

A RABBIT STORY.

It is not often worth the trouble to write the biography of a common rabbit, but our Jack is an exception to the rule, says a writer in the London Spectator. We bought him from a poulterer at the door one day for 6 pence, so we know nothing about his antecedents. He grew into a huge brown creature, and might easily have been taken for a hare. One of his ears was lopped, which gave him a quizzical look which made us often think he was laughing at us. As time went on he developed a sense of humor seldom met with among other animals. Our fierce little Scotch terrier tried many a time to spoil his temper, and at last Jack resolved to have it out with him and assert himself. One day, instead of running away, as he was expected to do, he turned savagely on his enemy, and it was the terrier that retreated with one ear bleeding. After that they were on excellent terms of equality. They had many a scamper round the yard together and then would rest side by side like the good friends they were. They both had a great dislike of cats and chased them away the moment they ventured over the garden wall. One retiring too leisurely, Jack bit its tail to expedite its retreat, which met with the terrier's boisterous approval. They were very fond of coming into the house when they got the chance, and then they proceeded to the very top of two long stairs. There the old couple would sit gazing down on the world below for an hour at a time. When we looked up and saw the two heads peeping through the banisters, we often wondered what they were thinking about.

He knew all the members of the family, showing, however, a decided preference for his young mistress. When she went out on the lawn he would gambol round and round her, until he was fain to lie down to rest and recover his breath—never taking his eyes off her all the time and looking so comical. When he was called by his name he would come in much haste from the most distant part of the garden. It was quite a pretty sight to see him stand on his hind legs to receive a biscuit or a piece of gingerbread, which was the greatest treat we could give him.

One night, in the middle of a cold winter, our servants were much alarmed on going to bed about 11 o'clock to hear a noise like a gentle hammering in an unoccupied room. A number of houses had been broken into just about that time and the police had been going from door to door urging the householders to see to the barring of their windows at night, so naturally we were all on the alert, and now we thought our time had come. The whole family proceeded, as quietly as they could, at once to the suspected chamber, armed with pokers and lights; the door was courageously flung open, and there, on the hearth rug, sat—not a burglar, but our Jack, with one ear cocking as usual, and an amused expression on his sly face, as if he were enjoying his practical joke. He had been hammering the floor with his hind paws as he always did when he was hungry to attract attention.

But this was nothing to his next escapade, when he feigned death to escape destruction. The garden gate was generally kept locked for his benefit, but one day, as ill luck would have it, it was left open, and a huge Dandy Dinmont, watching his opportunity, ran in and caught Jack by the leg before he knew what was happening. One wail of pain and he fell down apparently stone dead. The wail brought out his young mistress, who carefully carried her pet into the house in her apron, and laid him tenderly in the terrier's basket. "How I wish I was a doctor!" she said, "and could set Jack's leg!" Her little brother, hearing this, ran off without a word to anyone to fetch a young doctor he knew a little—a clever surgeon. Unfortunately, the doctor was out, and the boy had no chance of explaining to him what had happened. When the doctor came in, his landlady naturally told him that a little boy had come after him in hot haste—she could not make out what was the matter—some accident—something about a broken leg.

The doctor thought it might be as well to come around and see what was the matter. "I hope it is nothing serious?" he kindly asked, when ushered into the drawing room. Jack's mistress was much distressed that the doctor should have been troubled just then, when so many people were down with influenza, and his time was so precious. "It's only a rabbit," she stammered, "that has broken its leg." For a moment the doctor looked as if he had heard amiss and then burst into a merry peal of laughter. "May I see the patient?" he asked in his most professional tone. We all adjourned to the sick room only to find the basket empty in which Jack had been left for dead, and the rogue was sitting on the hearth rug, cocking his ear and looking funnier than ever. He tried to hide when he saw the doctor, but we speedily caught him, when it was found that his leg was severely bitten—might have been dislocated, but not broken. He had simply been feigning death, as many animals do when they are frightened; but how he managed to set his own leg remained a puzzle.

Character In The Face.

"However dishonest a person may be and however clever in concealing his character his face will throw out a warning for those who know how to interpret it; 'either his round, smooth features, or his oblique glance eyebrows, eyes, nose and mouth and pointed chin will reveal him in his true colors.'" This sweeping statement may be called in question, but Mr. Richard Dimsdale Stocker is very positive that it is well-founded, and in Humanitarian he tells how the facial index to character may be read. If the face be divided by two imaginary horizontal lines, that division including the forehead and eyes indicates the extent of intellectual capacity, that including the nose and cheek bones indicates will power, that including cheeks, lips, jaws, and chin indicates the feelings. So much for the general indications. Mr. Stocker then proceeds to more specific information. First, as to the forehead, the seat of the intellect:

If the lower part of the forehead be the fullest, so that it advances over the eyes, it indicates that the observing powers and practical faculties are in the ascendancy; should the upper section be prominent or bulge forward it shows that the reasoning powers and theoretical side of the individual are strongly represented; while, if it be filled out in the middle, and fullest in the centre, it then denotes that the comparative faculties are in evidence, and that the person possessed of it has the ability to classify, to arrange his ideas, to criticise, and reason by analogy, and recollect what has taken place.

Viewed full-face: A wide forehead shows a broader mind than does a narrow one; and a high forehead indicates more intuition and altogether loftier characteristics than a low one.

A forehead greatly developed above, which sinks in near the eyes, indicates an infantile, crude personality.

Next as to eyebrows, the contour, position and extent of which show the development of the perceptive organs:

Straight eyebrows show orderly habits, a methodical turn of mind; arched or pointed ones, perception of color, taste in the arrangement of tints and the ability to match shades and hues; while such as are set far apart from each other show the capacity for judging of sizes and proportions with a greater or less amount of accuracy.

If the eyebrows bend down in the middle toward the eyes, so that they appear indented as it were, they show a nature that is disposed neither to forgive nor forget, and that is resentful, or apt to give "tit for tat."

According to the greater amount of space between the ridge of the eyebrow at its outer terminus and the corner of the eye can be accurately determined the calculative powers of a person.

When the outline of the eyebrows is straight it indicates sincerity and frankness—if, however, it should be oblique, and the hairs spring from the roots of the nose, it shows elusive and deceptive tendencies.

The eye, we are told, shows by its fullness and convexity the power of speech. The size of the eye shows the degree of sentiment, fancy, regard for the opposite sex. The distance between the eyes indicates the power of remembering forms and outlines. The color indicates the temperament, but on this point we get no particulars.

No other feature is so pregnant with meaning as the nose. The mere size counts for little; but its height above the cheeks unerringly indicates mental capacity and elevation of character. A pug or snub indicates either immaturity or arrested development; a Roman arch, love of power; a Greek straight nose, refinement, artistic taste, love of peace, the turn-up means vivacity and cheerfulness, reflection, and usually melancholy; the hooked or beak-like nose, love of gain.

The lips are the signs of passion and appetite. The upper lip, according to its fullness and redness, shows the extent of the social attributes; the lower, the domestic traits.

Thick lips denote sensuality and love of the good things of life; thin lips, oppositely, indicate a want of vitality, and but little capacity either for enjoyment or affording pleasure to others. The "happy medium"—the "proper mean"—is the best; such lips indicating a full share of the milk of human kindness, and a loving, sympathetic, feeling nature.

Up-turned lips indicate a witty, mirthful nature, but such as descend at the angles of the mouth denote a gloomy, unhopeful temperament.

When the space from the nose to the opening of the mouth (i. e., that part of the face which is often spoken of as the "upper lip") is long, stiff and full, it shows self-reliance and confidence in one's own opinions and ideas—pride.

If this portion of the face is short and concave, when looked at in profile, so that the upper lip rises and exposes the teeth to view, the exact opposite state of affairs exists, viz., love of commendation and the desire to be thought well of by others—vanity.

A chin projecting downward and forward indicates firmness; a short and retreating chin shows instability a narrow chin shows an unscrupulous, cunning nature; a wide chin, a well-developed sense of honor and duty.

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An overpowering odor caused great distress in a neighborhood of Council Bluffs, Ia, one evening, and one family was impelled to remove to a relative's home. On the return next day there were peculiar sounds in the attic and the husband started to investigate. Above the top round of the attic ladder he saw a bushy tail projecting and he didn't go up. Not the most reckless boy in the family had the least desire to pull that tail.

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THE E. B. EDDY & CO'S

Calendar for 1898

Will not be issued till March next at the earliest. We have been too busy to find time to get up a bright and attractive Calendar for our friends.

If you want a copy in March, send a post card request now to

The E. B. Eddy Co., Limited. Hull, Canada.

At a reception given to Anthony Hope at Indianapolis the other day one of the ladies introduced said to him, "You are not half as good looking as I thought you would be. I thought you had white hair."

Strawberry seeds bunching in and obstructing the intestines are said to have caused a man's death at Huntington, Ind. last month. The cause of death was a mystery until an autopsy was performed.