

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

WAITING.

When over hedges green and blossoms yellow
The sunlight throws a shadow dark and long.
When birds skim low across the daisied meadow
And still the mellow cadence of their song—

When breezes lightly lift the nodding clover,
And whisper in the awaying of the leaves
When rosy clouds are hazy o'er the hill top,
And evening for the dying daylight grieves

Then do I listen for my loved one's coming,
My heart wild beating as the moments pass;
Then do I watch and wait in silent longing
To hear his footstep on the dewy grass.

Then does the small boy saunter up the roadway,
A letter waving as he nears the gate;
Then do I read that same old chestnut message,
"Detained again—will not be home till late."

Woman is said to be a mere delusion, but it is sometimes pleasant to hug delusions.

Young ladies at the breaking up of a party are like arrows—they can't go off without a beau, and are in a quiver 'till they get one.

A farmer who saw his family arrayed in dashy, new hats, exclaimed—
"There go my wife and daughters with 30 bushels of oats apiece on their heads!"

"May I marry you next, Mrs. Hoggo." "I'm engaged, Mr. Band, for my next four divorces, but I'll put you down as the fifth, if you like."
"Thanks."

Chicago boasts that she outranks Boston as a literary centre on the ground that a mixture of pork and beans is more conducive to literary growth than beans alone.

Critics are forever puzzling themselves over the motive of the last new play or new book. The motive is generally apparent enough; it is to gain money or to win fame for the author, or both.

Aluminum is coming into use as a material for dental plates. It is light, has neither odor nor taste, is not affected by food or the secretions of the mouth, and costs about one-sixth as much as silver.

In Chicago husbands are said to be so fearful of curtain lectures that they add to their announcements of future movements the letters "W. P.," which, being interpreted, mean "Wife Permitting."

Lightning struck a gilt angel over the sign of a saloon keeper in Chicago the other night. That lightning must have struck an angel unawares. It certainly could not have been looking for angels in Chicago.

An infant was crying frothfully in his mother's arms in a street car the other day, when she turned to a man at her side with the request: "Wud yo please look cross at him, sor; he'll think it's his father, and kape him a still."

There is a certain little girl in this city who was being instructed by her teacher not long since in regard to the different rulers of the world. She was told that in Europe the people are governed by Kings and Queens. "And now," asked the teacher, "who governs the people in this country?" The little girl looked up into the teacher's face and answered earnestly and promptly "Knaves."

Chicago editor—See here sir; this won't do. You refer to the lamented Mr. Greatman of Chicago as having been "gathered to his fathers."

Now man (from the east)—It is a Biblical term, sir, and I have seen it used in Philadelphia.

Chicago editor—It won't do here. Mr. Greatman's mother was divorced and re-married half a-dozen times, and it might look like a reflection on the family.

SALUTATIONS.—English—"How do you do?" French—"How do you carry yourself?" Italian—"How do you stand?" German—"How do you find yourself?" Dutch—"How do you fare?" Swedish—"How can you!" Egyptian—"How do you perspire?" Chinese—"How is your stomach—Have you eaten your rice?" Polish—"How do you have yourself?" Russian—"How do you live on?" Persian—"May thy shadow never grow less." Irish—"Top o' the morning to ye!" The Nigger—"Can't you gib me somethin'?"

THE BLUEBIRD'S ANCESTRY.—Our bluebird is, no doubt, a modified thrush; that is, its ancestor in the remote past was doubtless of the thrush family. One evidence of this is the fact that the young of the bluebird has a speckled breast like the thrush; and Darwin established the principle that peculiar markings or traits confined to the youth of any species are an inheritance from early progenitors. In addition to this, I have noted in the song of the female bluebird—one of a pair that for two seasons have built near me—a distinct note of the thrush. Whenever I hear the voice of the bird it reminds me of that of a certain thrush—the olive backed.—John Burroughs in *St Nicholas* for August.

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