

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

SORROWS OF WERTHER.

"Werther had a love for Charlotte
Such as words could never utter;
Would you know how first he met her—
She was cutting bread and butter

Charlotte was a married lady,
And a moral man was Werther,
And, for all the wealth of India,
Would do nothing for to hurt her.

So he sighed and pined and ogled,
And his passion boiled and bubbled,
Till he blew his silly brains out,
And no more was by it troubled.

Charlotte, having seen his body
Borne before her on a shutter,
Like a well-conducted person
Went on cutting bread and butter."

"I have been in a country," said a Nebraska preacher, "where the hand of man has never set a foot."

"I can't understand all this fuss about using electricity for executions," remarked Judge Lynch of Kansas, reflectively. "Out in our section we have used the telegraph pole for years."

Of all charities mere money giving is the least; sympathy, kind words, gentle judgement, a friendly pressure of weary hands, an encouraging smile, will frequently outweigh a mint of coins.

Johnny had been carefully brought up; anybody could see that. One day he sat upon his father's knee in a crowded steamer. A lady entered. "Madam," said he, as he rose to his feet, "take my seat."

In England young men speak of their father as "the governor," "pater," the "overseer," etc. In America they say "dad," "the boss," or "the old man." In heathen countries they say "father," but they are a long way behind the age.

At Lady Roseberry's dinner, where every one appeared in uniform or court dress, Mr. Browning, being a university dignitary, arrayed himself in a university robe. When the Shah saw him, supposing him to be in allegorical dress, he remarked, "*Ah, vous êtes poesie!*"

Mistress (a very kind-hearted one): "Did you drown the kittens as I directed, Marie?" Marie: "Oui, madame." "Did you warm the water?" "Non, madame." "What? do you mean to tell me that you drowned those poor little kittens in ice-cold water? You cruel girl."

Alfred—"Going to the Paris Exhibition, old man?" Algernon—"No, dear boy, cawn't countenance revolution even ahtah a hundwed yeahs." Alfred—"But Wales went." Algernon—"Yaas; but Wales's tone isn't what it was. Look at his daughter's mawriage."—*Munsey's Weekly*.

The Zoological Society of France has noticed with alarm that the swallows returning from Africa have this year avoided their accustomed landing places, and have flown to other parts of Europe, east or west, evidently to avoid the many traps set for them on the low-lying French coast. The slaughter of the birds for Parisian milliners has been enormous for several years.

Books were scarce in Puritan days and perhaps that is the reason that the writers make the most of the titles, using such choice ones as "A reaping hook well tempered for the stubborn ears of the coming crop, or biscuits baked in the oven of charity, carefully conserved for the chickens of the church, the sparrows of the spirit, and the sweet swallows of salvation;" "A pair of bellows to blow off the dust cast upon John Fry."

The circle around the moon, or lunar rainbow, shows the presence of moisture in the air. Moisture at a high altitude produces a large bow and at a low altitude a small bow. The smaller the bow, therefore, the nearer the moisture, and consequently the sooner will the storm develop. The old saying that the number of stars to be seen inside the circle indicates the number of days before the arrival of the storm is not reliable, as the position of the moon in the heavens may make the number great or small without regard to storm conditions. All attempts at predicting the weather for months in advance are mere guesswork.

"I call them aristocratic pests," said Mrs. Slick, "and nothing will cure them but good flea soap and hot water. Now my pups are always scratchin' of themselves in hot weather, but I gives them a bath tubbin' and soapin', and it obliterates the critters. One day there was a visitor from the country, she got terribly bothered with these enterprisin' pests, and she was forever making herself out to get rid of them; but when I recommended her a tryin' flea sop, she just flew up mad, and said, I ought to know better than to keep a pair of curs as brought the critters about, and th t flea soap might do for them, but for her part she'd leave the house and go board with some respectable folk that didn't harbor flea hatcheries, and didn't offer decent folk a dog soap bath. And," said Mrs. Slick, "she left, and now she cuts me dead, all because I recommended a sure cure. Why, if she'd had rheumatism I would have suggested a pannaseer, but some folks is cracked, and loses their tempers for nothin' at all."

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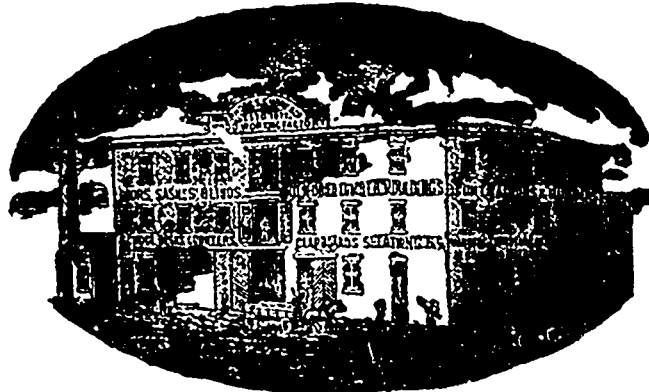
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