



Hochgebirgsesel

Mountain-donkey

fascinating than the imaginings inspired by these romantic tales. In any case, the photographs of Luis B. Ramos make this supposition seem very probable. As a native of the country, he is familiar with opportunities for his camera, which the most observant foreigner would be able to discover only with difficulty, if at all. But the excellence of so many of Ramos' pictures is not due solely to the inherent beauty of his subjects. They do not owe their effectiveness merely to the background of the mountains or to the decorative quality of a unique cloud formation. A picture which shows merely a mule is convincingly illuminating. Ramos shows his subjects in a perfect harmony of union; they breathe the very air of their surroundings and reflect the atmosphere in which they have their being. Luis B. Ramos received very thorough training in Europe; he studied for seven years in France, Italy and Spain. Most of this time he spent in Paris. To-day Ramos teaches at the Bogota Academy of Art. He is also the press photographer of his country. If we say that he early realized what a Colombian could learn in Europe, we must also add that this realization did not lead him to forget to see the special characteristics of his own country in his own fashion, in order that he might reveal their essence pictorially. Transl. by James Caswell