

They say that a man can live comfortably in Japan on \$35 a year, which will pay for board and lodging, and that many live on \$15.

Lincoln was the first President of the United States to wear a beard, Grant was the first to wear a mustache, and Cleveland was the first to wear a mustache without a beard.

Here is General Campos's opinion of Antonio Maceo, the Cuban insurgent: "A fellow who has immense ambition, great bravery and influence, and who, beneath a rude exterior, hides a natural talent."

Essex County, New Jersey (which includes the city of Newark), has seventy co-operative building and loan associations, with total assets of \$10,000,000 and a membership of 23,000. Over 600 loans were made for home purposes in 1895, and it is believed that this sum will be considerably increased in 1896.

There are still nearly 600,000,000 acres of vacant public land in the United States. The bulk of this is in the semi-arid region, where much of it can never be brought into cultivation, even if systems of irrigation are greatly extended. In addition to this public land belonging to the Federal Government, some of the States, notably Texas, possess considerable land of their own.

This was in Vermont. A young man, relates the New York World, sued to recover his engagement ring from a young woman who refused to fulfill its implications. The suit was carried to the Supreme Court of the State. The Judge decided that the engagement ring was conditional. If the young woman refused to comply with the conditions she must return the ring. The penalty of defying the Court is not stated; but every woman should understand that in keeping the ring of a broken engagement, even as a scalp on her chateleine, she may be nabbed by the officers of the law.

A dealer in bicycles who has an extensive business in New York City, predicts that in five years more the present style of bicycles will be out of date. The motor wheel will have taken its place. He points to the fact that in the 750-mile race last year, from Paris to Bordeaux and return, between horseless carriages, as the French style the new departure, the winner maintained an average speed of 15 1/2 miles per hour. The inevitable cheapening in the cost of production and reduction in weight are bound to insure a general demand for this latest form of rapid and economical transportation.

An important decision as to the liability of benevolent associations has been rendered by the United States Court of Appeals in Missouri. The question at issue was the liability of Economy Council No. 215, National Union, for the payment of a \$5000 policy when the holder of the policy had committed suicide. The defense entered by the association was that it was a fraternal, beneficial organization, and as such came under the statutes governing the payment of policies in similar instances. Judge Phayer ruled that the company was not in reality a fraternal, beneficial organization, but an insurance company, and as such liable for the full amount of the policy. James R. Waddill, Superintendent of the Insurance Department of Missouri, expressed the opinion that the ruling would have a salutary effect in suppressing irresponsible concerns, which are numerous in the State.

Says the Medical Press: Dr. Austin Flint believes that the treatment of crime and criminals under the existing laws and their methods of execution is a serious failure, inasmuch as they are based upon the ancient idea of vengeance and retaliation in the form of punishment. He holds that the medical profession should at least endeavor to induce the judges, lawyers and law-makers to study law in the light of modern scientific knowledge. As an abstract proposition, this is undoubtedly excellent, but experience has often shown that the legal mind is very difficult to influence in the direction indicated. Criminals may be divided into two classes—the curable and the incurable, and in the scientific study of crime the medical man has to do mainly with the occasional, the habitual and the born criminal. Each obviously demands a different mode of treatment, if any satisfactory progress is to be made toward reformation. This matter is one which is well worthy of close attention, and might be made the subject of a useful and interesting inquiry by some competent prison medical officer.

MAKING FIREWORKS.

BUSY SCENES AT A FACTORY ON STATEN ISLAND.

Most of the Employees Are Farmers' Daughters—Turning Out Fire-crackers of All Sizes—Making Roman Candles.

BROAD green fields; pretty girls who move as though no civic censors had told them that dress reform was too new; bright faced boys who work with the enthusiasm of delight; only a few men, whose countenances, begrimed, it is true, yet quite content with the deeds they have to do, and yet heroes in a minor key, for they work face to face with a possibility that their next breath may be taken half in this world and half as a sigh for the next. It is a modern Arcadia, set between the hills of Staten Island, and named Graniteville, yet why no man has yet known, for there is no granite nearer than the Army Building that runs up its facade in Whitehall street. All this blissful abode of labor is simply a fireworks factory and the Arcadians are its willing "hands."

Here it is that 300 persons, mostly farmers' daughters, work from July 11 to July 3, from one year to the next, making colored fires and rockets and Roman candles and those mysterious things known as "set pieces," which go off, it is true, according to programme, but which need a guide and spokesman most times to tell what they are all about. And talk about Chinese labor! Well, these energetic

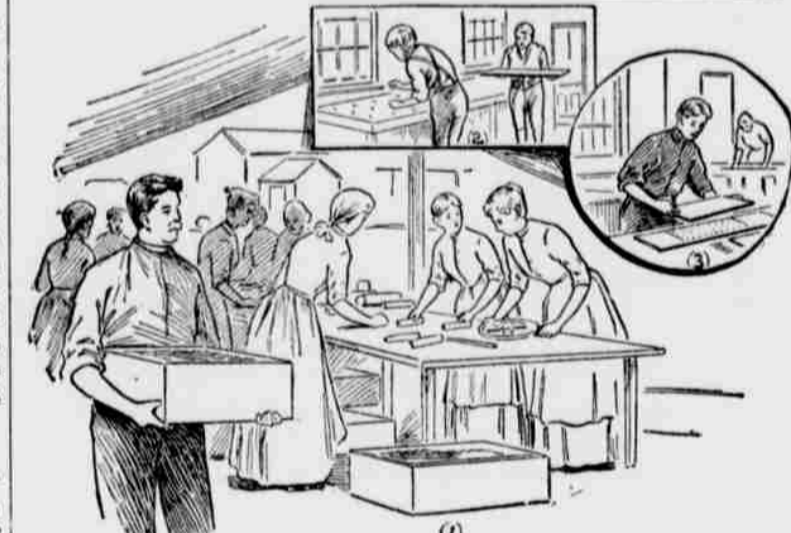
cones that resemble yellow and blue clay, which are so sensitive to heat that the mere placing of them in the pasteboard cylinder sometimes fires them prematurely by friction.



IN THE LABORATORY.

Most of the set pieces and the rockets are loaded at the outset as the Roman candles are, the system being practically the same. Yet with all the apparent danger the factory has not had an explosion for several years, and insurance companies have confidence enough to risk \$100,000 in policies on the place.

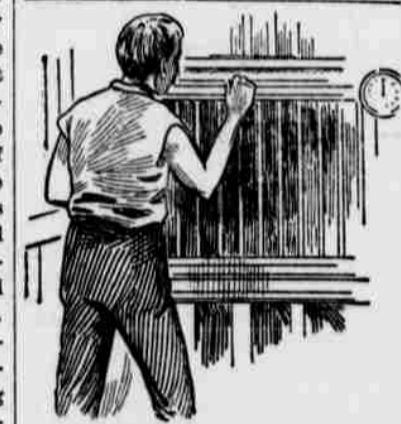
One of the most interesting divisions of the work of preparing for the eagle's screech is the torpedo factory. The giant torpedoes are made by hand, for they are very sensitive and they require quite a lot of fulminate of silver, which must be treated with extreme courtesy. Boys cut the pieces of tissue paper the exact square, by machine, and then force the centre of the square through the holes of a brass rack. Then a lad drops some of the fulminate in the bottom of the lit-



1. GIRLS PACKING THE FIREWORKS FOR MARKET. 2. SETTING THE TORPEDO PAPER. 3. PUTTING THE FULMINATE ON TORPEDOES.

Americans work so systematically for 357 days of the year, barring Sundays, that their employers are able to sell nearly 20,000 gross of fireworks at less than one-half cent each, and are still able to make a profit of twenty-five per cent. on their output.

In this broad plain of Graniteville, bound in with a fence over which even a baseball crank cannot hope to look, is a succession of frame buildings, before each of which stands a bucket filled with water. The buildings are separated so that if the contents of one of them go up to join the elements of air and fire, the water may be there to help out the insurance companies. In the midst of these there is a little more pretentious building called the office, and it is here that the Superintendent sits, like Pluto on his throne, master of all these dynamic possibilities.



MAKING ROMAN CANDLES.

Some of these little buildings are numbered and locked. They are the powder magazines. Others are more significant, because in them men and a large number of women are busy filling pasteboard cylinders with explosives for July 4. It must not be thought from this that gunpowder is used for these things. Instead of it a mixture is used that is as fine as dust in Broadway. It is explosive, of course, but it burns slowly and does not smash things unless it is confined.

Everything from them up to the eight ounce cracker that goes off like a six-inch gun are turned out here. The pasteboard is made into little cylinders and these are then taken to one of the little houses, where boys fix the American fuses, which give lots of warning before they ignite the cracker, so that fingers may remain intact. These lads plug up one end with bits of clay and then pour in the explosive, which has the same color as Uncle Silas's duster, and then they are ready for packing. These firecrackers don't have Chinese characters on them. But on each, in plain New York dialect, is a warning how to hold them and when to let go. You do anything else at your own risk.

The Roman candles are made the same way, save that much more care is taken with them. They are packed with hydraulic presses, and the globes of various colored fire which are sent over your lawn or into your sweet-heart's window curtains are little

tie bag there formed, and another boy fills the little paper up with gravel. Then the racks are handed to girls, who brush paste over the tops of the papers and twist them tight into little points so that the gravel cannot fall out. This done they are packed in sawdust, ten in a box, and are ready for you to awake your neighbors.

The one really dangerous place at the factory is the laboratory where is made the fulminate of silver used in the torpedoes and percussion shells and caps of all sorts. Muslin and oiled cloth is used here for tops of tables, covers for boxes and everything that has to come into contact with the explosive, for just as soon as the sensitive fulminate encounters resistance away it goes, and so do the four walls about it. The ideal laboratory would be made of mosquito netting, but this would let the rain in, and the shock of a drop would make things too lively even for Staten Island.—New York Herald.

New Way of Making Wire Nails.
A contrivance has been patented for making wire nails on a cut-nail machine. It is easily attached to a common machine at a cost of less than \$15. It consists of an arrangement of dies into which the wire is drawn, and the nail is made by a quick pressure. While this pressure is in progress, the head and point forming the wire for another nail is shot through to the dies, so that the rapidity of manufacture is equal to that of the ordinary cut nail.

A Marble Tent.
The monument of the late Sir Richard Burton is a great tent carved out of marble, under which his body rests in a steel casket. Lady Burton's casket rests beside it. There is one other yet to be put under the tent—that of the erratic couple's most "faithful servant and friend," as Lady Burton called her.—New Orleans Picayune.



"Hello! Is that you, Billions?" Billions (slightly rattled)—"Can't you see I am?"

CLOTHES FOR TOTS.

NEW AND BECOMING GARMENTS FOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

A Gump Dress of Dotted Swiss—Kilt and Blouse Suit for a Boy—Little Girl's Apron.

MAY MANTON says that dotted Swiss made the very simple and pretty Gump dress pictured in the first large cut, frills of the fine lawn, embroidered, headed by insertion, forming the attractive trimming. A wide hem headed by three tucks fashionably finish the straight lower square yoke that is shaped in round, low outline at the neck. The yoke is entirely concealed by the bertha-like lapels, that are edged with frills of em-

broider and meet over the shoulders. The short puff sleeves are arranged over fitted linings that reach to the elbow, deep frills of embroidery falling below, headed with bands of insertion. All soft-sheer fabrics will develop daintily by the mode, which offers pretty suggestions for dresses of silk, woolen or cotton fabrics.

The quantity of material 44 inches wide required to make this dress for a child six years of age is 2 1/2 yards.

BOY'S KILT AND BLOUSE.
The coming suit for small boys pictured in the second large engraving consists of a kilt-plaited skirt of white pique and a pretty blouse of white muslin. The comfortable blouse is handsomely trimmed with insertion and embroidered edging that is gathered in frills and trims the collar, cuffs and right front edge. Three tiny tucks are stitched in each front at sufficient distance from the closing in center to show beyond the frills of embroidery that are sewed on each side of the band of insertion. The large sailor collar falls deeply on back and front, flaring slightly in center, and a Windsor tie of yellow silk is worn at the neck. The kilt skirt is hemmed on the lower edge and laid at side plaits at the top all around. It is finished with a waistband that is provided with button holes to attach it to the buttons on the under waist. Suits of this kind can be made from plain, striped or checked gingham, galatea, duck or grass linen, a combination of two materials having a very stylish effect.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this suit for a child four years of age is 3 yards.

BELTS FOR DAILY USE.
Wide belts, three and four inches, made of elastic and covered with silk are in good style for small waists. It was inevitable that the narrow belt should divide popularity with

water. The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this suit for a child four years of age is 3 yards.

organdie are usually chosen for it development. The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this apron for a child eight years of age is 2 1/2 yards.

It is said that when the perfume of out flowers grows faint, it may be restored by placing them in sweetened water.



CHILD'S GUMPE DRESS.



CHILD'S APRON.

holes, wide sash ends being attached to the sides at the waist line and tied in a bow with long ends at the back. Aprons in this style are dainty looking and quite protective. They can be made up and plainly finished, or elaborately decorated with lace or embroidery. Cross-barred muslin, main-sool, cambric, dotted Swiss, dimity or



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WORDS OF WISDOM.

The black sheep is often the smartest of the flock.

A lowly origin does not preclude a lofty destiny.

All the reasoning of man is not worth one sentiment of woman.

Go back far enough, and you can find a scandal in every family.

It is always dangerous to take a veiled woman for a beautiful one.

Many a tear can be dried easier with bank notes than with a handkerchief.

If you have both tracts and bread to give the hungry give them the bread first.

People seldom improve when they have no model but themselves to copy after.

The whisper of a beautiful woman can be heard farther than the loudest call of duty.

It is the greatest compliment a friend can pay you to come to you for help in his troubles.

Whenever a boy empties his pockets, his sister always sees something that belongs to her.

Every man who has hoped for a lot of things that never came to pass has had a romance in his life.

Never does a man portray his own character more vividly than in his manner of portraying another.

If a wife would be as good to her husband as she is to her mother, the husband would always be satisfied.

No home so small but that it has still room for trouble; no heart so weary, but that a glimmer of hope might still enter it.—The South-West.

The Art of Living Together.

"It is written, 'It is not good for man to be alone,' but on the other hand, it is often far from good to be with him," writes Dr. R. F. Horton, in a suggestive article on "The Noble Art of Living Together," in the Sunday Magazine. He continues:

"A docile cat is preferable, a mongoose, or even a canary. Indeed, for want of proper instruction, a large number of the human race, as they are known in this damp and foggy island, are 'gey ill to live iv'; and no one would attempt it but for charity and the love of God."

If all mankind thoroughly understood the art of living together, "many of the catastrophes of life would be averted; and if even we had some smattering of its lore we should greatly change the interiors of our homes and contribute to the progress of society and the world."

Politeness to the children is regarded as a cardinal virtue by Dr. Horton. He says: "I never feel so tempted to interfere with mothers as when I hear their uncivil language to their children, that rude and hectoring tone, that volley of coarse epithets and unqualified expletives, which, of course, the children will learn to employ to one another."

The whole question of living with other people deserves much attention, he declares. "We are seldom instructed in our youth how to do it well. Our knowledge of the subject is acquired by experience, chiefly by our failures. And by the time that we have tolerably mastered the delicate art we are on the point of being called to the isolation of the grave or, shall I say, to the vast company of the majority."

The Colonel Dodged.

W. H. Sutcliffe, a brave soldier of the Confederacy, who lost an eye by a minie ball striking it, and was wounded several times, both by lead and sabre, yesterday told a story of the late Colonel Peter C. Gaillard, who was the Commander of his regiment. Mr. Sutcliffe said that it was in Battery Wagner, on the 18th of July, 1863, and the balls and shells were whizzing by at a great rate. Colonel Gaillard in going his rounds noticed that as the balls would go by the men would dodge. He called out: "Don't dodge, boys; you may dodge in the way." Then he turned and was walking off, when an Irishman named Tom Carey, a brave man and true, picked up a tenpenny nail and whizzed it past the Colonel's ear. He thought it was a ball, and instinctively dodged aside. Carey called out: "Ah, be the hustenich, Colonel, yez dodged that one." Colonel Gaillard, he says, turned around and laughed and said: "Well, boys, when they come that close, I think we'd better dodge." It was not until after the war was over that he knew that the missile that whizzed past his ear that day was Carey's tenpenny nail and not a Northern bullet.—Charleston (S. C.) News and Courier.

Society Classified by a Button.

In the Chinese Empire the upper ranks of society are classified by a button.

Buttons play an important part in the dress of the Chinese mandarin. Those of the second class wear a button of coral red, suggested, perhaps, by a cock's comb, since the cock is the bird that adorns their breasts.

The third class are gorgeous, with a robe on which a peacock is emblazoned, while from the centre of the red fringe of silk upon the hat rises a sapphire button. The button of the fourth class is an opaque, dark purple stone, and the bird depicted on the robe is the peacock.

A silver pheasant on the robe and a clear crystal button on the hat are the rank of the fifth class. The sixth class are entitled to wear an embroidered stark and a jade stone button; the seventh, a partridge and an embossed gold button. In the eighth the partridge is reduced to a quail, and the gold button becomes plain, while the ninth class mandarin has to be content with a sparrow for his emblem and with silver for his button.