

DISLIKES INNOVATIONS.

Hence the Rhino Blindly Attacks Anything New to Him.

Sir Frederick Treves, the distinguished British surgeon, in his book "Uganda For a Holiday" has a word or two to say about the rhinoceros.

"The rhinoceros is the embodiment of blind conservatism," he writes, "its hide is impenetrable, its vision is weak, while its intellect is weaker. It has, however, two marked qualities—combativeness and a sense of smell. It is aroused to its maximum energy by the presence of anything that is new. This object need not be a thing that is aggressive or inconvenient. Its offensiveness depends upon the fact that it is unfamiliar, and the more unfamiliar the object is the worse the rhinoceros acts."

"When a rhinoceros smells a man he will charge him with maniacal violence, although the man may be merely sitting on a stool reading Milton. The massive beast will dash at him like a torpedo or a runaway locomotive simply because the smell of him is novel. Actuated by this insane hate of whatever savors of an innovation, the rhinoceros has charged an iron water tank on the outskirts of a camp and has crumpled it up as a blacksmith would an empty meat tin.

"A conservative rhinoceros with a gentle dislike of anything new once charged a train on the Uganda railway, but with no more serious results than the tearing away of the footboard of a carriage. As regards the rhinoceros in this case, it appeared surprised that a thing composed, as it had imagined, of flesh and blood could be so hard. It went off with an additional grievance and an increased swelling of the head."

MOSCOW CATHEDRAL.

Fantastic Looking Edifice Erected by Ivan the Terrible.

One of the most extraordinary and fantastic Christian places of worship in the world is the Cathedral of Moscow, known as Vasil Blajenni, strange not only in outline and conception, but even stranger in its history. No one knows the architect's name, but the story goes that the czar ordered his eyes to be put out directly the church was completed, so that he should never be able to surpass his work. The idea of the building was inspired by the wickedest and maddest monarch who ever sat on a throne—Ivan the Terrible, czar of Muscovy. The architecture is in every respect extravagant and barbaric, and the coloring is garish in the extreme. It has nine chapels, roofed by nine cupolas, each different and each stranger than the other. One resembles a pineapple, another a melon, a third is said to ape a hedgehog in its appearance, and the rest are more or less grotesque. Some are gilt; others are painted in brilliant hues. Indeed, the only description is that it is a nightmare of a church, the fitting legacy of a ruler who grilled his counselors in frying pans and clothed his subjects in bearskins in order that trained dogs might worry and tear them to pieces.—Strand Magazine.

A King's Hobby.

The late king of Siam had an extraordinary hobby—that of collecting empty matchboxes of all nations. In this connection an interesting story is related. During one of his visits to England the king while passing down Bond street one afternoon, accompanied by two members of his suit, espied an empty matchbox which had been discarded by its owner and thrown away into the middle of the thoroughfare. Without a moment's thought the monarch dashed into the middle of the crowded traffic, grasped the much coveted treasure and was nearly run over by a passing cab. The fact, however, that he was able to add a new specimen to his collection gathered under such circumstances more than compensated him for the risk which he had run.—London News.

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Gothic Architecture. Gothic architecture began about the ninth century after Christ and soon began to spread all over Europe. Its great feature is the pointed arch, and it was at first called the "pointed style." Most of the glorious old world cathedrals are in the Gothic, and it is generally conceded that for religious purposes no other style of architecture is so perfectly suited. It has been said that the first idea of the Gothic was suggested by the interlacing boughs and trunks of the great woods in which German Christianity was formed; hence the name Gothic.—New York American.

Still More Painful.

The Young Politician—I can assure you there is nothing more painful than having to make—er—er—one's first speech in public. Young Politician's Wife—Oh, yes, there is, dear! Young Politician (displeased)—Then what is it, pray? Young Politician's Wife (sweetly)—Having to listen to it, my dear.

He Was Considerate.

She—I should like that lovely pearl necklace. Look what beauties they are. He—It's better not to have such large pearls, my dear. People always think they are false.—Journal Amusant.

Marriage.

"Marriage," said the serious man, "is an education in itself." "Yes," commented old Grouch, "it teaches you what not to do after you have done it."—Boston Transcript.

Love of our neighbor is the only door out of the dungeon of self.—MacDonald.

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