

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

A COMFORTER.

Vex'd with the trials of a dismal day,  
I sat me down to rail at God and man,  
To pour into a bitter venom'd lay  
All vile anathema, a curse, a ban.  
Hope seem'd to stumble on her weary way,  
And a dark purpose like a river ran  
Through my sad soul. But how, O friend, I pray,  
Can one long murmur at the ordained plan,  
When to the haven of his arms there slips  
A baby laughter robs i in snowy white,  
Who with love's prattle on her infant lips  
Has come to kiss and bid me sweet good-night,  
And whispers, cuddling close her precious head,  
"I'm sleepy, papa; come, put me to bed!"

—BY ROBERT LOVEMAN.

The swallow is a bird of easy flight. That is why a man is flighty when he has taken several swallows.

"There's a great art," says Mickey Mason, "in knowing what not to know when yez don't want to know it."

What is the difference between a boy and a very pretty bennet? One becomes a man and the other becomes a woman.

When a boy begins to wash his neck without being told, it is a sign he is passing into the ordeal of his first love affair.

Lary—"Still waiting for your ship to come in, eh?" Weary—"Oh, they've come. Whole fleet of 'em. All hardships."

The young woman who marries a dissipated young man with the idea of reforming him is liable to have her hands full as well as her husband.

The summer girl, half scornful turns  
From preachers' strong behests.  
For where it's warmest well she knows  
She always looks her best.

Dressmaker—"Miss Fussbudget, will you have your dress cut with a train?" Miss Fussbudget—"Yes; but for goodness' sake." Lave it an accommodation."

Schoolgirl—"P'ease, teacher, Willie Winkles kissed me at recess to-day." Aged teacher—"Send him to me at once." "Why, teacher, I didn't know you kissed!"

I grieve for the vanished days of yore,  
When a barefooted boy I ran about,  
And we played upon the rocky shore  
And over the fence was out!

"He's a great editor, isn't he?" said one reporter to another. "I should say so. Why he gets so used to saying we that he often puts two fares in the street car ticket-box."

Another French Scandal.—"I say there is trouble in France over President Carnot's visit to Nancy," said Mr. Snuggs.

"No wonder," replied Mrs. Snuggs; "what does Mrs. Carnot think about it?"

"Jenni," said the young woman fiercely, "I'm never going to have anything to do with another church fair." "Why not?" "All the young men are over at the dining-table betting on who will get the oyster. Isn't it scandalous?"

DISAPPOINTMENT.

She planted in a wooden box some dainty mignonette,  
And placed it in the window where the sun was ever bright;  
Alas! when time transplanting came, she found, to her regret,  
A lovely crop of summer squash, the pleaman's fond delight.

"What do you think of that artist who painted cobwebs on his ceiling so truthfully that the hired girl wore herself into an attack of nervous prostration trying to sweep them down?" "There may have been such an artist, but never such a hired girl."

HIS LITTLE SONG.

Upon her point lace handkerchief  
He would he'd write a sonnet,  
And then he bore it off in glee  
And got five dollars on it.

The man who won the prize offered by an English paper for the best definition of money put it thus: "An article which may be used as a universal passport to everywhere except Heaven, and as a universal provider of everything except happiness."

Breathes there the maid with soul so dead  
Who never to herself hath said,  
"I'll buy before I go to bed  
A bonnet with a streamer?"  
If such there breathe go mark her well,  
She never will be voted "swell,"  
And nothing can redeem her.  
Her father may a plumber be,  
Her yearning for "society"  
May fiercer grow each minute,  
In vain; for her no bails and teas,  
But scornful smiles and looks that freeze  
Proclaim that she is not "in it."

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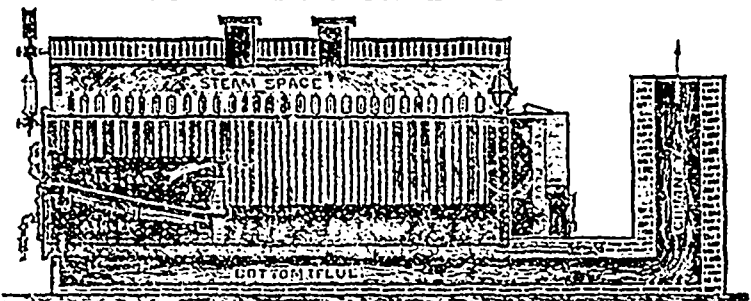
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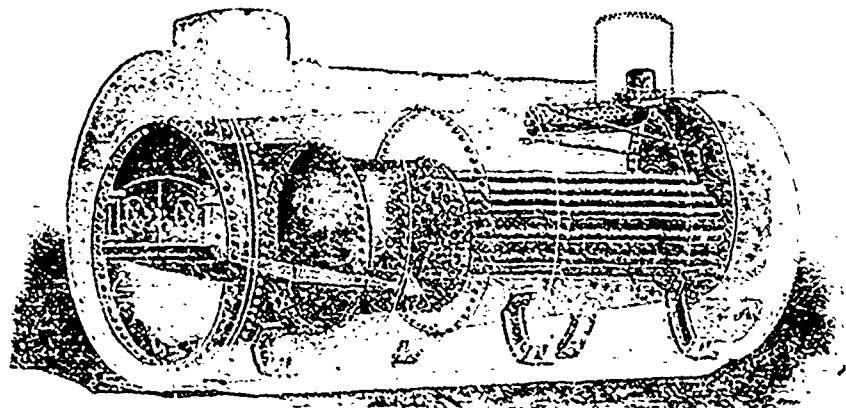
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