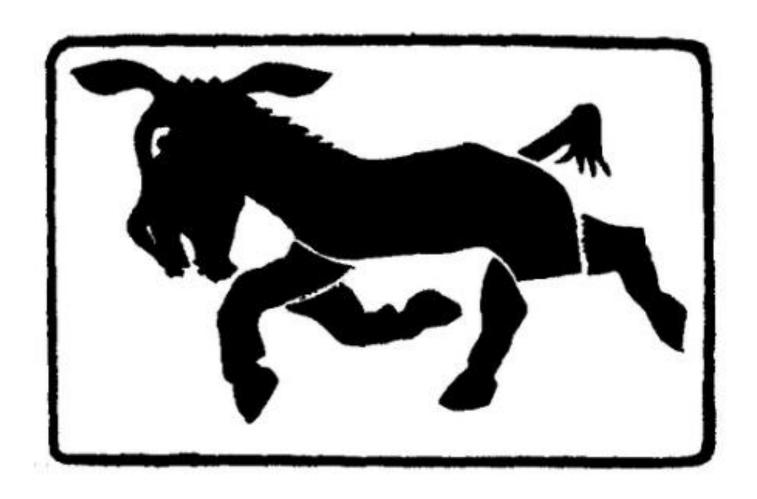# Pony Puzzle
(Sam Loyd)

Cut out the 6 black pieces that make up the donkey. Arrange them so the picture of a horse appears. Oy works best if you lay the 6 pieces on white paper. This is a very hard puzzle
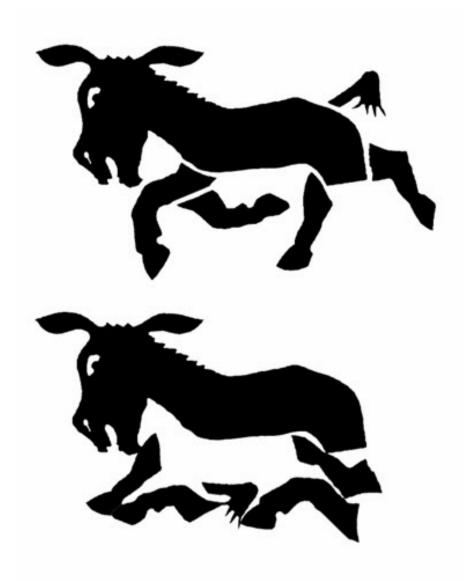
The Pony Puzzle

The Pony Puzzle was devised by Sam Loyd . The Pony Puzzle was inspired by a trip to Uffington England where Loyd visited the White Horse Monument. A compendium of his puzzles titled Cyclopedia of Puzzles and is available online. It includes his "Pony Puzzle" (p. 17) in which a white pony is hidden among the various parts of a "dark horse" silhouette. Here are Loyd's instructions—

Trace an exact copy of the figure, as shown, and cut out the six pieces very carefully, and then try to arrange them together so as to make the best possible figure of a horse. That is all there is to it, but the entire world laughed for a year over the many grotesque representations of a horse which can be made with those six pieces.

Loyd's solution is shown above. It's a horse of a different color of course.

The Pony Puzzle

The Pony Puzzle was inspired by a trip to Uffington England where Loyd visited the White Horse Monument.

The Uffington White Horse is a highly stylized prehistoric hill figure, 110 m long (374 feet), formed from deep trenches filled with crushed white chalk. The figure is situated on the upper slopes of White Horse Hill in the English civil parish of Uffington. Deposits taken from the horse's 'beak' have been used to scientifically date the horse to the late Bronze Age.

It has long been debated whether the chalk figure was intended to represent a horse or some other animal. However, it has been called a horse since the 11th century at least. A cartulary of Abingdon Abbey, compiled between 1072 and 1084, refers to "mons albi equi" at Uffington ("the White Horse Hill").