

A SCISSORS ARTIST.

The Wonderful Feats Performed by Joanne Koetren.

More than 200 years ago a little girl was born at Amsterdam, Holland, whose name was Joanne Koetren. She was a peculiar child in that she cared nothing whatever for play and sport, but found her greatest delight in making copies of paintings about her, imitating in wax every kind of fruit and making on silk with colored floss exact copies of paintings which were thought wonderful.

But after she had become very accomplished in music, spinning and embroidery she abandoned all these for a still more extraordinary art—that of cutting. She executed landscapes, marine views, flowers, animals and portraits of people of such striking resemblance that she was for a time quite the wonder of Europe. She used white papers for her cuttings, placing them over a black surface, so that the minute openings made by her scissors formed the "light and shade."

See also Peter the Great, and others

Say!

Did You Get

ANY OF
Hunter & Milliren's
Choice Home Made
Mince Meat
Yet?

IT HAS NO EQUAL.

or high rank paid her honor. One man high in office vainly offered her 1,000 florins for three small cuttings. The empress of Germany paid her 4,000 florins for a trophy she had cut, bearing the arms of Emperor Leopold, crowned with eagles and surrounded by a garland of flowers. She also cut the emperor's portrait, which can now be seen in the Royal Art gallery in Vienna. A great many people went to see her, and she kept a book in which princes and princesses wrote their names.

After she died, which was when she had lived sixty-five years, her husband, Adrian Block, erected a monument to her memory and had designed upon it the portraits of these titled visitors. Her cuttings were so correct in effect and so tasteful as to give both dignity and value to her work and constitute her an artist whose exquisite skill with the scissors has never before or since been equaled.

Soda and Water.

For sheer simplicity of phrase and conception few have surpassed that delightful old lady who, with a shrewd twinkle in her eye, inquired whether "soda water" should be written as two separate words or if there should be a siphon between them.

The Wrong Heart.

"Mr. Bubkins," said the proud father, shaking the young man warmly by the hand, "let me tell you that you are a man after my own heart."
"Oh, no, sir," protested the blushing suitor; "I'm after your daughter's!"—London Answers.

Erudite.

"Oh, baby," exclaimed the Boston mother, "what does make you cry so?"
"I really cannot say," was the unexpected answer. "I have never indulged in introspection."

LIGHTNING AND SHIPS.

Vessels Are Struck More Frequently Than Is Supposed.

In spite of the popular impression to the contrary, ships remote from the land are seldom damaged by lightning, although some of the most awe-inspiring displays of atmospheric electricity are frequently witnessed by those on board of them.

Standing rigging and even parts of the running gear are now made of steel wire, and this substitute for the old fashioned hemp serves the purpose of lightning conductor when the ship is not fitted with such an aid to safety. The electric current is conveyed down the wire rigging and reaches the sea through the vessel's metal hull. Damage occurs only if the current be interrupted on its way down. In a comparatively large proportion of instances the fore royal truck is struck by lightning, that of the main less frequently and the mizen least of the three.

Very serious casualties under this head occurred to warships and merchant vessels in the days of wooden hulls and hempen rigging. In July, 1902, as thirteen sailing vessels of the East India company were trying to round the cape in the vicinity of Algoa bay, homeward bound, two of them, the Britannia and the Bombay Castle, were struck by lightning. The foremost of each was soon enveloped in flames, and the masts had to be cut away in order to save the ships and their combustible cargoes. A heavy gale was blowing, the night was dark, and the other ships of the fleet, which were holed to at the time, were witnesses of this thrilling incident.

Many vessels are now fitted with lightning conductors of approved types lest the wire rigging should fail to carry off the electric current. In May, 1896, shortly after a severe thunderstorm, accompanied by lightning and rain, in 3 degrees south, 87 degrees east, the P. and O. steamship Victoria had a sudden increase of deviation amounting to 6 degrees in both the standard and the wheelhouse compasses, and later it was discovered that the lightning conductor on the fore had fused. The ship must have been struck by lightning during the storm.—Knowledge Magazine.

WALL STREET "TIPS."

Best Place to Plant Them if They Come Your Way.

A seasoned Wall street campaigner condenses a life of practical observation in the remark: "Stock market 'tips' are, as a rule, founded on nothing better than guesswork or pure invention. Although usually without value, openly peddled out to the public and not possible to trace to any reliable source, they come clothed in such a garb of mystery and apparent importance that there are always a lot of ill informed persons who will accept them and act on them as on gospel truth."

"Often these so called 'tips' are but the whispered suggestions of some manipulator who was confident that his mysterious, semiconfidential hint would travel and be made the basis of large buying of some stock he was especially anxious should be largely sold."

"It is told of one great speculative magnate of the past generation that when he was approached by the pastor of a rich and fashionable Fifth avenue church in search of means by which he could become suddenly rich he put his lips close to the clerical ear and whispered: 'Buy Pacific Mail. It's a sure thing. If you lose on it I'll make good your losses.'

"The pastor departed gleefully. Some two weeks later he called at the office of the manipulator and deplored the great financial losses he had incurred in following the confidential 'tip.' 'How much were they?' asked Mr. G., and on being told he drew his personal check for the amount.

"The minister took it and after expressing his thanks hesitated a moment and then said: 'But how about my parishioners? You placed no ban of secrecy on me, and their losses have been enormous.'

"The financier smiled grimly as he remarked, 'You see, doctor, those were the fellows I was after.'

"This story may be true or may not, but it points a moral. If you get a 'tip' on Wall street bury it in the back yard and forget it."—Cleveland Leader.

A Double Headed Bull.

On the occasion of a public reception at Napier, Australia, the school children of the town, after being duly complimented by his excellency from County Tyrone on the hearty manner in which they had rendered the national anthem, were solemnly assured that if they put their shoulders to the wheel they would be sure to reach the top of the tree, upon which a compatriot turned to me and said, "Sure, it was an axletree he meant, bedad!"—London Spectator.

Equally Cutting.

"Your voice," said the commanding officer, "is decidedly rasping."

"Yes, sir," said the subordinate, touching his hat. "I have been out roughing it with a file of soldiers all morning."—Chicago Tribune.

Why He Loved Spain.
Giacchino Roscini, who was a great jester, was once seen embracing a Spaniard with great effusion. Asked the reason, he replied, "Because without Spain we would be the last nation."

The Motive.

Lawyer—What took you to the scene of the murder? Witness—The car, sir. Lawyer—No, no! What motive was it? Witness—The locomotive. Lawyer—You may go.—Pathfinder.

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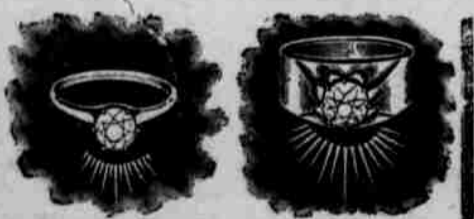
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