Pacts About Their Manafacture-Where the Bristles Come From.

Brushes are among the more common articles in constant use, and like a great many other articles that are universally employed there are many interesting facts concerning them and their manufacture. The varieties and kind of brushes are so great that it would be impossible to give all due consideration within the limits of a newspaper article, but a few facts concerning ordinary bristle brushes may interest the average reader.

It may seem somewhat singular that it should be necessary to import any article or material entered into the construction of ordinary brushes, and yet it is said that there are millions of pounds of pigs' bristles imported into this country every year. America is considered n great country for the pig. We export pork in immense qualities, so why do we have to import bristles? The reason is simply that the bristles on the back of an American pig are not sufficiently stiff, and are of no value except in the very cheapest grades of brushes. In this country the pig is bred for pork, and it is usually slaughtered when one year old, and hence the bristles do not have the opportunity to become very stiff and hard. The best and most valuable of all bristles are those which come from Russia. In all that country the bogs run wild, frequently reaching the age of eight or ten years. They are hunted and shot down, and thousands of pounds of bristles from their backs are exported to America, where they are worth about \$5 per pound. In Poland nearly or quite as good bristles are obtained. In both countries the hogs feed upon bark and roots, are lank and lean, and valuable only for their bristles. Large quantities of bristles are imported from Germany, which, though not quite so heavy or stiff as those first mentioned, are much superior to American bristles, being worth \$3 per pound. Bristles are also imported from France, being of a finer texture, more suitable for fine varnish brushes, and worth \$1.50 per pound. American bristles are worth all the way from thirtyfive cents to \$2 per pound, but, as stated before, are used only in the cheaper grades of brushes. It is stated on good authority that until within the last five years all tooth brushes were imported from England or France, but that within that time their manufacture has begun in this country, and that now the home manufacturers can compete with their foreign brothers. Another article used in the manufacture of brushes is tampeco, a sort of wild grass that grows in Mexico. When this is colored it is difficult to discern it from hair. It is imported in large quantities from that country, and is worth twelve cents per pound. Horsehair also is largely used in making brushes. It is sometimes mixed with bristles, and sometimes used by itself. Strange to say, it is impossible to obtain a sufficient supply in this country, and large quantities are imported from South America, where it is obtained from the manes and tails of wild horses. It is worth fifty cents per pound. Rice root from Brussels is

The manufacture of brushes is not particularly interesting in its various operations, though some branches of it require considerable skill and ingenuity. The material into which the bristles are set usually comes to the brush manufacturer partially ready for use, but considerable labor is required to put the goods in condition for the market, even after the bristles are set. The first process is to sort the bristles by taking row of upright steel points, like the many methods of making brushes as there are kinds of brushes. In paint tufts of bristle into holes bored in rows. Ottentimes they are secured by dipping the root ends into hot pitch, winding a piece of string around these ends, then dipping them again, and quickly and dexterously introducing them with a twisting motion into the holes, where the pitch sets and holds them. Many brushes, notably hair brushes, are made by driv-Russian sable.—Boston Herald.

Queen Victoria's recent levee in a curious costume, a compromise between the East and the West. While his extremities were incased in the black dresstrousers and patent-leather boots of what in rich cashmere shawling, which hung about his shoulders in graceful festoons, chest with gold buttons.

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for it is universally adulterated.

Pleasant to the taste and surprisingly quick a colleying coughs and colds, it is not at all ried loon," and other ingenious methods French dynasties were the Merovingian, trange that Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup has dis-of cooking those birds.— Captain Carlovingian, Capet, Valois, Bourbon, Markham, in Good Words. Napoleonic and the Orleanist.

He Didn't "Bunko,"

The bunko men who sat down in Detroit six weeks ago to make their pile have had a hard time of it, and must be about ready to leave. Fact is, the game is too old to work on our citizens, and strangers who reach here are generally pretty well posted on all sorts of games to deceive. The other day there was a dreadfully innocent-looking farmer doing a little trading at a Woodward avenue harness store, when one of the bunko steerers got after him for a sheephead. After following the stranger long enough to learn his name and place of residence, he suddenly confronted him on the corner with:

"Hello! Mister Smith! Well, "You've got the start of me," said the old man as he looked bunko over.

"But I know you. You live just out-side the corporation limits of Blankville, and have got one of the best farms in the county.

"Yes, that's so, and who be you?" "I am a brother of the postmaster."

"Is that so?" "Yes, and I've seen you in the post-office a hundred times. How are all the folks?

"All well, I believe." The farmer not only knew what bunko was, but his son was postmaster at Blankville. Nevertheless he asked:

"Seen your brother lately?" "Not for three months, but I'm coming up there next week."

"Sure you've seen my farm, are "Sure? Say, didn't you miss some early pears one night last fall?"

"Well, I-ha! ha!-I'm a great lover of early pears, and I was there about

that time "Say, I'd like to speak to you," said the farmer as he looked up and down

the street. "Certainly. Then we'll have a glass of beer together and I'll show you

around town." The two walked up Congress street to Bates, and half-way down Bates to Larned, and then the farmer reached for the collar of the bunko chap and

"When I found them pears gone I swore I'd lick the thief if I had to live a hundred years to do it !"

" But I-I-!" "Stole my pears, did you—robbed my pet trees, eh!" growled the farmer as he slammed the young man around.

No! no! never-"Lying won't help you a bit !" muttered the old man, and he put on steam and cracked the boy's heels together, slammed him against a brick wall and flung him on a snow-heap with only breath enough left in his body to agitate a feather, while his store clothes were a sad sight to see.

"He stole my airly pears last fall," explained the old man as several persons came running up, "and if I hadn't got the worth of 'em back I'll have to wait till some other time. He'll come to directly, and if he feels like talkin' he'll give you all the little particulars !"

But when bunko was helped to his feet he wouldn't say a word, and was in another material that enters into the such a hurry to get somewhere that he construction of some kinds of brushes, and considerable quantities are im-

The Loons. As the small stock of fresh meat we

had brought with us from Tromso was

diminishing in a most alarming manner,

it was decided to put into a harbor,

called Nameless Bay, in order to re-

plenish our provisions. This bay was

reputed to be a famous place for loons," as Brunnich's guillemots are a handful and passing them through a invariably called, and well did it deserve the reputation it had acquired, for teeth of a comb. There are about as it was one vast loonery, teeming with birds. The bay was bounded on the three sides by high hills, terminating at brushes the bristles are arranged around | the water in abrupt, precipitous cliffs, the small end of a conical stick and se- about 100 feet in height. Frost and the cured by twine wrapping. A great action of the weather had formed narmany brushes are made by inserting row ledges on the faces of these limestone cliffs, rising in regular stratifications, tier over tier, from base to summit. These ledges were the looneries, and on them were congregated myriads of birds. So thickly were they clustered were marine boilers, thirteen were together that the combination of their "portables," being used in hoisters, black and white plumage made the face of the cliffs assume a "pepper and sa.t" hue. Some idea may be gathered of As compared with 1879 there is a large ing the bristles through holes and the countless numbers of these birds fastening them with wire. A skillful | by the fact that my companion and myperson is known to have drawn five self in less than two hours bagged 600, hundred tufts in an hour, but one hun- and, had we required it, many hundreds This fact is traced to the revival of dred in an hour is considered good more could have been obtained in the work. An ingenious machine has been same space of time. On the first dis- idle boilers, and in many cases the overinvented for making flat brushes, which charge of our guns a perfect cloud rose working of others. fills from sixty to eighty holes per hour. In front of us, completely obscuring the Much of the work with bristles is per- face of the cliff. The noise produced formed by girls and women, many of by the tremendous whirring and flapping whom become quite dexterous in the of wings can only be compared to that business. The delicate brushes, called made by the fall of water from a large also hair pencils, used for water colors, cascade. As they flew seaward they are made of bair of the camel, goat, struck us in the boats, while the killed be indicated by tracing a triangle, of badger, sable, squirrel and other ani and wounded fell upon us like hail. The which three corners are represented by mals, by binding a bundle of them to- incessant flight of these birds in differ gether, after being carefully arranged ent directions, during the days we reand their points temporarily protected, mained at anchor in the bay, reminded and sliding this through the large end me more of the swarming of hundreds vegetable material, so thick as to retard of a quill till the points project suffi- of hives of bees than anything else; so the progress of vessels sailing through ciently far through the smaller end. continuous were their flights that we it. Steamers avoid it because of the The tube having been previously soft- used to find it almost impossible to fouling of their screws and paddles by the ened by water, contracts as it dries and sweep the land carefully with a telescope weed; but sailing vessels bound to the holds the bundle of hairs fast. The for game, in consequence of the rapid West Indies, South America, the Cape of best brushes of this kind are made of passage of these birds across the fields Good Hope, etc., must pass through it. hair taken from the tail of a species of of our glasses. The loons build their When Columbus, on his first voynests on the ledges of the cliffs, where age, had got some distance to the westtheir eggs, of which there is only one ward of the Canary Islands, he was The rajsh of Rampoor appeared at 11 each nest, are perfectly secure from amazed to find his ships in what looked the depredations of all thieves but like a meadow. As far as he could see, the skuas and the Glaucus gulls, the water was covered with a greenish These latter birds breed on the summits yellow plant, as water lilies cover a of the cliffs, immediately over the pond. This was the first time such a looneries, which they watch with a jealous and greedy eye. The male and temale loon alternately guards the plain the sight he saw, and might have precious egg, and woe betide the unfortunate guillemot who should be was the covering of some dangerous of Highland jacket, fastened down the tempted away, by food or otherwise, rock which lay a short distance down, from his sacred treasure. The watchful ready to tear and rend them. The lead skua or burgomaster quickly swoops was hove but no bottom was found. The Holland, in spite of its East Indian down, and on the return of the loon its ships kept on their course, and in a few possessions, consumes the poorest of nest is empty. We were, unfortunately, days they got clear of the weed. coffee; all travelers complain of this, a few days too early to obtain any of the eggs for our breakfast-table, but we reveled for some time in such delicacies as "floon soup," "stewed loon," "cur-

FACTS AND COMMENTS.

Some learned persons are advocating the theory that outbreaks of crimes are due to sudden and peculiar meteorologic charges. If the theory is correct it seems to us that the criminal outbreak per centage for the past winter should be about the highest on record.

An association of the shipowners and shipmasters of Maine, with five hundred substantial members, has been organized in Augusta. They believe that the great prosperity of the country at largeis about to make itself felt in the shipyards of Maine, and their purpose is to aid in the revival of the great industries for which the State was long famous. The organization, which represents many million dollars, was perfected by the election of permanent officers who have enough to stake to secure their best services.

An article in a California newspaper gives some interesting information in regard to the present condition and prospects of the kingdom of King Kalakaua—the Sandwich Islands. The native race it appears is dying out, the terrible disease of leprosy being on the increase. Since the reciprocity treaty with the United States went into effect the labor conditions of the country have been greatly improved, the chief beneficiaries being the Chinese, who raise the greater portion of the sugar crop and who are in a male numerica majority on the islands. The elective franchise is open to all, but thus far the Chinese portion of the population manifest no desire to avail themselves of the privileges of Hawaiian citizenship. The future of the islands is an extremely interesting question. If the forces at present in operation are allowed to work unchecked the Mongolians will in a few years have complete control, and Honolulu will become a small Hong Kong. How and to what extent such a condition of affairs may affect American interests is a question which the future alone can

Apropos of an article in its columns the Claristian Union says: It is worthy of note that the coffee-kouses established in the chief English cities as a means of keeping menaway from liquorshops have proved a decided success, many of them paying an annual dividend of ten per cent, upon their capital. They supply coffee, tea, cocoa, soups, cold meat and bread and butter of good quality and at low prices. Newspapers are kept in abundance, and customers are welcome to remain and read as long as they please. Thus the coffee-house serves the purpose of a cheap club. Similar experiments have proved successful in Boston, Troy, St. Louis, and other points in this country. It is a matter for profound astonishment that the organized workers against intemperance have paid so little attention to the palpable facts that drinking is partly due to the fact that men are thirsty, partly to the desire for social goodfellowship, and neither thirst nor fellowship is adequately provided for in any of our great towns and cities except by the liquor-shops.

In 1880 there were in the United States no less than 170 boiler explosions, which killed 259 persons and wounded 555. It is remarkable that, while the number of explosions per month varies slightly, and is rather larger in winter mouths, the number of resultant casualties was decidedly largest in June. Probably that was due to the exceptional character of that month's disasters; but it is only fair to expect that violent deaths will increase regularly with the return of each excursion season. A classification of the boilers shows that forty-seven were used in wood-working mills. Presumably wood was used for fuel under such boilers, and the much less equable temperature produced by the burning of wood as compared with coal would go far to explain the undesirable pre-eminence. The next most numerous class of exploded boilers numbered nineteen, and were used in paper, flouring, pulp and grist mills and elevators. Eighteen exploded boilers were the motors of locomotives and fire-engines, fifteen thrashers, pile-drivers, cotton gins, etc., and thirteen were used in iron works. increase in these figures. In 1879 there were but 132 explosions, which killed 208 persons and wounded 230. trade, which demanded the new use of

The Sargasso Sea.

This is the name given to a portion of the Atlantic ocean covered with the seaweed, sargassum. Its boundaries may the Azores, the Canaries and Cape de Verd. Within those limits the sea is vegetable material, so thick as to retard thing had been seen and the sailors were scared, Columbus could not exthought with his men, that the weed

Egbert was the first king of all England, and William the Conqueror was the first Norman king of England. The

Saved by a Water Buffalo.

The water buffalo is an animal much in se in Singapore for purpose of draught. It is a dull, heavy-looking animal, alow at work and disgusting in appearance, but remarkable for sagacity and attachment to its native keepers. It has, however, a particular antipathy to a European, and will immediately detect him in a crowd. Its dislike to and courage in attacking a tiger is well-known all over India. Not long ago, as a Malayan boy, who was employed by his parents in herding water buffaloes, was driving his charge by the borders of the jungle, a tiger made a sudden spring and seized the lad by the thigh, and was dragging him off, when the two old buffaloes, hearing the shriek of distress from the well-known voice of their little attendant, turned around and charged with their usual rapidity. The tiger, thus closely pressed, was obliged to drop his prey to defend himself. While one buffalo successfully drove away the tiger the other kept guard over the boy. Later in the evening, when the anxions father, alarmed, came out with attendants to seek his child, he found that the whole herd with the exception of the two old buffaloes had dispersed themselves to feed, but that they were still there-one standing over the bleeding body of their little friend, while the other kept watch on the edge of the jungle for the return of the tiger.

[Worcester (Mass.) Spy.] Nothing on Earth so Good.

Certainly a strong opinion, said one of our reporters to whom the following was detailed by Mr. Henry Kaschop, with Mr. George E. Miller, 418 Main street, this city: I suffered so badly with rhenmatism in my leg last winter that I was unable to attend to my work, being completely helpless. I heard of St. Jacobs Oil and bought a bottle, after using which I felt greatly relieved. With the use of the second bottle I was completely cured. In my estimation there is nothing on earth so good

for rheumatism as St. Jacobs Oil. It

acts liks a charm.

The restaurants have bad such a run of custom that some of the waiters are a little inattentive. A stranger called for a plate of oysters, and after smelling them, he said: "Waiter, are these oys-ters fresh?" "We are not running an intelligence office," "I would like to know if they are fresh." "Well, then, eat them, then you will know for yourself. You don't expect me to eat them for you, do you? Do I look like I was here to try old oysters on ?"-Galveston

[La Crosse Republican Leader.] Having been cured by St. Jacobs Oil, I recommend the same to all sufferers with rheumatism, says Mr. L. Shiffman, 2804 Calumet avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Louisiana was sold to the United States in 1803 for \$15,000,000. It would have been a mere bagatelle for Mr. W. H. Vanderbilt to have made the pur-

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"An Egyptian disposition" is a thievish propensity, "gypsy" being a contracted form of Egyptian.

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and under a physician's treatment for over a year; have tried a number of sure cure remedies and obtained no relief. I was advised to try Ely's Cream Balm. It gave me immediate relief. I believe I am now entirely cured,—G. S. Davis, First National Bank, Elizabeth, N. J. Price, 50 cents. 1 by a Cream Balm Co., Owego, N. Y. Will mail it for 60 cents.

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