

Trick Elephants.

How They are Trained.

The London Spectator gives the following account of the process of training African elephants in Alexandria Park, near London.

"The janitor's elephant is selected to have his lesson first, and comes shuffling down to the ring in his heavy trot; the occasion is quite a private one, but there is a Nabian looking on, who has learned the English method of applying, and he softly claps his black palms together as the pupil untangles himself in his rope to begin with, and feels up Mr. Felix's sleeve for consolation in the shape of carrots. He does not get them at this stage of the proceedings, but he knows they are coming, and it is very funny to observe him, in the midst of his lesson, twitching his trunk in some new direction, which it suddenly occurs to him to explore, and then he resumes his studies as if he had not had a momentary distraction.

He weighs seven hundredweight at present, and if he can only be kept from injurious food and indigestible diseases will grow to ten feet high, it is expected, and furnish a remarkable refutation of the general notion that African elephants cannot be highly trained. They are not, indeed, equal to the Indian elephants in intelligence; one has only to look at their "brain box" to see that; but the four little elephants, all newly come into Mr. Felix's hands, are making rapid progress under the system of kindness, patience, praise, reward and no knock about. "Come, my baby! That's a fine boy! Ah, bravo, bravo; you are a beauty! Fine boy! beautiful boy!" Such are the phrases, perpetually repeated, which encourage the big little animal as he climbs on a wooden pedestal, lifts one clumsy leg after another, is manhandled by a gentle tap of his teacher's stick—never used to frighten him—or turns his lumbering body in the vase which, when he is perfect in the accomplishment, will be baited with peculiar delight by the pupil.

The value is a performance which the little elephants learn very readily. They are at first held by one huge, flapping ear, and turned by the teacher, whose steps they follow—The movement comes easily to them; after two or three lessons, they need only to have the stick held on the side from which they are to turn; a few more, and the wave of the teacher's hand in the required direction is enough. Three of Mr. Felix's pupils are as yet not sufficiently advanced to appear in public; it was most interesting to see how they took in the idea of what was required of them, and to hear him praise them when they succeeded in doing what he indicated. He never lets them be tired; and observes them so closely that when the clever little black elephant was coming on finely in the act of rolling a barrel with his fore foot—it was delightful to see his satisfaction when he discerned what he was to do, and that his hind feet were to keep clear of the barrel—Mr. Felix stopped the lesson at once on seeing him begin to tremble.

Good marks in the circus school translate themselves into jumps of sugar and chunks of carrots, and had crept into the observant's mind about the self-respect which the little pupil ought to feel, but does not. One of Mr. Felix's pupils is still very tight; the voyage to this unaccustomed crime, and at first he would not let any one approach him; but he is a promising youngster now, and lends his bark-like neck to a friendly scratch with much affability. On one of these animals is to be seen a scar or "prod," the "no knocking about" system is to be traced in their bodies and in their manners, and they look for their rewards—ad dressed to their stomachs—with cheerful confidence. One of them, the nervous one, had an anxious and puzzled look during a portion of his lesson; but reiterated assurances of his bravery, his beauty, and his babyhood, induced him to "perk up" as the nurses say, wonderfully.

Sea Wonders.

A long way from here, in the South Sea, rises a narrow ridge out of the fathomless ocean. Coconut trees grow on the ridge, and little lizards creep here and there. Far and wide no coast nor land. Who can tell who built that ridge, and planted those trees in the boundless ocean? Ah! it is a strange story, as there are so many in Nature's book—Hundreds of years ago little fish, industrious insects called corals lived there—they had many whips and fancies. They did not like to build in the midst of the surge, and they died when exposed to sun and air. After they had built some they stopped, for they were afraid of sun and air. They came an earthquake, of which there are so many in the South Sea, and the coral ground sank by degrees, and the coral continued building again, and went on and on till a volcano convulsed the bottom of the sea, and the reef was raised over the surface of the deep waters, and the tiny coral in deep waters, and the waves broke off bits of the reef, and the constant friction ground them into sand and sand. A wave carried a stray seed, and it took root in the sand and grew—Years passed, and one day a large wave washed an old trunk of a tree on the reef. When it had laid there a few days two little lizards crept out of it. They had traveled more than a thousand miles, and had a very long sleep. They made their home in the roots of the coconut trees that had grown, meanwhile, out of the seed. Soon there were plenty of coconut trees and lizards on the reef, and this is the story of the trees and the little lizards.—Es-

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—Letters of administration on the estate of LENA YAGER, late of Monroe Township, Pa., deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, all persons knowing of any claims against said estate are requested to present them duly authenticated for settlement to the undersigned at his office, on or before the 15th day of August, 1873.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—Letters of administration on the estate of LEVI WILSON, late of Union Township, Snyder County, Pa., deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, all persons knowing of any claims against said estate will please make immediate application to the undersigned, who is authorized to receive and pay the same, on or before the 15th day of August, 1873.

PRIVATE SALE OF VALUABLE PROPERTY.—THE undersigned will sell his late residence situated on Main Street, the Borough of Millersburg, Snyder County, Pa. This is a desirable property and was formerly known as the RAYLE HOTEL. The improvements comprise a LARGE DOUBLE FRAME HOUSE, SUMMER HOUSE, LARSEN SHED, ICE HOUSE, and other outbuildings. An excellent well of water at the door. It is suitable for a private dwelling or a Hotel, and located near the center of business. For further particulars call on or address

J. W. OWENS, Watonsville, North Co., Pa. Aug. 21, 1873.

VALUABLE PROPERTY AT PRIVATE SALE.—THE undersigned offers the following described property at private sale, to-wit: A certain lot of land, situate in the Township of Union, Snyder County, Pa., containing about 100 acres, more or less, bounded by the Township of Union, Snyder County, Pa., on the north and east, by the Township of Union, Snyder County, Pa., on the south and west, and by the Township of Union, Snyder County, Pa., on the north and east, and by the Township of Union, Snyder County, Pa., on the south and west.

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F. J. R. ZELLER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Centreville, Snyder County, Penna.

CHARLES HOWER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Selingsgrove, Pa.

SEPH MITCHELL, Justice of the Peace & Conveyancer, Centreville, Snyder County, Penna.

THE CRESOFT, 1873, A. S. HELFRICH, Beaver Springs, Pa.

FIXED UPON NOTICE.—Letters of administration on the estate of LEONARD H. HUGHES, late of Snyder County, Pa., deceased, have been granted to the undersigned, all persons knowing of any claims against said estate will please make immediate application to the undersigned, who is authorized to receive and pay the same, on or before the 15th day of August, 1873.

JOHN K. HUGHES, Esq., JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, Penn Twp., Snyder Co., Pa.

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