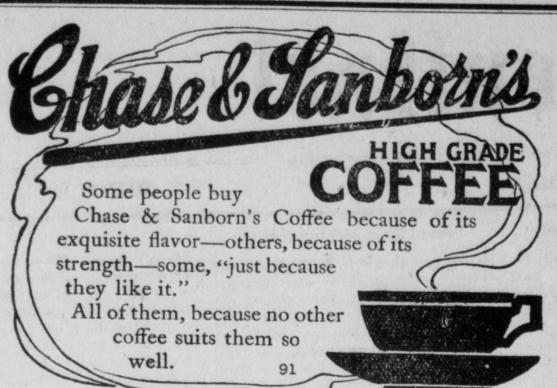
THE CARLETON SENTINEL, WOODSTOCK, N. B., MAY '5 1908.



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THE MODERN CIRCUS.

Vast and Dazzling, it is Really a Very Simple Affair.

While the performance of the big modern circus is truly dazzling and confusing to the average visitor, an analysis will show it to be a very simple affair.

ground, equestrian and hippodrome. Everything else is incidental or adjunctive. The menagerie, freaks, curiosities, etc., make up the remainder of what we call "the show." If one will examine the programme

of the circus performance carefully, it will be seen that the ground acts alternate with, say, a jockey act, an aerial act, an equestrian act, another ground act, another aerial act, and so on for the entire performance. The performers are mostly foreigners, Japan furnishing the most of a star rider.

any particular country. France, Italy and Germany give us the most of the athletic artists, while England America produce the equestrians. But the Japanese furnish fully three-eights of the whole entertainment.

The natives of Nippon have never been equaled by those of any other country for tricks of the feet and saddle. hands. The Japanese, however, are

never found on the programme as equestrians, trapeze artist or clowns. With these parts eliminated they fying deeds." In the old one ring may be said to give the greater part of the performance. Cut the equestrian and trapeze acts and the Japanese will be found in almost every number.

six members, costing from \$150 to off his jokes, after which the rider \$400 a week, will thus furnish the resumed the performance. most of the entertainment. As every circus goer knows, the Japanese are, "champions" in the show printing. especially skillful in every feature The press agent invariably wreathed of juggling, balancing by hands or these champions in laurels wrested feet, manipulating of objects, wire from other champions, and on the walking, etc., which they have car- dead walls their breasts were adornried to such a degree of perfection edwith rich medals of superlative that theirs acts are unapproachable | merit. by the people of any other national-There were such champions as ity. Charles W Fish, Martine Lowande The first Japanese performer in William Demott, William Showles, this country was a small boy who Robert Stickney, William Ducrow, came with the first Japanese embassy | Jim Robinson, Jim Melville, his son, Frank Melville, and many others. to the United States. His performance created a perfect Among the clowns of renown in furore of enthusiasm, and he attract- the earlier days were Jim Cooke, ed more attention than the novel the Shakespearean clown; Johnny embassy itself. Little "All Right" Patterson, the Irish clown; Joe will be remembered, through the Pentland, Dan Rice, Billy Burke, etc. embassy and its important mission Their pay was nearly as high as that has long been forgotten. of the riders. Clowns and riders The name was acquired from the were the only real expensive atcircumstances that the words "all tractions of the circus up to the year right" were the only English words 1870. the child knew at the time, and he A year or two later P T Barnum used to sing them out in his shrill and his associates, W C Coup and treble as he finished what was deem-Dan Costelle, introduced a hippoed a remarkable feat, to the intense drome and that feature became a delight of the audience. fixture in the circus performanc. So popular was the little chap that and necessitated the big tent. The his advent was followed by several hippodrome separated the audience other little "All Rights" from the so widely from the performers that same curious country beyond the the old singing and talking clown Pacific until the Japanese performsoon vanished. ers here became an old story. His place was taken by the silent The chief reason for the overfunmakers of today. From being a whelming preponderance of foreign chief feature the clown became a talent ir. the American circus lies in mere pantomimist, relegated to the the practical exclusion of children waits. The hippodrome multiplied from the stage and ring in the Unitriders and cheapened them, so they ed Stat N. So many of the states too, lost individuality. The distance and multiplicity of features enabled pearance of children under sixteen the showmen to run in mediocre that theatrical managers hesitate to riding acts instead of the first class produce any play with a child in the ones formerly necessary. The sharp cast. As acrobatic feats require rivalry characteristic of the one early and severe training, the Amerring days was dead. ican is practically cut off from this The hippodrome, which furnishes

the trades, and poor parents frequently apprentice their children to those who train them for the stage or ring. In this country we generously send them to the cotton mills or the mines. The American cizcus performer

has gradually become restricted to the equestrian act, and in the act of riding he or she is not excelled, even The performance proper consists by the English, though the latter of four parts-namely, aerial, nation has produced some fine equestrians, hauts ecole and daring bareback riders.

Mme. Dockrill, wife of R H Dockrill, himself one of the best high school riders of this time, was a famous American rider in 1874. She used to ride four bareback horses abreast, her feet resting on the two outside horses in Roman fashion. She also did the Mazeppa act and other thrilling bareback feats. Her pretty daughter Rose was trained in the same act and afterward became

Emma Lake, who died quite recently at an advanced age, was another famous American equestrienne. She always won salvos of applause as her horse, with noble head high in the air, rose almost to a perpen! dicular on his hind feet at the word of command, while his skilled mistress retained a firm place in the

Riders at one time were the chief attraction of the circus and were billed as we now bill our "death dedays the whole performance was practically divided between the rider and the clown. When the rider was not riding, the clown had the ring all to himself, even the band ceased A single Japanese troupe of five or playing until the clown sang or got

All riders in those days were

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l'otal Income	2,193,519.19	2,433,114.15	239,594.96
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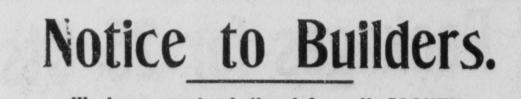


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alendars containing lists of students past and present, information in regard to aims and general management, conditions of entrance, fees, etc., address

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We have received direct from the SOUTH, a large shipment of

way of earning a living. In present conditions when Little

itself relatively the cheapest part of Eva in "Uncle Tom's Cabin" has bethe performance today. come old enough to marry little, "All When Maude Oswald was a hippo-Right" would be an impossibility, for drome rider, the races were hotly not only do these laws prevent the contested. So great was this rivalry

training of American children for the at times that the management had stage and ring, but they prevent the to interfere, not because of the appearance in this country of some danger to the contestants, but for of the most famous family troupes of Europe.

Abroad the show career offers a better means of advancement than

> dozen women some of them sewing do the crack jockey races.

A few dogs run around the track once, and it is called the "whippet dog race;" half a dozen terror strick-



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fear that they might injure the horses or other property. The riders owned their individual necks and

could be replaced at any time without expense to the show. Nowadays the hippodrome personnel is made up of the odds and ends and costs little or nothing extra. A clown will become a "Roman" rider; his wife will ride a chariot. Half a

half an hour's entertainment, is

girls in the wardrobe department, make up the ladies' flat races. An equal number of stable grooms will



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show his honest desire to

on monkeys are strapped to pony saddles, and their frantic fear sends the audience inte 'convulsions of laughter.

The only really meritorious feature of the hippodrome is that of the fine ; jumping horses introduced in modern days. Then come the obariot rases, the cheapest kind of affairs, but furnishing perhaps the most thrilling excitement to the average country crowd. There used to be elephant aud camel races, but the brutal manner in which it was necessary to goad and prod these unfortunates in order to get them to run at all was so repulsive to the gentle hearted in the audience that affairs, but furnishing perhaps the

Dr. T. A. Slocum, Limited, Toronto, Ont. Gentlemen:-My many thanks for Psychine and Oxomulsion. I have used them with very great satisfaction both in my own case and in that of my friends. It af-fords me much pleasure to recommend a remedy which is really good in cases for which it is intended. I am, yours very truly," DR. BRNEST A. ALLARD.

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