

Do not imagine, reader, that I am joking. Here is the story in a few words:—This equestrian statue was erected during the restoration of the Bourbon dynasty, at which time the counter-revolution was in full blast. Revolutionary ideas, being prosecuted and condemned, sought a refuge everywhere. The royalist police pursued with animosity all disloyal or suspected documents, and the political works and pamphlets of the Republic were threatened with merciless destruction.

A number of patriots, deeply affected by this persecution, met and hatched a very singular plot. The statue was to be prepared; nothing was easier than to buy the workmen's co-operation, and cause them to hide in the inside of the brass horse, a complete collection of revolutionary publications. These statues are set up by piecemeal, the head being placed in position last of all. This constituted a ready hiding place which would elude the most subtle searches. A call to the patriots was made; a vast quantity of suspected documents was collected, and this criminal library was confusedly buried in the inside of the royal steed.

This is by no means a literary joke, but a perfectly authentic anecdote, which was related by an eye-witness of the operation, to a reporter of *Le Temps*, a daily paper of Paris, and lately made known to the great delight of the French radicals.

Now what will Marshal MacMahon's government say on this delicate subject? Henry the Fourth's statue is inviolable, any mutilation of it would be considered almost sacrilege. Who then would be bold enough to make an investigation of the contents of the equine portion thereof? *La Belle France* may experience a change of government, and a royal or an imperial ruler once more recover despotic sway, and yet these democratic publications would repose in peace; and it may be said that, by the performance of this so long unknown plot, the French revolution has been immortalized, for were all its adherents banished from the world, its archives would certainly repose in safety in the belly of Henry the Fourth's august charger.

LOUIS A. BERTRAND.

Keep Ammonia in the House.

No housekeeper should be without a bottle of spirits of ammonia, for besides its medical value it is invaluable for household purposes. It is nearly as useful as soap, and its cheapness brings it within the reach of all. Put a teaspoonful of ammonia to a quart of warm soap-suds, dip in a flannel cloth and wipe off the dust and fly specks, and see for yourself how much labor it will save. No scrubbing will be needful. It will cleanse and brighten silver wonderfully; to a pint of suds mix a teaspoonful of spirits, dip in your silver spoons, forks, etc., rub with a brush and polish with a chamois skin.

For washing mirrors and windows it is very desirable; put a few drops of ammonia on a piece of paper, and it will readily take off every spot or finger mark on the glass. It will take out grease spots from every fabric; put on the ammonia nearly clear, lay blotting paper over the place, and place a hot flat iron on it for a few moments. A few drops in water will clean laces and whiten them as well, also muslins. Then it is a most refreshing agent at the toilet table; a few drops in a basin of water will make a better bath than pure water, and if the skin is oily it will remove all glossiness and disagreeable odors. Added to a foot-bath it entirely absorbs all noxious smell, so often arising from the feet in warm weather, and nothing is better for cleaning the hair from dandruff and dust.

For cleaning hair and nail brushes it is equally good. Put a teaspoonful of ammonia into one pint of water and shake the brushes through the water. When they look white rinse them in water and put them in the sunshine, or in a warm place, to dry. The dirtiest brushes will come out of this bath white and clean. For medical purposes it is unrivaled; for the headache it is a desirable stimulant; a frequent inhaling of its pungent odors will often remove catarrhal colds. There is no better remedy for heartburn and dyspepsia, and the aromatic spirits of ammonia is especially prepared for these troubles. Ten drops of it in a wine

glass are often a great relief. The spirits of ammonia can be taken in the same way, but it is not as palatable.

In addition to all these uses the effect of ammonia on vegetation is beneficial. If you desire roses, geraniums, fuchsias, etc., to become more flourishing, you can try it upon them by adding five or six drops to every pint of warm water you give them, but don't repeat the dose oftener than five or six days, lest you stimulate them too highly. So be sure and keep a large bottle of it in the house, and have a glass stopper for it, as it is very evanescent, and also injurious to corks.—*Ex.*

[But don't let the children get at it, and be sure to be particularly careful over it when neat, or something will get burnt.—*ED. NEWS.*]

BREVITIES.

Now they say in England that the Conservatives have made more blunders in five months than the Liberals did in five years.

O that wonderful Board of Health! With an epidemic of diphtheria in the city, due to filth, it bothers with the tooth of the locomotives.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Barry Sullivan, the great tragedian, has been engaged by Jarrett & Palmer for 150 performances in Booth's and other leading theatres throughout the United States.

Lead ore has been discovered at Ash Grove, Green Co., Mo., and zinc in Dade Co. One man finds his rock fence zinc, and another has a chimney of the same material.

The *Saturday Review* thinks it is difficult to say which are the greatest nuisances, the really soulless windbags, whose appreciation is all affectation, or the honest, but uncultivated countryman, who listens to a sonata of Beethoven and exclaims: "Oh, dry up that scrapin' and give us a Virginia reel."

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