

HORSEMANSHIP IN THE ARMIES OF THE WORLD



ITALIAN CAVALRYMAN DOING FEAT OF DESCENDING A TWENTY FOOT CLIFF.

It was on the eve of the adjournment of congress for the Christmas holidays that President Roosevelt sent to the secretary of war a communication on the subject of horsemanship among army officers, a subject very close to his heart. In the communication to Secretary Taft he said:

"I wish you would take such measures as may be necessary to bring to the attention of the military committees of the senate and house the desirability of legislation for the purpose of making infantry captains mounted officers and for the establishment of as many remount depots as may be necessary to furnish remounts for the army. Both of these measures are essential to the improvement of horsemanship in the army."

Every one knows what a good horseman the president himself is and how much he desires that the standards of

horsemanship in the American army should be raised. It was with this in view that the recent practice marches which put to the test the endurance and efficiency as equestrians of many of the older officers in Uncle Sam's land forces were ordered. It was on the 28th of last September, shortly after these marches, that the president wrote as follows to the chief of staff, Major General James Franklin Bell:

"My recent order requiring a test of the riding ability of the field officers of our army has brought forth a number of press comments apparently inspired by the impression that such a test was something extraordinary or unheard of. I think the requirements in this line in foreign armies cannot be very generally known. Won't you be kind enough to prepare for me at your earliest convenience a report showing how our own requirements compare with those prevailing in some of the armies of Europe?"

It was in furtherance of this suggestion that General Bell obtained the material embodied in a report just submitted. The facts gathered by General Bell afford material for considerable reflection as to the zest and persistency with which the officers of European armies devote themselves to mastery of the horse and feats in "equitation," as the military sharps say. By constant practice every day in the week and generally for hours at a time the officers of European armies have gained such skill that they can perform without any ado and as a matter of every day drill feats that seem to the average mind almost an impossibility. Nothing like the severe tests which are imposed in foreign armies are required in our own. Mr. Roosevelt does not advocate imitation of European military regulations in this respect, but he does urge with vigor the general raising of standards in horsemanship. "The field officers of our army cannot be held exclusively responsible for the poor riding which has been frequently observed among them," he says, and he points out that the reason for the existence of poor horsemanship is found in part in the fact that the quality of the horses used in our army does not equal that of foreign mounts and that infantry officers have no opportunity to practice riding until they become field officers, whereas in Europe all infantry captains are mounted.

The ruling idea in European armies is that all mounted officers should keep themselves at all times in fit condition for war and their mounts also. A great many customs are encouraged to stimulate rivalry among the officers in this respect, and there are cross country rides, drag hunts, fox hunts and other things partaking of the nature of sport, but involving very practical tests in horsemanship because of the necessity of jumping fences, ditches, walls and hedges and other obstacles. Some of the feats undertaken by mounted officers in these armies are very spectacular and seem almost impossible. American cavalry troops have won honors in contests with Indians and in China and the Philippines. In fact, complete success was lacking in the operations in the Philippines until a cavalry brigade was put in the field against the insurgents. In the reorganization of the army undertaken not long since the fact was recognized that the national guard of the country is composed almost wholly of infantry and that in case of outbreak of war with a foreign nation volunteer cavalry would have no chance of immediate success in contests with the highly trained cavalrymen of a European army. Special efforts have therefore been made to increase the number and efficiency of the cavalry troops of the regular army, and it is in line with this policy that the president seeks the elevation of the standard of horsemanship among the field officers of our army.

In the French, German and Austrian armies lieutenants of foot troops are exempt from tests of horsemanship, but all captains are mounted officers. Cross country riding to hounds is common in all European armies, and all mounted officers participate. Generally speaking, all officers in European



MAJOR GENERAL JAMES FRANKLIN BELL.

armies are under the constant supervision and examination of their superiors as to horsemanship as well as other matters, and should a division commander report a field officer deficient in horsemanship at any time he is either assigned to duty not requiring physical activity—that is, practically shelved—or becomes subject to transfer to the retired list.

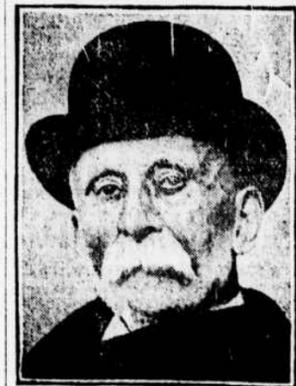
In the German army a goodly number of officers of captain's rank and higher are annually called out of the army for deficiency in riding and endurance in the saddle, and the German officers live in continual anxiety over the results of the regular inspections and annual maneuvers. The brigade paths near the German riding institute are filled with fat majors and captains hammering along with grim persistence and determination in their faces, and the young students of the riding institute have a jocular saying: "His breadbasket will buy him a top hat before long."

Some of the photographs obtained by General Bell illustrating cavalry feats abroad are very interesting, and one of the most thrilling pictures represents an Italian cavalryman riding over a twenty foot perpendicular cliff, the photographs being taken in series to illustrate the sagacity of the horse and the skill of the rider in maintaining his poise in different stages of the descent. There are also pictures of German and French student officers apparently leaping from hill to hill and across all kinds of obstacles with the ease of a mythical hero on a winged Pegasus.

tomb showed that the coffin contained the remains of an aged, bearded man, just such a man as Thomas Charles Druce was in his last days.

The plausibility of the Druce claim depended largely on the sworn statement of an American, Robert C. Caldwell, that he had been a party to a mock funeral and had witnessed the placing of lead in the supposed coffin of Druce.

Caldwell testified in court that he had known Druce, the bazaar keeper, and that he was in reality the fifth Duke of Portland. He had known the



ROBERT C. CALDWELL.

duke under both names, he said, and had arranged the pretended death and funeral at the duke's request. He swore that the coffin contained instead of a body a roll of lead weighing 200 pounds. In consequence of his testimony he is under a charge of perjury, and when he landed in New York recently he was arrested, but was released on bail and permitted to go to his home in Staten Island, where, it was afterward said, he was quite ill.

Caldwell figured some years ago in the A. T. Stewart mystery, claiming to have knowledge of where Mr. Stewart's body was, and in this way he won the title of "the great American affidavit maker."

PRODUCTION OF OZONE.

Proportion in the Atmosphere Varies With the Seasons.

The production of ozone in the atmosphere is greatest in winter. It decreases in spring and reaches a minimum in summer. The direction of the wind seems to exert an influence upon this proportion. Europeans say that north and east winds bring but a small quantity of it. The proportion increases notably with the south and west winds and with the winds accompanying rain and storms. (This being for Europe, the wind conditions have to be reversed for the United States.)

On the other hand, ozone is less abundant in the air of cities than in the air collected in the country, in the midst of forests, and less in that of plains than in the air taken at high altitudes. This diminution of ozone in large centers is due to the contact of organic substances. The ozone diminishes and disappears, and the presence of this gas at any point is capable of giving data as to the purity of the atmosphere.

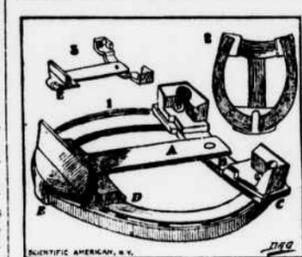
Generally speaking, the air contains about one part of ozone for 700,000 parts of oxygen and nitrogen. In an atmosphere more highly charged with this gas respiration is effected with difficulty, and beyond certain proportions its influence makes itself felt very disagreeably, and it may exert an irritant action. In small quantities, therefore, it is a stimulant. It is moreover, a disinfecting agent.

PLATE FOR HORSESHOES.

Designed to Obviate the Need of Frequent Shoeing.

Pictured in the accompanying engraving is a device adapted to be applied to horseshoes to take the wear and thus obviate the necessity of frequently shoeing the horse. The device may easily be detached and replaced with a new one. It consists essentially of a T shaped plate, which is hooked over the front of the horseshoe and is fastened at the heel by two small bolts.

The plate comprises two members, A and B respectively, the bar B extending across the heel of the shoe and the bar A reaching from the bar B to the toe of the shoe. The bar A is formed with a heavy toe calk, and at its forward end is provided with a hook (E), which is slipped over the toe of the shoe, fitting into a recess formed in the horseshoe. Between the toe calk and the shoe a leather or rubber pad (D) is placed.



HORSESHOE PLATE.

The bar B is provided at each end with a heavy calk of angle form. Bolts seated in the bar within these angles extend through holes in the horseshoe and are adapted to receive a pair of flat nuts. Between the heel calks and the shoe a pair of leather or rubber pads (C) are provided. Details are shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The advantages claimed for this horseshoe plate are that it may be readily taken off by unscrewing the nuts and be replaced with a new plate, that it prevents many unnecessary and harmful nail holes in the hoof and that, as the plates practically take up all the wear from the roads, a well fitting set of horseshoes will last for several years. The rubber pads will cushion the shoes and afford comfort to the horse when traveling on hard paved streets. The inventor of this horseshoe plate is Dr. G. Emil Dargatz of Kansas City, Mo.

A New Anesthetic.

Mr. F. W. Malvin, United States consul at Nottingham, sends to the bureau of manufactures at Washington some particulars concerning the new anesthetic, stovaline. It appears that it produces paralysis of the body below the point of injection and removes all sensation from the limbs, so that it has been found possible to amputate a man's leg while the patient retained consciousness and could, had he been allowed to do so, have even witnessed the operation. The patient could feel no pain and after the operation and when sensation returned experienced nothing but the sense of bruising, which is one of the sequelae of grave operations.—Scientific American.

The Woodcock's Ear.

C. W. Whympur of Big Run, Minn., has just brought to notice a curious point with regard to the position of the ear in the woodcock. The snipe, it may be remembered, is remarkable for the fact that the external ear is placed under instead of behind the eye, as in other birds, but in the woodcock it is placed in front of the eye and more so on one side of the head than on the other. This lack of symmetry, furthermore, extends to the shape of the aperture, which is different on the two sides of the head.

Magnets For Handling Glass.

It has been proposed to use electro magnets for lifting and handling large panes of glass. This is accomplished by placing a piece of sheet iron under the glass and applying one or more electro magnets on the upper face of the glass. The electro magnets attract the sheet iron and thereby hold the glass suspended while moving.

COULD PAY HIS WAY.

Story of a Clubman Who Had Dined "Not Wisely, but Too Well."

The man who was going home from the club after dining "not wisely, but too well," had paid five fares during the first ten minutes he was on the street car. When the conductor came along again he handed out a sixth nickel and then a seventh as the man in uniform was returning to the back platform. A little later when the conductor went through the car he was given an eighth five cent piece by the clubman and then a ninth, but at this stage of the game his money was handed back to him.

"It seems to me you have paid your fare," said the conductor as he looked around to see what the other passengers thought of the matter.

"No, shir," was the reply. "I insist on payin' my way, shir."

"Very well, then," said the other, accepting the nickel, with a shrug of his shoulders.

During the next fifteen minutes quite a number of people got on the car, and the clubman managed to pay five more fares without a word of protest. The conductor hesitated, however, when the fifteenth nickel was handed him by the same man, and he gave it back with the remark, "I am almost sure you have paid your fare."

"No, shir, and I shept no favors from strangers!" angrily exclaimed the man. "I can pay my way, shir, and I propose do sho."

Another nickel passed between them, and then the one who had dined "not wisely, but too well," settled back in his seat and nodded sleepily. When the conductor passed through the car again, however, he sat up and handed over another nickel and said:

"Scuse me, shir—scuse me for not payin' fare, shir."

"But I believe you have paid your fare, shir."

"No, shir! Don't think for moment, shir, that I'm tryin' beat zhis company. I can pay my way, shir."

Before he came to his street he insisted on paying three more fares. Then as he was leaving the car he shook his finger in the conductor's face and said:

"Ductor, I'm goin' report you." "W-what for, shir?"

"For lettin' me ride free, shir! Rule is no passengers 'lowed ride free, and I'll report you unless you collect my fare. Here it is, shir."

And for the twentieth time the clubman handed the conductor a nickel.—A. B. Lewis in Judge.

Of Her Own Accord.

The day the doctor called to treat little Kitty for a slight ailment it was only by the most persistent persuasion that he succeeded in getting the child to show him her tongue.

A few days subsequent to this the child said to her mother, "Ma, the doctor don't have to tease me to obey him any more!"

"Why not?"

"'Cause every time I see him going by the house now I stick my tongue out at him!"—Lippincott's.

At the Ball.



The Gent With the Feather—Ah, I thought it was you!

The Lion—Why?

"Because I have just been dancing with your wife."

"My wife? I didn't know she was here. What has she come as?"

"A lion tamer."

Perhaps.

De Style—I hear Lakeside is so forgetful he always forgets to put gasoline in his auto.

Gunbusta—I hear he bought a motor boat for his private lake.

De Style (absentmindedly)—Yes. And I suppose half the time now he'll forget to put water in the lake.—Harper's Weekly.

Her Interest.

"Why do you encourage that young man to quote poetry to you?"

"Because," answered Miss Cayenne, "the effort to remember occupies his mind so completely that he can't notice whether I am paying attention or not."—Washington Star.

What She Became.

Jack—There goes Mrs. Parsons. She used to be a decidedly pert girl.

Tom—Isn't she still pert?

Jack—No. Marriage seems to have tamed her, and now she's an expert.—Detroit Tribune.

To an Unfound Treasure.

You ask me why I love her. She's no beauty, I'll admit. And most girls are far above her in the realms of sense and wit.

Her temper's rather-funny. And her sweetness—all to learn. And she hasn't any money (Or economy) to burn.

She's no style, no education. No accomplishments, nor could she aspire to social station—Folks don't even call her "good!"

But she has one crowning glory. That for all things compensates. You will doubtless doubt my story. But—she always keeps her date.—Judge.

THE AUTO CONFER.

An auto devotee was leaning. He'd broken all his arms and legs. And drunk of scorching to the orange. He rode both day and night. And in and out of his machine. He smelted so strong of gasoline. None dared a match to light.

The game of golf he thought a bore. Said he, "Why do the duffers roar. The idiotic warning 'Fore!' To those who go ahead? I'll try the game this very morn, And with a proper auto horn, I'll 'honk' to them instead!"

His driving from the foremost tee, Quite wonderful, indeed, to see, Evoked remarks of "Hully gee!" "Twas straight as well as far. For toward the hole, with stops for strokes,

Including foggles, jabs and pokes. He drove his motor car.

Though bunkered near the putting green, He drove ahead with his machine. And landed in a deep ravine.

Then golfers came to coach. "Tis not the place to drive," they said. "The wonder is you are not dead. You fooled your approach!"

Then Beggs, with gargoy-like grimace, His collar bone slipped back in place. And doltily rearranged his face.

Said he, "I like this game, And though it's new to my machine"— He glanced around the deep ravine— "We holed out just the same!"

—Earle Hooker Eaton in Harper's Weekly.

Collecting in New Hampshire.

A New Hampshire man tells of a tight fisted man of affairs in a town of that state who until recently had never been observed to take an interest in church matters. Suddenly, however he became a regular attendant at divine service, greatly to the astonishment of his fellow townsmen.

"What do you think of the case of old Ketchum?" said one of the business men of the place to a friend. "Is it true that he has got religion?"

"Well, hardly," replied the other. "The fact is, it's entirely a matter of business with him. I am in a position to know that about a year ago he loaned the pastor \$50, which the latter was unable to pay, so there remained nothing for Ketchum but to take it out in pew rent."—St. Louis Republic.

The Truth For Once.

The resolute parent stood with the uplifted slipper.

"Johnny," he exclaimed sternly, "this hurts me more than it does you."

And for once the resolute parent was right. The slipper was two sizes too small for him, and he had six corns and a bunion.—Chicago News.

May Good Digestion Wait on Appetite



The Sole and Foodless Survivor—I wonder if my doctor would advise me to continue taking these appetite biters every three hours, or should I throw them to the sharks?—Sketch.

A Change Desired.

Mr. Wyss—My dear, I wish you would arrange your hair the way you had it last evening.

Mrs. Wyss—Oh, Justin! I simply can't do that. It completely changes my appearance.

Mr. Wyss (quietly)—I am fully aware of that, my love.—Judge.

An Approval of the Idle. "Everybody should be made to work in this life," remarked the political economist.

"I don't agree with you," answered Miss Cayenne. "There are so many people who, when they try to work, merely succeed in getting in the way."—Washington Star.

A Bit Hazy.

"But," said Brightley, "if you were sure the fellow who beat you in the saloon was a policeman why didn't you take his number?"

"Well," replied Rounds, "I had a number too many already."—Philadelphia Press.

Something Wrong.

The little girl had got up very early in the morning for the first time.

"Oh, mamma," she exclaimed, returning from the window, "the sun's comin' out all right, but God's forgotten to turn off the moon."—Bohemian.

The Real Test.

Young Physician—Do you have much trouble in getting your patients to do what you want them to?

Old Doctor—Yes, at times, especially when I send in my bills.—Detroit Tribune.

Plenty of Water There.

Church—I hear they've discovered a spring in Wall street?

Gotham—Well, I don't know any surer place to look for water, do you?—Yonkers Statesman.

A Postponement.

"Well, Bobbie, do you like your new Sunday school?"

"I can tell better when I find out what they give you for being good."—New York Life.



FRENCH OFFICER PRACTICING HORSEMANSHIP.

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It was in furtherance of this sug-

A HIGH PRICED TITLE.

That Won by Countess of Yarmouth Earned Through Much Suffering.

The Countess of Yarmouth, who has begun suit in the English courts for annulment of her marriage to the Earl of Yarmouth, was much in the eye last winter when she came to America to attend the first trial of her brother, Harry K. Thaw, for the killing of Stanford White. It was remarked at the time that the earl did not accompany his wife to this country, as



EARL AND COUNTESS OF YARMOUTH.

a devoted husband might have been expected to do, but was enjoying the gayeties of Monte Carlo while the countess was trying to bear up in the crowded courtroom under a crushing load of grief, anxiety and mortification as her brother's trial on a charge of murder proceeded. Her demeanor during this ordeal won her much sympathy, as she was quiet and dignified, and her sad, sweet face as she sat

day by day at her mother's side expressed her keen sense of the humiliation to which her brother's course of life had brought his family. To this cause for mental suffering are now added the disappointment and mortification incident to the failure of her marriage to the earl. His conduct since their marriage at Pittsburg in 1903 has often been commented upon, as it was common gossip that he neglected her for the society of other women, some of them of shady reputations. She received a cold reception from the earl's family on her return to England last summer after the Thaw trial, although her husband's mother was kind to her and endeavored to prevent a break between the titled couple.

She is not expected to come to the United States for the trial now in progress.

As Miss Alice Cornelia Thaw the present countess was much liked in Pittsburg and was easily the most popular member of the Thaw family. Her marriage was brought about by her brother Harry, but he had a falling out with the earl just prior to the wedding and refused to attend it. The father-in-law of the countess is the sixth Marquis of Hertford, one of the oldest and proudest of the British nobility, and her husband in the natural course of events will some day succeed to his father's title.

CALDWELL AND DRUCE CASE.

The American Who Swore Bazaar Keeper Was a Duke.

The claim of George Hollamby Druce upon the title and estates of the Duke of Portland fell to the ground with a heavy thud when the tomb of Thomas Charles Druce was opened and the assertion of the claimant as to what the coffin contained was not sustained. Had the exhumation so eagerly awaited by the public revealed the fact that lead was placed in the casket instead of a corpse the contention of the claimant that Druce and the fifth Duke of Portland were one and the same person would have received the strongest sort of confirmation. But the bottom dropped out of the case of George Hollamby Druce completely when the opening of the