

JESSIE AND HER FAIRS

Conspicuous for Lack of Improvement in Novelties

AMERICA A GOOD BUYER

Russia's Trade and Commerce while On the March are Well Established—Merchants of the Fair Widely Varied—How We Bargain For Her Skins and Hides.

Nijni Novgorod, literally and really the "New City," counts back a practically uninterrupted series of annual fairs for upward of six centuries.

The fair city itself is built upon a flat across the river, or, rather, for it is here that the Volga and its tributaries, the Kara and Oka, meet.

Nowhere on earth can be found a more truly cosmopolitan crowd than assembles every fall at the Nijni fair, and the jargons of tongue could puzzle even expert interpreters.

Russia lacks aggression commercially. Nations must go to her for goods rather than that she present to them.

The American leather-buyer is really in evidence at the Nijni fair, a fact not so strange when we remember that American shoes are the finest in the world and everywhere so acknowledged—even in Russia.

The original patent leather was most unsatisfactory from the point of service, but it held vogue because of its smart appearance. So American manufacturers set about producing a shiny leather that would combine beauty and satisfactory service.

The question was to get a sufficient supply of these skins. The markets of the world were scanned, consular reports consulted, and the result is a close relationship between the manufacturing shoe centers of America and the vast and frozen steppes of the Russian empire.

AMERICANS IN THE FAR EAST.

Scant Opportunities Offered for Professional Men.

In response to numerous inquiries from the United States regarding the Orient as an inviting field for young men who have entered the professions of law, medicine and dentistry, Consul Anderson has written at considerable length to the state department, explaining the methods and practices that obtain in China.

"While there is always more or less disposition on the part of some young men to push into untried portions of the world, not only for travel and experience, but also for a livelihood, the number of inquiries received by foreigners in China from people in the United States and elsewhere as to opportunities to engage in business, and even to practice the professions here, seems to indicate that there is rather a well defined movement toward the Far East among some classes.

"Business opportunities in the Far East, are comparatively well understood in their attractive as well as in their unattractive phases. Opportunities for the practice of the professions, however, are comparatively unknown. In some lines of professional work in the Far East there are well-defined limits of prosperity and adversity, but in others, the result of Anglo-Saxon effort is yet to be shown.

"That large fees have been earned in medicine, law, dentistry and otherwise is to be freely admitted. It does not follow, however, that all practitioners here can earn fees of this sort, or that the opportunity will come here any oftener than it does in the United States. If it were true, which is probably not the case, that the average earnings of professional men in any line here are greater than they are in the United States, it is to be considered that increased cost of living, increased expenses for books, medicines and supplies and the absence of other things which go to make life worth living may combine to render practice here less profitable and satisfactory in the long run than practice in Europe or America.



Miss Rose Cleveland, sister of former President Grover Cleveland, and an author of considerable merit, is known in the State of Maine as "The Queen of Seven Hundred Acres Island."

Fastidious Irish Clergyman. The Rev. Dr. Charles Tisdall, chancellor of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, who died recently, was reputed to be the best dressed clergyman in Ireland. Many stories are told of the elegance of his attire.

Reflections of a Chambermaid. Many are called and few are up before noon. 'Tis a long hall that has no urn in. Men must work and women must sweep. Coming agents send their baggage before.—Judge.

SUCCESS OF POPE PIUS X.

Due to His Democratic Habits and Love of Simplicity.

The manners of Pius X. have been the key to his personal success ever since he was elected Pope. Born from humble parents and raised when still in his prime to the highest dignities in the Church, he never lost sight of the fact that he was a son of the people and that all his ecclesiastical work was to be done for the people, even for those whom the world considers as the last in the social scale.

He always entertained such a humble opinion of himself that when the death of Leo XIII. was announced and his duty as a Cardinal called him to Rome for the election of his successor, he never dreamed of even the possibility that he himself would be the choice of his colleagues in the Sacred College, and bought a return ticket to the Eternal City firmly convinced that he would be back to Venice in a few weeks.

Succeeding a Pope of noble and aristocratic birth, Pius X. found that many of the formalities of life in the Vatican were not suited to him and forthwith abolished many of these formalities which for centuries had been in vigor at the Vatican and more strictly so under his immediate predecessor.

The democratic manners of Pius X. are very popular with his intimate secretaries and the prelates of his entourage. Soon after his election, finding that custom prescribed that the Pope should take his meals all by himself, he rebelled and ordered that the table be always set for six persons.

One of the traits which have made Pius X. very popular to the Roman people and to all his personal visitors is the democratic way in which he receives them at the Vatican.

Among other signs of the Pope's democracy was the abolition of many officials whose duties had long ceased to exist, and who had become purely ornamental adjuncts of the Papal Court. He would if he could abolish the court altogether, but he realizes that the excited office he holds demands a certain amount of state, and he lays aside his personal inclinations in this respect.

Again, he forbade the members of his establishment kneeling whenever he passed, as had been the custom for centuries. This perpetual homage, this inability to walk in the garden or in the corridors of the Vatican without every person kneeling gratified on him.—New York World.

What He Meant. "Good morning, ma'am," said Willie, doffing his cap. "My! what a polite little boy!" exclaimed Miss Passey. "Do you always take off your cap like that to ladies?" "Ma'm; only to old ladies."—American Hebrew.

ROYAL MATCHMAKING GENIUS.

Has Done Great Things for House of Denmark—Gives Norway a King.

In a family sense old King Christian of Denmark is certainly the luckiest sovereign in Europe. It is all due to the fact that someone—either the King or one behind his throne—has a most marvelous genius for matchmaking. Denmark is about the smallest kingdom in extent on the continent, and the monarch himself, when he came to the throne, was about the obscurest Prince in Europe.

The eldest son, Prince Frederik, heir apparent to the Danish throne, married Princess Louise, daughter of Carl XV., then King of Sweden and Norway.

The eldest daughter, Princess Alexandra, married the Prince of Wales, now King of England.

The third child, Prince Wilhelm, married Olga, Grand Duchess of Russia, and was elected King of



King Hakon VII. of Norway.

Greece under the title of Georgias I. Princess Marie Dagmar, the fourth child, married Alexander III., the late Czar of Russia. She is now the Dowager Empress of Russia, her son being the present Czar.

The fifth child, Princess Thyra, married Prince Ernest August, Duke of Cumberland, who hoped to be King of Hanover, but his kinsman, the Emperor of Germany, sat upon his claim.

The sixth child, Prince Waldemar, married Princess Marie d'Orleans, eldest daughter of the Duc de Chartres.

Prince Charles, grandson of Christian, King Hakon VII. of Norway by virtue of election by the Norwegian people. "Hakon" is a favorite name in Norse history. The Prince's matrimonial fortune was made 19 years ago, when the favorite daughter of King Edward VII. of England (then Prince of Wales) became his betrothed bride. Princess Maud is three years older than her husband, the new King, who is only 33, hence probabilities point to a long reign for the couple.

King Hakon holds a commission as Lieutenant in the Danish navy. He is likely to continue to hold it, though now the sovereign of a foreign kingdom. He was the subject of a serious quarrel a few years ago between his grandfather and his father-in-law, then Prince of Wales.

Desiring to be near his favorite daughter the Prince of Wales arranged that Prince Charles should transfer his commission from the Danish to the British navy and that the young couple should take up their residence in London. Then, at the last moment, old King Christian changed his mind and vetoed the scheme. Had Charles become an Englishman then he might have missed his present chance of becoming King of the realm which fate seems to have created especially for him.

King Christian is a democratic and unconventional old monarch, considering his brilliant family connections.—Pittsburg Gazette.

ANGEL CHILDREN.

Is there any happier woman in this world than that mother whose each successive little one seems to her but one more darling angel to continually lift her thoughts toward the sunshine of perfect happiness?



Co., Oregon, "my health was very poor. I had been troubled for about eight years with female disease. I doctored with good physicians but obtained no relief, so I wrote to the World's Dispensary Medical Association, and was advised to take Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I did so and am happy to say my health began to improve, and I did my work up to the last, and felt splendid."

Any woman may write to Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., a statement of her case, which will be considered in absolute confidence by this physician who stands among the foremost specialists of the century in the treatment of women's diseases. He will send her (in a plain, sealed envelope) sound, sensible, valuable advice free of all charge.

JAPS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Have Entered into Lively Competition with Americans.

Statistics gathered in San Francisco in regard to the Japanese engaged in business show that they have entered lively competition with Americans in a large number of occupations which the Chinese do not invade. There are 85 Japanese hotels in San Francisco, 69 restaurants, 16 intelligence offices, 9 shooting galleries, 11 billiard rooms and 75 housecleaning offices.

How Meerschaum is Mined. "Meerschaum is mined like coal," said a pipe dealer. "It is a soft, soap-like stone, and in Asia Minor its mining is an important industry."

The crude meerschaum is called hamshah. It is yellowish white in color and a red clay coat or skin envelops it. The blocks cost from \$25 to \$200 a cartload. They are soft enough to cut with a knife.

Cheap Cottage Exhibition.

A "cheap cottage" exhibition was recently held at Letchworth, in England. A number of comfortable cottages were shown, which, including the builders' profits, cost less than \$750. They were intended to make a wholesome, comfortable home for the workingman and his family, and not to be "glorified pill boxes," to quote the Duke of Devonshire, who is one of the foremost advocates of the "cottage city" idea.

Vigorite is New Explosive. A new explosive is exploding in Bavaria about ten times as explosively as the most powerful of any would-be rival concoctions, and has been christened vigorite.

When combined with saltpeter it is particularly sensational; it is not affected by friction or impact, by damp or by frost. When ignited in the open air vigorite does not explode, but burns slowly. Works will be constructed before long at Lehr-on-the-Main for its manufacture.—Exchange.

HUMPHREYS'

Specifies cure by acting directly on the sick parts without disturbing the rest of the system.

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In small bottles of pellets that fit the vest pocket. At Druggists or mailed, 25c. each. Humphreys' Medical Guide mailed free. Humphreys' Med. Co., Cor. William & John Streets, New York.

ANCESTORS MADE TO ORDER.

Fakir Genealogists Thrive With Growth of Latest Fad.

Of recent years not only among the wealthy but among the well-to-do, there has grown up a desire to know one's ancestry, a desire which has been fostered by the growth of patriotic societies requiring a Revolutionary ancestor or one who fought in the Colonial wars. Here is where the professional genealogist comes in. One of these fakirs said in defence of his trade: "Well, what would you do? The newly rich man who wants a pedigree and is willing to pay for it, wants a first class one with kings and nobles in it—and I give it to him. He may have come from a long line of peasants—in all probability did so descend—but if I gave him his real pedigree he would kick me out of the house. If I can, by hook or crook, carry his line back to his first ancestor in this country the rest is easy. Once on the other side of the water with Battle Abbey Roll, Doomsday Book and Burke's Peerage at my disposal, my fancy takes free range and my client gets his money's worth."

Another way in which the weakness of human nature is shown is by the assumption by Americans to coats of arms to which they have no right whatsoever. The manager of one of the carriage manufacturing establishments in this city, in reply to a question as to where he got the coats of arms which he placed on the panels of the carriages of his wealthy customers, said: "Oh, it is this way. A customer comes to me—it is generally the woman of the family—and says: 'I would like to have our coat of arms on the panels of our new coach.'"

"What are your arms, madam?" I ask. "Oh, I don't exactly know. Haven't you a book that tells?" "Certainly, madam." And I take down Burke's Peerage or General Armory and turn over the pages to let us say, Smith, Sir Robert, Irish baronet, I read. "Oh, no, that's not it," says my fair customer. So I look further. "Smith, Baron Gravesend, I venture."

COST OF BILLIARD BALLS.

Owing to Scarcity of Ivory Price Doubled in One Year.

Every billiard player knows the delicacy of the ivory ball. Every man who owns his private table knows, also, the great cost of these balls, due to the difficulty in securing the ivory from which they are made. The product from which the best balls are cut and polished is found only in the tusks of elephants, although ivory dentine is obtained from the tusks of the walrus as well.

Because of the qualities essential in a properly prepared billiard ball the dentine found in the finest kind of elephant tusks is the only kind that is used in their manufacture. Owing to its scarcity the price of billiard balls has steadily increased, those of the regulation size, 2 1/2 inches, having advanced in price from \$8.50 to \$16 in one year.

This increase in cost is not due to a trust in ivory or in ivory balls, as the manufacturers themselves have been as anxious as anyone to secure some material which could be substituted for ivory in the manufacture of good billiard balls.

The regulation ivory billiard ball has, as billiard players know, great susceptibility to atmospheric conditions. Sometimes the balls are "quick" and respond promptly to "English" and the slightest touch of the cue. At other times no amount of skill can prevail upon them to work properly. When a set of ivory balls is moved from one place to another the experienced billiardist knows that they must not be unwrapped or taken out for three days. If they are exposed to the new atmospheric conditions they "catch cold" and are likely to crack or chip.

Thankful for the Car.

Superintendent Foster, of the New Orleans Street Railway Company, formerly with the Boston and Northern at Salem, tells the following story of the days when "spotters" were much in evidence on the cars: A young fellow who had charge of one of the Salem Willows cars during the rush season was suspected of more than ordinary "knocking down" says the Boston Herald. He turned in his trips at the Salem office, and the cashier, who was aware of what was going on, said "Thank you." Next trip he turned in still less, and the polite cashier thanked him again. The next trip he brought in still less money, but the cashier was there with his smiling "thank you."

"What the deuce are you thanking me for?" asked the conductor. "For bringing in the car," replied the cashier.

The test of excellence applied to Japanese swords years ago was very rigid. It was to suspend the blade horizontally, edge upward, under a tree, and a good weapon was expected to cut in twain any leaf that fell upon it.

Japan's annual tobacco crop is about 40,000,000 pounds.