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NOTICE.

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SHIPPING HORSES.

The engraving on this page describes, better than could be done by the pen, the method often used of embarking and disembarking horses. A wide band is placed underneath the horse, and one end of a chain which revolves round an elevated pulley is attached to the four points of this band, and the other end to a windlass, and the poor animal is bodily lifted off his feet and placed wherever needed. He cannot kick if he wanted too; but is generally too frightened to do anything but wonder at his strange position. In the picture given the horses are being elevated from scows to the dock to be used in the war against the Zulus.

In Montreal horses and cattle are similarly treated with the exception that the cattle are frequently hoisted into the ships by the horns.

In deep mines horses, mules or donkeys are often used to draw the coal or other materials mined, from the miners at the ends of the galleries to the foot of the shaft, from there to be hoisted to the pit's mouth. When lowered for this purpose a similar contrivance to the one depicted is used. In one instance the writer saw a beautiful pony hoisted up twelve hundred feet, from the midnight darkness of the lowest gallery to the glorious light of the summer's noonday sun. The change was so great and so sudden that the poor animal fell senseless at the pit's mouth; but soon recovering, pranced about with the greatest joy. Two or three days after, however, he was again lowered to his old abode.

ANIMAL FRIENDSHIPS.

Many equine celebrities have delighted in feline companions, following in this the example of their notable ancestor, the Godolphin Arab, between whom and a black cat an intimate friendship existed, for years, a friendship that came to a touching end; for when that famous steed died, his old companion would not leave the body, and when it had seen it put under ground, crawled slowly away to a hay-loft, and, refusing to be comforted, pined away and died.

Mr Huntington, of East Bloomfield, America, owns a thoroughbred horse named Narragansett, and a white cat. The latter was wont to pay a daily visit to Narragansett's stall, to hunt up the mice, and then enjoy a quiet nap. Mr. Huntington removed to Rochester with his family, leaving the cat behind; but she complained so loudly and so unceasingly that she was sent on to the new abode. Her first object was now to get somebody to interpret her desires. At last her master divined them and started off with her to the barn. As soon as they were inside, the cat went to the horse's stall, made herself a bed near his head, and

curled herself up contentedly. When Mr. Huntington visited the pair next morning, there was puss, close to Narragansett's feet, with a family of five beside her. The horse evidently knew all about it, and that it behooved him to take heed how he used his feet. Puss afterwards would go out, leaving her little ones to the care of her friend, who would every now and then look, to see how they were getting on. When these inspections took place in the mother's presence, she was not at all uneasy, although she showed the greatest fear

Lemmery shut up a cat and several mice together in a cage. The mice in time got to be very friendly, and plucked and nibbled at their feline friend. When any of them grew troublesome she would gently box their ears. A German magazine tells of a M. Hecart who placed a tame sparrow under the protection of a wild-cat. Another cat attacked the sparrow, which was at the most critical moment rescued by its protector. During the sparrows subsequent illness its natural foe watched over it with the greatest tenderness. The same au-

thority gives an instance of a cat trained like a watch-dog to keep guard over a yard containing a hare and some sparrows, blackbirds and partridges.

That a horse should be hail-fellow with a hen appears too absurd to be true; yet we have Gilbert White's word for it that a horse, lacking more suitable companions, struck up a great friendship with a hen, and displayed immense gratification when she rubbed against his legs and clucked a greeting, whilst he moved about with the greatest caution lest he might trample on his "little, little friend." Col. Montague tells of a pointer which, after being well beaten for killing a Chinese goose, was further punished by having the murdered bird tied to his neck, a penance that entailed his being constantly attended by the defunct's relict. Whether he satisfied her that he repented the cruel deed is more than we know but after a little while the pointer and the goose were on the best of terms, living under the same roof, fed out of one trough, occupying the same straw bed; and when the dog went on duty in the field, the goose filled the air with her lamentations for his absence.—*Chambers' Journal.*

BOYS CARRYING PISTOLS.

A pistol is a very peculiar firearm; it is made for a very peculiar purpose. It is quite natural for some boys to want rifles or shot-guns, with which they may kill game; but a pistol is intended to kill human beings, and this is about all it is good for. There are very few boys in this country who could shoot a bird or a rabbit with a pistol, and any one who should go out hunting with a pistol would be laughed at. This being the case, why should a boy want a pistol? What human beings would he like to kill?

It is useless to say that he may need his pistol for purposes of defence. Not one boy in a thousand is ever placed, in such a position that he may need defend himself with a pistol. But it often has happened that boys who carried loaded pistols thought that it would be a manly thing, under certain circumstances, to use them, and yet, when the time came and they killed somebody, they only brought down misery upon themselves and their families. And this, too, in many a case where, if no one present had had a pistol, the affair would have passed off harmlessly and been soon forgotten.

But the way in which boys generally take human life with pistols is some accidental way. They do not kill highwaymen and robbers, but they kill their schoolmates, or their brothers, or sisters, or, in many cases, themselves. There is no school where boys are taught to properly handle and carry loaded pistols, so they usually have to learn these things by long practice. And while they are learning, it is very likely that some one will be shot. I saw in a newspaper, not long ago, accounts of three fatal accidents, all of which happened on the same day, from careless use of fire arms. And one of these dreadful mishaps was occasioned by a lad who carried a loaded pistol in his overcoat pocket, and who carelessly threw down the coat.

And then, again, a boy ought to be ashamed to carry a pistol, especially a loaded one. The possession of such a thing is a proof that he expects to go among vicious people. If he goes into good society, and has honest manly fellows for his companions, he will not need a pistol. A loaded pistol in a boy's pocket is not only useless and dangerous, but also it almost stamps him as a bad boy, or one who wishes to associate with bad boys and vicious men.—*St. Nicholas.*



and anxiety if any children or strangers intruded upon her privacy.

A gentleman in Sussex had a cat which showed the greatest affection for a young blackbird, which was given to her by a stable-boy for food, a day or two after she had been deprived of her kittens. She tended it with the greatest care; they became inseparable companions, and no mother could show a greater fondness for her offspring that she did for the bird.