

came, and then the weasel paused for a moment as if considering what to do next.

Again the weasel started, now through the fence and across the road, every sparrow continuing in close pursuit. On over into a field the weasel went until he slipped from sight, I knew not where. Then the birds perched in a line on the fence, and now for the first time I saw that there were two wrens with the sparrows and my! how they all chirped, as if they were talking over their victory. But the most gratifying thing to me was that the chicken's life was spared and that the birds had saved him.

KINDNESS TO DUMB ANIMALS.

The waggon was heavily laden with great bags of metal, too heavy for a single horse to draw, one would have thought.

It turned into a side street and half way down the block again turned into an alley at the rear of a livery stable. It required considerable tugging on the part of the horse to pull the load up the incline of the alley driveway, but

he did it, and the driver looked pleased when the back wheels had made the rise and settled down to level ground. At the barn door it was necessary to turn the waggon around completely and back in. Surely one horse could not do that. The turn was made easily enough, but there remained.

"Back him up, Jim!" said the man, pulling lightly at the reins.

The horse braced his fore feet and shoved.

The waggon didn't move. The man got down from the seat and went around to the back of the truck and pulled. "Back!" he commanded. The horse put every muscle to the strain. "Back!" The waggon moved, this time at least a foot. Two more, and the back wheels would be over the threshold of the barn door.

"Back!" The command moved the horse to exert his greatest effort. There was a crunch of splintering wood and the waggon rolled back.

Not a blow had been struck the animal. Only gentle words had been spoken, and the horse had done the rest.

And when it was all over the

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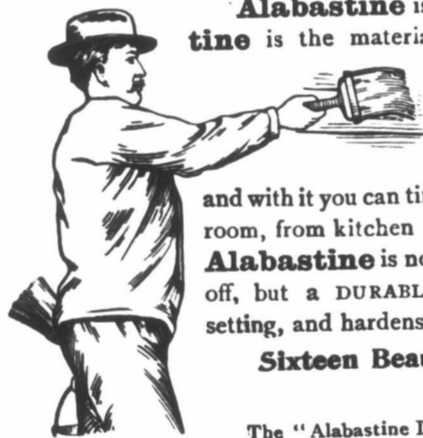
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man did not go unloading the waggon without a further thought to the great, obedient animal standing still between the shafts. He went to him and took his nose in his hands and patted him between the eyes and said: "Good old Jim! You did do it, didn't you? I knew you would."

And the horse rubbed his nose against the man's cheek. It is pleasant now and then to see such things.

AN INCIDENT IN THE BOYHOOD OF HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN.

When this wonderful story teller was a little boy he lived in Denmark. His father was a shoemaker and the family was very poor. When he was a little fellow, he went into a field with his mother and a number of children to glean the wheat which the reapers had

left in the field. While the poor children were gathering the gleanings by little handfuls, an angry officer came along armed with a whip. All ran as fast as they could away from the angry man; but little Hans was barefooted, and the sharp stubble cut his feet, so that he could not get away. Not afraid the lad faced the angry man and his upraised whip: "How dare you strike me when you know God sees you?" he cried, looking fearlessly into the angry man's face. The whip came down but not on little Hans. The man admired the boy's courage and praised him for it, and sent him home with gifts rather than blows.

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