

A Clever Little Pom

NEARLY every dog can be taught to do tricks, and there are few pets of the house that cannot do at least one trick. But it is not very often that you find a dog who does a lot of tricks, and has taught itself all of them.

When I was in India I knew a clever dog of this kind. It was a little mongrel which really belonged to nobody but it would not



It balances itself very cleverly on the backs of chairs

be driven away, so one of the officers of the regiment took a liking to it and called it his. Very soon everybody liked it and it became, this little mongrel, the pet dog of the officers' mess. For it was so funny.

Whenever, for instance, it was scolded, it turned a somersault, and if told to go out of the room it lay down "dead," and let itself be pulled out by the tail. Among the other tricks it taught itself were to stand on the arms or the backs of two chairs, to "read" a newspaper, and to stand up against a wall with its hind legs stretched up as high as ever they could reach. It was a wonderful dog.

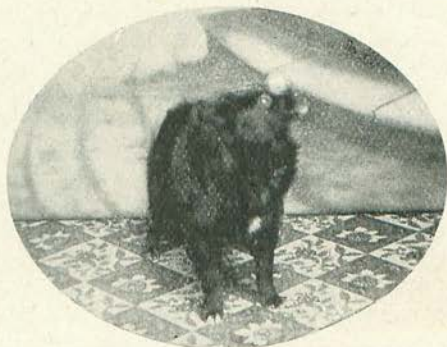
The officers said it was the ghost of the little native boy who used to be a page of the mess, and who was full of funny ways and tricks, and a great favourite.



'Reads' a newspaper

Our pictures are of a little Pomeranian dog that has taught itself some of the very same tricks. It balances itself very cleverly, as you see, on the backs of chairs, "reads" a newspaper, especially if some one will lend it a pair of glasses, as in the photograph. It likes to have things given to it to do which it thinks make it important. It holds a little lead ball on its head and likes doing it, and takes charge of anything that is given it.

"Poms," as they are called for short, are nearly always very bright and intelligent dogs. Little ones, "toy Poms," are the most popular as pets, but in Italy and other



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And takes charge of anything

countries they are found of a large size, are called fox-dogs and wolf-dogs, from their looking so like those animals, and are used as guards for the houses and flocks. At dog-shows you see very beautiful little kinds, not only jet black or snow-white, but sable, chocolate and blue.

The Better Angel

In those far days when we were young,

And rich in hope, though poor in pelf,

When earth so near to heaven swung

It seemed a part of heaven itself,

I grudged no joy of other men,

But thrilled beneath your lightest touch,

And thought you were an angel, then,

And loved you much.

But since you've shared the dole and mirth

With which the years my labour crown,

Since love no longer lifts our earth

To heaven, but draws the heaven down,

Since grief, like night, has touched your brow

And taught your eyes night's starry lore—

I know you are a woman, now,

And love you more.

A. ST. JOHN ADCOCK.

A Radiograph of the Human Fingers

THE imaginary and impossible of to-day often becomes the matter-of-fact reality of to-morrow when science casts her gleams of penetrating light. And nowadays a patient that visited his medical adviser for the purpose of having the anatomy or bone-structure of his hand or foot exhibited to him would be regarded as nothing unusual, whereas such a request made some seven or eight years ago would probably have caused

the medical attendant to look to the mind of his patient as well as his lower anatomy.

The peculiar radiation produced by electric discharges into "vacuum tubes" familiarly known as the "X-rays," or "Röntgen rays" pass with practically a very small amount of absorption through such substances as wood, stout and opaque paper, flesh, &c.; while other materials, such as bone, metals, glass, &c., greedily absorb them. Hence it comes about that if our hands, fingers, or other anatomy are interposed between a sensitive photographic plate and a vacuum tube that is giving out Röntgen rays, the bones absorb more or less the whole of the rays, while the flesh absorbs comparatively few, thus producing a negative plate which gives an accurate positive representation of the bones along with any other foreign substances which the rays cannot penetrate.

The accompanying radiograph exhibits how beautifully these mysterious rays perform their functions. The coins and watchguard were laid on the plate over which the fingers were placed, the sensitive film being in contact, except for the opaque brown paper in which the plate was wrapped to protect it from the light, as the room where the radiograph was made was illuminated by ordinary gas-light. While completely protecting the plate in normal light it is of no consequence to the penetrating X-rays as the illustration shows.

The electric current is then discharged from the battery into the tube under which the fingers and plate are arranged at a distance of about nine or twelve inches away. For about twenty seconds or so a peculiar flashing of bluish rays takes place, and then the electric current is turned off, and the plate only needs developing and treating as an ordinary negative to produce a picture of our anatomical details.

From the illustration it will be readily seen how the least particle of metal or similar substances, or bone fractures, can be located. In making a radiograph in this way, care has to be exercised by the surgeon before operating as the fingers shown are of the right hand although apparently from the left. This arises from the fact of laying the fingers on the film of the plate—which