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Animal Drunkards.

Most of the higher animals—as monkeys, elephants, bears, horses and dogs—have a natural fondness for fermented liquors, and suffer from the abuse of these liquors as men do. From the book of Maccabees it is evident that war elephants were maddened of old with new wine, as they have been and are with arrack down to the present time. Managers of menageries and employees at the various zoological gardens know that the elephants under their care are prepared to go on a wild drunk whenever opportunity offers. Whisky is officially given them when they are ill or low—the quantity varying from five to ten gallons, according to the requirements of the case. This is put into their drinking water. Bears and monkeys drink beer like German students, and love whisky equally well.

In Africa the natives make use of this evil trait to capture their poor relations. The monkeys there are extremely fond of a beer brewed by the natives. So the latter place quantities of the liquor within easy reach of the monkeys and wait until their victims are thoroughly befuddled. In this state they are unable to recognize the difference between negro and ape. When the negro takes the hand of one of them to lead him off, a second monkey takes the hand of the first, a third that of the second, and so on. A single negro may sometimes be seen carrying off a string of staggering monkeys. Fresh doses of beer in decreasing quantities are administered to the captives, so that they may only gradually awaken to the sad results of their spree.—Lippincott's.

Belgian and German Farming.

In Belgium a two acre holding is sufficient to maintain a farmer and his family. The typical two acre farm in that country contains a patch of wheat or rye and another of barley. Another fair portion grows potatoes. A row of cabbage grows all round on the sloping sides of the ditches, with a row of onions just inside, leaving bare walking room between them and the grain. The shade trees round the house are pear trees. Every foot of land is made to produce, and the farmer keeps pigs and chickens.

In Germany, out of 5,276,000 farms, 1,225,000, or 23 per cent of the whole, are each under 2½ acres in extent, and of the farms above 25 per cent are cultivated by the owner himself, over 28 per cent partly so, or about 85 per cent altogether, leaving 15 per cent out of every 100 per cent that are let to tenants. In Germany, notwithstanding this small size of a large proportion of the farms, 178 out of every 1,000 inhabitants are nevertheless engaged in agriculture, whereas in England no more than 52 are thus occupied, in Scotland only 61, though 195 per 1,000 in Ireland being thus engaged, raises the proportion in the whole United Kingdom to 73 out of that number, less than half, however, the percentage so employed in Germany.

In the House of Commons.

Members are not allowed to refer to each other by name in debate. The only member who is properly addressed by name is the chairman who presides over the deliberations of the house in committee. On a member rising to speak in committee he begins with "Mr. Lowther," and not with "Mr. Chairman," as at public meetings. When the speaker is in the chair, the formula is "Mr. Speaker, sir."

In debate a member is distinguished by the office he holds, as "the right honorable gentleman the chancellor of the exchequer," or by the constituency he represents, as "the honorable gentleman the member for York." Some make use of the terms "My honorable friend" or "My right honorable friend." In case of family relations the same form is usually observed. Occasionally "My honorable relative" or "My right honorable relative" is heard, but "My right honorable father" or "My right honorable brother," though no doubt allowable, has not been hitherto used.—Nineteenth Century.

Love's Sweet Work.

A London paper tells this touching story of Professor Herkomer: "His aged father, who lived with him in his splendid home at Bushney, used to model clay in his early life. He has recently taken to it again, but his fear is that soon his hands will lose their skill and his work will show the marks of imperfection. It is his one sorrow. At night he goes to his early rest, and when he has gone his talented son goes to his studio, takes up his father's feeble attempts and makes the work as beautiful as art can make it. When the old man comes down in the morning, he takes the work and looks at it and rubs his hands and says, 'Ha, I can do as well as I ever did.'"

She Paralyzed 'Em.

Counsel—What is your age, madam?  
Witness—Forty-seven, sir.  
Counsel—Married or single?  
Witness—Single. I never had an offer of marriage in my life, and if it is of any interest to the court I don't mind saying that I have worn false hair for nearly 20 years.  
Counsel—Hem! That is all, madam. There is no use trying to shake the direct testimony of so truthful a woman as you are.—London Tit-Bits.

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