

AFAMOUS PICTURE

Rosa Bonheur's Stirring Masterpiece, "The Horse Fair."

A PRIZE THAT FRANCE LOST.

The Artist's Native Land Permitted the Great Canvas to Find a Home in This Country—The Story of the Painting and Its Replicas.

One of the chief glories of the Metropolitan museum in New York is Rosa Bonheur's stirring masterpiece, "The Horse Fair," a picture which for its irresistible movement and living portraiture of man's most useful friend holds a unique position in the annals of art and the affections of lovers of paintings.

Few, however, are acquainted with the intimate history of that notable canvas, and fewer still are aware that there are no less than five horse fair pictures in existence. The one in New York is the original and, it will be remembered, was first the property of A. T. Stewart and then purchased for the Metropolitan by Cornelius Vanderbilt for 250,000 francs.

It was painted in Paris, the models used being the horses of the Paris Omnibus company and a few animals studied at the horse market of the French capital. It was first exhibited at the salon of 1853, but went back to the artist unsold.

A part of the further history of the famous painting is recorded by Ernest Gambart in his manuscript memoirs, which have been freely drawn upon for the "Reminiscences of Rosa Bonheur."

"After the closing of the 1853 Paris salon 'The Horse Fair' was entrusted to the Society of Artists of Ghent for exhibition in that town, where it had a great success, but whence it also came back unsold. In the spring of 1854 I expressed to Mlle. Bonheur the desire to buy it from her. At that time it was in Bordeaux, her native town.

"Her preference was that the municipality should purchase it for the city museum, and a price of 12,000 francs had been mentioned at which the town authorities might acquire it. But she said to me that if the canvas came back to her again she would let me have it. However, she could not let me go to England for less than 40,000 francs.

"I unhesitatingly accepted the bargain, and it was agreed that the picture should be mine unless sold to Bordeaux. As the picture was back in her studio again in the following year, I told Mlle. Bonheur that I wished to take it at once in order to have it in my 1855 exhibition and that I should like to have it engraved by Thomas Landseer, the celebrated engraver and brother to the painter.

"She was delighted at the idea of the picture being engraved and said to me: 'I have asked you 40,000 francs for my picture, although in France I cannot get 12,000, and I am pleased at your consenting to my terms. On the other hand, I don't mean to take undue advantage of your liberality. How can we arrange matters? Let us see. Well, the picture is very large, and it will be difficult to find a place for it in an engraver's studio. Besides, you want to exhibit it. Wouldn't it be better for me to paint you a smaller copy?'"

That suggestion she carried out and explains how the second canvas came into existence. That smaller copy was the one from which Landseer's well known steel engraving was made and is the picture which is in the British National gallery.

When she heard that it had become the property of the British nation Mlle. Bonheur decided to make a third copy, thinking the second was no good enough for the London collection; hence "The Horse Fair" No. 3. But the National gallery authorities were not able to accept the substitute, as the painting which it was designed to replace had been given to them as trustees.

Besides these three, Mlle. Bonheur executed a water color replica and a drawing based on a large photograph. Of all these, however, the picture in the Metropolitan is by far the finest work, which is only as it should be in view of the fact that the artist always found her best public in America.

This was recalled to her detriment when the rosette of the Legion of Honor was requested in her behalf. "She has ceased exhibiting at the salon," objected the president, "and sells in America everything she paints." The complete answer to that was that the French government had had the opportunity to buy "The Horse Fair," but had neglected it.—Argonaut.

The Trouble.

"So she doesn't return your affection, eh? Well, I shouldn't get mad about that. What's the use of bothering about a girl?" said Watkins.

"I don't mind her not returning my affection," said Dobleigh, "but, confound it, she won't return my diamond ring either!"—Harper's Weekly.

A MERCENARY MARRIAGE.

Romance of Lady March and the Second Duke of Richmond.

One of the mercenary marriages which turned out happily was that of the second Duke of Richmond. He was married to Lady Sarah Cadogan as part of an agreement that her father's gambling debts should be canceled, Lord March (as he then was) being eighteen and the bride thirteen. Immediately after the wedding Lord March's tutor took him off to the continent for the grand tour, and Lady Sarah went back to her nursery. This is the sequel as told by Lady Russell in "The Rose Goddess."

"Three years elapsed. Lord March returned from his travels, but, having such an uninteresting recollection of his bride, was in no hurry to claim her and went the first evening of his return to London to the opera. There he noticed that all eyes—and longuettes—were directed to one box, where, surrounded by several persons, sat a most beautiful young creature. Turning to a man beside him, he asked who she was. 'You must be a stranger in London,' was the answer, 'not to know the reigning toast of the town, the beautiful Lady March!' Lord March lost no time in going to the box and introducing himself to his bride, with whom he ever after lived so affectionately that their devotion to one another became proverbial."

Cruelty to Women.

We wonder what death the man will die or what tortured life he will live

caused to lead who discovered the little "trick" by which a woman's age can be ascertained beyond a doubt—that is to say, while her health is normal. The only instrument required is an ordinary watch. The wrist of the lady whose age is in question is the telltale, for when you count her pulse and it registers sixty-nine beats per minute you know that she is between twenty and twenty-five years old. During the next five years seventy-one beats go to the minute, and the "femme de trente ans" and over is entitled to seventy throbs. It is a pity the man of science who established these facts is not more exact when dealing with the women of riper age, for, according to rumor and tradition, it is only after she is thirty that a woman begins to leave off having birthdays.—Westminster Gazette.

Dropping Coaches on the Run.

The ingenious means by which one of the great railroad systems of England drops passenger coaches off at intermediate stations without slowing up the locomotive, even for a fraction of a second, in its speed of sixty or more miles an hour is called the "slip coach" system and is described in Popular Mechanics. It is a system never tried in America and consists in dropping, or "slipping," one or more of the rear coaches just before the station is reached. Undoubtedly many American tourists in England after alighting at their destination have been amazed to discover that the coach which they occupied was still beside them, while the locomotive and the remainder of the train were no

Concrete Houses

CHEAPER THAN BRICK—MORE DURABLE THAN STONE.

A fire-proof building without enormous cost. The best material at the lowest price. Estimates furnished for concrete or lumber buildings. See or write

A. J. BREWER

Contractor and Builder

Fort Pierce, Fla

30,358

Ford

Cars in use today is the best proof of FORD superiority. Buy a Ford because it's a better car—not because it's cheaper.

TOURING CAR COMPLETE \$780.00
ROADSTER COMPLETE 680.00

Write or phone for demonstration. N. O. PENNY, Agent, Vero, Fla

PHILO C. ELDRED

REAL ESTATE

INSURANCE

Choice Pineapple, Orange, Grapefruit and Vegetable Lands, City Lots, Groves, Farms and Plantations.

Representing the best Life and Fire Insurance Companies. Liberal policies and prompt settlements.

If You Want to Buy or Sell Property See Me.

Faber Building, Fort Pierce, Florida.

GOOD LAND FOR SALE

Twenty acres of excellent orange land at Echo, St. Lucie county—ten acres with hammock and ten acres high pine land. Three acres cleared and three more grubbed and very little expense needed to fit it for oranges, grapefruit or other fruits. The hammock is one of the richest on the coast and is admirably adapted to vegetables as well as fruit growing. Will sell all for \$1,000 or will divide hammock and pine land and dispose of half. This land will grow oranges, grapefruit pineapples, guavas, peaches, and many other fruits, yielding handsome profits and any kind of vegetables grown on the East coast. For further particulars apply to

S. B. JONES,

Echo, Fla.

14 YEARS OF SATISFACTION

BLUM'S MONOGRAM

Has Stood the Test and Is the Best Whiskey on the Market For the Price.

Four Full Quarts Bottled in Bond or Blend \$4.00

12 FULL QUARTS \$12.00

EXPRESS PAID



Bulk Whiskies

PREPAID EXPRESS

\$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50
\$5.00, \$5.50, \$6.00 per Gallon.

BULK CORN WHISKEY

EXPRESS PAID, 100 Proof

\$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50 per Gallon, according to age.

On all orders for \$2.50 or over goods will be shipped in handsome glass jars.

Will Ship You Express Paid

BLENDED GOODS

Lewis' 66 Hunter Harper
Echo Spring Cascade (Tennessee)
Wilson Murray Hill Club

	4 FULL QUARTS	12 FULL QUARTS
Any of the Above Brands	\$5.00	\$12.00
Blum's Monogram	4.00	12.00
Sheriday Club	2.75	8.00
Maryland Club	5.50	18.50
Mt. Vernon	6.00	16.00
Black Label	6.00	16.00

	5 BOTTLES TO THE GAL 4 BOTTLES	12 BOTTLES
Four Roses	\$7.00	\$18.50
Three Feathers	7.00	18.50

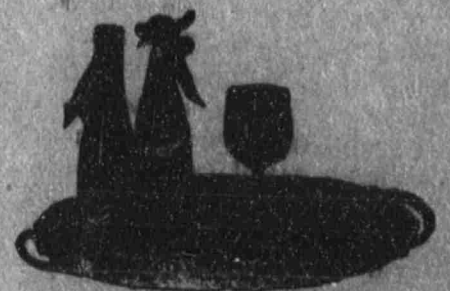
CORN WHISKEY

	4 FULL QUARTS	12 FULL QUARTS
Tennessee Old Reserve	\$4.00	\$11.50
Black and Blue	8.00	9.00
Harvest Corn	8.50	10.50
Laurel Valley	8.50	10.50
Checker Board	8.25	9.00

BOTTLED IN BOND

EXPRESS PAID

	4 FULL QUARTS	12 FULL QUARTS
Clarke's Pure Rye	\$5.00	\$12.00
Sunny Brook	5.00	13.00
Early Times	5.00	12.00
Guggenheimer	5.00	12.00
Mellwood	5.00	12.00
Blum's Monogram	4.00	12.00
Monerief Spring	4.00	11.00
Clark's Sour Mash	4.00	10.50



Padst Blue Ribbon Beer
Per bbl. 10 doz. pints \$12.00
Per doz. packed in boxes \$1.00
Jung's Cincinnati Beer
Per bbl. \$3.50 Per doz. \$1.00
Prices F. O. B. Jacksonville.

LONG DISTANCE PHONE 188

CHAS. BLUM & CO.

517-519-523 West Bay Street, JACKSONVILLE, FLA.