

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

THE MARINERS.

Great thoughts are mariners of the mind,
With strong white sails unfurled,
Words are the vessels that they find
To bear them round the world.

—William H. Hayes.

Friend (giving advice)—"Don't be discouraged, young man; never say die, you know!" Young Bostonian—"I don't; I say expire."

"Yer a broth of a boy," said Maggie. And Pat replied, as he slyly put his arm round her waist, "O'd he better broth if I had a little mate."

The sad news that the apple crop is almost a failure is confirmed. Grapes will be plentiful, but without apples how is the champagne product to be anything this year?

"Late! late! so late!"—sweetly the song he sang;
At one a. m. to charming, dark eyed Kate;
And, from above, paternal accents rang,
"Late! late! so late! Yes, dummy! 'tis so late."

"Now," said the maternal oyster, "you cuddle down and keep out of the way when these dredgers go to work. There's a dreadful penalty awaiting you if you don't." "What is it?" "Solitary confinement in a stew."

They were dancing a waltz together, and he did not dare to propose openly. "I am not hard to satisfy," he returned, in answer to some remark of hers. "I do not want the earth," swinging her energetically, "but I would like to have the whirled."

HE WANTED IT ON THE "SIS."—Husband—My business is increasing so that I shall have to get an amanuensis right away.

Wife—Get a typewriter if you like, John; but remember, if you are to have amanuensis, it must be an amanuensis with a strong accent on the "man."

IN A TEXAS SCHOOL.—Small boy (holding up hand)—"What's B. C. hitched outer them dates in Greek history mean?" Teacher (a trifle confused)—"Well er, Sammie, you see them old Greeks were queer kind of creeters, so when they didn't know a date fur sartin, they put B. C., 'bout correct, arter the numbers."

SHE GOT IT.—She (looking at the moon on a cloudy night)—"Algy, dear, do you know what is the difference between my finger and the moon?" Algy—"No, darling; I'm no astronomer." She—"I should say you weren't, Algy." Algy—"Well, what is the difference?" She—"The moon has a ring around it, Algy."

"Mamma, we are made of the dust of the earth, ain't we?" said little Susy S. to her mother. "Yes dear, of course." "Well" said the little one, "if we are made of the earth our hair must be made of the grass," and referring to a little tow haired friend, she continued, "and I guess Etta B's hair must be made of the grass that grows under boards."

HARD ON THE HORNY HANDED TOILER.—"These barbed wire fences ain't no good," said the farm hand. "I wouldn't have one of 'em around the place, if I had my way." "Why not?" enquired the stranger. "The're cheap and strong, and keep cattle in better than anything else." "That may be," replied the farm hand; "but then a feller can't sit down on 'em."

Bigly (to newly-imported servant)—"You never saw a lobster before, did you Bridget?" Bridget—"Sure, an' O've s'en hundreds of the red things shwimmin' in the creeks at the old country." Bigly—"But lobsters are green, Bridget, before they are put in boiling water." Bridget (not to be put down)—"Sure, an' there's boilin' shprings roight in the creeks, sor."

"What is a republic?" asked an official of a candidate for naturalization. "Shur'n I don't know." "What is a monarchy?" "I don't know," and so on through a series of questions. At last the worried official handed a copy of the constitution to the applicant's sponsor, and said: "Take this man out and instruct him a little." In the course of fifteen minutes the "gay, guiltless pair" hurried back into the presence of the representative of the United States government. "It's all right," cried the sponsor. "I've rid the constitootion to Pat, and he's virry much plazed with it."

In America the good peanut States are Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee. The crop in a good year amounts to about 3,000,000 bushels, or 70,000,000 pounds, having grown to these proportions from an output of less than 500,000 bushels in 1873. Arkansas and Kansas are also peanut-growing States. California produces a good crop, but the soil is so rich that the peanut grows large and rank, with a shell so thick that it seriously affects the roasting process. So important has the peanut become that in some sections of the three States first named it is the principal crop and chief reliance of the farmer.

Oh, this ringing in the ears!
Oh, this humming in the head!
Hawking, blowing, snuffling, gasping,
Watering eyes and throat a-rasping,
Health impaired and comfort fled,
Till I would that I were dead!

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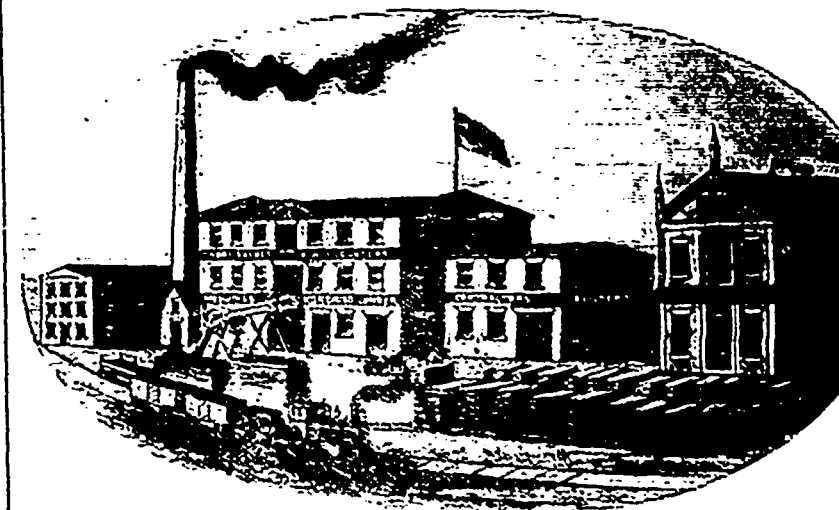
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