

Why Ladies Should Not Ride Astride

By MRS. POWER O'DONOGHUE,
Prominent Englishwoman.

THE subject of women riding astride has been for a long time past pushed into prominence, and clung to and defended by the sex themselves. Were it a man's question it would probably have died out long ago, just as the matter of reformation in his evening attire was suffered to expire in darkness, because not one of the sex had the temerity to dissociate himself in appearance from the waiter who handed him the bill of fare at table.

The matter seems to me to resolve itself into three important considerations: Health, safety, and suitability. The right or wrong of it is no more to be discussed than in the case of fashionable amusements, such as hockey and golf-playing, and other pastimes into which women have of late years entered with quite comprehensible zest. Take, for instance, rowing, fencing, shooting, and going abroad with male relatives in search of such pleasures as are derivable from mountaineering and pursuing big game. Who is going to argue that such sports and pastimes, participated in by men and women alike, should be monopolized entirely by members of the handier sex?

It is a serious pity that fair discussion of the health question is restricted, when not actually barred, owing to the delicate nature of the subject, and the possibility of offending the susceptibilities of hyper-sensitive purists. This latter we are certainly bound to guard against, but surely women who are even moderately endowed with sense and discrimination must know for themselves that the wisdom of adopting the cross-saddles is not apparent in the case of every female rider.

The second question—safety—is sufficiently important to justify very stringent examination. My personal belief is that a rider who possesses a sound knowledge of her art, and who adopts a well-made saddle, a skirt without hem or footstraps, a plain racing stirrup, and a band of broad elastic stretched from the top of the leaping-hind to a neat little buckle on the pocket side of the saddle, is as safe in her side position, with the pommetts to give her "purchase," as a man is, with his leg pressure, and the boasted advantage of his even seat.

Now, with regard to the third and last count, suitability, it cannot for a moment be conceded that women of matronly figure should ride astride. The subject is almost as delicate and as difficult to handle as our first count—health. So here, again, the sense and good judgment of women themselves must in great measure decide the question of what is suitable. Even in quite ordinary matters of dress, there are costumes which constitute a kind of crown-of-glory for some women, while providing only a disaster and humiliation for others who are of different build. We ought to be able to settle these things for ourselves, or leave such decisions to trusted friends.

Future of Dirigible Airship

By CAPT. HOMER W. HEDGE,
President of Aero Club of America.

kept and will keep pace with the demands of passengers and trade by land, while the motor boat and the turbine engine will revolutionize commerce and trade by water.

The real balloon, that envelope which is subject to direction from air currents, can never be used for anything but pleasure and the taking of observations in time of peace or war. But the future of the dirigible airship is just opening, and we are catching a glimpse of the future of aerial navigation in the experiments conducted in this country by Leo Stevens at Franklin, Pa.; Prof. Manley of the Smithsonian institute at Washington; by Count Zeppelin of Germany and M. Lebaudy of France. An airship made by Stevens took up the navigator and Maj. Miller at Franklin, Pa., and made a long distance flight.

Although America is a long way behind foreign countries in ballooning and airship making, the demonstration made by Stevens' airship shows that American brains and ingenuity when turned toward the solution of aerial flight is equal to the foreign enthusiasts. I believe that within a few years American-built airships will be carrying passengers to any given point.

The Aero club of America has received a great many visits from inventors in the United States and elsewhere whose sketches, plans and models show promise. The club is deeply interested in every experiment which seeks to find the solution of aerial flight. Some very remarkable experiments have been made abroad with large dirigible airships; which have added much to the knowledge of the science.

I am hopeful that within the next decade the airship will have passed from experimental stages into actual use as a pleasure vehicle, with a larger and far-reaching promise of still further development.

Science Getting Closer to Religion

By REV. HENRY STAUFFER,
Milwaukee.

what we call free will is a function of the brain. The divine nature is revealed by science. People have gotten over the idea of many Gods or a God for each country and are coming to believe in the unity of God. The Jews' idea of a God in former times was a king; our idea in general is that of father; scientists consider him a sort of power, but the ideal God is not fully defined by any of these terms.

The word "love" as exemplified by the life of Jesus Christ, most nearly defines the true nature of God. The only thing God has made clear to us is his divine will so we can obey it. He has put us on earth to carry on the work of the creation and beautify the world. Ill fares the nation whose sole aim is the making of money at the expense of character.



MORMON PROPHET FINED

PRESIDENT SMITH QUALITY OF UNLAWFUL COHIBITION.

Is Sentenced to Pay \$300 After Explaining His Plural Marriage Relations.

Salt Lake City.—Joseph F. Smith, president of the Mormon church Friday afternoon appeared in the district court before Judge Ritchie and pleaded guilty to a charge of unlawful cohabitation, and a fine of \$300 was imposed.

The charge under which the Mormon prophet was arrested and fined was based on the recent birth of President Smith's forty-third child, born to his fifth wife.

President Smith addressed the court. He stated that his last marriage was in 1890. All his marriages, he said, were entered into with the sanction of his church, and, as they believed, with the approval of the Lord. According to his faith and the law of the church they were eternal in duration. He concluded:

"When I accepted the manifesto issued by President Wilford Woodruff I did not understand that I would be expected to abandon and discard my wives. Knowing the sacred covenants and obligations which I had assumed by reason of these marriages, I have conscientiously tried to discharge the responsibilities attending them, without being offensive to any one. I have never flaunted my family relations before the public, nor have I felt a spirit of defiance against the law, but, on the contrary, I have always desired to be a law-abiding citizen. In considering the trying position in which I have been placed, I trust that your honor will exercise such leniency in your sentence as law and justice will permit."

Judge Ritchie imposed the maximum fine, but omitted the jail sentence of from one day to six months, which he had imposed under the Utah statute.

LOOTED BY ITS EMPLOYEES.

Montgomery Ward & Co's Kansas City Branch Robbed.

Kansas City, Mo.—The systematic looting of the Kansas City branch of Montgomery Ward & Co., of Chicago, has been discovered and as a result a number of employees have been arrested.

It is said by an officer of the company in this city that warrants have been issued for the arrest of more than 12 former employees, and that the list may be increased as the investigation progresses. Andrew Young, general manager of the company's local branch house, declined to place an estimate on the value of the property stolen. In addition to the arrests a large number of former employees have been discharged without being given any definite cause for their sudden dismissal.

Canada Ends Mail Compact.

Washington.—As the result of friction over publishers' privileges in the two countries, the Canadian government has notified this government that the postal convention between the two countries will be abrogated on May 7 next. The notice is accompanied by a statement that it is only in-so-far as it relates to second-class matter that this action is desired to extend.

President is Nearly Home.

Washington.—The U. S. S. Louisiana, with President Roosevelt on board, was making for Diamond Shoals light vessel off Hatteras at nine o'clock Sunday night. Secretary Loeb has gone to meet the president.

Minor Shoots a Merchant.

Linton, Ind.—W. Watson, a merchant of Midland, Ind., is dying at a hospital here and Louis Shuler, an aged miner, who shot him early Sunday morning, is being guarded in the Tower Hill mine at Midland.

MANY DIE IN LAKE STORM.

Twenty-Three Lives and Several Vessels Lost.

Buffalo, N. Y.—The gale of Wednesday night and Thursday on the great lakes caused a heavy loss to vessel property and 23 lives. The barge Revolution sank off Toronto and six men were drowned. The life savers Athens is probably lost off Sandusky, O., with eight men. All hope for the Athens, however, has not been abandoned and there are scouring Lake Erie for her.

Chicago.—Driven miles out of its course by the mile-a-minute gale which raged over the lake, the steamship Frontenac of the Graham & Morton line, a small steamer plying between Chicago and St. Joseph, Mich., was buffeted about on the high sea for almost 20 hours, until it was finally driven into the harbor at Racine, Wis., at 7 o'clock Thursday. The steamer was due in St. Joseph Wednesday evening.

Grand Rapids, Mich.—Four men who were caught by Wednesday night's storm on the crib work of the new breakwater at the entrance to Holland harbor on Lake Michigan, were drowned. Desperate attempts were made by the life savers when it was learned that the men were caught, but efforts to reach the pier in time were unavailing.

PEARY ARRIVES AT SYDNEY.

Explorer Reaches Port After Long Search for Pole.

Sydney, C. B.—Flying the flag of the United States, which had been placed nearer the north pole than any other national standard, and weather-beaten and disabled, the Peary arctic steamer Roosevelt arrived here Friday under sail and steam after 36 months' valiant effort to reach the pole. Though not entirely successful, the expedition nevertheless got to 87 degrees 6 minutes north latitude.

Commander Peary came ashore almost immediately after the steamer anchored and joined Mrs. Peary, who has been here for two weeks waiting for her husband's return.

Commander Peary's enthusiastic account of the performance of the steamer Roosevelt. Asked of the very advanced point to which he had been able to place the Roosevelt in winter quarters due to careful and increased knowledge of the movements of the ice he said it was due to the Roosevelt herself. He did not believe there was ever another ship about could have stood the battle with the ice the Roosevelt had successfully fought. The bolters were the one defective feature of the ship.

Caruso Guilty; Fined \$10.

New York.—Enrico Caruso, the famous grand opera tenor, was found guilty of having abandoned women at the zoological garden in Central park. He was fined \$10 by Magistrate Blair. Caruso's counsel immediately announced that they would appeal. The appeal will take the form of a writ of certiorari, directing a review of the case by the court of special sessions.

Killed in Automobile Collision.

Philadelphia.—Ernest D. Keeler, of New York, demonstrator and professional driver of racing automobiles, was killed and Henry Lutton, of Colwyn, Pa., was dangerously hurt in a collision Friday while trying out racing cars on the Point Breeze race track, preparatory to the Quaker City Motor club races. Keeler was from Lansing, Mich.

Slays Wife and Himself.

Toledo, O.—Mr. and Mrs. James Scott Mitchell, of Salem, Mass., were found dead in bed in a rooming house at Bellevue, east of here, Sunday morning. Mitchell had dragged his wife and caused her death and then committed suicide by the same means.

Veteran Hotel Man Dies.

Washington.—H. C. Burch, proprietor of the Ebbitt House in this city and for many years one of the best known men in the country, died here Sunday. He was 64 years old.

Illinois State News

Recent Happenings of Interest in the Various Cities and Towns.

BOY BREAKS RULE; SAVES LIVES

Young Illinois Telegrapher Averts a Wreck by Ignoring Orders.

Belleville.—The eagerness of Clay Reid, a boy telegrapher, to learn his profession thoroughly and his refusal to be bound by precedent in the face of emergency prevented a serious wreck on the Southern railroad.

Sitting at his key listening to train dispatches and watching the progress of a meat train and a coal train, one going east and the other west, he suddenly discovered that there had been a mistake in orders and that his lonely station was the last one between the two trains rushing toward each other.

Raid knew the only way to stop the trains was to stop and stop them, even if orders did forbid his deserting his post. Grabbing two red lanterns, he ran up the track 200 yards and set them between the rails. Then he ran back to the other train, which he could hear approaching. The trains came to a halt with the engines within 200 yards of each other.

EDWARD L. CRONKRITE DEAD.

Leader of Democrats in Legislative Sessions from 1873 to 1885.

Freeport.—Edward L. Cronkrite, for half a century a merchant here, and long prominent in politics, died suddenly in his seventy-fifth year. Mr. Cronkrite spent some years in California as a gold seeker, then moved to Freeport. Twice he was mayor of the city, and served six terms in the general assembly from 1873 to 1885, at which time he was leader of the Democratic party in the legislature. He was leader of the Morrison forces in the exciting senatorial contest which resulted in the election of Gen. Logan. He was nominated by the Democratic caucus for speaker of the house, and Elijah M. Haines was named for temporary speaker. Haines was elected to the latter position and then refused to vacate. In 1878 Cronkrite was the Democratic nominee for state treasurer, being defeated by Gen. John C. Smith. He leaves a widow and one son, Judge William M. Cronkrite.

County Superintendent Resigns.

Carlinville.—M. M. Keistinger, superintendent of schools of this county, has been elected to the principalship of the Humboldt school at Alton, made vacant by the election of Prof. J. U. Uzzell as county superintendent of schools of Madison county. Mr. Keistinger has been superintendent of schools of this county for the past eight years, and will assume the principalship of the Alton schools at the expiration of his present term of office, the first Monday in December.

New Officers File Bonds.

Carlinville.—W. C. Seaneau, county clerk-elect, has filed his bond with the secretary of state as clerk of the probate court of this county. He has also filed his bond as county clerk in the sum of \$5,000.

Robert C. Moore, of Staunton, newly-elected county superintendent of schools, filed his bond for \$15,000. They will assume the duties of their respective offices Monday, December 2.

Found Hanging to Bridge.

Savanna.—While out hunting John Lambert and John Flory found a man hanging from a footbridge on a cow path in a patch of timber three miles east of this city. From all appearances the body had been there for a day or two. The man was evidently a tramp. The body was cut down and brought here by Coroner Schreitter and an inquest held over the remains. There was nothing to identify the corpse.

Barkeepers Elect Officers.

Springfield.—The closing session of the Illinois Barkeepers' association was held in the supreme court room in the state house. The following officers were elected: President, J. Q. Smith; first vice president, J. E. Johnson; second vice president, S. N. Black; treasurer, Charles Schreitter; secretary, J. A. Stone. J. Q. Smith was also reelected state full brood inspector.

Samuel T. Mayo Dead.

Carlinville.—Samuel T. Mayo, aged 88 years, a wealthy retired merchant and a brother-in-law of the late Gen. John M. Palmer, died at his home.

Tollers End Meeting.

Postville.—The third annual session of the grand lodge of the Tollers' fraternity closed here. The grand lodge will meet in Chicago next year.

Daniel P. Shipman is Dead.

Chicago.—Daniel P. Shipman, president of the Shipman white lead works, died of old age at his home. For a number of years he had been head of the white lead works, which he founded, and which by his efforts was built up to a commanding mercantile position. He was 86 years old at the time of his death.

Barry Run Found Dead.

Barry Run Snider, one of the best known men in the county, was found dead at his home here.

VALUABLE CLAY DEPOSIT FOUND

Discovery Made on Land of Former Justice Boggs Near Fairfield, Ill.

Fairfield.—What has proven to be a deposit of the very finest shale and clay for making vitrified brick and paving blocks has been discovered on land belonging to Carroll C. Boggs, former justice of the supreme court of Illinois, south of this city. The deposit is said to be in quantity and of quality the well known "Little Britain" field at Albion, 20 miles east of here, said to be the finest in the United States. Satisfactory tests have been made and local capital is to begin the development of the industry.

HURT IN "DEBRUTALIZED" RUSH

Student at University of Illinois Has Collar Bone Broken.

Urbana.—In a "debrutalized" class rush between sophomores and freshmen at the University of Illinois, held under strict faculty supervision, Quincy Hall, a sophomore student, had his collar bone broken in a fierce battle about the pole where the freshmen colors were in triumph. There were 500 contestants and the fight was desperate, nearly all the clothes of many who struggled being torn from their backs.

German National Asks Receiver.

Chicago.—A receiver was asked for the German National Insurance company, which is the company of the German Insurance company of Freeport, for which a receiver was appointed some time ago. The petition was filed by the Chicago Title and Trust company, which is the majority of the stockholders in the defunct concern, which, according to the bill, has liabilities of \$1,100,000, but assets of less than \$500,000. Collapse of two companies was due to the San Francisco disaster.

Death of Isaac Betts.

Salem.—Ex-Circuit Clerk Isaac Betts died very suddenly at his home near Vernon. He was 65 years old. Mr. Betts served 16 years as circuit clerk of Marion county, two years as mayor of Salem and several terms as president of the board of education and was the present member of the board of supervisors from Patoka township. He was prominent in society circles, he was a member of the Masonic, Pythian, Odd Fellows and other fraternal organizations.

Decatur Gets Big Elevator.

Decatur.—The Suffer-Hunt Starch company has contracted with the Younglove Construction company at Mason City, Ia., for a member of the modern transfer and storage elevator of 100,000 bushels capacity.

The plans of the company contemplate the building up of the largest corn stock in the state, and, if possible, in this part of the state, for a general grain business.

Elected as School Head.

Carlinville.—The board of education of Staunton, in this county, at its last meeting elected W. E. Eccles, of that place, who had been acting as assistant principal, to the position as principal of the Staunton high school, to take the place of Robert C. Moore, who was elected county superintendent of schools at the November election, and who will assume his duties December 2.

Barnett is Defeated.

Chicago.—For the first time since election friends of F. L. Barnett, colored candidate for municipal judge, admit that he is defeated. Developments of the municipal campaign confirm the belief that Thomas B. Lantry was ahead of Barnett about 200 votes.

Sensations Reported.

Jacksonville.—The report of the recent grand jury is awaited with interest as there are rumors of sensational indictments having been found. There are a number of criminal cases on the docket for this term, among them one murder case.

Bride 75; Bridegroom Same.

Waukegan.—A marriage license was issued to William Kirk and Mrs. Fuller, of Winthrop Harbor. Each is 75 years old. Mr. Kirk is one of the best known men in Genton township, having been a resident of the place 50 years.

Death of Oscar Wakefield.

Bloomington.—Oscar Wakefield, one of the wealthiest manufacturers, prominent in commercial, social and secret society circles and for years a park commissioner, died suddenly at the age of 60.

Asked \$10,000; Gets \$800.

Decatur.—In the circuit court the case of Mrs. Elizabeth C. Alexander, who had sued the Mueller Manufacturing company for \$10,000 for the death of her husband, was compromised by the payment of \$800. The case was then dismissed.

Is Indicted for Murder.

Shelbyville.—J. J. Morgan, Quigley, who killed Frank Brophy in September, was indicted by the grand jury for murder in the first degree. The time for trial has not yet been set.