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He Had Seen No Stray Horse.

Not long ago a certain grammarian, of whom it is said that to his refined and sensitive ear the braying of a donkey is melody compared with the utterance of an uncouth expression, was met at the street corner by a countryman, and the following conversation was commenced by the latter:

"Mister, you haven't seen no stray horse pass this way within a short time?"

- "You are mistaken, sir; I have."
- "Which way was he going?"
- "Which way was who going?"
- "The horse."
- "What horse?"
- "The horse you saw pass here."
- "I have seen no horse pass here."
- "You just said you had."
- "Well, I say so still."
- "I asked you a civil question, I believe?" said the countryman.

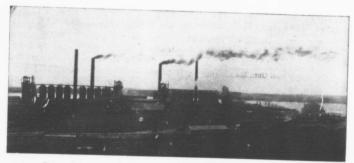
"You asked me no question at all," replied the pedant. "You accosted me by saying that I hadn't seen no stray horse, and you must allow me to persist in my declaration—that I have seen no stray horse pass this way."

After scanning the scholastic individual for a moment with a look that seemed to say, "there's something wrong about the fellow's upper storey," the rural gentleman walked off to institute further search for the stray animal.

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If thou art worn and hard beset
With sorrows that thou wouldst forget;
If thou wouldst read a lesson that will keep
Thy heart from fainting and thy soul from sleep,
Go to the woods and hills! No tears
Dim the sweet look that nature wears.

-Longfellow.



PARTIAL VIEW OF THE WORKS OF THE DOMINION STEEL COMPANY, AT SYDNEY, N. S.