote and published a novel, that Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett read it in manuscript, plagiarised it, and that the result was Little Lord Fauntleroy. The stories are said to be a good deal alike, the main difference being that in the one book the young gentleman dies, while in the other he doesn't. Cases of disputed claims to the authorship of famous books are somewhat numerous, one of the most famous being a claim to the authorship of Silas Marner, and Scenes from Clerical Life, which was made so persistently that George Eliot was at length forced to answer it.

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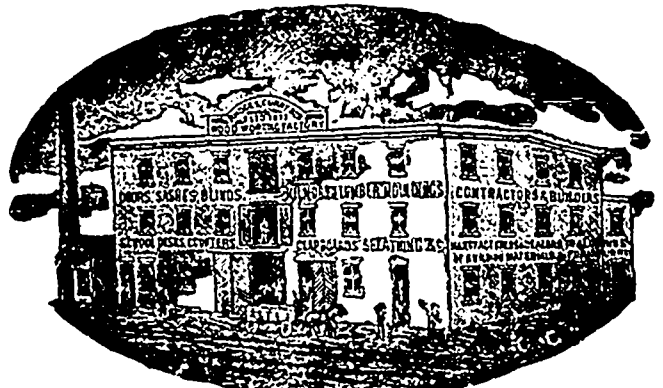
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