

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

LOVE.

Lo! dear my brothers, what shall my heart say
Of love, the fair Christ-flower laid by God
On each life, for the asking? 'Tis a crown
To clasp wan brows, and make them beautiful,
And radiant as a sun-brimmed May morning.
It is a staff to help men up the heights
Where saints sit throned, and fair virgins sing,
Each some sweet song, to lute, or psaltery,
Or lyre, or cithera. Yes, it is a soul,
Set in the heart of life, to guide, and bless,
And make all fair things fairer, all things sweet
Of more consummate proclousness; a god,
Whose service hath called back the golden days,
Where men sat in the sun, and luted loud,
For very joy of living: when clear streams
Ran laughing to the pitchers maidens held
Apoise to catch them, and fair-fruited boughs
Shook sun-kissed treasures down to waiting mouths.
As red as pomegranates, and sweeter far
Yes, more than this is love; it is the Christ,
The very spirit of life, that shuns not death,
But grows the brighter for his hand clasping!
Though ye lose all things, see ye lose not love!
Without it, all my words were thistle down,
Or tossed sea foam, or breaths of desert sand
Unfruitful, save to ride on the wings of the wind.
Farewell, my brothers! see ye lose not love.

IT OFTEN IS.—"Alas! It is an age of doubt!" sighed the philosopher.
"What?" asked his companion.
"The age of woman," he answered.

NO REPORTS RECEIVED.—Figgs—Why are you so certain that newspaper men do not go to Heaven?
Diggs—Because we know so little about the place.

CAN'T BE IMPOSED UPON.—Proprietor of Mensagerie—That's our last importation—a fine Australian eagle.
Visitor (indignantly)—Do you think I'm a fool? That an Australian eagle? Why its only got one head!

IT'S NAME.—Boston Cultured Girl (to Chicago ditto)—And so you have a literary club in Chicago. What do you call it?
Chicago Girl—We have named it "The Fortnightly."
Boston Girl—Because it is too weakly?

HIS HONOR.—H'm, drunk and disorderly, eh? What's your name?
"Pat, sor."
"Your full name."
"Shure and 'tis Pat whin Oi am full or whin Oi am sober just the same."
"Thirty days."

A SNARE AND DELUSION.—If a man has weary nerves and a thumping headache nothing prevents his coming home and tying a towel about his brow like a Turk, and being as grumpy as one the rest of the evening. But a woman in the same case can only look longingly at her old wrapper and then go and painfully build up her Psyche knot and an agreeable smile of exactly the right angle, else she will hear that "Hang it! It's enough to drive a fellow to his club to have an untidy wife lying about on the sofas!" and that "the deuce knows why a woman always manages to look pretty before marriage and never after."

In fact, being a woman at all is a snare and a delusion.

It sounds very, very nice, but it's awful. A woman isn't even allowed to grow old in peace. Going the course of all nature is just the worst crime she can commit. If she isn't married her brothers don't forgive her for it, and if she is married her husband won't.

So there it is; a bore any way you look at it.

CARMEN SYLVA.—"Carmen Sylva" begins her literary work before it is day. She disturbs no one, neither his Majesty nor even a maid. She lights her own lamp, and works until the sun brings more light.

Her Pensées are frequently of striking originality, and full of common sense. Here are a few examples:—

If a woman is bad, the man is the cause of it.

Among savages the woman is a beast of burden, among Turks an article of luxury, among Europeans both.

A woman should possess great virtue, for it often happens that she has to provide enough for both herself and her husband.

True love knows nothing of forgiveness, for if one forgives one loves no longer.

The jealousy of those who love us is a flattery.

Husband and wife should never cease to make love to each other a little.

True happiness is—duty. It takes hundreds of sweet-smelling leaves to make a rose and hundreds of purest joys to complete our happiness.

A too exacting housewife is in continual despair. One would often be glad to find a little less scrubbing and more repose in the home.

If two intellectual women cannot succeed in making anything out of a man, then there's nothing in him.

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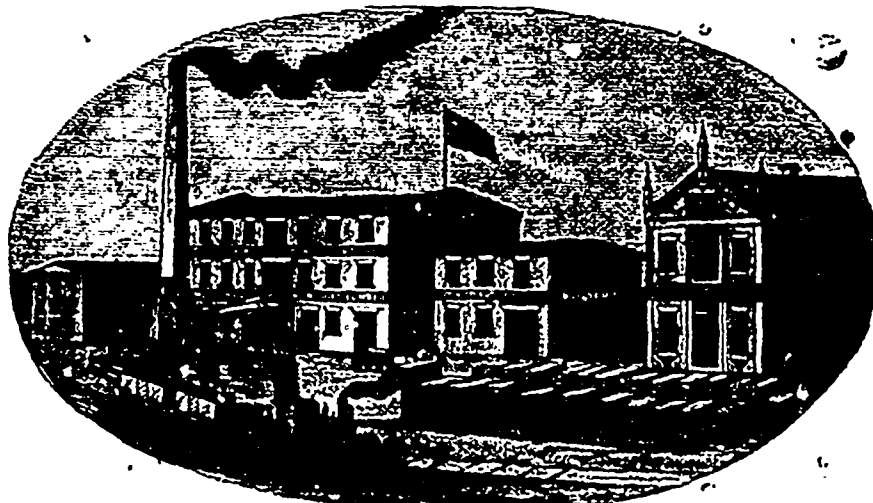
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