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#### A Story-Teller.

Story-telling is a trade. It is as natural and as easy for some men to tell stories as it is for them to sleep. Some men are born story-tellers, and others can't tell a story to save their souls. The other day a smart Alex met a German on the street and said:

"Hello, Hans, where you going?"  
"Oh, I see going down town."  
"Fine day for the races?"  
"Races? What races?" said Hans.

"The human races," said the Alex. Here the Alex tapped Hans on the shoulder and a hearty laugh followed, after which they took something at Hans' expense.

Hans continued his journey, and a little further down met a friend, and, feeling a little sore and dry, he said:  
"How do you do, Henry?"  
"Well; how are you?"  
"Good day for de trots, eh?"  
"De trots! What trot?"

"Human trots," said Hans with a chuckle, and slapping Henry on the shoulder and cutting many shins. Henry was an American, and this was a new one on him. He had heard of the human race business, but when it came to human trots he failed to catch on, and Hans' disavowal that he had made a mistake, and the beers were on him. Hans has no use for jokes. He can't see through them, and don't to this day understand the difference between races and trots—"trots are races and races are trots," says Hans, "and that's all there is of it."—*St. Joseph Gazette.*

#### Black Snakes Fighting.

I once witnessed a conflict between two racer snakes. Hearing a tremendous thrashing among the leaves on my right, I turned my head in that direction and beheld a sight which, though calculated to make one's flesh creep, was sufficiently exciting to hold one's breathless attention. Two of these glossy black reptiles, each four feet long, often with half their length erect, were charging upon and lashing each other in a terrific manner. Their maneuvers reminded me of two wiry game chickens, withdrawing, advancing and circling around each other, sometimes prone upon the ground and again with half their bodies erect in the air, with heads drawn back and jaws distended, now and again coming together with a rush, coiling and whirling about each other, while they lashed each other and the ground with their tails, the blows sounding like the stroke of a heavy-stubbed whip-lash. This animated contest lasted probably two minutes, when one of the contestants, having been sufficiently entertained, darted away, with his antagonist in hot pursuit and soon they passed beyond my view.—*Buffalo Courier.*

THERE are 10,000 Mormons who uphold polygamy in the Territory of Idaho

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<i>Colognes and Perfumes,</i>	<i>Waste Baskets,</i>
<i>Choicest Toilet Preparations</i>	<i>Memorandum Books,</i>
<i>Fine Cigars and Tobaccos,</i>	<i>Wallets, Etc., Etc.</i>
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