

FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

SHADOW TABLEAUX AND HOW TO GIVE THEM.

Can Only Be Shown at Night in a Darkened Room—How to Produce with Living Models Those Illustrated in This Article.

Fun for an Evening. Shadow tableaux or pictures have been before presented to you under the name of silhouettes, that have been shown for the most part singly, while the present ones are represented in



FIGURE NO. 1.

groups, some of which are really very laughable. The pictures can only be shown at night in a darkened room, and an excellent way to produce those illustrated with living models is as follows:

First erect a small platform or stage, and from the ceiling in front of it suspend a large white sheet of not too close or firm weave, permitting it to reach to the floor of the platform. Behind the sheet stand the performers,



FIGURE NO. 2.

between it and a light, a lantern having a funnel-shaped reflector being the best for amateur entertainments of this character. By the aid of such a light the figures are silhouetted or outlined against the sheet in the same manner as a shadow is cast on a blank wall by placing a light behind the substance.

The audience will of course sit in darkness a few feet from the platform. The performers will take the various poses illustrated and remain as quiet as possible during the exhibition of each tableau, which may be shown for



FIGURE NO. 3.

about two minutes. The person who arranges the various poses will see that nothing is wanting to perfect the picture before the curtain is allowed to be raised. Of course the curtain is indispensable. It should be hung from a pole and may be drawn back by a cord which has been slipped through the rings and fastened to the front upper corner of the curtain. The hand which draws back the curtain should not be visible to the audience. The master of ceremonies announces each subject as the curtain is lifted.

The tableaux portrayed at figure No. 1 shows a boy putting his little sister kindly on the back. Sister is sulky and will not be consoled or persuaded to give up her toy cart. "A Little Sulky" might do as a name for this.

"The Sleepers," pictured at figure No. 2, are rudely disturbed from their noonday nap on a park bench by a



FIGURE NO. 4.

police officer. They should wear very ragged clothes and look like tramps.

At figure No. 3 are pictured a foreign-looking student and his sister, or some nearer relative, taking refreshments at a table, which is arranged beneath some foliage, from which dangles a spider, whose presence startles the thirsty pair. "A Summer Table" would be a very good title for this.

An appropriate title for the picture shown at figure No. 4 will be "A Carry-all at Home." Papa kindly lends his back to the three little ones and assumes a crawling position, and mamma, fearful lest baby should fall from the



FIGURE NO. 5.

human carriage, throws out her hands as if to catch him. Doggie's surprise at the curious conveyance is expressed in his position. If the living pet cannot be trained for his part a toy animal may take his place.

Tandem driving is very fashionable, and you might dignify the picture shown at figure No. 5 by the name "Driving Tandem." Brother, crowned with papa's high beaver hat, holds two chairs in rein as proudly as if they were horses, and flourishes his whip threat-

ing. It was seen that the cooper had the making of a detective and he was appointed deputy sheriff of the county. In this capacity he soon became the terror of cattle thieves, counterfeitors and evil doers generally. Soon after he was tendered a position as deputy sheriff of Cook County, but he did not remain long in this capacity, for the Illinois Central and Rock Island Railroad, recognizing his ability as a detective, prevailed upon him to organize a detective agency for the protection of the road against train robbers.

In 1853, under McKinleyism, the balance of trade "against" us, as the protectionists put it, was nearly \$19,000,000, while in 1865, under a low tariff, it was over \$64,000,000 in our favor.

We are just recovering from a period of depression such as it took us six years to get over under the high protective tariff of 1873. Short crops and stagnant manufactures last year limited our exports. But now we have the promise of good crops, and our manufactures are flourishing. We are freed from the apprehension of having our industries deluged by excessive imports. As in former low-tariff periods, our imports have not been sufficient to keep up the revenues of the Government. The indications are that next year's commercial returns will be the most favorable we have ever known.

A Short Session of Congress. It is intimated from Republican sources of intelligence that the session of Congress to begin next December will be much shorter than the first session of any Congress in many years. There is comfort in the suggestion. It is as certain now as it will appear a year from now that there will be no material change in tariff nor in silver legislation. There is more than a two-thirds Republican majority in the House—enough to pass a bill re-enacting the McKinley tariff over the President's veto. But there is not even a McKinleyite bare majority in the Senate, and it is doubtful if any bill could pass that body notwithstanding the measure proposed last year. McKinley is too much of a Presidential candidate and too much in the way of ambitious rivals for any measure to pass. Congress of which he would be the popular embodiment in a campaign. The friends of every other Republican candidate would unite to defeat a bill of which he would be the representative before the people.

These considerations render it certain that no tariff legislation is possible in the next Congress. It is extremely improbable that the friends of different Republican candidates would unite on any tariff measure. The different factions will be suspicious of each other. The leaders of each faction will determine that it is better to let the Democratic tariff stand than to pass a Republican tariff bill of which some other leader of a faction might reap the benefit among the voters. The situation as to silver legislation is less complicated.

With the certainty existing that neither the tariff nor the currency system can be disturbed, there is no reason why the session to begin in December, 1885, should extend beyond April, 1886. All routine and non-partisan acts can be introduced, perfected and passed within a month after the holidays. There is absolutely nothing else to keep Congress in session. Even the dreary and exhaustive speeches of members in their "grand stand displays," to use a local idiom, ought not to occupy many

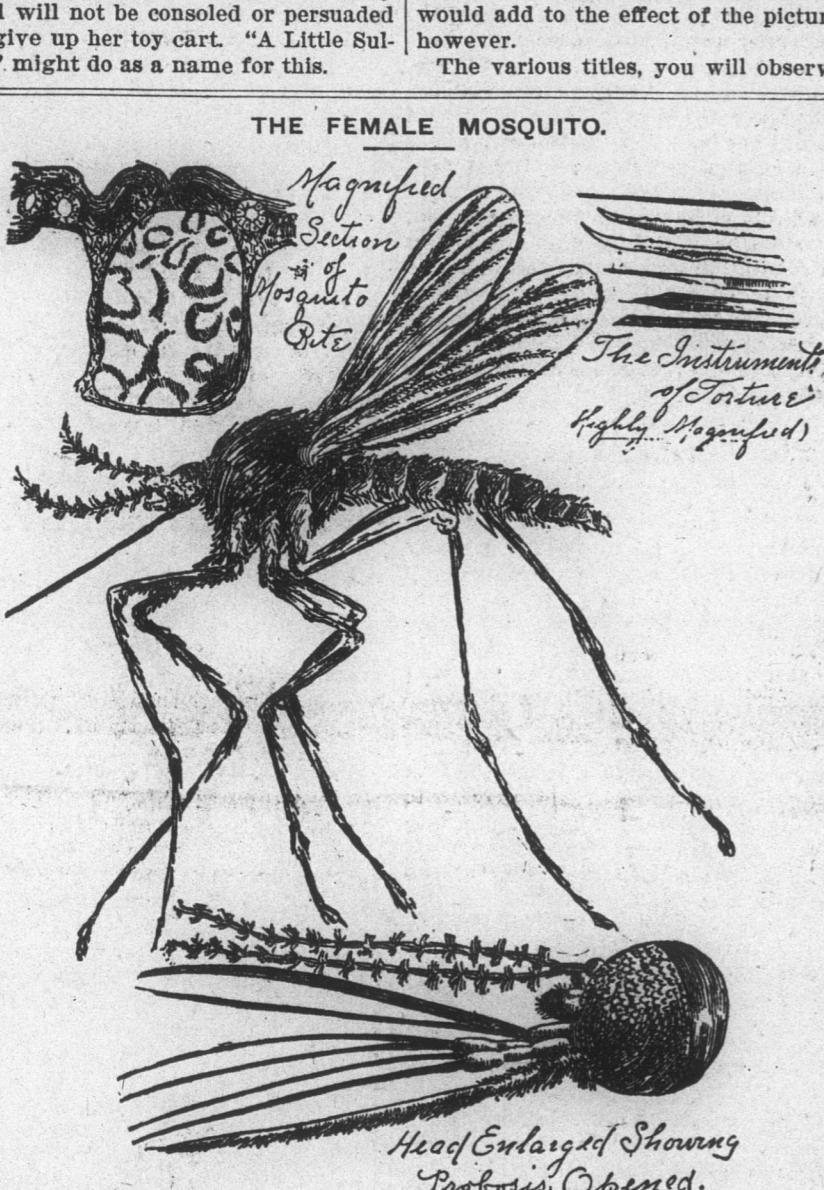
Mermaids in Folk Lore. All the world over there are legends about mermaids. The Chinese tell stories not unlike others about the sea-women of their southern seas. Mankind is taught on the most excellent evidence that a mermaid was captured at Bangor, on the shores of the Belfast Lough, in the sixth century, while another caught at Edam in 1403 was carried to Haarlem and kept there for many years.

Doctor Cureall. One of the most remarkable developments of the automatic machine is a "Doctor Cureall," in Holland. It is a wooden figure of a man, with compartments all over it, labeled with the names of various ailments. If you have a pain, find its corresponding location on the figure, drop coin into the slot, and the proper pill or powder will come out.

The Coming Woman. I love the coming woman, I love her pretty ways, With music and with sweetness She fills my fleeting days; I kiss her laughing dimples, And stroke her hair of gold, For my dainty coming woman Is only four years old.

Williamsport Grit. A cross temper finds a pin stuck in every chair on which it sits.

THE FEMALE MOSQUITO. Magnified Section of Mosquito Guts. The Instruments of Torture Highly Magnified.



In the accompanying illustration the great American mosquito is portrayed in a manner admirably calculated to impress the mind with her abilities. It should be said at once that the blood-sucking mosquito is always a female. The male mosquito is a well-behaved insect and only drinks water. Projecting from the mosquito's head in the picture of the complete insect will be seen a straight cylindrical spike. It is a tube or trough, no thicker than a hair, and is terminated by two small fleshy lips. This tube contains the instruments by means of which the mosquito penetrates the hu-

man skin, fills herself with blood and leaves behind a deposit of virulent poison. No less than six piercing instruments are contained within that little tube. They are shown in the picture of the head and elsewhere on a still larger scale. When the mosquito settles down to business, all these instruments are pressed on to the skin at once, and a very intricate boring operation begins. The trough-like lower lip may be seen to bend in the middle, and the mosquito fills herself with blood, which passes into the body through the upper lip. It is believed that the instrument attached to the base of the upper lip is used to inject poison into the wound.

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A YEAR'S COMMERCE.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR TWELVE MONTHS.

Returns Now Available, Making It Possible to Form Some Idea of the Course of Trade—Praise for the President—Republican Debts.

For the Fiscal Year.

The returns of imports and exports for the past fiscal year are now available, and it is possible to form some idea of the course of trade. For the year ending June 30, 1885, our exports were \$808,039,419 and our imports \$743,742,849, an excess of exports of \$64,316,570. Our exports were less than in any year since 1889, and our imports were less than in any year in the same period, with the single exception of 1864. That year showed the effects of the panic of 1863, which, by making money scarce, forced us to rush our products to the foreign markets and economize in our purchases.

To see how much or how little influence tariff changes have had on our foreign trade it may be worth while to give the figures from time before the passage of the McKinley law:

Exports	Imports
1880..... \$742,401,375	\$745,181,652
1880..... 587,828,654	789,310,409
1881..... 884,480,810	844,916,198
1882..... 1,030,278,148	827,402,463
1883..... 847,065,194	866,400,922
1884..... 892,140,572	654,994,622
1885..... 809,059,419	743,742,849

The years 1889 and 1890 were under the old tariff of 1883. Part of the year 1891 and all of 1892, 1893 and 1894 were under the McKinley act. The greater art of 1895 has been under the Wilson law. The abnormal exports of the fiscal year 1892 were due to the enormous crops of 1891, which sold at good prices in consequence of a scarcity in Europe. Aside from this, it will be observed that our export trade did not grow under the McKinley law. It was smaller in 1893 than in 1890, and even than in 1881. Our imports, on the contrary, increased under a tariff that was meant to exclude them. They were greater in the year from July 1, 1892, to June 30, 1893, than in any other year in the history of the country, either before or since. They were nearly \$123,000,000 greater in that year than in the one just closed, when we were to have been overwhelmed by a "flood" of foreign pauper-made goods.

In 1893, under McKinleyism, the balance of trade "against" us, as the protectionists put it, was nearly \$19,000,000, while in 1895, under a low tariff, it was over \$64,000,000 in our favor.

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Morton Is a Marvel.

Secretary Morton, of the Agricultural Department, is one of the marvels of Washington. Though the oldest man in President Cleveland's cabinet, he is easily the most active. His own department, writes a correspondent, he manages with an ease and skill quite astonishing to veteran observers. There is not a detail of its operations with which the Secretary is not familiar and which he does not keep an eye on from day to day. Let the smallest cog in the whole machine slip or a bearing begin to creak for lack of oil and the alert ear of the farmer statesman is sure to detect it. As for money saving, he is the worst crank on that ever sat at the capital. Ninety-nine cabinet ministers out of a hundred make a poor mouth and say they could do even so much better if Congress would only give them enough money.

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Deserved Praise. The Washington Post is an independent journal with Republican inclinations and deeply saturated with the spirit of jingoism that is more or less rampant in the land at the present time; hence no one would willfully suspect it of being in close sympathy with President Cleveland. Yet in an editorial discussing the third term bugaboo that has frightened so many timid persons of late, in which it expresses the opinion that Mr. Cleveland has no thought of accepting another nomination, the Post pays the following just and well-deserved tribute to the President:

Sustain the Democratic Party. The Democratic party, being the party of the constitution and of the people, maintaining equal rights and privileges to all citizens and preserving the balance of power between the Federal government and the respective States, will continue while the nation endures and should command the support and fidelity of the men and women of Utah who have so many reasons for upholding intact the principles of the constitution and of the declaration of independence. —Salt Lake Herald.

Which Knows Best? Benjamin Harrison has announced by his next friend that he will not be a candidate next year. But his son Russell, who is running a horse car railroad over at Terre Haute, says the old gentleman doesn't know what he is talking about, and so an anxious public is once more left in doubt. —Springfield Journal.

Weight of Fodder Per Acre. A yield of two tons of hay or grain is considered fair, and probably in good years more land goes below the yield than above it. Yet as an acre of land is 43,560 feet², its yield is about one pound to every eleven square feet. Looked at in this way the yield seems very small. It is probably true that in most meadows there are vacant spots not seeded which reduce the yield. Fodder corn ought to yield fifteen to twenty tons per acre.

Salt in Hay Mows.

There is no advantage in strewn salt over damp hay or grain, as is often done by farmers, but this only dissolves it, and the solution is not strong enough to put the hay or grain in pickle. A little salt hastens instead of retards decomposition. A much better plan is to throw an occasional forkful of dry straw into the mow or over the surface. If this cannot be had, dried brick scattered through the heap will answer a good purpose. It is astonishing how much water a dry brick will absorb before it is saturated.

Bricks are often so used in granaries when the grain has been put into them too damp. The brick takes up the moisture and thus dries the grain it is in contact with, and this helps to dry

Red Cotton. Red cotton has been raised at Alpharetta, Ga., where a well-known planter has quite a quantity of that curious stuff, every stalk of which is a deep red, even the leaf, boll and bloom. This novel crop comes from planting seeds obtained six or seven years ago from a freak stalk of red cotton found growing in Florida.

The Black Butter Bean. It may not be generally known that the common black butter bean will bear continuously through the season if the pods are all picked as soon as they are large enough to use. If any are allowed to ripen, the plant has fulfilled its mission and will die.

La Fleche. 7 to the pound; 200 per annum.

Hamburg. 9 to the pound; 200 per annum.

Turkeys. 5 to the pound; 30 to 60 per annum.

Game fowls. 9 to the pound; 160 per annum.

Leghorns. 9 to the pound; 200 per annum.

Black Spanish. 7 to the pound; 175 per annum.

Plymouth Rocks. 8 to the pound; 150 per annum.

Langshans. 8 to the pound; 150 per annum.

Brahmas. 7 to the pound; 130 per annum.