

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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THE MODERN SIDESADDLE.

Why It Is That a Woman Is Safer on Horseback Than a Man Is.

About the year 1830, by an accidental circumstance, women's riding was revolutionized. An Englishman made a wager to ride a steepchase on a side saddle. A preliminary trial showed him, I imagine, the rashness of the attempt. So to minimize the danger by enabling him to sit safely, Mr. Fitzhardinge Oldacre, I think, invented the third pommel. Looking back one wonders how it was that women had not long before invented it for themselves under stress of urgent need. But one generation followed another and no one seems to have thought of it. Once invented, however, it was immediately adopted, and a three pommelled side saddle came into general use. This invention at once reinstated women's riding as a fine art by producing a new departure under improved conditions. For the grip obtainable by its means gives the greatest possible security in exchange for the least possible expenditure of force.

Saddles of this kind were cumbersome and very heavy, but during the following fifty years the weight of construction was gradually reduced, and little by little every unnecessary item was cut away, till in course of time the three pommelled saddle evolved into the long, light hunting saddle actually in use at present. It differs in several ways from its prototype. In this modern saddle the long narrow cantle is built over a sort of tunnel, which takes in the horse's withers and allows the seat of the saddle to lie flat; while the old fashioned seat sloped up and tilted the rider's knee with much the same effect as riding up hill.

All traces of the outer pommel have disappeared, leaving a free space where no resistance is necessary. Finally, the left hand pommel is placed high up the thigh, where the grip is strongest, the pressure having formerly been placed just above the knee, so that a shorter stirrup was necessary. Now, such greater leverage led to an exaggeration of movement, which prevented all rhythm, for obviously the closer the rider can sit the more possibility there will be of being "one" with the horse, of riding so as to blend with his action, of, so to speak, following the pattern of his movement.

In the modern saddle all modifications tend to diminish effort and by greater security to enable the rider to sit very still. Strength of seat seems to me to be the result, roughly speaking, of three grips, caused by the opposing pressure of the two legs against the pommels. Of these grips, the first results from the downward pressure of the whole length of the right thigh and the upward pressure of the left. The second is the grip, just above the knee, of the right thigh against the pommel, involving the pressure of the leg just above the ankle on the saddle flap below. This grip is counterbalanced by the left leg's inward pressure at the knee. And, third, the hook back of the right leg over the pommel as opposed to the pressure of the stirrup foot.

Moreover, by sitting far back the leverage of these three grips is increased, and the consequent distribution of the weight makes the balance right. The legs must be immovable on the saddle, but above the waist the body sways and gives to the horse's action, and from constant habit a good rider adjusts the balance almost by instinct, and carries on the horse's movements in a multiplicity of tiny curves which pass imperceptibly from one step to another without any jerk or abruptness of movement.—English Illustrated Magazine.

New Style of Coon Hunting.

The inhabitants of the mountains west of this place are great coon hunters. Some nights ago Bill Benchoff and Colonel Yingling started out with half a dozen dogs and two boys to carry the pine torches. A coon was raised on the east side of the Monterey, and the dogs chased it down through a deep and rough ravine and up a rocky spur on the west. After a climb of an hour Benchoff and Yingling at last came up with the dogs. They had run the coon into a tree and were snarling and barking around underneath. The boys whirled the torches and Benchoff banged away at what he thought was the coon, but no animal tumbled.

Yingling in the meantime had been tearing paper and trying to ignite a match, but it was damp and would only splutter. Benchoff was deriding him when suddenly a great ball of fire illuminated space. Yingling had succeeded in igniting his match and was emptying a roman candle into the tree.

The first ball struck a branch and burst and the second hit the coon "plumb center." Its fur caught fire and with a yell it came rolling down among the angry dogs. The third ball revealed two more coons in the tree, and Benchoff's rifle dropped one, while Yingling, with the last ball in the candle, hit the limb on which the third coon clung with pitiful terror, and it lost its hold and tumbled into the mouths of the waiting dogs.

They got six more coons that night with the help of Yingling's candles, and now the colonel regularly shoots the romans and Benchoff shoots the guns. They are the most successful coon hunters in all the region.—Gettysburg (Pa.) Sentinel.

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SOCIETIES.

ASSEMBLY NO. 4827, K. OF L.—Meets in K. of P. Hall the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p. m.

WASCO LODGE, NO. 15, A. F. & A. M.—Meets first and third Monday of each month at 7 P. M.

DALLES ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER NO. 6.—Meets in Masonic Hall the third Wednesday of each month at 7 P. M.

MODERN WOODMEN OF THE WORLD.—Mt. Hood Camp No. 56, Meets Tuesday evening of each week in Fraternity Hall, at 7:30 p. m.

COLUMBIA LODGE, NO. 5, I. O. O. F.—Meets every Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock, in K. of P. Hall, corner Second and Court streets. Sojourning brothers are welcome. H. CROGHAN, Sec'y. H. A. BILL, N. G.

FRIENDSHIP LODGE, NO. 9, K. of P.—Meets every Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, in Schanno's building, corner of Court and Second streets. Sojourning members are cordially invited. W. B. CRAM, Sec'y. D. W. VAUSE, K. of R. and S. C. C.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION will meet every Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the reading room. All are invited.

Harmon Lodge No. 501, I. O. G. T.—Regular weekly meetings Monday at 7:30 P. M., at Fraternity Hall. All are invited.

TEMPLE LODGE NO. 3, A. O. U. W.—Meets in Fraternity Hall, over Kellers, on Second Street, Thursday evenings at 7:30.

W. S. MYERS, Financier. PAUL KREFF, M. W.

JAS. NESMITH POST, No. 32, G. A. R.—Meets every Saturday at 7:30 P. M., in the K. of P. Hall.

B. OF L. E.—Meets every Sunday afternoon in the K. of P. Hall.

GESANG VEREIN—Meets every Sunday evening in the K. of P. Hall.

B. OF L. F. DIVISION, No. 167—Meets in K. of P. Hall the first and third Wednesday of each month, at 7:30 P. M.

THE CHURCHES.

ST. PETERS CHURCH—Rev. Father Brose, Pastor. Low Mass every Sunday at 7 A. M. High Mass at 10:30 A. M. Vespers at 7 P. M.

ST. PAULS CHURCH—Union Street, opposite St. Fifth. Rev. Ed. D. Sutcliffe, Rector. Services every Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School 9:45 A. M. Evening Prayer on Friday at 7:30.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH—Rev. O. D. TAYLOR, Pastor. Morning services every Sabbath at the academy at 11 A. M. Sabbath School immediately after morning services. Prayer meeting Friday evening at Pastor's residence. Union services in the court house at 7 P. M.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—Rev. W. C. CURTIS, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M. Sunday School after morning services. Strangers cordially invited. Seats free.

M. E. CHURCH—Rev. J. WHITSELL, pastor. Services every Sunday morning at 11 A. M. Sunday School at 12:30 o'clock P. M. Epworth League at 6:30 P. M. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended by both pastor and people to all.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH—Rev. J. W. JENKINS, Pastor. Preaching in the Congregational Church each Lords Day at 3 P. M. All are cordially invited.

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A Curious Clock.

A novel clock is now being exhibited by the Watchmakers' union in London. It is of wood, beautifully carved and stands six feet in height. The case is a perfect fort in miniature, and instead of a bell and striking hammer the hours are announced by a bugler, who emerges from a door at one side of the fort and blows the call to assemble and march.

Almost instantly doors open on all sides. A regiment of automatic soldiers, six abreast, march out, wheel to the left, stop a few seconds to "mark time," and then march through another part of the fortress to the barracks. These marches and countermarches occur each hour. If they come out to announce the hour of 1 o'clock, one soldier fires his tiny gun. At 2 o'clock two soldiers fire their pieces, increasing with the hour until the twelve leaders fire their guns, the rear ranks bowing their heads and pointing with their bayonets toward the dial of the clock.—Chicago Press.

One Regiment's Colonel.

Among the strange fatalities of the year there are none more noteworthy than those surrounding the colonelcy of the Twenty-first infantry. In less than a year the regiment has suffered the loss of three colonels—Morrow, O'Beirne and Conrad. We trust that the fated three break the spell, and that Colonel Jewett will continue in command until his retirement, March 31, 1898.—Army and Navy Journal.

Wicked Boys in Air.

Some bad boys climbed to the top of a church steeple in Los Angeles the other day and pelted passers in the streets below with pigeons' eggs that they found there in large quantities. They were out of reach and enjoyed the sport thoroughly until a policeman mounted to the belfry and took them in charge.—San Francisco Call.

Cholera in Pennsylvania.

Swickley, Penn: We had an epidemic of cholera, as our physicians called it, in this place lately and I made a great hit with Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. I sold four dozen bottles of it in one week and have since sold nearly a gross. This remedy did the work and was a big advertisement for me. Several persons who had been troubled with diarrhoea for two or three weeks were cured by a few doses of this medicine.

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