

GOT THE HORSES ASHORE.

And He Didn't Go About It in the Regular Official Way, Either.

In his younger days Sir Bryan Mahon was quite a character in the army and many are the tales that are told of his daredevil recklessness and his no less ready resourcefulness in an emergency.

Once, for instance, a lot of horses had to be unloaded at Ismailia. There were no boats and there was shortage of slings, so to say nothing of grommets, breast girths and all the other queer paraphernalia that disembarking officers delight in.

But Mahon, who is, of course, a son of Erin's isle, had seen horses disembarked on the wild Irish coast many and many a time in rough and ready fashion, and he knew what they could do when they had to. So, while the others were discussing ways and means below decks, he simply threw these horses overboard.

The animals promptly swam ashore, and while the horror stricken disembarking officer was looking onaghast, too surprised even for words, Mahon ordered the trumpet for "stables" to be sounded, and every horse promptly lined up on the beach.—London Telegraph.

DRILLED TO PERFECTION.

Secret of the Military Success of "the Madman of the North."

From drill men gets accustomed to doing under any circumstances what has been hammered into his brain after time till it becomes second nature to them.

Charles XII of Sweden, "the madman of the north," ripped most of Europe up the back again and again because his soldiers were drilled to perfection before he let them take the field at a time when there was great neglect of drill in other armies. He valued 1,000 well drilled fighters above 10,000 not so well drilled, and madman or genius, his judgment was vindicated repeatedly in terrible battles.

One night Charles XII, was surprised in Poland by an attacking army of 8,000 when his scant force of 600 was sleeping like the dead from the exhaustion of a hard march. Before his outposts and sentinels could be driven in his small band was aroused, mounted, formed in battle line—all in pitchy blackness—and swung into a fierce charge upon the enemy. By daylight the Russians and Poles who had thought to eat him up were virtually annihilated.—Westminster Gazette.

How Clouds Are Colored.

The color of a cloud depends on the manner in which the sunlight falls upon it and the position of the observer. It will be noticed that high clouds are always white or light in color, and this is because the light by which they are seen is reflected from the under surface by the numberless drops of moisture which go to form the cloud. Heavy rain clouds, on the other hand, are found much nearer the earth, and so the light falls on them more directly from above, giving a silvery tinge to the cloud, though the under surface appears black, owing to the complete reflection and absorption of the light by the upper layers. Seen from above by an observer in a balloon the blackest rain clouds appear of the most dazzling brilliant white.

Duels In Greenland.

In Greenland when one man has been insulted by another the adversaries each compose a satire in verse. This each man recites to his household until the servants and the women know it by heart. Then a place of meeting is appointed. The two men, the insulter and insulted, the offender and the offended, stand face to face, and each recites his poem. His friends and servants form a chorus. Each man tries hard to raise the laugh against his adversary. Each man speaks in turn, whipping the enemy with epigram and quip, and after two hours of this wordy battle the meeting gives the victory to him of the two adversaries who has amused the whole assembly most.

An Odd Team.

"I was out with Umson in his automobile the other evening," said the fat plumber to his friend the thin carpenter.

Saved by a Dream.

A farmer living at Lapford, England, dreamed thrice in succession that he saw a pit dug in one of his fields and some of his property cast into it. At the third time of dreaming he got up, dressed and went out. He heard the thud of a spade and caught sight of a man digging by lantern light. The digger fled at his approach. It was a grave upon which he had been at work. By its brink lay a huge knife. On his way back the farmer met one of his maid-servants. She had had a quarrel with the man to whom she had been engaged, she said, but he had prevailed upon her to meet him for the last time at 2 o'clock that morning, when he had something to show her. "This is what he had to show you," said the farmer, leading her to the grave.—London Tatler.

Pretty Poor Pilot.

"I was out with Umson in his automobile the other evening," said the fat plumber to his friend the thin carpenter.

"Didn't know he had one."

"Yes; he bought one secondhand."

"Did you have a good ride?"

"I nearly lost a year's growth."

"Speed limit?"

"No, but he can't guide the thing straight."

"Poor at the wheel, eh?"

"Poor at the wheel? Why, man alive, Umson couldn't steer a street car!"—Exchange.

A Small Point.

Barrister's Wife—So your client was acquitted of murder. On what grounds?

Barrister—Insanity. We proved that his father once spent two years in an asylum. Barrister's Wife—But he didn't die? Barrister—Yes. He was doctor there, but we had not time to bring that fact out.—London Tit-Bits.

Elsewhere.

"Do you ever take a day off and go fishing?"

"Yes. But the fish always seem to take the same day off that I do."—Washington Star.

Soft Answer.

"John, don't you think I have worn this pair of shoes long enough?"

"No, dear; if they were long enough you wouldn't have had those corns."—Houston Post.

We ought to call in reason, like a good physician, as a help in misfortune while he is blind to his own.

—Epictetus.

It is the peculiarity of a fool to be quick in seeing the faults of others like a man?"

"Exactly like one. He blamed it all on his wife."—Judge.

"Did Hardlucks bear his misfortune like a man?"

"Easiest thing doing. Just ring the bell."—Baltimore American.

The Old Story.

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