

THE SPICE OF LIFE.

It is a mistaken, though common opinion, says Country Life in America, that all Arab horses are either spotted or white. On the contrary, there are no spotted horses in Arabia, and the only white animals are those that change from the gray in old age. It has been estimated that about 50 per cent. are bays, 30 per cent. grays, and 20 per cent. chestnuts, with an occasional black or brown. One of the ways of telling Arabian blood is by the color of the skin rather than the color of the hair. The skin is always slate color, without the slightest spot of white or any other color.

It was the dreamy hour, when the Christmas dinner, having been eaten, was doing its best to digest itself, and the girls were talking in the hushed tones appropriate to the occasion.

"I've just heard of a new charm to tell whether anyone loves you, and, if so, who it is," whispered Elsie.

"What is it?" queried Sophie, absently fingering her new diamond ring.

"Well, you take four or five chestnuts, name them each after some man you know, and then put them on the stove, and the first one that pops is the one that loves you."

"H'm," said Sophie. "I know a better way than that."

"Do you?"

"Yes, indeed. By my plan you take one particular man, place him on the sofa in the parlor, sit close to him with the light a little low, and look into his eyes. And then, if he doesn't pop, you'll know it's time to change the man on the sofa."

Dr. A. M. Dougal, surgeon of the Carthaginian, was describing the splendid cures of seasickness that he obtains by means of hypnotism, says the New York Tribune.

"The most violent cases yield to my treatment," said Dr. Dougal. "Yes, some very violent cases indeed have vanished under my hand."

"I remember a particularly bad case."

Dr. Dougal stroked his mouth to hide a smile.

"It was a Philadelphia snub dealer. He sent for me the second day out. As I hurried to his cabin I could hear him groaning a corridor away."

"Do you feel very bad?" I asked the man, sympathetically.

"Oh, dear, yes!" he groaned. "Oh, my! I feel very, very bad, indeed."

"I looked at him. Serpentine undulations passed over his frame. He was racked and shaken as by an earthquake."

"Can't you keep anything on your stomach?" I inquired.

"Only my hands," he sighed. "Only my hands."

The clever young man was wandering up and down the platform of the railway station, intent upon finding an empty carriage in the express which was almost due to start. But, alas, his search was in vain. Still, it is difficult to disappoint a clever young man when he is intent upon getting something. An idea occurred to him, and, assuming an official air, he stalked up to the last carriage, and cried in a stentorian voice:

"All change here! This carriage isn't going!"

There were exclamations low but deep from the occupants of the crowded compartment; but nevertheless they scurried out of the carriage, and packed themselves away in other parts of the train.

The smile on the face of the young man was childlike and bland as he settled himself spaciouly in the corner of the empty carriage and lit a cigar.

"Ah," he murmured, "it's a grand thing for me that I was born clever! I wish that they'd hurry up and start!"

Presently the station master put his head in the window and said:

"I s'pose you're the smart young fellow what told the people this here carriage were not going?"

"Yes," said the clever one. And he smiled a dazzling, seven-carat smile.

"Well," said the station master, who was somewhat of a snigger himself, "she sn't!" The porter heard you telling them people, and he cut her off. He thought you was a director of the road."



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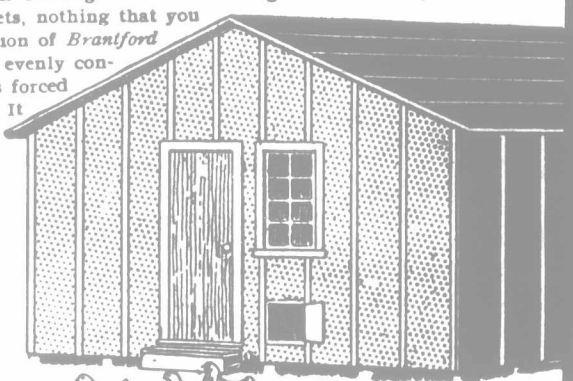
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