

The Lilly family of six persons constitute the sideshow of a Western circus. The father is a sword swallower, the mother is a fat woman, a daughter is a Cossian girl, one son is a contortionist, another—hideously deformed—is a wild man from Borneo, and a third lectures on the curiosities.

There ought to be a convention of woodchucks. The trouble at present is that one man's woodchuck predicts a cold Winter and digs deep, and another man's woodchuck predicts a warm Winter and digs shallow. This frivolity is a disgrace to the woodchuck. Besides an unsocial creature and not influenced by sympathy, he ought to hit the bull's-eye with his little prediction every time.

A retired army officer had not attended divine service for years. On his return to the fold, the first Sunday in church the first lesson for the day commenced thus: 'And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, captain of guard, &c. 'What!' exclaimed our military friend, 'a captain still? Why, he was a captain when I last heard of him, years ago. I thought he'd surely have got his promotion before this.'

The church wardens of a church, near Bath, being disgusted with the penuriousness of a rich peer, who, since the collection began to be taken up in a bag instead of a plate, contributed nothing but coppers, resolved to shame him into liberality. They cut a slit in the bottom of the bag and passed it first to his lordship, whose bronze penny fell with a resounding clash on the floor, plain to be seen by all men. Next day his lordship took all his prayer-books and cushions home and deserted the church for good and all.

The English courts have at length decided that the agricultural population have rights which fox-hunters are bound to respect. Heretofore it has been assumed that the latter are at liberty to go over any man's land in pursuit of their 'game,' regardless of growing crops and of the owner's objections. It has just been decided that this is all a mistake, and if a farmer objects to a troop of horses and hounds tramping and racing over his demesne they must keep off or be liable for damages.

In the course of his sermon on Sunday last, in touching upon immortality Mr. Beecher said:—'I have a wish and a hope that every noble horse may have a better life beyond, and I hope that every dog, or at least some dogs, may have a little immortality.' If we remember rightly, the orthodox John Wesley was not without hope that the more intelligent of the lower animals would live in the world to come.

Mr. Henry W. Parsons, living on the Waterloo Road, a few miles from Guelph, has a hired man something of a sportsman, and likes nothing better than hunting the wild deer or shooting quails or pheasants. While engaged in chopping a few days ago, he saw some pheasants and resolved to make provision the next day for securing some of them. He borrowed a gun, purchased powder and shot, and was in every way prepared for the conflict. It happened that while chopping the powder leaked out of the pouch, and while a pheasant flew dangerously near, the pipe he was smoking was deposited in his pocket, at the same time reaching for the gun he had provided. He had no sooner let his pipe drop along with the powder than an explosion took place, the powder blew his coat-tails off and a certain portion of his body was cauterized. The sportsman purposes refraining from carrying powder in the future.

To one having a real fondness for the horse, the temptation is strong to go on and fill column after column with descriptions of individual animals where there were so many of astonishing excellence, but my purpose being rather to give the impression of the agricultural show at Bristol upon an American farmer, as a farmer, I must leave this branch of the subject with the simple remark that the breeding of fine hunters is, with many farmers, a regular branch of their business, success in this breeding producing a capital profit. Even an ordinarily good hunter is quite sure to be worth from five hundred to seven hundred and fifty dollars, and two or three thousand dollars for perfect, strong, weight-carrying horses, well trained and with good temper, is by no means unusual. Incidentally the farmer gets out of the breaking and training of his young horses a great deal of good riding which he otherwise could not afford, for to succeed well in this business one must be a good cross-country rider, and show his animals in the front flight of the field.—Col. Geo. E. WARRING, Jun., in *Harper's Magazine* for January.

"OLD BALDWIN'S GIG."

From the New York Sun.

The will of Samuel Baldwin, who died in Newark in November, was admitted to probate, and to the surprise of all who knew him it was ascertained that he was worth \$218,085 in bonds and stocks, and \$90,000 in real estate. His money was made while he was a young man, and in the lottery business. His father sold tickets before him. One who knew him well said to a reporter for the Sun last evening: 'Old Sam Baldwin was an eccentric man, and I remember when he placarded his store front with lottery advertisements. One day, about twenty years ago, he ran to catch a train for New York, in order to return an unsold ticket, but he missed the train, and he was mad as thunder. It was a \$10 ticket, and the numbers were 9, 12, 40. Well, the next morning those numbers came out first in the drawing, and Old Sam won \$25,000. There are many old policy players who play those numbers to this day. They call them 'Old Baldwin's gig.'

BROAD-CHESTED HORSES.

"Wind," says an old horseman, "is the grand secret of a fast horse. Good lungs will cover a multitude of faults; while, on the other hand, perfection of shape and form are useless when the wind is out. The chest, therefore, in all cases, should be large and capacious. In shape it may vary somewhat, according to the service to which the horse is to be put. If he is to be kept for slow work and heavy drawing, the chest may be nearly circular in form, because this shape is the one for strength and bulk, to receive and bear up against the pressure of the collar, while at the same time sufficient room is secured for expansion of the lungs caused by slow, regular work. But if the chest is circular, let it be at the same time deep, or else the lungs may be cramped. A horse with a shallow chest is worthless for any purpose. The rule, then, is this: For a draught horse, a circular but deep chest; but, as you pass through the different degrees of speed, up to the racer and trotter, the chest will increase in depth, compared to its roundness, until, for the highest rate of speed you must take a chest as deep as a greyhound, and at the same time not lacking in strength. Every breeder should keep this in mind when selecting his brood mares and stallions, for he may be sure that shallow-chested parents never beget deep-chested colts."

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