

## CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

"Distance lends enchantment to the view" after the honeymoon.

The best way to keep a young lady's affections is to return them.

The Rev. Dr. Lunsdell, the English traveller, has recently distributed nearly 60,000 Bibles in Siberia.

A student of human nature says anything can be sharpened. Put a lead pencil in a woman's hand and see.

"Doctor," said a friend, stopping him on the street, "what do you take for a heavy cold?" "A fee," replied the doctor, softly, and passed on.

A young lady of middle age and prepossessing manner, wishes an engagement as general help in a family where the woman of the house does her own washing, cooking, sweeping, and chamber work. Good references acquired from last help.

They were disputing about something or other, when Mrs. Fogg impatiently exclaimed: "Oh, well, sir, you have your way. You always were an off horse." "Yes, my dear," replied Fogg, "an off horse, you know, is always on the right side."

"My dear," he whispered softly, as they seated themselves on the toboggan, "If, on the way down, I should ask you to be my wife, what would you say?" "What would you do if I should refuse?" she whispered back. "I should have to let you slide," he simply said.—*Harper's Bazaar.*

**A RECOMMENDATION.**—Dealer (pointing out beauties of a vicious-looking animal with ears back and hind leg suspiciously lifted): "There, sir, he's a beauty! Not another to touch him! You just ride him once, an' you'll never ride another." Little Tipkins, who is very nervous, thinks this is uncommonly likely, from the look of him.

**SUPERSTITIOUS.**—A Spanish bandit, charged with a countless number of murders, was found covered with sacred relics, crucifixes, and images of the Virgin when taken. This gentleman's piety was so great that he made it a rule never to cut a throat on Friday, or shoot a person whose relatives failed to stump up ransom-money without saying a prayer before doing so.—*Fun.*

There is some reason for the admiration generally felt for blue eyes. A connoisseur in eyes states that nine-tenths of the railroad men, pilots and others who are selected for their keenness and correctness of vision, have blue eyes. Brown eyes are beautiful. Gray eyes usually denote intelligence, and hazel eyes a talent for music. The commonest color of eyes is gray and the rarest violet.

Two correspondents have called our attention to a mistake which appeared in our "Chit-Chat" column two weeks ago. Lord Elgin's name was John Scott, not John Clark, as published by us. Lord Elgin was one of the wittiest noblemen of his day, and was a man of marked ability, having successfully filled the positions of Chief Justice, Attorney General, and Lord Chancellor. Not being infallible, we are glad to have our subscribers correct any errors that we may make inadvertently or through ignorance.

**MIKE'S WATCH.**—"Paddy, honey, will ye buy my watch?" "What's the price?" "Ten shillings, and a nutchin of the cratur." "Is the watch a decent one?" "Shure, and I've had it twenty years, and it niver once desaved me." "Well, here's yer tin, and now tell me, does it go well?" "It goes fuster than any watch in Connaught, Munster, Ulster, or Leinster, not barrin' Dublin." "Bad luko to ye, Mike, then ye've taken me in! Didn't ye say it niver desaved ye?" "Sure and I did—nor did it—for I never depinded on it."—*English Paper.*

Gold is shipped across the ocean in "specie kegs," made of extra hard wood with an extra iron hoop, each bag containing \$5,000. In the interests of security, each keg is treated to what is technically known among the skippers as the "red taping" process. At each end of the keg, in the projecting rim of the staves above the head, are bored four holes, at equidistant intervals. A piece of red tape is run through these holes, crossing on the head of the keg, and the ends finally meeting in the centre. At the point of meeting the tape is sealed to the keg's head by wax bearing the stamp of the shipper.

Could we but utilize all the water power lifted from the ocean by the sunbeams and wafted by the zephyrs over the land, what vast factories might be run. What magnified Niagaras might we create. In a recent paper to the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Mr. John Murray sought to give the world's rainfall in figures. The areas of country having an inland drainage, equal to 11,486,350 square miles, receive 2,243 cubic miles of rain yearly. The total areas draining directly to the ocean equal 44,241,000 square miles, of which 38,829,750 square miles have more than ten inches of annual rainfall, and discharge into the sea 6,569 cubic miles of water each year. By these means rather more than 5,000,000,000 tons of solids are carried to the ocean annually.

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