

8. Year by year the banian and its props keep on growing. Its branches spread out far and wide.

It may have a hundred props, and it is said that seven thousand men might rest beneath its shadow!

In that hot country how gladly do men and animals welcome the broad, spreading shade!

9. The poor tired Hindoo sits under it to rest. He is so anxious to have the props of a young tree grow that he ties wet moss upon the branches to make them bud.

10. Then, when the shoot has grown, he makes a little case of bamboo for it, and waxes it down to the ground. It usually takes root, and though only a slender thread, grows into a strong stem.

11. The herdsman sometimes makes the banian-tree his hut. To do this, he weaves the branches together, and fills up the space between the stems.

Thus he has a shady dwelling from which he can look out upon his flock.

STUDY.

Find out where India, the country of the banian, is, and what climate it has.

XCI. THE YOUNG PHILOSOPHER.

phil os'o pher | meas ur ing | dif fi cul ty | dis cov'er y

1. Rob is the owner of a foot-rule and a yard-stick, and he takes great pleasure in measuring garden walks, fences, and other things about the place.

He will often guess at the distance from one point to another, and then measure, to see how near he came to it.

2. He had some difficulty when he tried to find out the length of his own shadow, for sometimes it was quite short, and at other times very long.

At length, however, he discovered that it was long in the morning, grew shorter till noon, then grew longer all the afternoon till sunset, when it would disappear.

3. He also learned that twice each day (once in the forenoon and once in the afternoon) his shadow was exactly of the same length as himself.

There is a beautiful maple near the house, which runs up tall and slim. Rob longed to know its real height, but could see no way of measuring it.

4. One morning he noticed the long shadow of



this tree plainly marked on the smooth, green lawn. Just then a new thought came to him.

Why might he not find out the height of the tree by the length of its shadow?

He drove a stake into the ground, and found that its shadow was longer now than the stake. But he knew that shadows were growing shorter at this hour of the day, so he waited and watched.

5. In about an hour the stake and its shadow were of the same length. Then Bob ran to measure the shadow of the tree. He found it to be thirty-one feet, and he felt sure that this was the height of the maple.

He was delighted with his discovery, and said he should some time try to measure the distance to the moon.

XCH. AN INDIAN MOVING.

of'fi cer	wig'wam	lodge-poles	fur'ni ture
pap poo ses	earth'en	in'ter est ed	be long'ing

1. Harry's papa is an officer in the army, so Harry lives in a fort out on the plains. He sees a great many queer sights.

One day he saw some Indians moving. Indians live in wigwams, and do not have any furniture. They do not move from one wig-

wam to another. They move wigwam and all from place to place. They do not have wagons, but carry their things on the backs of horses.

2. The Indians rode on horses, with the pap-pooes on their backs and the half-grown chil-



dren sitting before or behind them. The skins and blankets belonging to the wigwams were tied up, and the bundles were fastened to the backs of pack-horses. The lodge-poles were tied to the sides of the horses, so that one end of them dragged on the ground, as in the picture.

3. The Indians stopped a few hours not a great distance from the fort, and Hal went with the soldiers to see them. They were friendly Indians; that is, they were friendly just then. Perhaps the next time they would see them the Indians would be ready to fight about something.

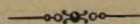
4. Hal thought at first that it would be great fun to live like the Indians; but he soon changed his mind. When he saw still more of them he was very certain he would not like it. He was sure he would not like to sleep among such dirty skins and blankets, or to eat such food as they did.

5. The moving party Hal went to see were cooking their dinner. They had built fires on the ground. They cooked their meat on sticks over the fire, and stewed a good many queer things in large earthen pots.

6. One of the officers told Hal that the Indians were very fond of stewed puppies. Hal did not know whether to believe that or not. The Indians all helped themselves out of the same dish. They seemed to think it quite right to dip their fingers in and fish out the piece they liked best.

7. Some of the little Indians were almost pretty.

There was one who came up to Hal and looked him over. He was interested in his clothes. After a while he went away and brought two large feathers for Hal to put in his hat. Hal stuck them in and laughed. The little Indian laughed too; but they could not talk to each other, for neither could understand what the other said. The Indians stayed near the fort until after dinner; then they moved off toward their new home.



XCIV. THE CAMEL.

col lec'tion	nos'trils	im prov'ing	pa'tient
fa'vor ites	weights	Ar a'bia	crea'tures
drom'e da ry	switch	ed u ca'tion	val'ued

1. There was once brought me from London a collection of pictures of the most remarkable animals of the world.

I was young enough to think of them all as real living creatures, and soon had my favorites among them.

2. The camel would never have known by the way I treated him that he had the first place, but I think I always valued him more highly than any of the others.

“You are so clumsy and awkward,” I used to say to my camel; “I would much rather not be so wonderful and be a little more beautiful.”

3. “Your back is too high, and, though your neck is so long, you do not carry your head well. If only you had ears like my horse, and thin graceful legs and feet, it would be better, even if you could not have a smooth, bright coat of hair.”

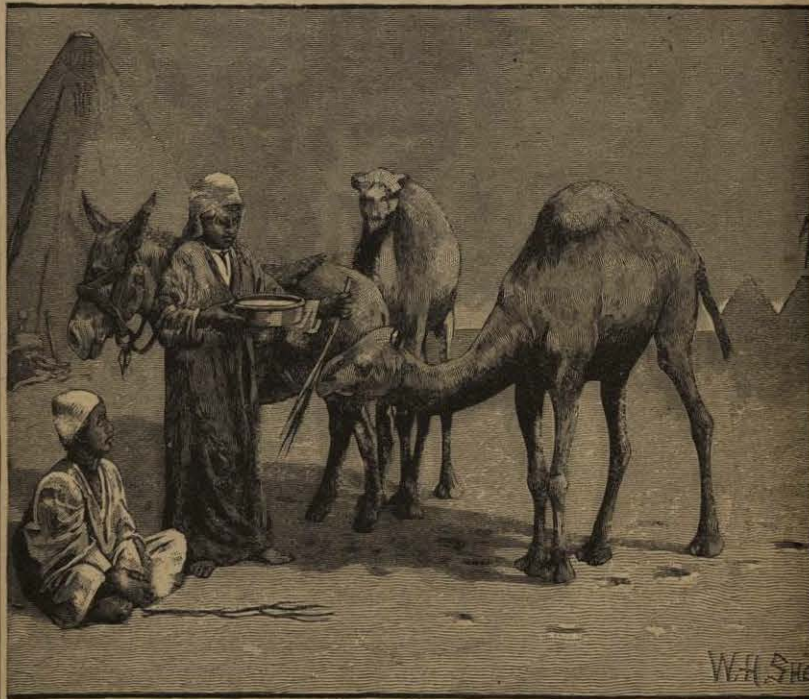
4. Then I would fancy my favorite felt ill-used, for camels do have a sad, patient look, and I would take his part against myself.

I made my proud horse admit that he would be good for nothing in a desert. I talked for the camel, and asked the horse if he could cover his eyes without shutting out the light, and close his nostrils, also, from the fine hot sand the air would be full of. And if he would find his small hard hoofs and iron shoes useful in the deep loose sand.

5. The horse did not mind my talk, and neither seemed to wish to grow more like the other. It is only human beings that can think about improving, and we cannot change the form God has given us.

6. There are two kinds of camels. The bactrian lives in Turkey and some parts of China, and has two humps on its back.

The dromedary lives in Arabia, and has but



one hump. How would you like to have a baby-dromedary about three feet high?

7. When the little dromedaries are about two months old, their owner begins to train them for their work.

8. He makes them kneel every day for several hours. A piece of carpet covers them so that only the head and neck are seen. To prevent them from getting up, he puts heavy weights on the edges of the covering. This training goes on for four months.

9. Then the Arab children become their teachers and keepers. It is a pretty sight to see them, twice a day, feeding the little camels. In one hand they carry a bowl of camel's milk, and in the other a tiny switch.

10. After the bowls are empty, the children give the camels a touch on the legs with the switch. Down they all drop on their knees.

The education goes on week after week and month after month, till the children and their pupils become very fond of each other.

11. The camel is full grown at the age of eight years. Its food is chiefly grass, or if that is not to be had, it seems equally well pleased with the nettles, thistles, or other coarse, prickly plants found in its long journeys.

LANGUAGE.

Write ways in which the camel is made useful like the horse, the ox, the cow, the sheep, the elephant.

XCV. THE ELEPHANT.

ma'hout	pa'tient ly	o be'di ent	mov'ing
awk'ward	e'ven ly	del'i cate	o bliged'

1. Not so wonderful, perhaps, but wiser, larger, and stronger than the camel is the elephant.

If we knew him well we should think him the noblest of animals.

In India, elephants are too common to be in shows, but sailors like to watch the trained animals at work in the ship-yards, moving timbers.

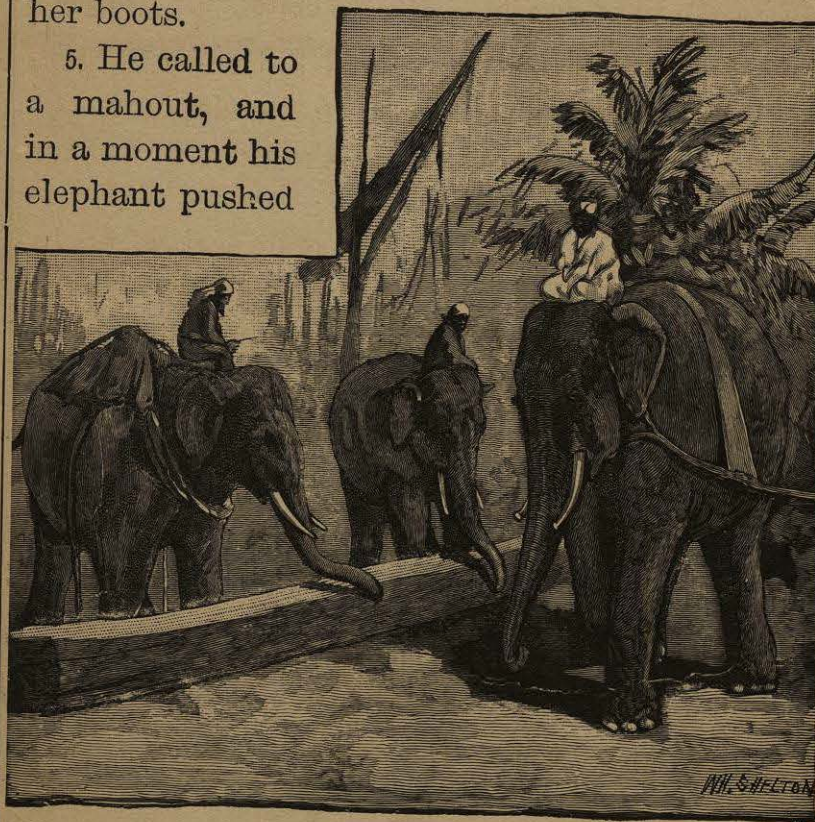
2. Besides drawing great logs by a chain, they will lift them with their trunks, and carry them on their tusks; and will pile them evenly, pushing them into place with the right foot.

3. When an elephant has dragged a log to the right spot he will unhook and free the chain with the finger of his trunk. His driver, called a mahout, sits sideways on a wooden saddle on the elephant's back, and makes signs by touching his side with his foot. The intelligent beast understands what is wanted of him. Sometimes one is obliged to hold his head so high that he cannot see where he is going; but he moves on blindly and patiently.

4. One day some people were landing, when the

tide was out, and the wharf very muddy. There was a lady on board, and the captain would not allow her to soil her boots.

5. He called to a mahout, and in a moment his elephant pushed



down the slope a log, fixing it just right for a walk across the dirty space.

6. These huge beasts are proud of their strength. They do not like to do work which makes them

look awkward; but they are obedient, and make the best of it.

7. You have seen the elephant eat and drink, perhaps, picking up food and sucking up water with his long trunk. One could hardly believe the stout, strong trunk could bend around to put each mouthful of food into the mouth beneath. There is hardly a thing so strong or so delicate that he cannot lift it safely.

8. If kindly treated, he is loving and gentle, and may be trusted. An elephant was once very fond of the baby in his master's family. The nurse would take the little one in its cradle, put it between the elephant's feet, and go away.

9. The great creature would watch over it, and move his trunk like a fan to keep off the flies. If baby woke, he would rock the cradle back and forth, to get it off to sleep again.

10. An elephant in a circus was once in pain, and a doctor gave him some medicine which cured him. On the next day, when the circus passed the house, the elephant saw the doctor in his doorway and went to him to caress him with his trunk. Having shown his gratitude, he marched forward again with the rest.

XCVI. HAVING THE LAST WORD.

for'feit nymph	ar'gu ment Nar cis'sus	Ju'no Jove	cheat'ed tongue
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1. Long ago, in the mountains of Greece, there lived a beautiful nymph. In our times she would be called a fairy. This is her Greek name, — Ἠχώ. The English word for it is Echo.

2. Echo's great delight was in woods and hills. She gave herself up to woodland sports, and but for one fault she might have lived a long and merry life.

3. This fault she seems to have taken no pains to overcome. I have known children who had it too. She was fond of talking, and, whether in chat or argument, would always have the last word.

4. Juno, one of the rulers in that country, when seeking Jove, her husband, one day met Echo in the wood. By her talk Echo contrived to retain Juno till she should miss seeing her husband, and so fail in her purpose. Juno was very angry, and this was the punishment Echo received from her

5. "You shall forfeit," she said, "the use of the tongue with which you cheated me, except for

the one thing you are so fond of doing. You may still have the last word, but you shall have no power to speak first."

6. It was not long before Echo was made to feel the pain of her punishment. A beautiful youth, called Narcissus, came upon the mountain in chase. Echo saw him, and longed to speak with him. Alas! she could not. She followed him, and waited for him to address her. Her reply was ready, but he did not speak.

7. At last, however, Narcissus strayed from his companions, and missing them, called, "Who's here?"

Echo at once replied, "Here!"

Seeing no one, Narcissus called, "Come!" and Echo answered, "Come!" As no one came, the youth called, "Come and join me!" and in clear tones Echo asked the same of him, and hastened to the spot.

8. Not expecting to see a stranger, Narcissus started back, and Echo in shame hid herself in a deep place in the rocks.

From that time forth she has dwelt always in caves and among cliffs. Her form has faded, her flesh has shrunk away, and her bones have changed to rock.

9. Nothing is left of the beautiful nymph but her voice. Echo is never seen, but she is still ready to reply to any one who calls. She can still have the last word.

XCVII. WHAT?

shoal rogue	puz'zle rid'dle	sheen'y wag'on	an'swer dim'pled
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What was it that Charlie saw to-day,
Down in the pool where the cattle play?
A shoal of the spotted trout at play
Or a sheeny dragon-fly?

The fly and the fish were there indeed;
But as for the puzzle, guess again!
It was neither a shell, nor flower, nor reed,
Nor the nest of a last year's wren.

Some willows droop to the brooklet's bed.
Who knows but a bee had fallen down,
Or a spider swung from his broken thread,
Was learning the way to drown?

You have not read me the riddle yet:
Not even the wing of a wounded bee,

Nor the web of a spider torn and wet,
Did Charlie this morning see.

Now answer, you who have grown so wise!
What could the wonderful sight have been
But the dimpled face and the great blue eyes
Of the rogue who was looking in?

KATE PUTNAM OSGOOD.

LANGUAGE.

As an echo is a reflection of sound, an image, like that
which Charlie saw, is a reflection of light from some object.
Write short accounts of examples of reflection.



XCVIII. A FAREWELL.

My fairest child, I have no song to give you ;
No lark could pipe to skies so dull and gray :
Yet, ere we part, one lesson I can leave you
For every day.

Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever ;
Do noble things, not dream them, all day long :
And so make life, death, and that vast forever,
One grand, sweet song.

CHARLES KINGSLEY.

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