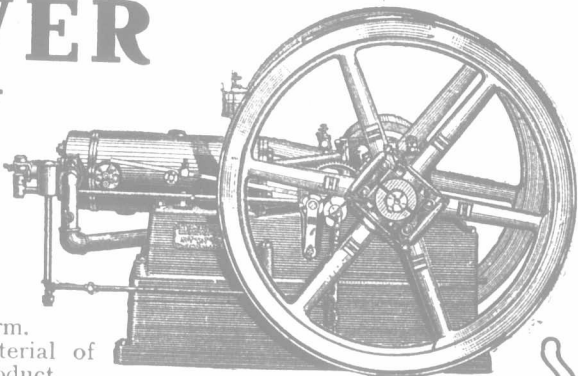


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### A Horse Show Story.

The following burlesque dialogue, by Herbert Assheton, in Rider and Driver, will appeal to quite a few of our readers about this season:

"Do, Pamby?"

"Hello, Namby! Haven't seen you for an age!"

"But what are you doing in that costume? Do you ride?"

"Why, of course! And bought a horse, too, don't you know. Got it from a chap who's manager of a country show; and, begad, he included in the dicker that he'd make me a judge this summer—what d'you think o' that?"

"You don't say so! I didn't know that you'd taken up the horse fad!"

"Oh, yes! Had to, you see! Really, riding togs are all the rage, and my tailor told me I wasn't up-to-date without 'em, so I've been taking lessons for the last two months."

"By Jove, you're a devil for luck! I've owned three nags, and been riding for nearly a year, yet I only got my first invitation to judge six weeks ago."

"Too bad! But did you go?"

"Sure! Why, you're not in it at all now until you graduate in the ring!"

"That's so! But tell me, dear boy, how you managed it, and what a fellow's got to do."

"Oh, it's easy enough, if the exhibitors don't try to cheat. We're only called on to judge hunters, you know. That's the gentlemen's exclusive end of it; it sometimes takes professionals to do the other stunts. And when I asked Riley, our coachman, what he'd do in my place, he gave me some good points."

"By Jove, Namby, Riley ought to know! He came from over the pond, didn't he? But what did he tell you?"

"He said there were just three things to do. Put up a big bluff; wear your newest boots and breeches, and give all the ribbons to the thoroughbreds."

"That seems like a straight tip! My manager, too, said something about the 'last point.'"

"Oh, yes! Riley says you must do that or they'll put you down for a jack."

"But how's a fellow to know the thoroughbreds? That's what gets me!"

"Well, I didn't find Riley's rule altogether infallible; but it comes near hitting the mark. It's all right, anyhow, so long as they don't cheat."

"Is it difficult to remember? For I find it devilish hard to keep in my mind whether the spavins or forelocks—no, it's the footlocks, isn't it, that come next to the hoof?"

"My dear boy, you don't have to cram all that stuff! It's a dead easy thing the way Riley puts it. The thoroughbreds have long tails and the half-breds are docked; that isn't hard, is it?"

"Oh, no! That's dead easy, as you say! Here's five dollars for Riley, with my compliments. I feel much more comfortable."

"But you'd better look out, Pamby, and get some hints about the ring."

"The doose! I'm sure I can distinguish for myself between the docked-tail of the thoroughbred and the long tail of the common horse."

"There you go already; it's just the opposite! But it depends, too, on the honesty of the exhibitors. In my case there was quite a mix-up—and, in fact, I retired from the ring."

"You don't say so! Why, what on earth happened?"

"Well, a sly kind of a fellow had a half-bred horse with a long tail."

"Stop a second—oh, yes; that's right! Well?"

"And it jumped everything clean—better than all the rest put together, and, really, to my mind, it was also the fattest and sleekest horse in the ring."

"What an infernal swindle! What in the name of goodness did you do about it?"

"Well, you see, it was very embarrassing. I heard the president of the show say: 'By thunder, he's given that low-down, half-bred the ribbon over my thoroughbreds!' And I wished at that moment that the earth would open and swallow me up! I turned towards the man and said, 'Pardon me, but aren't you mistaken about that? If you look again you'll see the horse I put the blue ribbon on has a long tail.' And I know my sarcastic tones showed my disgust! By Jove, his insolence was unbearable! He stared at me in the rudest kind of

(Continued on next page.)

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A choice lot of pigs of different ages and both sexes. Some fine shearing rams and ewe lambs.

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