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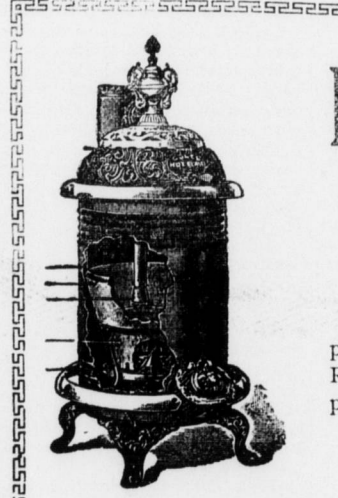
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GOOD HORSEMANSHIP.

An Old Hunter's Illustration of the Gift of "Hands."

Your heart and your head keep up. Your hands and your knees keep down. Your knees keep close to your horse's side.

And your elbows to your own. This old bit of advice for the would-be horseman is quoted by a writer in *Bally's Magazine* and declared to be perennially sound.

He quotes another old hunter on the subject of what he calls "the divine gift of hands" in riding. This old hunter, John Darley, used to attach two pieces of twine to the back of an ordinary chair and draw the same tighter until the chair balanced on its fore or hind legs, according to his own position.

Then when balanced he would keep it, so to speak, on the swing by gently manipulating the twine or reins he held in his hand. A rough pull would, of course, have upset the chair one way, whereas the fact of not checking it in its movements at all would have caused a total loss of control over it in the opposite direction.

"And that," when the exhibition was concluded he would add, "is hands, gentlemen."

Jogging to the covert, continues the writer, you may notice one fine horse, the owner fully equipped, throwing its head up and down like a pump handle, another sweating profusely, although the pace has not exceeded five miles an hour since it left the stable, and a third snorting and prancing about all over the place.

Why is this so? Simply because the rider of neither of them is possessed with the divine gift of "hands."

THE BEE'S STING.

An Ugly Weapon Something Like a Three Bladed Sword.

The bee's sting is made up of three separate lances, each with a barbed edge and each capable of being thrust forward independently of the others.

The central and broader lance has a hollow face furnished at each side with a rail or beading, which runs its whole length. On the back of each of the other two lances there is a longitudinal groove, and into these grooves fit the raised beadings of the central lance.

Thus the sting is like a sword with three blades—united, but sliding upon one another—the barbed points of which continue to advance alternately into the wound, going ever deeper and deeper of their own malice aforesaid after the initial thrust is made. It is a device of war compared to which the explosive bullet is but a clumsy brutality. Yet this is not all.

To make its death dealing powers doubly sure this thorough minded amazon must fill the haft of her triple blade with a subtle poison and so contrive its sliding mechanism that the same impulse which drives the points successively forward drenches the whole weapon with a fatal juice.—From "The Lore of the Honey Bee," by Tiekner Edwardes.

The Fickle Shopper.

"That woman always keeps me guessing," said the grocery clerk as she went out. "I never can tell till the last minute what she is going to buy. Just now she priced the coffee. I gave her the prices—25 cents, 28, 30, 35, 40."

"Is your twenty-five cent coffee any good?" she asked me.

"Yes," said I; "bang up."

"Then," said she, "give me a pound of your forty cent, ground fine."

—New York Press.

Probably Not.

"I hate to be poor. Now, a millionaire can walk right in and order what he wants without bothering about the price."

"He can," stated the weary salesman, "but he seldom does."—Kansas City Journal.

Every Morning.

Paul, at the age of four, was asked one morning by his papa, "What is the name of the first meal of the day?"

"Oatmeal," responded little Paul promptly.—Exchange.

Blunders of the Types.

Ever since the introduction of type-setting errors, weird or comical, have emanated from printers' offices. The mistakes are not always to be shouldered on to the compositor, for bad handwriting must be taken into account. Here are a few instances of actual blunders collected by a proof-reader in the course of his daily work.

"His blushing bride" was transformed into "his blustering bride."

A major was stated to have "died with destruction in the war." The writer thought he used "destruction" in the sense of a picture entitled "Slave."

"The Galley I Love" was a translation of a picture entitled "Slave."

Speaking of theatrical folk a writer wrote that "nearly all have husbands or wives." The paragraph printed read "hundreds of wives."

"They sailed for three days around the cape and finally slaughtered a small Italian" should have been "sighted a small island."

One more in conclusion. "He takes delight in talking on his family shame" was a shameful thing to say when "favorite theme" was meant.

A Three Legged Bison.

In 1867 Small Eyes, a Blackfoot who had come down from the north and joined the Arapahoes and lived with them, told Black Kettle, a Cheyenne in George Bent's lodge, about having killed, between the Cimarron and Beaver creek, a tributary of the north fork of the Canadian, a buffalo bull which had only one hind leg. According to Small Eyes' story, it did not appear that the bull had lost one of its hind legs, but rather that it never had had more than one. The hind leg was very large, seemed to be in the middle of the body instead of at one side, and there was no sign of any missing leg. It looked as if the two hind legs which the buffalo ordinarily has had in some way fused together.

The war party with which Small Eyes was traveling was passing along near a hollow when the bull came up out of it, and some of the men ran ahead, got around it and shot it with a gun. It was not able to run fast, but rather hobbled along.—Forest and Stream.

Saved by a Photograph.

A very remarkable incident occurred at Rio de Janeiro.

A passenger on board one of the large liners took a photograph of the harbor. It included a small yacht which had sailed in the morning with two men in her, but returned in the evening with one only. The survivor said his companion had fallen overboard, but his statement was not believed. He was tried and sentenced to death. The matter had by this time come to the ears of the photographer, who remembered that the picture had been taken on the day of the "crime" (or accident) and that the scene embraced a yacht. On examining the print more carefully he noticed a small speck on the sail and in order to determine what it was had an enlargement made. It proved to be the figure of a man falling. It was shown to the authorities at once, and the condemned man was released.

Dropsical Oysters.

With a smiler the oyster opener pointed to a brownish smear upon a Saddle Rock shell.

"Some fool," said he, "has been trying to fatten up a batch of Saddle Rocks with cornmeal. You might as well try to invigorate flowers with corned beef hash. But it is a common error to believe that cornmeal or oatmeal will fatten oysters. I continually find oysters with their shells stained with those grains. It makes me laugh. As a matter of fact, there is no such thing as fattening oysters. All you can do is swell them up with water, precisely the same as water swells a sponge. You put them in fresh water, which, being less dense than the soft they are accustomed to, by the principle of osmosis penetrates and distends their tissues—gives them, as you might say, dropsy. For my part, I don't like fattened oysters."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

For a Bride's Dowry.

There is a very pretty custom in some of the northern parts of Europe. There the white poplar in good soil increases a shilling in value every year. The trees are generally cut down at the age of twenty years, as they are then supposed to have attained their full growth. When a daughter is born in the family of a well-to-do farmer the father as soon as the season permits plants a thousand young trees, and those are to constitute the dowry of the maiden, "which grow as she grows and increases in height and value as her virtues and beauty increase."

Out to Work.

"What society needs is a clearing house."

"What do you mean?"

"I wish I didn't have to go to the Van Squawks' ball next week. The Van Squawks wish they didn't have to ask me. Why can't we exchange certificates and call the thing even?"

—Kansas City Journal.

Why He Darked.

A witness in an Irish court talked so loud that Charles Phillips, who was counsel on the other side, said, "Fellow, why do you bark so furiously?"

"Because," said the man, looking hard at Phillips, "I think I see a thief!"

Retribution.

Tommy-Pop, what is retribution? Tommy's Pop—Retribution, my son, is something that we are sure will eventually overtake other people.—Philadelphia Record.

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