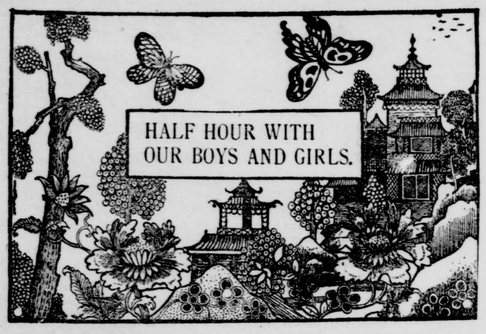


A FUNNY OLD MULE.

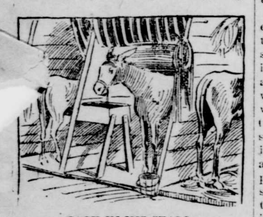
Always Has His Own Way and Stands with His Head Where His Tail Ought to Be.

At the Cincinnati workhouse is an old white mule, known as Jack. He is considered one of the most peculiar and eccentric of mules because of one habit. Jack refuses, and has refused ever since he came to the workhouse, several years ago, to occupy his stall like the other mules and horses in the same stable, and instead of walking into it, as they do, he approaches the door and ing about, backs into the stall. In this position he occupies the stall allotted to him at all times, his head being where his tail ought to be.

No one knows just how Jack conceived the idea that this is the proper way for him to enter the stall, and little is known as to his views on the subject beyond the fact that they are positive and unchangeable, for no living man has ever yet been able to convince Jack that he is in the wrong or to induce him to reverse his movements in taking his place for a meal or to retire for the night.

Thus it is that the stall occupied by Jack, though originally like the others in the row, has been readjusted to suit his habits and needs. In the front proper of the stall is the regular feed box and the rack into which the hay is thrown from the loft above, but Jack has never seen them, because he takes his subsistence of life from an improvised box built in the left-hand corner of the rear of the stall and at the side of the door through which he backs.

Jack's peculiarity was discovered the evening of the first day he spent at the institution. His introduction was a day's work at grading, and when he was relieved from the harness and led to the door of the stall assigned to him he refused silently, but emphatically, to go



JACK IN HIS STALL.

into it. The men thought this was due to the fact that everything was strange to him, and they began to coax and persuade him, but to no avail. They then resorted to force, but this brought no more satisfactory results, for Jack could not be made to enter. After working for some time the men became exhausted, disgusted, angry and weary. They sat down on boxes and barrels to discuss the stubbornness of mules and to devise some means of making the new one obey instructions, when, to their surprise, before even a suggestion had been made, Jack turned around, lined himself up evenly before the door, and was soon standing in the stall calmly and with an air of satisfaction, staring at the men.

He was led out and another effort made to have him go in the stall in the proper manner, but he again, and just as emphatically, refused; yet as soon as released, he repeated the operation of backing in.

Since that time he has been allowed to have his own way, and never has he followed the example set by the other mules and the horses in the stable. Jack is an honest and conscientious worker, faithful and dutiful, and is a prime favorite with the employes and prisoners who work about the stables.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

LIFE STORY OF A GRIZZLY.

The First Long Story by the Author of "Wild Animals I Have Known."

He was born over a score of years ago, away up in the wildest part of the wild west, on the head of the Little Piney, above where the Palette ranch is now.

His Mother was just an ordinary Silvertip, loving the quiet life that all Bears prefer, minding her own business and doing her duty by her family, asking no favors of anyone excepting to let her alone.

It was July before she took her remarkable family down the Little Piney to the Graybull and showed them what strawberries were, and where to find them.

Notwithstanding their Mother's deep conviction, the cubs were not remarkably big or bright; yet they were a remarkable family, for there were four of them, and it is not often a Grizzly Mother can boast of more than two.

The woolly-coated little creatures were having a fine time, and reveled in the lovely mountain summer and the [illegible] of good things. The Mother [illegible] over each log and flat stone came to, and the moment it was ed they all rushed under it like a of little pigs to lick up the ants crubs there hidden.

never once occurred to them that mmy's strength might fail some e, and let the great rock down just they got under it; nor would any- have thought so that might have nced to see that huge arm and that er sliding about under the great obe she wore. No, no; that never fail. The little ones ight. So they hustled and nother at each fresh log be first, and squealed growled little growls. a pig, a pup and a kitten one.

ell acquainted with the rown ants that harbor he uplands, but now the first time on one e great, fat, luscious all crowded around ran out. But they they were licking gs and send than ants, till their Mother said in Grizzly: "Let me show you how."

She knocked off the top of the hill, then laid her great flat paw on it for a few moments, and as the angry ants swarmed on to it she licked them up with one lick, and got a good rich mouthful to crunch, without a grain of sand or a cactus-stinger in it. The cubs soon learned. Each put up both his little brown paws, so that there was a ring of paws all around the ant-hill, and there they sat, like children playing "hands," and each licked first the right and then the left paw, or one cuffed his brother's ears for licking a paw that was not his own, till the ant-hill was cleared out and they were ready for a change. — Ernest Seton-Thompson, in Century.

CHRYSANTHEMUM TOILET

A Process That Requires Skill and May Occupy Three Hours to Complete.

The perfect chrysanthemum has not yet been developed, but art may and does step in to aid nature in regulating details, just as it does with the human being. The chrysanthemums so much admired at shows may have had their toilets made with more care, and at a greater expenditure of time and patience, than has gone toward the dressing of a woman's hair.

It takes three hours sometimes to make the toilets of a single rare specimen of the chrysanthemum. One look at an ordinary chrysanthemum, or a fine one before being treated, will show that there is a hole at the center of the blossom, and that the petals struggle in all directions, up and down, right and left. It looks like a lazy boy who has forgotten to comb his hair. The flower hairdresser has his combs and brushes, but the combs are pincers of various sizes and the brushes of the softest camel's hair.

Suppose that the florist has succeeded in growing some fine specimens of that huge variety, My Lady, some blossoms of which have measured 14 inches in diameter. He cuts the blossom with a long stem, so that he can handle it well. Then he places it in a high glass vase, with a broad base, but over the top of the vase is what looks like the socket of a candlestick with a hole in it. The stem passes through this hole and down into the vase until the lower petals of the blossom rest on the zinc support, but not too firmly. Before putting the flower into the vase to keep it from wilting under the long operation he has performed the roughest part of the work. This consists in pulling out with the pincers enough petals around the center of the blossom to permit the others to close over that part. He is careful to remove any worms or defective, discolored petals, and then he begins the combing process, the most tedious part of all. One by one each petal is put in place so that the contour of the blossom will be either a perfect circle or a star of many rays. If any petal prove too obdurate to stay in place it is pulled out by a gentle jerk with the pincers, of which there are several sizes on hand, one for the work at the center and several others for the combing process of finer or coarser varieties. When every petal has been put into place the work would appear to be over, but this artist is most fastidious; nothing but perfection satisfies him, and he takes up a camel's hair brush, with which he gently smooths out every wrinkle that is detected by his practiced eye. Then, and not till then, is My Lady ready for the admiring throng at the exhibition.

This art of flower perfecting was first introduced by the English florists in their attempts to outdo one another by showing the most perfect blossoms, but it has spread to America and the continent, and is practiced by all those seeking prizes at the chrysanthemum shows. The process varies slightly, being somewhat more difficult when the flowers are to be exhibited on the stalk, in pots, but the hand of the artistic florist has been at work, no matter how natural the flowers appear to the uninitiated. It is said that from three to four years of practice is necessary before a man can be called an expert at the task of making the toilet of the flowers, but he then commands a high salary.—N. Y. Sun.

A Slight Oversight.

Irate Customer—I thought you said that parrot you sold me could talk?

Bird Dealer—So it can, sir!

"Why, I've had him over a week now and he hasn't uttered a single sound."

"I forgot to tell you he is a mute; he talks with his claws!"—Puck.

Gaudy.

Fair Customer—I want some stockings with clocks on them.

Salesman—Here are some very pretty ones.

"Please show me something not quite so pronounced. I don't care for alarm clocks."—N. Y. World.

Charitable.

Father — When I was your age I earned my own living. You ought to be ashamed to be an idler.

Son—Well, you see all the professions are so overcrowded that it seems to me that I ought to let those who need the money more than I do have a chance to make their livings.—N. Y. Journal.

Sweet Recollections.

Husband (off for a long journey)—Do you often think of me when I am gone?

Wife—Indeed I do; it takes me a week to get the smell of smoke out of the house.—Stray Stories.

Still a Mystery.

"Do you remember what you said when you proposed?"

"Yes, I remember what I said well enough, but to this day I haven't figured out how I came to say it."—Indianapolis Journal.

Reflection on the Brand.

Elvers (lighting a cigar)—My doctor says I must reduce my consumption of these things to one a day.

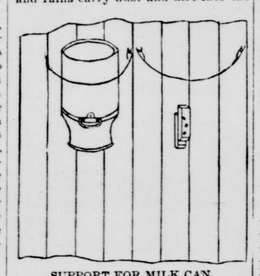
Brooks—Thank heaven! — Chicago

THE DAIRY

MILK CAN SUPPORT.

A Device Which Is Not Only Very Simple, But Keeps Out Dust and Dirt Effectually.

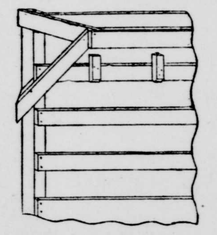
It is frequently a question what to do with cans when not in use. Whatever plan is decided on, it must provide that they shall be upside down in a nearly vertical position, in order that they shall thoroughly drain. Sometimes a stick is laid alongside a fence and the cans are turned upon this, leaning against the fence. When placed so near the ground the wind and rains carry dust and dirt into the



SUPPORT FOR MILK CAN.

mouth of the cans. If a rack is made to hold them, it usually has a slatted floor, and the rim of the can resting on this soon rusts out.

All this trouble is obviated by using the device shown in the illustration, as the can is supported by one handle. Fig. 1 shows a section of the side of a building, or a tight board fence with a can in position, and to the right the support, which is simply two strips of



SECTION OF STRIP FENCE.

wood nailed firmly to the building Fig. 2 shows a section of strip fence, and in this case a single cleat nailed on one of the strips forms the support

The wire loops and stationary fender are interchangeable, of course. It is easier to put the cans in place with the rigid top, but there are places where it would be in the way, and the place of which the left hand drawing is a view is one of them. Both are given, that choice may be made, as may be the most convenient for the position employed.

In case no stationary place offers itself, it ought to be comparatively easy to make a portable rack embodying these features, from what is shown in the right-hand figure. By leaving off the three bottom boards and introducing another post where the brace meets the outside of fender, and flaring both posts so as to broaden the base, and the addition of another brace crossing the first, you have it in movable form, if it is so desired.—Richard H. Mitchell, in Country Gentleman.

Story of a Jealous Cow.

A strange piece of spite on the part of a cow is reported from Slough, says the British Dairy Farmer. The animal belonged to Mr. Johnson, a farmer, and on a valuable horse being driven into the farmyard the cow charged at it, and inflicted such injuries that it died. A strange feature in the case is that after the cow had brought the horse down she appeared to relent, and while the suffering animal lay in the stable under treatment she was constantly at the door, and resented any attempt to drive her off. Mr. Johnson attributes the cow's strange conduct to jealousy, as the horse was often patted and made much of, and the cow was a young one which he had reared himself.

Science of Winter Feeding.

Feed the cattle, dairy cows and all, plenty of good fodder; it is a roughage without a superior in the fodder kingdom, and the finer the better. Grass is short now and winter feeding will be inaugurated at once. Remember, the modern live stock grower feeds for a purpose; if he is preparing animals for beef he feeds rations that will fatten; if for milk he gives a milk-producing diet; if for bone and muscle he metes out clover hay, bran, oats and the like. Let us have a good reason for feeding certain rations, and better results will come from efforts in this direction.—Farmers' Voice.

High-Bred Horses Sell Well.

There is now, and always will be, demand for good horse flesh, notwithstanding the various uses made of electricity. The automobile and other electrical vehicles are here and will doubtless stay, but the game, high-headed, well-bred horse will at all times bring a good, round price and remain a prime favorite with a majority of the people. Breed high and no trouble will be experienced in disposing of your horses Very few men prefer the cold, slick lever of an automobile to ribbons tautly drawn along the backs of a spanking team of high steppers.—Up-to-Date Farming.

COOLING THE MILK.

Lessens the Capacity of Taking Up Odors and Arrests the Process of Fermentation.

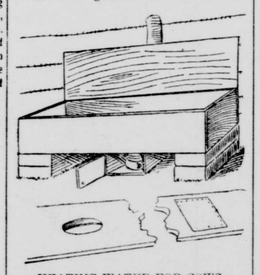
Clean milking by clean hands, in as pure a stable atmosphere as is obtainable, must be supplemented by a rapid and thorough cooling of the milk. Cooling at once lessens the capacity of the milk to take up odors, arrests the process of fermentation, and, if well stirred during the cooling, the cream is kept from rising to the surface and will afterward more surely remain mixed with the milk while being distributed from the wagon. These are valuable considerations for a milkman who desires to give his customers a good service.

For us the simplest and best way to accomplish all these good results is to have a tank of ice water in a room near or adjoining the milking-room. As fast as the pails are filled take immediately to the tank and pour the milk into tin cans ed in ice water.

FOR HEATING WATER.

The Illustration Shows a Contrivance of Particular Interest to Bright Dairymen.

There is no question about the advisability of taking the chill off the water that is given to cattle in the winter. The problem is to secure a practical, cheap way of warming the water. The illustration shows how this may be done. The trough is raised as shown and a circular opening cut in the bottom. A thick body of white lead is spread about this opening and a sheet of galvanized iron is then



HEATING WATER FOR COWS.

tacked firmly down upon the lead, as shown. Under this is made a box, and in it is placed a small oil stove. Have two small holes in the door and in the rear wall of the box near the top. With the cover down, a whole troughful of icy-cold water can soon be brought to a temperature where it will be safe for stock to drink it, and that, too, at almost no trouble at all, and at hardly more than a cent's expense.—Orange Judd Farmer.

DAIRY SUGGESTIONS.

He who puts up fine butter in ways not neat, deserves a lower price than the tasteful neighbor gets.

The large, rich milkers need the most watchful care on account of their highly organized sensitive make-up.

Settle the dairy problem with a carefully balanced ration. Carbohydrates alone will almost starve a cow.

What does quantity of milk signify to the butter maker? Nothing, if he has no knowledge of its quality.

There is no danger of dairying being overdone. Slip-shod people will slip out of it if they cannot make a living at it.

The cow that is kindly treated and quietly handled gains what is known in human society as an "elegant repose of manner" that, in her, tends to a good flow of wholesome milk.

About two ounces of salt given every day to each cow will increase the yield of butter. As salt aids digestion, and consequently turns more of the food into milk, keep rock salt within easy reach of the cows.—Farm Journal.

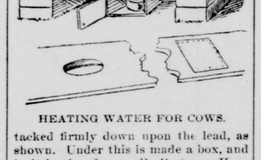
It Pays to Be Regular.

Regular hours for milking and feeding are more important than almost any other point in successful feeding of dairy cows. The cows will get restless and uneasy if obliged to wait for their food, and the fretting does almost as much harm as the food will do good. They lose flesh and shrink in milk production to an extent that would scarcely be believed by those who have not weighed or measured the product daily for years, as we have, if they have to wait an hour.—American Cultivator.

NEW WATERING METHOD.

Applying Moisture to Greenhouse Crops by Means of Subirrigation Has No Equal.

The new method of applying water to greenhouse crops by subirrigation is by far the safest method for lettuce beds and has enabled me to grow finer, larger and healthier plants, especially of the hard-heading newer forcing



SUBIRRIGATION UNDER GLASS.

sorts like White Perfection, New Hothouse, etc., than the old way of surface watering ever gave. The cut shows the bench as I use it. The bench is made of a two-inch plank bottom with sides of four-inch board, resting on a frame of three by four-inch scantling, and made watertight by means of a cement lining. Lines of two-inch tile are laid upon the bottom across the bench, two to two and a half feet apart, the end tile, which receives the water, turned up at an angle of 45 degrees.—T. Greinier, to Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

Fight on San Jose Scale.

The final report of the commission appointed by the Ontario government to investigate the San Jose scale question has made its appearance. The greatest infestation is in a corner of Niagara township, with more limited cases at five other points. In 91 other cases trees planted within two years past were found infested. These were all destroyed, and this year scale was found in only 13 places out of the 91. It will be necessary to destroy 156,200 trees to make sure of exterminating the scale. The commissioners doubt the possibility of doing th[illegible] wise immediate destructio[illegible] d carefu[illegible]

AN ATHLETIC WOMAN.

California Girl with Better Muscles Than College Men.

Three Months Have Worked a Wonderful Change in a Sickly California Heiress—Some of Her Wonderful Feats.

The "strong woman" is rapidly coming forward to the athletic standard of perfection of the "strong man," and of these feminine Herculeses as a "strong woman" Miss Charlotte Dunphy, the 17-year-old daughter of a West end millionaire of San Francisco, is the latest marvel. It is only last June that Miss Dunphy was graduated from the Institution of Holy Angels at Fort Lee a physical wreck, as so many young girls who aim for high honors find themselves at the close of their school days. It was thought that she was going into a decline, and many specialists were consulted, but there seemed no organic disease—simply a strong tendency toward nervous prostration. Drugs were ineffective, walking was exhausting. Ordinary gymnastics such as are practiced in schools for girls did not seem to do any good.

More in a joke than anything else Miss Dunphy called at the studio of a professional athlete just three months ago and informed him that she wanted to be a "strong woman." It did not look very promising, as she was slight, weighing less than 90 pounds, and was weak and ill. But there is nothing this athlete will not try, and so he put her through his 25 different sets of dumbbell exercises with the lightest bells, adding to their weight as her strength increased until she could swing five-pound bells with perfect ease.

Taking a set of bells home, Miss Dunphy began exercising before breakfast, and soon found the work delightful and easy, her appetite increased and she began to long to do greater feats. For variety's sake her instructor al-

MISS DUNPHY'S STAR FEAT.

lowed her to learn several weight-lifting exercises and found to his astonishment that she could actually do them, and do them gracefully and firmly. From one feat to another she went until now she has mastered every sort of strong woman feat and her teacher himself gazes on her with astonishment.

Miss Dunphy has a most wonderful back, and the muscular development of the entire body comes to its support, so that she does tricks. One of these is the lifting of a big bar bell from the floor with one hand, turning it high above the head without a tremor. This same bar she then places upon the floor and lies down flat on her back with the ball at the head and raises it with both hands until it is straight above her head; then, holding it with one hand only, she rises to a sitting and then to a standing posture, with the bell high above her head still.

Another feat Miss Dunphy does with the same bell in connection with the "Roman chair." This chair has a strap across the seat, into which she slips her feet; then she leans over the back until her head rests on the floor; reaches over her head for the bar and rises with it to a standing posture on the seat of the chair, with the bell high above her head; then descends in the same manner and lays it on the floor above her head again. These feats require enormous strength, as anyone can easily ascertain by trying them.

Some of her friends belonging to a yacht club have been inveigled by her brother to come home with him and visit the gymnasium on the top floor and try some of these feats, but with all of their boasted athletic achievements Miss Dunphy easily outdistances them all. In fact, these college-bred young men are just as jealous of this little slip of a girl as they can be, and her private gymnasium has become the center of attraction on the upper West side.

An English Doctor's Fate.

An Eastbourne doctor has been the victim of his own medicine. He made up a draught for a patient, putting in by mistake strychnine instead of chloroform, and when she complained that it made her sick, got angry, and, to prove that the medicine was all right, swallowed half the contents of the bottle himself. He immediately recognized the symptoms of strychnine poisoning, used a stomach pump and other means to destroy the effects, but died soon after.

English Trade in Rubber.

Although one-half of the rubber product of the forests along the Amazon goes to the United States, most of the steamers, wharves and banking houses in the region belong to the English.

Mother Worship in Turkey.

The strongest sentiment of the Turk is his reverence for his mother. He always stands in her presence until invited to sit down, a compliment he pays to no one else.

A Chinaman's Prayers.

"The Chinese beat us to death in labor-saving devices," said an amateur orientalist of this city. "I'm pretty well acquainted with an old laundryman here and frequently drop into his place to have a chat. The other day I noticed a queer little pad of rice paper sheets put together like a calendar and hung directly above his bunk. Each sheet was inscribed with numerous hieroglyphics and I asked my host what the thing meant. He replied that it was a prayer book, and went on to explain in pigeon English that he tore off a leaf every night before going to bed, so as to expose a fresh supplication for the ensuing day. Seeing that I was shocked, he assured me the prayers were first class in every particular and were much better than he could compose himself. As nearly as I could gather, there is a sort of prayer tr[illegible] in Peking that turns out the lith graphed pads at extr[illegible] figures. They [illegible]

Name Against It.

That new ladies' magazine proved a complete failure."

"Did it? What was the cause?"

"Why it was called the Age of Woman, and, of course, that's something the women don't want to come out."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

A Thousand Tongues.

could not express the rapture of Annie E. Springer, of 1125 Howard st., Phila., Pa., when she found that Dr. Kings new discovery for Consumption had completely cured her hacking cough that for many years had made life a burden. All other remedies and doctors could give her no help, but she says of this Royal cure: "it soon removed the pain in my chest and I can now sleep soundly, something I can scarcely remember doing before. I feel like sounding its praises throughout the universe." So will everyone who tries Dr. King's New Discovery for any trouble of the Throat, Chest or Lungs. Price 50c and $1.00. Trial bottles free at George & Redden's drug store; every bottle guaranteed. 5

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