THE ORIGIN OF A PHRASE.

How and Where "The Wind Blew Through His Whiskers" Originated.

"The wind blew through his whiskers" is an expression whose origin my town can justly claim," said Anson Talbot, of St. Joseph, Mo., at the Lindell.

"It happened this way: Ten or twelve years ago a maniac escaped from the State Lunatic asylum, near St. Joseph, in the night, and the early risers the next morning were startled by the presence of a man on the roof of the Tootle Opera house, one of the tallest buildings in the city. Before the day was far spent he was identified as an inmate of the lunatic asylum, and the officers of that institution, together with a squad of police, soon set about to induce the maniac to come down from the roof. Every harmless device known was exerted to get the man down, and finally the officers realized that they would have to go up, overpower him and bring him down. There was only one opening to the roof, and the lunatic stationed himself there and kept the officers back by pelting every head with a big club as it was poked through the hole. At last three men gained the roof, and after a terrific struggle that was witnessed by thousands of excited people that blocked the streets, the lunatic was bound

hand and foot and brought to the ground. "When he cooled off somewhat from the tussle with his captors the man gave as his reason for going to the roof that his whisk-ers being so thick that he had gone up there to let the wind blow through them and cool his face. The local papers wrote the affair up in elaborate style and accounts of it were telegraphed all over the country. The headliners made the most of the incident and in the blackest type announced that 'The Wind Blew Through His Whiskers.' The expression was so catchy that it flew all over the country like wildfire, and that is the way it originated."-St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

How Animals Amuse Themselves.

In animals the faculty of amusement awakes very early. Our four-footed friends seem to be aware of this, and make it a part of their parental duties to amuse their young. A ferret will play with her kittens, a cat with hers, a dog with her puppies. A mare will play with her foal, though the writer has never seen a cow try to amuse her calf, nor any birds their young. If their mothers do not amuse them, the young ones invent games of their own.

A flock of ewes and lambs were once observed in adjoining fields, separated by a tence, with several gaps in it. "Follow my leader" was the game most in favor with the flock, the biggest lamb leading around the field and then jumping the gap, with all the others following in single file any lamb that took the leap unusually well would give two or three more enthusiastic jumps out of sheer exuberant happiness when it reached the other side. Fawns played a sort of cross touch from one side to the other, the "touch" in each case being by the nose.

Little pigs are also great at combined play, which generally takes the form of races. Emulation seems to form part of their amusement, for their races seem always to have the winning of the first place for their object, and are quite different from those combined rushes for food, or causeless stampedes in which little pigs are wont to indulge. Racing is an amusement natural to some animals, and, being soon taught by others, becomes one of their

most exciting pastimes. Many horses, and all racing dogs, learn to be as keen at winning as schoolboys. Birds delight in the free and fanciful use of their wings. There is all the difference possible between the flight of birds for 'business" and pleasure; and many kinds on fine days will soar to vast heights for pleasure alone.

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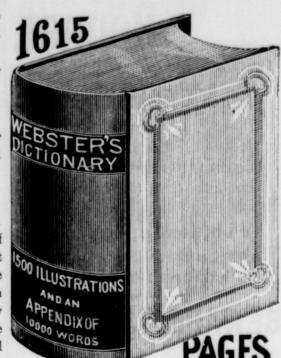
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