

## CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

## OUT OF REACH.

When but a boy, you doubtless found  
The smallest fruit lay on the ground;  
And saw the rest, sweet, red, immense,  
Behind a sharp, barb-wire fence.

And when you grow to be a man,  
You find the same arrangements then,  
The things you most desired, each  
You found were just beyond your reach.

## THE GOOD OLD TIMES.

How doth the busy Used-to-be  
Improve each bygone minute,  
Until the humbled present feels  
The come down that is in it!  
How gleefully he rubs it in  
To latter days—because  
There's nothing extant now to match  
The Golden Used-to-was!

Puck.

## DO NOT FRET.

If you worry when there's trouble,  
You but make the trouble double  
Do not fret.

Bear up bravely, don't cry baby.  
And remember that you may be  
Happy yet.

Sing the blithest songs you know of,  
And await a better throw of  
Fortune's dice.

Hard it may be to be merry.  
But you'll own that this is very  
Good advice!

Do not judge by surface indications. The wearer of a trained dress may herself be very wild.

The production of metal aluminium by electrolysis at a cost little above that of tin is what some French chemists are sanguine of being able to accomplish.

A social innovation in New York city is the "blue ribbon invitation" to dinners, indicating (by a knot of blue ribbon in the lower left-hand corner) that wine will not be served.

AT THE ACADEMY OF DESIGN.—Under a "sketchy little thing" exhibited by Jones, there hangs a printed card which bears the words: "Do not touch with cases or umbrellas." An appreciative small boy added the following post-script: "Take A Axe."

An ambitious young man is present at a discussion of the William Tell my hero a historical society. "Well," observes the young man, when the discussion is concluded, "I should be quite willing never to have existed if I could only have achieved such world wide renown."

"I can't imagine why men's pockets are so easy to get at and women's so hard," he remarked.

"It's plain enough," was her reply. "It's a sign men have no business with a woman's pocket, but a woman has with a man's."

A MORE CIVILIZED METHOD.—"I say, ole chappie," put in Black Thunder, one of Buffalo Bill's Indians as he lit a cigarette, and stood lazily in front of his wigwam, "shut we worst the prisoner or fry him?"

"Worst him," replied his brother brave, three-fingered Pete. "Worst-ing is quite English you know."

One of the most excellent of recent innovations is the introduction of metal ceilings in place of wood and plaster. These ceilings do not shrink or burn like wood, they will not stain, crack or fall off like plaster, but being permanent, durable, fire-proof and ornamental, will eventually supersede both wood and plaster, besides being in the end far more economical than either.

"To venture upon the occasion of sin," says a Christian writer, "and then pray 'Lead us not into temptation,' is the same as to thrust thy finger into the fire and then pray that it may not be burned." If one asks God to protect him against sinful temptation, he must at the same time keep him self from the occasions and circumstances of such temptation. If he does not, there can be no genuine sincerity in his prayer.

AN OBSERVANT YOUTH—"I had to be away from school yesterday," said Tommy.

"You must bring an excuse," said the teacher.

"Who from?"

"Your father."

"He ain't no good at makin' excuses. Ma catches him every time."

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