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WOLVES FEAR IRON.
 A Piece of the Metal Will Keep the
 Animals From Any Carcass.

In the early days wolves were comparatively unsuspecting, and it was easy to trap or poison them. Then new knowledge, a better comprehension of the modern dangers, seemed to spread among the wolves. They learned how to detect and defy the traps and poison, and in some way the knowledge was passed from one to another till all wolves were fully possessed of the information. How this is done is not easy to say. It is easier to prove that it is done. Few wolves ever got into a trap, fewer still got into a trap and out again, and thus they learn that a steel trap is a thing to be feared. And yet all wolves have the knowledge, as every trapper knows, and since they could not get it at first hand they must have got it second hand—that is, the information was communicated to them by others of their kind.

It is well known among hunters that a piece of iron is enough to protect any carcass from the wolves. If a deer or antelope has been shot and is to be left out overnight, all that is needed for its protection is an old horseshoe, a spur or even any part of the hunter's dress. No wolf will go near such suspicious looking or human tainted things. They will starve rather than approach the carcass so guarded.

With poison a similar change has come about. Strychnine was considered infallible when first it was introduced. It did vast destruction for a time, then the wolves seemed to discover the danger of that particular small and would no longer take the poisoned bait, as I know from numberless experiences.

It is thoroughly well known among the gentlemen now that the only chance of poisoning wolves is in the late summer and early autumn, when the young are beginning to run with the mother. She cannot watch over all of them the whole time, and there is a chance of some of them finding the bait and taking it before they have been taught to let that sort of small thing alone.

The result is that wolves are on the increase. They have been, indeed, since the late eighties. They have returned to many of their old hunting grounds in the cattle countries, and each year they seem to be more numerous and more widely spread, thanks to their mastery of the new problems forced upon them by civilization.—Ernest Thompson Seton in American Magazine.

SELF RELIANCE.

The Lesson That Was Taught to Henry Ward Beecher.

Henry Ward Beecher used to tell this story of the way in which his teacher of mathematics taught him to depend upon himself:
 "I was sent to the blackboard and went, uncertain, full of whimpering. 'That lesson must be learned,' said my teacher in a very quiet tone, but with a terrible intensity. All explanations and excuses he trod underfoot with utter scornfulness. 'I want that problem. I don't want any reasons why you haven't it,' he would say. 'I did study two hours.'
 "That's nothing to me. I want the lesson. You need not study it at all or you may study it ten hours. Just to suit yourself. I want the lesson."
 "It was tough for a green boy, but it seasoned me. In less than a month I had the most intense sense of intellectual independence and courage to defend my convictions.

"One day his cold calm voice fell upon me in the midst of a demonstration. 'No!'
 "I hesitated and then went back to the beginning, and on reaching the same point again 'No!' uttered in a tone of conviction, barred my progress. 'The next!' And I sat down in red confusion.
 "He, too, was stopped with 'No!' but went right on, flushed, and as he sat down was rewarded with 'Very well!'
 "Why, whimpered I. 'I recited it just as he did and you said 'No!'
 "Why didn't you say 'Yes' and stick to it? It is not enough to know your lesson—you must know that you know it. You have learned nothing till you are sure. If all the world says 'No!' your business is to say 'Yes' and prove it."

Riding Backward.
 To be comfortable in summer, always ride with your back toward the engine. Your eyes miss all the smoke and cinders. Insist that the porter take your berth with your pillow toward the engine. This will drive your blood to your feet and keep them warm, winter and summer, and your head cool—which is one of the familiar rules of health, handed down from our forefathers. In case of accident you go in headforemost.—New York Press.

LISTENING.

Its Importance in the Art of Acting on the Stage.

The reason why listening plays a part of such paramount value on the stage is that if an actor is not deeply interested in what is going on in the public world in which he has been cast he cannot look for any real interest on the part of his audience, and the only way in which he can denote that interest is by the intensity with which he listens to everything that has any bearing whatever on his life and actions and the skill with which he expresses the feelings bred of what he hears.

Listening is an art that is not properly taught in the schools in which modern actors are trained, for while voice culture has the place of high honor that it deserves in the curriculum of every academy on Broadway, if you ask either teacher or pupil about the still more important business of listening the chances are that you will receive no reply save a wondering shake of the head.

So much has been said about "temperament," "mentality," "facial expression" and "personality" that it is a very easy matter for a schoolgirl to persuade herself that she has in her the makings of a great actress. All she needs is what she calls a "few lessons."

One young woman, indeed, told me that she had been studying the art of expressing various emotions by means of a series of contortions of visage, all more or less hideous to behold, but that she had not been taught anything about listening. In short, although she had learned how to make her various emotional grimaces it had never occurred to her that unless she could show cause for these curious expressions of joy or grief or rage or whatever they were called in her "Complete Handbook of Acting" her audience would not understand what she was driving at. But if she had been taught to listen with a natural interest and attention the emotions called forth by what she heard would be certain to betray themselves convincingly on her face. Like many another unfortunate, this deluded young woman had begun to learn at the wrong end and had been taught the effect, not the cause, of emotion.—Scribner's Magazine.

EVILS OF ALCOHOL.

Gems From an English Primary School Examination.

A paper published in Yorkshire, England, reports that some 6,000 children of Gateshead were recently required to do essays on "Physical Deterioration and Alcohol," as tots in the primary schools of this part of the world may now toss off brochures on "Variations in the Epithelium Cells in Invertebrates, Marsupials and Plantigrades." These Gateshead children had valuable thoughts to contribute to the temperance movement. The Yorkshire paper goes the length of publishing some of the gems brought out in this outpouring of infantile sapience. Here are a few of same:

"Alcohol is useful," says one of them, being most exquisitely pithy, "but not in the body. It is useful for polishing furniture."
 "I hope I shall never touch it until I am dead," says another, and we wish him luck.
 "A man who takes alcoholic drinks can see two things at once."
 "The children of drunkards are often weak and are sometimes troubled with being bowlegged"—truly an irritating affliction.

"Those who take drink are not so broad chested as they were 100 years ago." How true!
 "When a man is ill the doctor will say 'Are you a drinker of alcohol?' and if he says 'yes,' the doctor will say, 'That is what has made you ill; you have a fatty liver!'"
 "The more temporary we live the better it will be for body and mind."
 "Some people say that if you want to speak at a concert you should take a glass of beer before. You should not. It is certain that it makes you speak, but you speak a heap of rubbish."

"When a man gets drunk his brains will not telegraph properly."
 "I will finish up with a piece of poetry I have made up myself:
 "Never be a drunkard;
 Never touch the gin;
 Always be teetotal,
 And you're sure to win."
 —Boston Transcript.

Livingstone's Vanity.

The Victoria falls of the Zambezi river, in southeastern Africa, form the largest cataract in the world. They were discovered in 1855 by Dr. Livingstone, the great missionary and explorer, and were found to be twice as high and three times as broad as Niagara. Carved upon a tree near by the initials "D. L." are still discernible, and in his book the missionary confesses that this was the one occasion in his life when he was guilty of this form of vanity. These initials are carefully preserved by the officials of the British South Africa company, to whom they were pointed out by the native who saw them carved.

His Present.

"What do you think? My wife's father told me before we got married that he would give me a handsome present on our wedding day."
 "And didn't he?"
 "Well, I waited over a week, and as he didn't mention the subject I asked him for it, and all he said was, 'Why didn't I give you my daughter?'"

Ready For Anything.

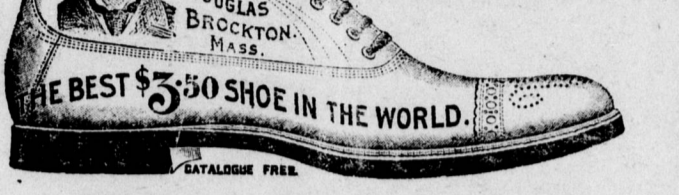
"She used to say she would never marry until the ideal man proposed."
 "Yes?"
 "Yes. But she's dropped the 'ideal' now."—Philadelphia Press.

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