

A RICH LION STORY.

I remember a story told me some time ago, relating to an acquaintance of my own. He is a queer fellow, full of fun, and always ready for a joke, and has a ludicrous way of making faces and emitting curious howls, which I will defy the most solemn Methodist to witness unmoved. The nature of the man renders what I am going to tell you appear more absurd than the real narrative itself justifies; but as I can't convey a proper idea of that, I will just tell you what was told to me. I must state first, though, that the poor fellow got a bad fall from his horse some years ago, by which his leg was broken, and he has been obliged ever since to wear some iron apparatus to assist it, for the broken leg is shorter than the other. This necessarily obliges him to hobble, but he can scuttle over the ground at a wonderful pace. In other respects he is a tall, good-looking man. He was once lion shooting in Kattivar. In some parts of the district, where it is tolerably open, the sportsmen used to follow game on horseback, ride up within range, and then dismount to get a shot, unless their beasts were steady enough to stand fire from their backs. After the shot they quickly remounted and galloped off; in fact, something in the manner that the African way of conducting the sport is described. On one occasion my friend had turned up a couple of furrowed lions, and was following them on the plain. He managed to get within range, and as his horse would not stand quite enough for him to fire from his back, he jumped off and threw the bridle over his arm, by some chance, however, coming to help his hand through it. Well, he got a fair shot and hit one of the lions hard, but the noise startled the horse. As there was nothing to check it, off it galloped, leaving my friend standing. He fired his second barrel, and then had the horror of seeing the wounded lion charging down upon him, all head, tail and legs, and roaring tremendously. His ride was now useless, and of course there was no time to load. His first impulse naturally was to bolt as hard as he could, and accordingly away he stumbled for the nearest tree; but long before he reached it the roars became closer and closer behind him, and he felt that he had not a chance of reaching the tree before being overtaken by the angry brute. Still he sped on with the instinct of self-preservation, but the lion was fast closing with him. What could be done? There was no time to be lost. In a few more bounds his head might be crushed in by the blow of a paw, or his mangled limbs be quivering in the animal's relentless jaws. It suddenly occurred to him to try and startle the beast by some unusual combination of form and sound. His resolve was immediately taken and acted upon without delay. Stopping suddenly in his pace, with his back still toward the charging lion; now drawing very close, he ducked his head and body till he looked at it reversely from between his legs, and, in that position, made some of the most hideous faces and gave utterance to some of the most appalling yells, at the same time gesticulating wildly with his arms. This was a metamorphosis for which the savage beast was unprepared. Just before there had been a runaway man legging it as hard as he could, in front; but the brute was staggered and hesitated in his headlong career, then pulled up and looked advanced a step and looked more closely, heard a frantic yell of extraordinary power—the last despairing effort of the hunter; turned, and, with towering tail, trotted off to join his companion now disappearing in the distance. After a short space, my friend arose, almost purple in the face from the violence of his exertions, and the unpleasantly low position of his head, but much gratified, and chuckling greatly at the success of his ingenious stratagem.

PREPARATION OF WHITEWASH.

Whitewash is one of the most valuable articles in the world when properly applied. It not only prevents the decay of wood, but conducts greatly to the healthfulness of all buildings, whether of wood or stone. Out-buildings and fences, when not painted, should be supplied once or twice a year with a good coat of whitewash, which should be prepared in the following way:—Take a clean water-tight barrel or other suitable cask, and put into it half a bushel of lime. Shake it by pouring water over it boiling hot, and in sufficient quantity to cover it five inches deep, and stir it briskly till thoroughly slaked. When the slaking has been thoroughly effected, dissolve it in water, and add two pounds of sulphate of zinc and one of common salt; these will cause the wash to harden, and prevent its cracking, which gives an unsightly appearance to the work. If desirable, a beautiful cream color may be communicated to the above wash, by adding three pounds of yellow ochre, or a good pearl or lead color by the addition of lamp, vine, or ivory black. For fair color, add four pounds of umber, Turkish or American—the latter is the cheapest—one pound of Indian red, one pound of common lampblack. For common stone color, add four pounds of raw umber and two pounds of lamp-black. This wash may be applied with a common whitewash brush, and will be found much superior both in appearance and durability to the common whitewash.—*Journal of Chemistry.*

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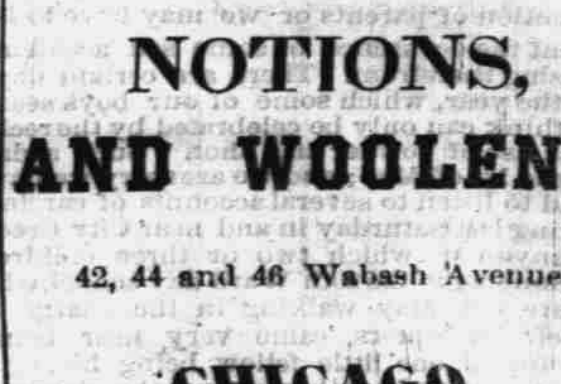
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