

A BATTERY HORSE.

"I ain't no liar," said the veteran to a circle of comrades at a campfire, "and I'll tell you about a horse we had in our battery. We was ready-voicing at a place which wasn't nothin' but a sandbar, and horses was shipped out there from the North. Many was shipped but few was landed. The Black Prince, she started out with more'n three hundred, and just two beasts lived out the voyage and was landed on the island. Our captain, he froze to one of 'em. A wall-eyed, top-sided brute he was—the horse, I mean—but the captain saw something about him that looked promising and he undertook to educate him.

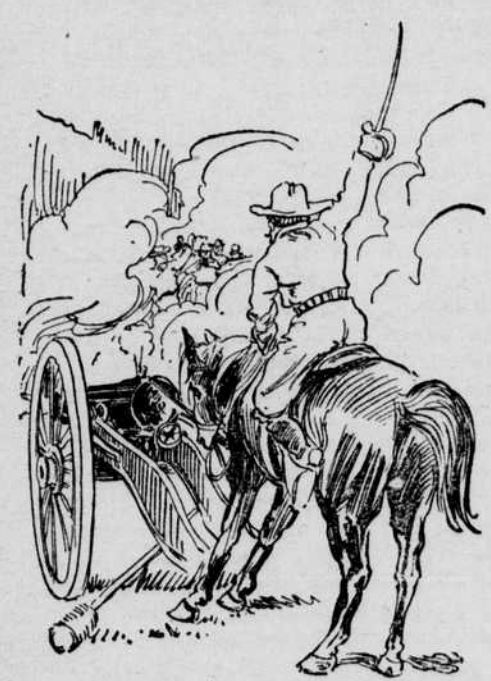
"We was drilling hard every day, going thro' the manual of the piece in the sand, and we had a boy for a bugler who was trying to sound the calls—revelee, stable call, boots and saddles and all that. The boy made some progress, but this 'ere horse he learned faster than the boy, and in three days the horse knew that 'stable call' meant he was to be fed, and 'boots and saddles' meant he'd got to go to work in the sand, so what does he do but pull away from his halter and go off up the island whenever he hears the bugle go 'Boots and saddles.'"

"But the Cap, he got on to this trick, and so one day when he intended to mount and give us a drill he told the bugler to sound 'stable-call.' The horse woke up his appetite for a square meal, and you could see how mad he was when instead of a feed he was set to work flying about with the Cap on him.

"I was watching him, and I said to the boy, 'You look out that horse'll get even with you!' The boy snickered; but in a minute, as the Cap was riding past him and pulled up for a second to swear at a number one man for not handling the sponge-staff right, the horse he let fly with both hind feet and caught the boy right in the jaw! That youngster didn't sound no more calls right or wrong for a month, I can tell you, but the next day I could see the horse was sorry, for now he didn't have no sign of a warning whether it was to be dinner or drill.

"Well, we got over to Louisiana and the battery was all horsed up, six to every gun and caisson, but that horse of the Cap's (for they stuck together) could double discount every other beast in the crowd. He give us nix trick of dodging drills, for he'd learned to like 'em, and it was better than a circus to see him and the Cap flying up and down the line when the guns was in battery. They was a pair, I tell you! The Cap with his tongue and the horse with his heels, both ready to let fly at any man or beast that didn't come up to the scratch. Some days we boys would swear they was a pair of devils together and ought to be dismissed the service, but generally we was mighty proud of 'em, and always watching out of the corners of our eyes to see what they'd be up to next.

"The first fight we was in a shell bust mighty near the Cap, and out of the saddle he went just by the concussion. He warn't hit, and swore at me to go back to my gun when I ran to pick him up. He was trying to mount, but the horse wouldn't let him, and we could see the beast hold up one fore leg while he sidled and swung about on what was left. And



PULLED THE LANYARD.

then the Cap quit him and called the guidon-bearer to let him have his horse, which the bearer was darned glad to do and run back and get under a caisson.

"And after the scrimmage was over where do you suppose we found the Cap's horse? Why, at the field hospital, with the brigade surgeon dressing his wound! Walked right back there, so the surgeon said, like a bounty jumper, and held up his leg for treatment. But that ain't so remarkable when you think of it, for he'd seen the men go to sick-call every day, and, of course, he could see the bandages and smell the ether. So there ain't anything so remarkable about that!

"But what gin him his great reputation was what happened in another battle a little later on. He'd got all right by that time, and he and the Cap was plunging about as usual while he was in battery and the enemy's guns was making it hot for us. We was all doing our part noble, the men working the guns hard as they could and the Cap swearing as hard as he could, when we got a volley of musketry among the gun detachment where I was number three man, and the number four man went down shot thro' the head. He had just stepped off to pull the lanyard when he fell and the Cap was sitting on his horse right in rear of the gun, while the rest of us had all jumped clear of the piece as the sergeant called 'Fire!'"

"There was confusion for an instant, but the horse seen the situation and knew the thing to be done. He sprang like lightning, grabbed the end of the lanyard with his teeth, swung round so as to be out of the recoil and pulled off that gun! It was the shot that saved the day! It killed the commanding officer of the company, his adjutant general and three aides, and yet some folks tell you a horse ain't human!"

"Do you suppose he is alive today?" asked one of the hearers.

"I ain't no liar," said the veteran, "and I won't undertake to say whether he is or not."—William Ward Carruth.

Used by British Soldiers in Africa.
Capt C. G. Dennison is well known all over Africa as commander of the forces that captured the famous rebel Galshe. Under date of Nov. 4, 1897, from Vryburg, Bechuanaland, he writes, "Before starting on the last campaign I bought a quantity of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which I used myself when troubled with bowel complaint, and had given to my men, and in every case it proved most beneficial." For sale by P. C. Corrigan.

The Extreme of Unconventional.
All night the red wine flowed! Was-sai! Morning dawned upon a wild scene of revelry. Some were singing bacchanalian songs; others danced grotesquely; while still others, and these were drunkest of all, picked their teeth!—Detroit Journal.

About Time.
The husband ceases to talk shop when his wife begins to talk shopping.

It will not be a surprise to any who are at all familiar with the good qualities of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, to know that people everywhere take pleasure in relating their experience in the use of that splendid medicine and in telling of the benefit they have received from it, of bad colds it has cured, of the threatened attacks of pneumonia it has averted and of the children it has saved from attacks of croup and whooping cough. It is a grand, good medicine. For sale by P. C. Corrigan.

The Malicious Mat.
It was a bitterly cutting day, but a young lady, residing with her father at Grassendale, Pa., managed to enjoy herself, and for some time to come will rejoice greatly.

She was taking a ride with two gentlemen friends, and as she was driving one of the gentlemen slyly inserted a hand in her muff and lovingly pressed her disengaged hand. She blushing withdrew it just as the gentleman on the other side slipped his hand in the muff.

She knew by the action of her admirers that the hand pressures were frequent and loving within the silk lining of the muff; for first one face and then the other would bob forward to catch a look at the sweet face and eyes which prompted, as they supposed, the tender pressure of the hand. The play lasted until the young lady quietly remarked:

"If you gentlemen have done with my muff, I will trouble you for it now, as my hands are quite cold."

The two gentlemen are not now on speaking terms.

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HEALTH AND BEAUTY.

December should mark radical changes in our diet, it now being the mission of our food to "keep out the cold" as well as to nourish the body. Good soups and good meats are now of first importance—indeed, are synonymous with good sense, begging the pardon of our vegetarian friends. Purees (of meat foundation) and all the strong, rich soups—to be avoided at other seasons—are strictly in mid-winter order. In winter meat becomes the pivotal point of our diet. The fear of yellow fever among the people has almost entirely obscured the danger from diphtheria, tuberculosis and typhoid fever and other infectious diseases which confront us at all times and during all seasons. The danger from a case of diphtheria in New York at any season of the year is far greater than the danger from a case of yellow fever in the same place; still, persons who would shun a street where a case of yellow fever existed would deliberately enter the apartment of a person suffering from diphtheria. A serious outbreak of typhoid fever creates but little consternation, and the presence in our midst of innumerable cases of tuberculosis, a disease which is responsible for an incredible number of deaths, is looked upon with indifference by the public, says the North American Review. The misconception in regard to the danger from this class of diseases often renders the efforts of health officials ineffectual. The Italians consider a large nose desirable and beautiful. Recently there have been two competitions in which noses have played the leading part. One at Padua was held by the students, and prizes of pocket handkerchiefs and snuff-boxes were awarded for "noses the most pronounced and respectable." At Milan a more important competition was held, the competitors numbering thirty-six. The first prize, a gold medal, was won by a Venetian, whose nose was found to be "of formidable proportions, long, well pronounced, aggressive, trenchant like a knife blade." The second prize, an enameled medal, went to the man who owned a nose "domineering, assuming, with nostrils wide and cavernous." The third medal went to a man whose nose was "refined and symmetrical," while the last two medals to were awarded for a nose "without pretension, ingenuous, but solid and well-planted," and another "considerable, regular and worthy of respect."

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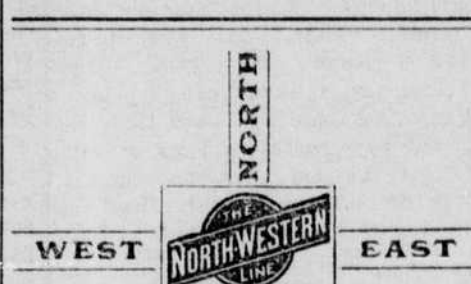
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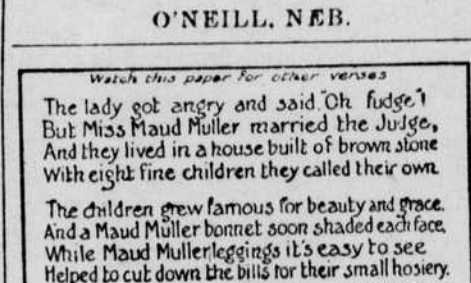
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