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the truss of the future."

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HARDY WILD PONIES.

HOW THEY ARE CAPTURED AND TAMED ON SABLE ISLAND.

The Little Animals Are Toughened by the Severity of the Winters and Their Struggle to Procure Food-A Master Stellion Leads Each Gang.

Nature has thickened the coats of the wild pontes of Sable island and given the bair on them almost a woolly tendoney. During the summer they fatten on the succulent grasses, and the first half of the winter they fairly hold their own, but the cold northeast winds and snows of March and April, when the polar ice surrounds the island, drive them clustering under the lee of the sand dunes, where they stay till too weak and chilled to move about in search of the scanty nonrishment,

A year ago, after a ten days' stormy,

sleepy spell, no less than six dead ani-mals were found buddled in a nook behind some sand hills. During the winter of 1894, 64 wild ponies died from exposure and natural causes. Of course where there are several hundred horses—or people—no matter how well cared for, there will be a number of deaths. So we cannot put the whole 64 deaths down to "exposure and starvation." That winter began with 400 wild ponies on the island, and it was what the staff there called a "hard winter."

The sand permeating their food emses the teeth to wear away rapidly, so that old age and inability to eat sufficient come upon them sooner than with horses on the mainland. Their battles also, which, though not frequent, are fierce, and at times to the death, tend to in-

crease the percentage of mortality.

They go in gangs of from 5 to 25, according to circumstances. Each gang has a master stallion, who is patriarch, fa ther, defender. It was my privilege last March, when visiting the island, to see 11 gangs in one day when Superintendent Boutilier drove with me from the extreme eastern bar to the main station. We came within 20 or 30 yards of several gangs, but they moved independently

Catching and shipping them is an important and, to all the staff, an exciting incident. I witnessed it from the lookout platform of No. 4 station in the early gray of an October morning. Superintendent Boutilier roused me at dawn with the words, "They are driv-ing in the first gang," and in a few minutes I was hastening from the house, some 200 yards, to the "lookon," whence I saw dark objects moving over the easterly hillocks. Soon could be distinguished nine wild poutes racing hither and you, but kept well together and trending west by aid of 12 men on horseback (native ponies that seemed to enjoy the fun as much as the men on their backs) behind them, with long whips and stentorious voices.

A cerral 22 yards in diameter, strongly inclosed, with a branch fence, extending from one side some 75 yards, made it not unlike a fish trap or weir, into which by judicious driving and heading the gang was safely lodged, and the riders were off for another gang of 13, which the boss had located, and which in an hour, despite most desperate efforts to break away, were all safely corralled with the first gang.

Then immediately began a battle between the two patriarchs, which I witnessed. Teeth, forefeet and heels, mingled with very positive squeals, were vigorously used. After awhile the weaker stallion fled into the crowd, and the victor's manner indicated his importance and foreshadowed his apparent doom, for the remark was made, "We'd better get that big fellow out, as he might hurt some one." So he was soon lassoed, thrown down, a Benaparte bridle put in his mouth and a line to one foot, and then let up to dash out of the corral through the gateway purposely opened, dragging two of the boys who guided him to the beach for shipment.

Let me give the details: Four or five men enter the corral, and the horses cluster to the opposite side. Then one man throws a noose around the neck of one, and two men pull that beast out of the gang as the herds circle round near the inclosing fence.

The difficulty of breathing soon causes temporary weakness, and the horse falls, or is pushed down, when one man seizes his head, another the tail, and one jumps on his body to keep him from floundering. The boss puts the loop of a line into the horse's mouth and round his lower jaw, then up over his head and down through the loop in his jaw, so that by pulling the line a double purchase is brought on the mouth. This is

a bonaparte bridle. Such a purchase at the mouth with a line on a hind foot held by experienced men renders it impossible for the animal to go elsewhere than to the beach. When there, two sailors, holding the ends of a line several fathoms long, walk around him, folding the rope about his legs. Then by tightening this leg rope and holding firm his other fastenings the horse quickly falls and is held down by head and tail, while his legs are tied together with manilla brought from the ship. A layer or two of this soft rope lies between the feet, so that struggling does not cause abrasion. Then, helpless, the monarch lies broadside on the soft sand. The bridle is removed, the leg line, and the boys hurry back to the corral, a quarter of a mile away, for the fun of catching and bringing down another group.—Halifax Herald. DINING WITH THE PRINCE.

The Respitality of Albert Edward at Mari-

The Prince of Wales gives in the course of the season certain special din-ners at Marlborough House, which in many essential respects differ from these which he attends at other people's houses. The guests do not number more than 45 people, including the ladies and gentlemen in attendance upon the prince and princess. When members of the royal family arrive at Marlborough House, at the outer gate, the fact is at we signaled from the lodge, so that the Prince and Princess of Wales are never taken by surprise, but are in readiness to receive them.

The dining room in which the banquet is served is a magnificently decorated apartment, with a ceiling of white and gold. On the wall on the left hand side is a great square of red plush to set off the presentations of plate which have been made to their royal highnesses during the recent years. The Prince of Wales, as a host, sits not at the end, but in the middle seat, at the side of a large and long table. Table decorations are of a massive, ormite and rather heavy character. A very high centerpiece is filled with flowers, and more blossoms are placed in tall vases resembling specimen glasses

Probably Marlborough House is the only place in London in which the knives and forks are laid so enriously. To each guest two feels and no more are provided, and these are placed prongs downward, reversing the usual method. In addition there is one large tablespoon and one large knife. In no circumstance are two knives permitted upon the table simultaneously, and for this rule a very strange reason is assigned. His royal highness is very superstitious, and on no account will be incur the risk of having knives crossed inadvertently. The wineglasses are placed, by the bye, in a line as straight as a company of soldiers, and the services are simply folded in two. Small water bottles are used, but apparently finger bowls are taboord in Marlborough House.

Dinner begins at 8:45 p. m. and lasts for one hour and ten minutes. Rapid service is insisted upon. Yet four or five waiters only are allowed to enter the dining room, which is, however, some distance from the kitchen. Celerity and dispatch are obtained by the employ-ment of a small army of assistants sta-

tioned behind the scenes. For dessert royal blue sevres is used, and when the time has come for coffee and elgars the custom is once during the year, and only once-the night of the Derby dinner—to hand to each guest a silver lighter of unique design. No two lumps are alike, as they have at various times been presented by different denors to the Prince of Wales, and each one has its history.—Ladies' Home Journal.

Citrie Acid.

Enormous quantities of citric acid are used in calico printing, in pharmacy and in the preparation of artificial lemonade About 11 onnees (570 grains) of pure citric acid dissolved in a pint of water gives a solution which has the average sendity of good lemon juice. When di-luted with several times its bulk of wa-ter, sweeten d with sugar and scented with a sing's drop of essence of lemon, an artificial lemonade is cheaply produced, which is much used as a cooling drink in fever hospitals.

It has also been used in the navy as a substitute for fresh lemon juice in the treatment or prevention of scurvy, but has been found much less efficient. In fact, this artificial lemonade is by no means equal to that made from pure lemon juice, whether used at table or for invalids. In rheumatism or rhenmatic gout the fresh juice of the lemon is preferred on account of the bleitrate of potash which it contains. Pure lemon juice is also a valuable remedy in sore throat and diphtheria. Cases have been recorded in which children have apparently been cured of this terrible disease by constantly sucking oranges or lemons.

Pure citric acid possesses, like some other acids, the power of destroying the bad effects of polluted water used for drinking, but it is perhaps best to boil the water before adding a little citric acid to it. -- Chambers' Journal.

He Knew Enough.

The esteem in which the sailor's calling is held in Massachusetts coast towns is indicated by a true story that comes from Gay Head, a primitive community on the island of Martha's Vineyard.

A teacher was wanted at the village, and a sailor, with Indian blood in his veins, applied to the town committee for the position. He had to pass an examination by the committee and trem-bled at the ordeal, being sadly unlearned in booklure.

The chairman began the examination. 'Mr. ----, what is the shape of the earth?' "It is round, sir," the candidate an

swered.

"How do you know?"
"Because I have sailed around it three

times." 'That will do, sir." He received his "certificate" as a

acher without another question being

Pope's features were small and delicate All his life he was very pale and looked sickly.

usked. -- Youth's Companion.

In 1236 a hen was bought in Paris for

THE CANNY SCOTCHMAN.

Bis Vices and His Virtues Compared With Those of Other Folks.

One is not quite sure that the religiosity of the Scotch makes them so much more virtuous than people who pay less attention to "the means of grace." But while it cannot readily be proved that they have more of the positive virtues than their neighbors there is at least some reason to believe that they are freer from a few of the ugly vices than their southern consins, although when the Scot is bad he is very bad. When he gives way to drink, for instance, he runs to great lengths. But it will be found that there is much less wife beating (there being nothing in Scotland at all resembling the frightful practice of "elogging" known in Laneashire towns), much less cruelty to children, much more kindliness and fellow feeling among the Scottish people than among the English, while at the same time the Scotch are not nearly so clannish as the Irish, the Jews or the Chi-

In his poem on "Nothing" Rochester has classed "Scotch civility" along with 'French truth' and "Hibernian learning" as being nonexistent. Even Walter Scott causes Mr. Owen to speak of a typical Scot like Batlie Nicol Jarvie, as "that cross grained crabstick of the Saltmarket," and are we not told that the term "Scot" as well as "Gael," derived from a word for "wind," means "the violent, stormy people?" In spite of all this and much more to the same end the Scot, take him all in all, is not fairly chargeable with being lacking in couriesy. The word "conthy" (the opposite or positive of "uncouth," diminntived by the addition of the terminal "y"), signifying a combination of quiet kindliness and sweetness of manner, has no English equivalent, and thus would seem to indicate a peculiarly Scotch quality, which, it may be said, tends to wane considerably with the growth of commercialism, giving place to a brusquery peculiarly the outcome of the "rush" of business, and what Carlyle called the "mere cash nexus" between man and man.

Scottish speech abounds in what may be called pet words, which would seem to testify that, whether the Scotch be stormy and sharp tongued or not, they can, upon occasion, be as insinuatingly smooth tongued as the wily Italian himself. - Westminster Review.

Sir John Franklin

It was in Warwickshire that I made the acquelinance of Sir John Franklin, while I was still quite a child. The stout, good humored gentleman, whose image appears before me as I write his name, is associated in my mind with an event in which he took the keenest interest—a total eclipse of the son—but the amusement afforded by a rather absurd incident connected with it I am afraid engrossed my childish mind more than all the scientific explanations of the phenomenon which Sir John Franklin was so well qualified to give.

In those primitive days it was held

that the best mode of witnessing the obscurntion of the sun was to watch it through pieces of smoked glass, with which we were all duly provided when we sallied forth to an open piece of ground where nothing impeded the view. The result was that in the course of a few minutes the noses of every one pres ent were severely blackened-unconsciously to themselves-and the appearance of the whole scientific party was irresistibly comic

Sir John Franklin appeared then so full of life and energy and high spirits that it was difficult to think of him afterward as the wornout saffering hero of that last fatal voyage, which held the country in suspense as to his fate during a period cruelly long and trying to his wife and to all who had relatives among his companions in the icebound vessels. One of my consins was of the number, and I well remember the sensation in his home when some of the relies of the disastrous expedition, afterward brought back, were identified as having belonged to him. - Blackwood's Magazine.

The American Pie.

The truth is that the American pie, whether of pumpkin, mince, apples, berries or any other material, is indigenous to the soil and cannot be success fully imitated elsewhere. The foreign ers must come here in order to learn how to make pies. And every American is born with an appetite for pie. The foreigner in our midst, and the immigrant, assisted or otherwise, has to acquire it. His Americanism, in fact, may be tested by his taste for pie. He is not a good citizen and fully qualified for all the responsibilities and duties of a voter until he has learned to love pie like a native. And his wife and daughter must learn to make pies. Not the menstrosi ties that sometimes pass by that name, the sodden, heavy, half baked abominations that fill the eater with homicidal and suicidal tendencies, but the rich, rare, racy and healthful "confections" which every well trained American housewife knows how to prepare.—Troy

All the World's a Stage.

The idea embalmed in this line appears to have been widely used in Shakespeare's time, not the least curious instance being its employment by Si George Moore in the house of commons Jan. 21, 1605-6, he describing the gunpowder plot as a "conspiracy the like whereof never came upon the stage of the world." Commons Journal, vol-ume 1, page 357.—Notes and Queries.

A LITTLE CHILD.

Bright, getden ourls and innocent white brow, And lips like red rose petals blown apart, And laughing eyes of blue! I pray you now, Come yet a little closer to my heart!

Nay, four me not! Thy child heart under-

Love that trusts all and knows not to condenn, Give me to hold thy tiny, tender hands. That I may warm my withered and with them!

Oh, let me feel—since in my memory
No earthly leve upon my life half-smitelThat heaven in mercy lath reserved for me
The kines and the clinging of a child
—Atlanta Constitution.

PROFESSIONAL MOURNERS.

Curious Calabrian Customs Which May He Observed In New York.

In the Italian quarter I found myself the other day in a home which had been darkened by a double misfortune. A Httle Italian boy had fallen from a fire eskilled. His widowed mother, when she came upon the body of her son, went med with grief and attempted to take her own life. She was taken to the hos-

The boy's body lay upon a table, and a blazing candelabrum stood at its head. At the side the boy's foster father and his wife knelt in prayer. Scated about the room was a group of women chanting an Italian death wail. One of the women raised her two, and her quavering voice filled the room;

'Happiness has departed from us for-

And the others drozed the refrain:

"Forever!"
"He will naver be absent from our "Never from our thoughts!"

And so on, strophe and antistrophe, the chief wailer leading and the chorus echoing the disseal refrain. It was sight and a sound to move own the tardy sensibilities of a reporter.

Such scenes are not uncommon in the Italian quarter, though they soldom come under the eye of visitors. The pro-fessional mourner is an institution in some of the provinces of southern Italy. She-the office belongs entirely to the softer sex-is analogous to the Irish "keener," but with the difference that her wail is more musical than weird, whereas the "keener" is weird, piere-

ing—almost anything but musical.

The Italian wailers—they are called "prefiche" in their native tougue—are doubtless descendants of the profession-al mononers of ancient Rome. They are most common, and their office is most clearly defined in the provinces of Abruz-zo and Calabria and in Sicily. There they are regularly retained and rowarded with a fee. In other provinces a relative of the afflicted family may assume the office and lend the charms, or the function may be of a wholly miscellaneous character, all the mourners joining in a song of woo, -New York Herald.

President Folk's Nashville Hume.

The old Polk piace on Vine street, the home of President James K. Polk, and the scene of many brilliant gatherings in former days, is viewed with interest by many visitors to Nashville. pressions of regret are heard from those who view the picturesque Polk place for the first time that the historic old home-stead should have been allowed to fall into such a state of dilapidation. think the old place should be maintained in good repair for the sales of the memories that surround it. It has been suggested more than once that it would make an ideal home for the official restdence of Tennessee's governors. excuse that can be very properly offered by Nashvillians for the present condi-tion of the Polk place is that they have nothing to do with it, the property being in litigation. It is feared that ultimate ly, in the division of the property, the old place will be cut up into lots, and if that is done the home of Polk will become only a memory. -- Nashville American.

Not Ills Funeral.

Bluffkins wrote a very bad hand generally, but in writing hurriedly, mak ing an appointment with a friend, he excelled even himself.

He had left the letter lying for half an hour, and on going to address the envelope he happened to glance at his epistle.

Scarcely a word could be decipher, but calmly inclosing it he said to him-

self: "After all, what does it matter? It's Hawkins has to read it, not L'-Boston Budget.

A Curious Custom.

A curious custom still prevails at the coal pits on Hogmanay, in Scotland. The first man to come up the pit after his work is over is received with a shovelful of hot ashes, which, being prepared for, he dodges as best he can, while the last man gets a bucketful of cold water thrown at him.

"Ha, ha, ha, ha!" laughed the great detective. "I have them now." For five days he had been on the trail and had neither eaten nor slept.

He had done nothing but drink. Under the circumstances his joyous assertion here the similitude of verity. -Indianapolis Journal.

Karl's Clover Root will purify your blood, clear your complexion, regulate your bowels and make your head clear as a bell. 25c., 50c. and \$1.00.' Sold by J. C. King & Co.