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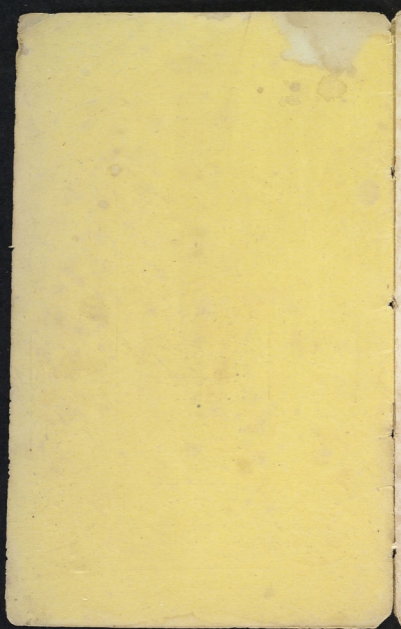
TOY BOOKS.

SELECT
AND
AMUSING ANECDOTES
OF
ANIMALS.



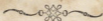
NEW HAVEN.
PUBLISHED BY S. BABCOCK.
1841.





SELECT AND AMUSING
ANECDOTES OF ANIMALS.

EMBELLISHED WITH NUMEROUS BEAUTIFUL ENGRAVINGS.



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James T. Loocher
Aug 28 1898
ANECDOTES OF ANIMALS.

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THE LION.

INGENIOUS DEFEAT OF A LION BY A HOTTENTOT.

IN the southern part of Africa, where the Hottentots live, Lions are very common, and the adventures of the inhabitants with them are very frequent. One evening a Hottentot saw that he was pursued by a Lion. He was very much alarmed, and devised the following means of escape.

He went to the edge of a precipice, and placed himself a little below it. He then put his cloak and cap on a stick, and elevated them over his head, giving them a gentle motion. The Lion came crouching along, and, mistaking the cloak and cap for the man, as the Hottentot intended he should do, he sprang upon them with a swift leap, and passing over the head of the Hottentot, was plunged headlong down the precipice.

A HOTTENTOT SAVED BY A THIRSTY LION.

There was once a Hottentot who was driving some cows to a pool to drink, when he saw a Lion lying in the grass. He expected that he would rather pursue the cows than him; but he was mis-

taken. The Lion left the cattle and ran after the driver. The frightened Hottentot had just time to climb a tree, when the furious animal came after him, and leaped up to catch him. He was out of his reach, however, but the Lion determined not to lose his prey. He lay down at the foot of the tree, and for twenty-four hours watched diligently for the Hottentot. He was then so thirsty, that he was obliged to go and find some water. While he was gone, the Hottentot descended and ran to his house. The Lion returned, and finding the man gone, followed his track for a while, and then gave up the pursuit.

WONDERFUL GRATITUDE OF A LION.

In the days of ancient Rome, about two thousand years ago, a Roman governor treated one of his slaves, or subjects, called Androcles, so cruelly that he ran away. To escape pursuit he fled to a desert and crept into a cave. What was his horror to find that this cave was a Lion's den, and to see a large Lion approaching him! He expected instantly to be destroyed; but the Lion, on the contrary, approached Androcles, holding up his paw or foot with a supplicating air. Androcles examined the Lion's paw, and found a thorn in it; he drew out the thorn, and the Lion, apparently relieved, fawned upon his benefactor as a dog does upon his master.

After some time, Androcles ventured back to the place where he lived before. He was soon discovered, and, being taken as a runaway slave, was condemned to be the prey of a wild beast. He

was accordingly thrown into a place where a large Lion, recently caught, was let in upon him. The Lion came bounding towards Androcles, and the spectators expected to see the man instantly torn in pieces. But, what was their astonishment to see the Lion approach Androcles and suddenly fawn before him like a dog who had found his master! It was the Lion Androcles had met in the desert, and the grateful animal would not destroy his benefactor.

The Roman emperor ordered Androcles to be set free, and the Lion to be given him. So Androcles showed the Lion about Rome, and obtained for the show a great deal of money.

DANGER OF PLAYING WITH EDGE TOOLS.

There was once a gentleman who had a Lion, so very tame and gentle in its deportment, that he used to allow it to lie in his own bed-chamber. He had a servant to attend it, with whom it was also very familiar; this attendant was not, however, satisfied with the Lion's submission, but was in the constant practice of beating him, which the Lion bore for some time with comparative patience. One morning the gentleman was awakened by an unusual noise, when, on undrawing the curtains of his bed, he beheld a sight that chilled him with horror—the Lion was growling over the head of his keeper, which he had actually torn from his body! Springing out of his bed, he escaped from the room, and calling for assistance, the animal was finally secured without doing farther mischief.

THE TIGER.



THE TIGER.

A PARTY OF PLEASURE SAVED FROM A TIGER BY AN UMBRELLA.

IN most cases the Tiger is easily terrified by any sudden opposition from human beings. A party of pleasure, in the country, in India, was once saved from a Tiger, by a lady suddenly opening an umbrella as she saw him about to spring. The animal suddenly shrunk back in fear, and disappeared in the forest, thus leaving the affrighted company in safety.

SHOCKING DEATH OF THE CELEBRATED MR. MONRO.

The attack of a Tiger upon Mr. Monro, in India, was attended with the most tragical consequences. "We went," says an eye-witness, "on shore at Saugur Island to shoot deer, of which we saw innumerable tracks, as well as those of Tigers. We continued our diversion till near three o'clock, when sitting down by the side of a jungle, or thicket, to refresh ourselves, a roar like thunder was heard, and an immense Tiger seized Mr. Monro and rushed again into the jungle, dragging him through the thickest bushes and trees, every thing giving way to his monstrous strength. A Tigress accompanied his progress."

"The united horrors of regret, agony, and fear, rushed at once upon us. I fired on the Tiger; he seemed agitated. My companions fired also; and in a few moments after this, our unfortunate friend

came up to us, bathed in blood. Every medical assistance was vain, and he expired in the space of twenty-four hours, having received such deep wounds from the teeth and claws of the animal as rendered his recovery impossible."

We can not leave this subject without making one obvious remark. The Tiger is one of the most graceful and beautiful, yet one of the fiercest and most blood-thirsty of animals. It seems, therefore, that external beauty is no proof of corresponding good qualities in the character and disposition. Experience teaches us that a selfish and cruel heart may be hidden beneath a pleasing exterior.

STRONG AFFECTION OF A TIGRESS FOR HER YOUNG.

Two Tiger cubs were once found by some country people, during the absence of the mother. Being put in a stable, they made a loud noise for several nights, till at length the Tigress arrived to their rescue, and replied to them by the most fearful howlings. The cubs were at last let loose, in apprehension that their mother would break in; and in the morning it was found that she had carried them off to the neighboring jungle.

OF TIGERS WHICH ARE THE COMPANIONS OF PRIESTS.

Some of the native priests of India have a most singular power of subduing the ferocity of the Tiger. One of these priests, who lived in a small hut in a wilderness infested with Tigers, used to

go to the neighboring town daily, accompanied by a Tiger perfectly at liberty, which he had thus tamed,—and the inhabitants evinced no alarm, having full confidence in the control of the priest. This singular power of the priests, which is quite a secret to Europeans, gives them an astonishing reputation, for the people imagine it is solely the effect of their sanctity and holiness.



THE ELEPHANT.

THE GREAT MOGUL WHO WEIGHED SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS.

There was an Elephant exhibited at Boston who was called the Great Mogul. He weighed 6,500 pounds. He was very intelligent, and scarcely a day passed when he was at the Menagerie, without some occurrence that was worth relating.

One day a lady had accidentally dropped her card case without observing it. As it was within reach of the Elephant's long trunk, he sought it out and held it up to the spectators; but would deliver it to none but the owner herself.

At another time, his keeper forgot to give him his evening meal, and went away to bed in his bunk, by the side of the Menagerie. Poor Mogul was sadly hungry, but what could he do? He was fenced up in a pen, and the railing was rather too strong for him to remove, and too high easily to get over. However, he contrived, about midnight, to



get out of the enclosure, went to his keeper who was fast asleep, twisted his trunk round his arm and pulled him, at the same time making a noise, till he awoke him. He then led him to the stairway, where there was an empty cask, and by his actions over the cask made his keeper remember that his supper had not yet been given him.

On another occasion, his keeper brought him a basket of oats, and afterwards dipped out a quart or two, and carried them to a pony, in another part of the building. Mogul thought himself greatly insulted, and when his keeper returned, gave him such a blow with his trunk on his face, as started the blood. This taught the keeper to take out the pony's portion before he came in sight of the Elephant, as he had been accustomed to do.

A LESSON OF LOVE FROM AN ELEPHANT.

A gentleman having occasion to purchase an Elephant, was offered a most majestic one, in point of size, at a very low price; but he declined the bargain on account of a wound which the creature had received in the trunk. It hung down as if incapable of motion, and had lost the power of suction, and of grasping; consequently the poor Elephant was deprived of the power of procuring his own subsistence, and was wholly dependent on the attention of others. In this pitiable situation, one of its own species, a male Elephant, sympathized in its distress, compassionated its sufferings, and constantly prepared for it bunches of grass, fresh leaves, &c., and put them into its mouth.

A SUBSTANTIAL FRIEND.

A SOLDIER who frequently carried to an Elephant a certain measure of arrack, being one day a little intoxicated, and seeing himself pursued by the guard, whose orders he knew were to conduct him to prison, took refuge under the Elephant. The guard, soon finding his retreat, attempted in vain to take him from his asylum; for the Elephant vigorously defended him with his trunk. As soon as the soldier became sober and saw himself placed under such an unwieldy animal, he was so terrified that he scarcely dared to move either hand or foot; but the Elephant soon caused his fears to subside, by caressing him with his trunk, and thus seeming to say, "Depart in peace."



THE DOG.

THE BENEVOLENT AND PHILANTHROPIC DOGS.

IN the Convent of the Great St. Bernard, situated near the top of the Mountain of that name, they have a breed of noble Dogs, whose extraordinary sagacity often enables them to rescue travelers from destruction.

Benumbed with cold, weary in the search for a lost track, the influence of the cold betrays the poor traveler into a deep sleep, and the snow drift completely covers him from human sight. It is then that the keen scent and great docility of these noble Dogs are called into action.

Though the perishing man lie ten or twelve feet beneath the snow, the delicacy of smell with which they can trace him offers a chance of escape. They scratch away the snow with their feet, and set up a continued hoarse and solemn bark, which brings the monks and laborers of the convent to their assistance.

To provide for the chance that the Dogs, without human help, may succeed in discovering an unfortunate traveler, one of them has a flask of spirits fastened to his neck, of which the fainting man may drink to revive him; and another has a cloak to cover him. These wonderful exertions are often successful.

There is a most interesting account of the rescue of a child from death, by one of these Dogs, which is sweetly put in verse by Mrs. Sigourney.

'Twas night in good St. Bernard's hall,
 And winter held his sway,
 And round their fire the monks recall
 The perils of the day;

Their fruitless search, 'mid storm and blast,
 Some traveler to befriend;
 And with the tale of perils past,
 A hymn of praise they blend.

When loud at their monastic gate
 The Dog was heard to moan;
 Why doth he wander forth so late,—
 Unguided and alone?—

Long on the dreariest Alpine height
 Inured to bold pursuit,



His shaggy coat with frost-work white,
In rushed the lordly brute.

And crouching at his master's feet
A burden strange he laid,
A beauteous babe, with aspect sweet,
Close wrapp'd in silken plaid.

OF A DOG THAT KNEW THE TIME.

A baker, who had to rise every night at eleven o'clock, to attend to the setting of his bread, had a Dog which had become so accustomed to the act, and to the hour, that about twenty minutes before the time for his master to rise, the dog would begin to scratch at his bed-room door, and to bark, for the purpose of awaking him, and would continue to do so till his master arose to attend to his work. This was the case every night, as regularly as the clock, except Saturday; and, strange to tell, that on Saturday night, *Rattler* would remain perfectly quiet, and, with his master, enjoy a good night's rest.

OF A DOG THAT DIED ON THE GRAVE OF HIS MASTER.

In the year 1827, there was a Dog constantly to be seen in a church-yard in the city of London, which for two years had refused to leave the place where his master was buried. He did not appear miserable; he evidently recollected their old companionship, and he imagined that their friendship



would again be renewed. The inhabitants of the houses round the church daily fed the poor creature, and the sexton built him a little kennel. But he would never quit the spot ; and there he died.

OF A DOG THAT UNDERSTOOD SURGERY.

A gentleman, who was a surgeon, once found a little Spaniel which had been lamed ; He carried the poor animal home, bandaged up his leg, and, after two or three days, turned him out. The dog returned to the surgeon's every morning, till his leg was perfectly well. At the end of several months, the Spaniel again presented himself, in company with another dog, who had also been lamed ; and he intimated, as well as piteous and intelligent looks could intimate, that he desired the same kind assistance to be rendered to his friend, as had been bestowed upon himself.

THE CAMEL.

HARMLESS WARFARE

At particular seasons of the year, Camel fights are common at Smyrna, and at Aleppo. Such exhibitions are the disgrace of the vulgar, be they the high or the low vulgar, of all countries ; and the lion-fights of the savage Romans, the bull-fights of Spain, the bull and badger-baitings and cock-fights of England, and the Camel-fights of Asia-Minor, are



equally indications of a barbarian spirit, which can only be eradicated by knowledge and true religion.

Of these, however, the Camel-fights appear the least objectionable. The Camels of Smyrna are led out to a large plain, filled with eager crowds. They are muzzled to prevent their being seriously injured, for their bite is tremendous—always bringing the piece out. A couple being let loose, they run at each other with extreme fury. Their mode of combat is curious,—they knock their heads together laterally, twist their long necks, wrestle with their fore-legs, almost like men, and seem to direct their principal attention to the throwing down of their adversary.

During the combat, the Turks appear deeply interested, and will bet on one Camel or the other ; at such times, they clap their hands and cry out the names of their respective favorites, just as the Spaniards, at their more cruel bull-fights, echo the name of the hardy bull, or the gallant matador.

THE MUSICAL CAMELS.

The caravans or strings of Camels are always headed by a little ass, on which the driver sometimes rides. The ass has a tinkling bell round his neck ; and each Camel is commonly furnished with a large rude bell, that produces, however, a soft and pastoral sound, suspended, not to the neck, but to the front of the pack, or saddle. If these bells be removed by accident or design, they will all come to a dead stop. Like the mules in Spain and Italy, the Camels always go best in a long single line, one after the other.



THE HORSE.

THE FAVORITE HORSE OF BONAPARTE.

WE, some years since, saw the favorite charger of Bonaparte; he was a handsome white barb, scarred with many wounds, which the groom stated him to have received in various battles; and who said, also, that since he had lost his master he would not allow any stranger to mount him, permitting only the groom himself the honor of doing so, who always spoke to the animal in French, and whose commands were readily obeyed. He would bid him to retire, to lie down, to rise and show how he fought in the service of Bonaparte, and how he shared his provisions when they were scarce. After obeying the previous commands of the groom, he would, in obedience to the last, show how he shared his food, by going to a pail of water, in which there was a cleanly scraped carrot, and taking the end of it in his mouth, he would bring it to the groom, into whose mouth he placed the other end, and then bit it in two, eating his own portion only.

OF THE HORSE THAT BECAME AN ACTOR.

In an exhibition called the "High Mettled Racer," the Horse is seen in the height of his pride upon the course were he wins the purse, and afterwards, by regular progression, as he is supposed to become old and worn out, is degraded to the humble



office of drawing a sand-cart: lastly, he is supposed to be dead and his body sold for the dogs; and in this situation you might have seen him lying upon such a cart as is usually employed to carry dead Horses in, his head hanging down and legs stretched out, the perfect counterfeit of death; and to complete the illusion, he permitted himself to be thrown out of the cart, without betraying the least appearance of life.



THE BEAR.

OF THE BEAR WHO MADE AN ATTACK ON A SAW-MILL.

Some years since, when the western part of New York was in a state of nature, and wolves and bears were not afraid of being seen, some enterprising settler had erected, and put in operation, a saw-mill, on the banks of the Genessee. One day, as he was sitting on the log, eating his bread and cheese, a large black bear came from the woods towards the mill. The man, leaving his luncheon on the log, made a spring, and seated himself on a beam above; when the bear, mounting the log, sat down with his back towards the saw, which was in operation, and commenced satisfying his appetite on the man's dinner.

After a little while, the saw progressed enough to interfere with the feathers on Bruin's back, and he hitched along a little and kept on eating. Again the saw came up, and scratched a little flesh. The

bear then whirled about, and throwing his paws around the saw, held on till he was mangled through and through, when he rolled off, fell through into the flood and bled to death.

BEARS THAT ARE NOT BEARS.

When a Kamtschadale espies a Bear, he endeavors to conciliate its friendship at a distance, accompanying his gestures by courteous words. The women and girls, when gathering roots and herbs, or turf for fuel, in the midst of a whole drove of these animals, are never disturbed by them in their employment; and if any of the Bears come up to them, it is only to eat something out of their hands.

They have never been known to attack a man, except when suddenly roused from sleep. This humane character of the Kamtschadale Bear procures him no exemption from the persecution of man.

SUICIDAL HONEY BEARS.

In consequence of the well-known partiality of these animals for honey, the Russians fix to those trees where bees are hived, a heavy log of wood, at the end of a long string. When the unwieldy creature climbs up to get at the hive, he finds himself interrupted by the log; he pushes it aside, and attempts to pass it; but, in returning, it hits him such a blow, that in a rage, he flings it from him with greater force, which only serves to make it return with greater violence, and he sometimes continues this, till he is either killed, or falls from the tree.



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