

CHUCKLES.

Japan boasts of a musical fish. It has musical scales, we suppose.

Strange as it may seem, when money is close it is difficult to get very near it.

Two conceited young authors were boasting that they rowed in the same boat with a celebrated wit of the day. "Ah," replied Jerrold, "but not with the same sculls."

A wine merchant who had made a fortune and retired once remarked: "They accuse me of having a thirst for gold. On the contrary, I have the gold for thirst."

An East End grocer got a new pair of scales and drew large crowds to his store by putting out a sign reading: "Pretty girls given a weigh."—*Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.*

A WEAK FASTER.—A Swiss, who has tried fasting in Brussels, only held out eleven days. A wicked daughter of Eve tempted the Switzer with a plate of piping hot Frankfort sausages, and his fortitude immediately gave way. He wept at his weakness, but he ate voraciously.—*Judy.*

Paterfamilias: "It is remarkable what a large number of doctors claim that diseases are transferred by kissing, and——" Miss Ethel: "What kind of doctors, pa?" "Why, the allopathic doctors." "But, pa, you know, we're homeopaths."

At a lecture on the "Decline of Literature," the eloquent orator shouted: "Where are the Chaucers, and Shakespeares, and Miltons, and Spensers, and Macaulays? Where are they, I say?" And a voice answered sadly from the gallery, "All dead."

A FEMALE NAPOLEON.—Managing Mamma: "Of all things! So you have declined a sleigh-ride with young Mr. Richfellow, when you know he will go right off and invite your rival, Miss Pert." Wise Daughter: "Yes, ma, and I'm just delighted to think that is just what he will do." "You must be crazy! what can be your object?" "I want him to see how horribly red her nose gets in cold weather."—*Tid-Bits.*

"Mr. Peterby, will you please carve the turkey?"

"No, I thank you. The man who carves must either be a fool or rascal, and I don't care to be either."

"What do you mean?"

"If he keeps the choicest portion for himself he is a scoundrel; if he does not keep them he is a fool, and as I said, I don't care to place myself in either category."

ONE CHAIR ENOUGH AT PRESENT.—"Sister Sue and John Henry won't have to spend much money for furniture when they get married," remarked Johnny at the tea table the other evening, when sister Sue's young man was an honored guest.

"Think not, Johnny!" said the fond paternal relative, beaming on the youngster.

"I guess they won't," said Johnny, glancing at the blushing couple with an air of superior wisdom. "Anyhow, one chair's all they need in the parlor now."—*Pittsburg Dispatch.*

A SPECIMEN OF AUSTRALIAN REPORTING.—The following is a cutting from a Queensland paper: "Matthews started on foot, alone, to walk over the range to Thornborough, but, overcome with grief and whiskey, lay down on the banks of the Barron River to sleep. Now, the alligators of the Barron River are both numerous and ferocious. They assimilated Matthews, with the exception of one leg, which was recognized by the boot on it. This, after having been identified, was afforded Christian burial in the Cairns cemetery, the funeral being largely attended. There it still reposes, while the balance of Matthews is wandering about the Barron River as an alligator."

POLLY PARALYZED THEM.—Apropos of parrots, the people who won them and are accustomed to their noises and contradiction are seldom disturbed by them, but it is far otherwise with the unhappy visitor who encounters them. A lady on Jefferson avenue, who owns one of these silly peats was entertaining some callers the other day, when Polly struck into the conversation from her place of ambush. One lady had remarked—

"So glad you were at home to-day, Mrs.——"

"That's a lie!" responded a hoarse voice.

The visitors started, but as their hostess seemed not to notice it, resumed the conversation.

"I saw Mr.—— and told him to!"

"Kiss me! kiss me!" screamed Polly.

"—say that I would call soon."

"You're another! Shut up!" yelled the parrot.

At this juncture the lady of the house observed how disconcerted her guests were, and guessing at the cause, dragged Polly into sight. The mischievous bird did not utter another word until the ladies rose to leave, when they were most affectionate and profuse in their farewells. Polly balanced rapidly from one foot to the other, gave a series of smacks, and in a tone of complete disgust croaked, "You make me sick!"

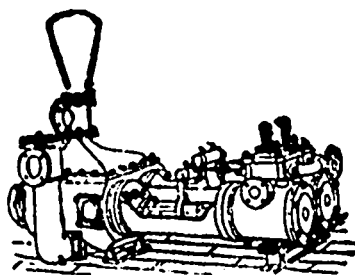
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