

HERRESHOFF BROTHERS

"Nat" and His Brother John B. the Boat Builders

HOME AT BRISTOL

John B. is a Wonderful Blind Man Whose Specialty Is Steam Craft—"Nat" Is Tall, Reserved, and a Strict Disciplinarian. Some of His Traits.

"Nat" Herreshoff has done such wonderful things in putting together wood and iron and canvas and hemp in its speediest form that his name is known wherever a yacht floats in the waters of the Seven Seas. He has kept the America's cup so many years from those who sought to "lift" it that he has come to be regarded on this side of the water as a sort of wizard, who can do anything in that line, and when challenges are accepted the work of meeting them is turned over to "Nat" as a matter of course.

When a man is called by an abbreviation of his first name, it is generally taken for granted that he is a "good fellow," a "mixer," a "hustling," "democratic" person. But "Nat" Herreshoff is none of these. He is a cold, reserved, thoughtful, distant man—polite enough, well-bred enough, but one of those persons whom one would expect to hear called Nathaniel Greene Herreshoff, Esq., rather than "Nat." Yet as "Nat" he is always spoken of, just as his brother, the blind wizard, is always known as "John B." The Herreshoffs are a remarkable family, a family of geniuses, and the most remarkable of them are "Nat" and "John B." These two brothers are the active men of the Herreshoff Manufacturing Company of Bristol, and they are rich—nobody knows how rich, for the Herreshoffs are not given to a parade of wealth. They live quietly, comfortably, unostentatiously, and belong to the "old families" of Bristol.

"Nat" first established the fame of the firm by the wonderful cat-boats he built and the wonderful way in which he sailed them. When the Madge came over here in 1881 and beat everything that New York could put against her, she went "down East" and was beaten by the Shadow, a Herreshoff boat. It was her only defeat. When Burgess died, the American yachting world turned to the rather "stiff-necked" Bristol men as its only hope for a defender of the America's cup.

"Nat" Herreshoff, who may once more build a defender, is a large man, over six feet, if he would stand up straight, and bulky in proportion. He is probably the best liked of the Herreshoff brothers. In spite of all his peculiarities, people have implicit confidence in him. Ask any one in Bristol about "Nat" and they will say, "Well, all I know is he is a man who seldom says much." Once a day "Nat" makes a round of the "works," going through the ship-house and the machine shop with his head bowed as if he were meditating on something far, far away. Apparently his eyes glance neither to right nor left. His arms swing widely on either side. Nobody knows exactly at what hour this inspection will be made—if there is much work on hand, it may be twice a day, but once a day always. Novices stop their work to look at this large, bent figure with the short, red beard, streaked with gray, and the wide-swinging arms. But among the workmen who are old hands in the Herreshoff employ the rule is: "Here comes 'Nat' get a move on," and they pick up some sort of a tool—a hammer, a calking iron, anything which will make a noise like work, and go at it.

For wonderful to relate, "Nat," by simply walking through the ship-house, without apparently looking either to the right or left, can tell exactly how many men are idle, and upon what part of the work in hand they ought to be busy. "Mr. So-and-so," he will say to the foreman, "you have so many men idle here. This won't do. Set them to work." He will designate exactly on what part of the business in hand there is idleness. To the workmen "Nat" never speaks—always to the foreman. When a piece of work is completed, he will cast his eye over it—while it is in progress he holds the foreman responsible for the carrying out of orders.

Of "John B.," the blind brother, it is asserted that besides being possessed of abnormally acute hearing, his sense of touch is so extraordinary that he can tell the denomination of a bill by feeling it.—Evening Post.

Sticks to American Citizenship. The American painter, John S. Sargent, clings fast to his American citizenship, notwithstanding the fact that his name occasionally gets on to the voters' lists in the English community where he lives. It is understood that Mr. Sargent would have been knighted some time ago had he consented to expatriate himself.

Living Public Sign. Over the doorway of a house called the Beehive Inn, Granting, England, is a sign in which bees are seen. This is believed to be the first living public sign.

ART OF TRAINING ELEPHANTS

It's Like Teaching a Boy Circus Riding, Only Less Difficult.

On a number of points all elephant trainers agree, says Appleton's Magazine. These are: First, that the tall, fat legged, small eyed elephant of big girth is not only the handsomest, but also the most docile and intelligent of his kind. Second, that an elephant is fully aware of his prodigious strength compared with man's and that the reason an elephant obeys his master is not because he is afraid of him, but because he has an affection for him. Third, you may beat a "bad" elephant to death or kill him by ramming red hot iron down his throat in an effort to press the squeal of surrender" out of him, but the one and only way to train an elephant to perform tricks is through kindness and patience unending. Last, but not least, without exception, the intelligence of the elephant far exceeds that of any other animal.

Elephant trainers maintain that training an elephant to perform is like teaching a boy circus riding, only less difficult. A number of the simpler tricks with which an elephant entertains his audience come as natural to him as the lapping of milk comes to a cat. For instance, the blowing of the mouth harmonica.

Twenty feet to the right or to the left of the candidate to be taught to do down four heavy stakes are driven into the ground and from each of these runs a block and tackle connecting with each leg and manned by ten or a dozen men. When all is ready the trainer stands in front of the animal, raises his hook and "Down! down!" he orders. The elephant pays no attention. He stands "weaving" his trunk and swaying his body from side to side. "Down! down!" shouts the trainer again, and upon a signal some forty men begin to heave and tug, the blocks squeak, the ropes creak, and while the trainer continues shouting his command the pachyderm's legs begin to be drawn from under him. With a scalp raising trumpet the startled creature begins to struggle, lashing with his trunk from side to side and groping with its tip against the floor, frantically seeking for a hold to steady himself. But the relentless ropes continue to draw his legs. The huge beast leans at a forbidding angle, bellowing like a herd of steers and drowning the "Down! down!" of the trainer. The great body begins to totter; for an instant it regains its balance, then it falls, crashing with a dull thud on to the bed of straw. Tramping like the screech out of a cracked steam calliope, the brute tries vainly to struggle to his feet, until at the end of three or four minutes he begins to realize that nothing so very startling has happened and that really he ought to feel very comfortable indeed.

To teach him to stand on his head, the trainer again uses the block and tackle. To forestall the effects of a bad fall, the floor of the training stable is thickly littered with straw. Then the candidate is harnessed with chains and the bellyband and block and tackle as he was when learning to rear, the difference being that the chains from under the belly lead between the hind instead of between the fore legs, so that the hindquarters instead of the forequarters may be raised.

METAL OF THE STANDARDS

No Products of Human Skill on Which Greater Care is Expended. There are no products of human skill on which a greater degree of care is expended than the standards of weight and measure in use among the civilized nations of the globe. Two things in particular have to be considered: accuracy and durability. Nature does not furnish any single metal, or mineral, which exactly answers the requirements of a standard of measure or weight that shall be, as nearly as possible, unalterable. The best substance yet produced for this purpose is an alloy of ninety per cent, of platinum with ten per cent, of iridium. This is called "iridio platinum," and is the substance of which the metric standards prepared by the International Committee on Weights and Measures is composed. It is hard, is less affected by heat than any pure metal, is practically nonoxidizable, and can be finely engraved. In fact, the lines on the standard meters are hardly visible to the naked eye, yet they are smooth, sharp and accurate.

If our civilization should ever be lost, and relics of it should be discovered in some brighter age in the remote future, there is nothing that would bear higher testimony to its character than these standard measures of iridio platinum, for the protection and preservation of which the science of this day has done its very best.

Clock Made of Straw. An extraordinary addition has been made to the exhibition of inventions now being held in Berlin. A shoemaker named Wegner, living in Strasburg, sent in a clock of the grandfather shape, nearly six feet high, made entirely of straw. The wheels, pointers, case and every detail are exclusively of straw. Wegner has taken 15 years to construct this strange piece of mechanism. It keeps perfect time, a Berlin report says.

MANUAL OF THE UMBRELLA

Men Ostrichlike in This—Few Carry Them to Full Advantage.

"Curious about how some people carry umbrellas," said Mr. Stormelton, in the New York Sun. "We think the ostrich is a stupid bird because with its head buried in the sand it thinks its whole body is hidden from everybody, but plenty of men are quite as stupid as that in their manner of carrying an umbrella."

"They carry it in such a way as to protect the front of their body and appear to think they have themselves wholly protected while all the time the water is gaily dripping down their back. The fact is that not many men know how to carry an umbrella when it rains."

"If it rains and blows then inactively they hold the umbrella toward the wind, to keep the umbrella from being blown inside out as well as to protect themselves from the rain. This is proper British and when the rain is coming down straight they carry their umbrellas in all sorts of ways, in which they reveal more or less of their personal characteristics."

Here, for instance is a man who carries his umbrella held in his right hand with the hand-spike in front of and in line with his elbow and upper arm, this being the easiest way to carry it. Held in this manner the umbrella really shelters completely only his head and the right side of his body, the rain drops down his left side. He is either lazy or thoughtless, he is probably both. "Again, we may meet a man carrying an umbrella at the cost of considerable effort, around in front of the center line of his body, which is correct as to that position, but carrying it there too far forward, with the result that while he keeps perfectly dry on his face side yet more or less water drips down his back, a man flincky and particular about the front he presents, about appearances not so mindful of the substance."

"And then we meet the man who carries his umbrella with forearm straight in line with his elbow, for the greater ease of that position of the arm, but with the hand slightly turned so as to make the umbrella more completely cover him, or with that end in view, which end, howbeit, it does not accomplish, for with the umbrella top tilted it does not cover so large an area as it does when carried in a horizontal plane."

"That twist of the hand, to get something for nothing, or without much effort."

"And then we may occasionally meet a man who is carrying his umbrella in the best possible position for the purposes of the best possible protection to be gained from it, this being square in front of him, with the umbrella handle all out to the center of the front edge of the rim of his hat, carried so to protect him, as far as may be, both back and front, while he carries the umbrella as low down as can be without touching his hat on top, thus giving himself, also protection as far as possible down around toward his feet. And here we find a man who knows, intelligently, what can be done with the means at his command, and who is willing to put forth the effort required to bring those means to their utmost efficiency."

FRATERNAL LIKENESS

We May Inherit Any or All of Spiritual Traits of Our Parents.

As a result of a prolonged investigation of fraternal resemblance between children, based on the estimates of teachers in British schools, Prof. Karl Pearson three years ago decided that the mental and moral characters of man were inherited in much the same manner as the physical characters. "We inherit," he said, "our parents' tempers, our parents' conscientiousness, shyness and ability, even as we inherit their stature, forehead and span." Prof. Pearson's conclusions appear to be confirmed by further investigation as to the inheritance of ability pursued by Mr. Edgar Schuster and Miss Ethel M. Elderton of the Francis Galton Laboratory for National Eugenics, University of London. Their material was derived from class lists of the University of Oxford and the lists of the famous schools of Harrow and Charter House.

The definite object of the investigation was to determine as exactly as father and son and brother and brother, as indicated by successes or failures in passing the examination of the B. A. degree at Oxford or by their positions in school at Harrow and Charter House at corresponding times.

The results obtained from the Oxford material show that the correlation between father and son is represented by 0.312, and that between brother and brother by 0.405, on a scale by which complete resemblance would be indicated by 1 and no resemblance by 0. The public school material gave the value 0.398 for the correlation coefficient between brother and brother.

Dogs Well Treated. In Paris dogs are treated as well as human beings are. They wear automobile togs when they go motoring, they have a hospital and they even have a good-sized cemetery with monuments and headstones and inscriptions and mortuary wreaths.

A NEW SWITZERLAND

It Is Being Built Up in the Ozark Mountains, Mo.

ONE HUNDRED THERE

Many More Are to Come From Their Home Land.—They Have Established Dairy Farms According to European Methods.—Cheese Making Their Specialty.

A sturdy company of colonists is building up a new Switzerland in the Ozark Mountains of southwest Missouri. One hundred of these Swiss have bought land in the eastern part of Howell county, near the town of Brandsville and are clearing away the dense timber, building substantial homes, planting orchards and when the rain is coming down straight they carry their umbrellas in all sorts of ways, in which they reveal more or less of their personal characteristics.

Here, for instance is a man who carries his umbrella held in his right hand with the hand-spike in front of and in line with his elbow and upper arm, this being the easiest way to carry it. Held in this manner the umbrella really shelters completely only his head and the right side of his body, the rain drops down his left side. He is either lazy or thoughtless, he is probably both. "Again, we may meet a man carrying an umbrella at the cost of considerable effort, around in front of the center line of his body, which is correct as to that position, but carrying it there too far forward, with the result that while he keeps perfectly dry on his face side yet more or less water drips down his back, a man flincky and particular about the front he presents, about appearances not so mindful of the substance."

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The Swiss pay from \$6 to \$15 an acre for the land, with an average price of about \$12 an acre. Most of the land is sold in forty acre and eighty acre tracts. A tract of eighty acres is regarded as a large farm by the Swiss, accustomed as they are to intensive methods of farming. The land is sold to the colonists on the partial payment plan, except in cases where they have enough money to pay cash down for a tract. Sometimes the Swiss families have only a few hundred dollars when they arrive, but they are at once assigned to a farm and given an opportunity to pay out on it. The timber in many cases when made into cross-ties, posts and mine props goes far toward paying for the land.

When the colonists are unable to build houses they are furnished tents by the colonization company, until they get a start. A log house in the Ozarks, however, is not expensive, and cost of the settlers build comfortable homes shortly after they arrive.

The land that the Swiss are buying is thickly timbered with oak and hickory. The soil is a brown loam, and in some places the surface is thickly covered with small rocks. This land is well adapted for fruit growing.

The Swiss will adhere to their own superior methods for truck gardening and butter and cheese making, but they will adopt the American methods of fruit raising and general agriculture. They are progressive and are ready to adopt any American customs that are an improvement over their own.

It is agreed that the art of cheese making has reached its highest perfection in Switzerland. More Swiss cheese is imported to America than any other kind. Many of the colonists are expert dairymen. As soon as they arrive they begin making high grade butter and cheese that find a ready market at Brandsville.

A creamery and a factory where Swiss cheese will be manufactured on a large scale are soon to be established in the colony. At the present time the farmers are making the cheese at their homes with practically no equipment.

Long-Service Record. The long-service record of 80 years has been achieved by Anna Gabrieli, who has died at Botzen, Austria, aged 93, after serving since her thirteenth year three generations of the same family.

London has 300,000 one-room dwellers.

AGRICULTURE FOR WOMEN.

The Countess of Warwick Propounded the Practical Scheme.

Some nine or ten years ago I propounded my scheme for the teaching and training of women in the lighter branches of agriculture. Before going any further, let us see what these branches are. Horticulture (always the favorite), dairy work, poultry farming, market gardening, fruit bottling, jam-making, and bee-keeping are the principal ones. At first the press and the public were unanimous in crying down the projected scheme, the old cries of "taking the men's places," "work not fit for women," etc. ad lib., were heard on all sides; but to all his Lady Warwick turned a deaf ear, having "put her hand to the plough," she had no intention of turning back.

Last nine years ago she opened her campaign by establishing a hostel for women students in connection with the Agricultural College at Reading, the practical work being done in the grounds of the hostel, the theoretical part at the college. So successful was the venture that through several other houses were used, it became very clear that large accommodations were needed, and at the present day the large Agricultural College at Studley, in Warwickshire, is the outcome of that small beginning. Here women are taught the various subjects they take up, from the very rudiments to the highest point of efficiency.

In horticulture, botany, chemistry, entomology, and book-keeping are taught in dairy work, agriculture, chemistry, and bacteriology are added to the botany, and so on through

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COUNTRESS OF WARWICK.

all the subjects. Other colleges and schools have sprung up entirely for women, e. g., Swanley Agricultural College, Miss Wolseley's School of Gardening at Glynde, and Miss Crooke's School at Bredon's Norton. Here then is enough to show that there is every facility for women to train themselves for this work by training at one or other of these colleges. I say training advisedly, for in horticulture, above all the "lighter branches," a real preparation is necessary, for it is difficult for us to realize how very limited in variety were the plants, fruits, and vegetables which the old English gardener had to choose from. Now, however the traditional and haphazard methods of cultivation have been superseded by a reasonable scheme of observation and research, e. g., rotation of crops and application of scientific principles of manuring, and so much knowledge and attention has been brought to bear upon even the primitive fruits and vegetables that their size, fertility, and edible qualities have been improved out of all recognition while the great principles of hybridisation, selection, and reselection have entirely revolutionized the culture of flowers.

The work of gardening for women certainly offers exceptional advantages, for it is carried on in the pure open country, under the most healthy conditions, instead of in the closely-confined offices in our towns and cities, where so many women workers are found. At the present time the value of "fresh air" is being more and more demonstrated by those interested in the hygienic aspect of life. For girls whom lack of occupation has produced "nerves" here is a calling where "nerves" are unknown, where early rising, and steady, regular, and interesting work soon put all such ideas to the right-about, for in that strenuous life, which strives by the courageous facing of all difficulties, to wrest from Mother Earth her glorious and beautiful gifts, such things as "neurotic tendencies" have no place.

Surely a woman's taste cannot be better employed than in the laying out of gardens, the scheme of coloring in bedding out, the arrangement of the conservatory, while the fact that the lady who undertakes the garden is capable of decorating the dinner table with taste and elegance is surely a great help to the employer. Local sale cannot, of course, be relied on.

We must not forget market gardening, for here there is a large scope for women, and one of which they have not been slow to avail themselves, and in many cases I know of women working in partnerships who are making a real success at it. Of course, the choice of locality is not to be overlooked.—Sunday Edition, Pittsburgh Dispatch.

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