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in 1856, had brought to its discoverer the sum of twenty-seven thousand pounds sterling in advance license fees,

was now condemned by scientists and practical men as a visionary scheme.

ADMIRE OUR PIAZZAS.

one American Institution of Which the English Approve.

The modern piazza is one of the few vided. American institutions upon which a Britisher condescends to look with favor. An Englishman who has been traveling in the United States and visiting a number of well-appointed summer houses, where the art of comfort has been attained to a high degree, said to a writer in the Boston Herald that he admired our piazzas particularly. This sort of outdoor room is peculiar to American houses, and it struck him as being most delightful. Not that "verandas" were unknown, by any means, in other parts of the world, but in England people only had gardens or terrace, where they resorted in warm weather. The broad piazza so common to the seaside and country residence here, and which is furnished as elaborately as any room in the home, was unique. "You know, we Londoners are content with a bit of garden with our houses." "And very lovely they are, too," interposed an auditor. "Yes, so they are, with the ivied walls and the old trees and shrubs! We who are lucky to have gardens live in them in warm weather, but it is often damp, don't you know, on the ground. There are all sorts of devices in wicker furniture to save us from rheumatism, and there are arbors, but I would like to buy one of your piazzas and set it up at home! They are a charming 'institution,' as you Americans say.'

Exciting Dance of the Potlach.

"One of the most exciting scenes I ever witnessed was an Alaskan potlach," said A. L. Henry to a Cincinnati Enquirer man. "The Indians prepare for them for months in advance, and usually fast for a few weeks in order to enjoy the occasion to the utmost. The potlach is a festival given by the chief, not only to the members of his own tribe, but to the neighboring tribes as well. The festivities consist of dancing, singing and games, while beeves are kept constantly roasting, it being a perpetual barbecue for thirty days. The dancing nevar ceases, and prizes are usually awarded to the person who remains on the ground longest. It is not infrequent for a brave to dance unceasingly for twenty to thirty hours. At one given a short time ago by Chief Strualeeps at least fifteen thousand dollars was expended, and in a private letter from a friend there I learned that another chief is soon to give one intended to eclipse that."

