

A ROSE.

Thou blushing rose, within whose virgin leaves The wanton wind to sport himself presumes...

THE DOG AND LION FIGHT.

For many years, the traveling wild beast show of Wombwell had been well known in Great Britain. It was with a view of getting money by bringing his lions more into public notice...

It had been more than two centuries since a lion-fight had taken place in England; the encounter in the reign of James I. when mastiffs were matched against a lion for the entertainment of the court...

By many it was supposed that the reported feat of five thousand pounds, said to have been made by Wombwell, was a fabrication, and little doubt of this was afterwards entertained.

The place fixed upon for the fight was a hollow square enclosure in the suburbs of Warwick, on the road to Northampton called "the Old Factory Yard."

Wombwell's expectations of profit must have been unreasonable, for the charges at first demanded were: half a guinea for standing places; seats at remote windows, a guinea; fourth-floor seats, two guineas; and seats on the first, second and third floors, three guineas each.

A fit sort of prelude to the inhuman spectacle which was to take place occurred on the night before the combat, for eight dogs intended to be opposed to the lion, having been placed together by their brutal guardian, instead of being kept asunder, their natural ferocity produced a general fight, in which one dog was killed outright, and another lost an ear and a part of his cheek.

During the morning of the day on which the combat was to take place, the dogs that were to fight were made a show of at the "Green Dragon," at an admittance of sixpence. In the caravans round the yard, besides the lion Nero, the hero of the day, were three other lions, a lioness, a she-wolf with cubs, two leopards with cubs, a white bear, a hyena, two zebras, wild asses, monkeys, and a multitude of other creatures.

Wombwell's trumpeters, arrayed in gaudy colors and mounted on horses, were sent forth through the streets of Warwick, Leamington, and the villages near, to announce the coming fight. Soon o'clock in the evening was the hour fixed on for the commencement of the combat. Accommodation was made for a thousand people to witness the fight, and about five hundred attended.

Of the six dogs which were to fight, Turk and Tiger were brown; Captain, fallow and white; Rose, skeldard; Nettie, brindled, with a black head; and Nelson

white, with brindled spots. Many had foretold that the lion Nero was too tame to fight, and this proved to be correct. Nero having entered the iron cage from his own caravan, all was at length ready for the cruel combat; the lion himself seeming to be the only creature unconscious of what was about to take place.

The spectators both above and below had their eyes riveted on the iron cage. There crouched Nero, king of brute creation; there, near the cage, waited the inhuman handlers of the dogs; and there stood, licking their black lips, and struggling to be let loose, the mastiff bull-dogs, thirsting for the forest monarch's blood.

Captain, Tiger and Turk were first slipped at the lion, who by some was expected to seize, and shake, and tear them, as a terrier dog does a rat which he caught on a barn floor. Nothing of the kind took place, however. Nero permitted all the dogs to seize him—inadeed seemed not to understand how to protect himself from his tormentors, who bit and mangled and pulled at him at their pleasure.

Had he been a lamb instead of a lion, he could hardly have acted a tamer part. After a time he shook off the dogs at once; but even then he did not attempt to hurt them, but kept flying about the cage, endeavoring to make his escape.

It was a miserable and disgusting sight to see the dogs hanging to the lips of the agonized animal, seizing him by the under jaw, and pinning him by the nose; the lion roaring with pain, not enraged. Several times he tore off the dogs with his claws, but never once used his formidable teeth. Captain, the fallow-colored dog, was at last taken away, lamed and much distressed; and Tiger and Turk continued the fight. Tiger next crawled out of the cage dreadfully maimed, leaving Turk alone. This dog, the lightest of the three, though wounded and bleeding from all parts of his body, still contended with the lion, which was twenty times his weight, pinning him by the nose at least half a dozen times over.

When Turk was withdrawn from the cage, mangled and bleeding, he seemed more dead than alive, and it was some time before he exhibited any symptoms of life. During the twenty minutes' respite that followed, poor Nero, after being sluiced with a pail of water by Wombwell, who at once went to his cage, rubbed his wounded head with his paws, like a cat, he then lapped for some time from a fresh pan of water, and was patted and caressed by a keeper, through the bars of his cage. The savage throng being now impatient for a renewal of the combat, three fresh dogs, larger than the others—Nelson, Rose and Nettie—were let loose.

The cage had been rendered slippery by the water thrown down, so that the poor lion, partly exhausted, could not bring his feet when attacked by the three dogs. They fastened upon him at once, while he, as before, only tried to get away from them. When the dogs were taken away, the people cried out for them to be brought again to the fight, as they were not beaten. The dogs were again brought forward, and the same heart-sickening scenes of cruelty prevailed. At length the strife was ended; the dogs, wounded and maimed, and the lion, torn and bleeding, were separated. The first fight lasted eleven minutes, and the last five; and "sport," by the mercenary assembly, was called "spit" and "pastime."

In spite of the disgust and humiliation called forth in the public mind in this inhuman spectacle, during the same week in which it occurred a second lion fight was announced by Wombwell, who seemed bent on acquiring a lasting reputation for inhumanity. He matched his lion Wallace, cubbed in Scotland, against six of the best dogs that could be found. Wallace, who had much of the ferocity of a forest lion, was put into the same cage in which Nero had been so cruelly beaten. Spectators were admitted to the Old Factory Yard at five shillings a head, and several well dressed women viewed the contest from the factory window.

Three couples of dogs were slipped at Wallace—Finker, Ball, Sweep, Turpin, Billy and Tiger—one couple at a time; the Wallace made quick work of them. He clapped his paw upon Ball, took Tinker in his teeth, walking about with him like a cat with a mouse. Turpin and Sweep were treated in much the same manner, and Tiger and Billy had no better success. Turpin ran away; Sweep was half killed; Tiger made his escape just in time, and Billy, said to be the best dog in England, was wounded in the head and severely maimed. If in the former lists the dogs got the better of the lion, in the latter the lion had the mastery over the dogs. Both combats, however, were equally discreditable, and called forth the most unsparring reprobation.

Unpublished Letter of Burns. Not far from this structure, Carrick Hill arises abruptly from the road, and from its crest a wide view is revealed of the Fifth and its mountain boundaries in purple haze, Alls Craig out toward the sea, the town on the bay, and the village at the foot. These scenes will always have an interest from their association with the poet; but his family is on the verge of extinction. Two maiden ladies of advanced years, the Misses Beggs, are the only survivors. They live very comfortably in a little cottage called the Brigside, within two miles of the old kirk, and hospitably receive visitors who are interested in the poet, though they possess few reminiscences of him. Gen. Grant, and Henry M. Stanley, the explorer, had been among their recent guests; and through their kindness we were allowed to copy the following interesting and hitherto unpublished letter of Burns to his brother William: ISLE, Tuesday evening. DEAR WILLIAM:—In my last I recommended that valuable apothegm, Learn nobody can know our thoughts, and yet from a slight observation of mankind one would not think so. What mischiefs daily arise from silly garrulity and foolish confidence! There is an excellent Scots saying, that a man's mind as his kingdom. It is certainly so; but how few can govern that kingdom with propriety! The serious mischiefs in business which this flux of language occasions do not come immediately to your situation; but in another point of view—the dignity of man—now is the time that will make or mar. Yours is the time of life

for laying in habits. You cannot avoid it, though you will choose, and these habits will stick to your last sand. At afterperiods, even at so little advance as my years 'tis true that one may still be very sharp-sighted to one's habitual failings and weaknesses, but to eradicate them, is quite a different matter. Acquired at first by accident, they by-and-by begin to be, as it were, a necessary part of our existence. I have no time for more. Whatever you read, whatever you hear, of that strange creature Man, look into the living world about you, look to yourself, for the evidences of the fact or the application of the doctrine. I am ever yours, ROBERT BURNS.

MR. WILLIAM BURNS, Sadler, Longtown. —Harper's Magazine for July.

MINNESOTA NEWS. The house of Thomas Libby, of Harrison, Kandiyohi county, was destroyed by fire a few days since. One night last week Michael Dooley, of Birch Coulee, Hennepin county, had his barn burned, and in it a horse, by being struck by lightning.

The other day a son of John Wilson, of Kirkhoven, Swift county, was kicked in the head while attending some cattle, producing concussion of the brain. In Lida township, Otter Tail county, the other day, Antoni Hanson King, a Dane aged 29 years, committed suicide, by firing an old army musket into his head.

T. Woodward's house at Yellow Medicine agency was struck by lightning during a storm the other night. No one was seriously injured, but the house was badly riddled. Princeton Union: On last Sunday afternoon, John Crockett, one of Pratt & Hines' West Branch crew, found the body of Pete Carr, of Greenbush, Mill Lake county, close by the bank of the river in a jam of logs. Some claim that he was murdered, but the general opinion is that he was accidentally drowned.

Owatonna (Steele county) Journal, July 18: Wednesday night of last week lightning struck the Madford telegraph office while the operator, Mr. Chas. Webb, was sending a dispatch. The instrument was set on fire and the flames communicated to the casing of the window, but were fortunately extinguished before any great damage was done. Jackson Republic: Some demon in human shape last week cut an artery in the neck of a horse belonging to Sol. Middaugh of Petersburg, and as a result the horse expired. Mr. Middaugh is a poor and deservingly farmer, himself lame and sick, his wife recently dangerously ill, and this atrocious case calls for the sympathy of the entire community.

St. Cloud Journal-Press, July 17: Last Saturday Mr. Wm. Gordon, of Brockway, went to Mr. Canby's—a neighbors—to borrow a horse to use in his hayfield. While putting part of the harness, which had slipped off, back on the horse, the animal kicked, striking him in the breast with one of his gambol joints, injuring him so that he had to be carried home, where he is still confined to his bed. Malaria Deformed of its Terrors. Malaria, that fatal atmospheric poison, is disarmed of its terrors, and health insured to thousands residing where the noxious exhalation periodically infects the air, and engenders intermittent and remittent fevers, by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the most popular as it is the best of preventives, alteratives and tonics. In numerous localities where the demand for sulphate of quinine was formerly immense, the purified alkaloid has been almost entirely supplanted by this safe, agreeable and effective substitute, which is genial in action and unobjectionable in flavor. It nullifies the influence of malaria, by gradually and imperceptibly every vital function, quickening and enriching the blood, overcoming a tendency to biliousness, and promoting digestion.

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