## JAPANESE WORSHIP.

**Painted Priestesses in Quaint Garments Performing the Sun Dance.**

A group of young priestesses are in waiting to repeat the measures danced by Uzume before the Sun Goddess cave in prehistoric times. The little priestesses are all between the ages of nine and twelve, as timid, gentle and harmless little things as the deer that often stray in and watch them. Their dress is the old, old custom of the imperial court, a picturesque lower garment or divided skirt of the brightest cardinal red silk that half covers the white kimono, with square sleeves and pointed neck filled up high with alternate folds of red and white.

When they dance they wear over this loose kimonos of white gauze, painted with the wistaria crest of the Kasuga temple, the front of the gauzy garment half covering the red shirt, and the back pieces trailing on the mats. Their faces are plastered so thickly with white paint that they lose all expression, and following the old fashion, their eyebrows are shaved and two tiny black dots high up in the middle of their foreheads take their place. With lips heavily rouged the countenance is more a mask than any thing human. The hair is gathered together at the back of the neck and tied with loops of gold paper, and then folded in soft white paper, allowed to hang down the back. Long hair-pins, with clusters of wistaria and red camellia, are thrust across the top of the head, and fastened so that they stand out like horns over the forehead.

In detail the costume is not pretty, but in its general effect it is singularly bright and picturesque.—*Tokio Letter.*

## ANTIQUITY OF POTTERY.

**An Industry Which Owed Its Invention to Stern Necessity.**

Necessity is the mother of invention and it is not therefore strange that but few nations have been found, however barbarous, that do not possess some kind of earthenware for domestic use. The aborigines of the United States were acquainted with the art of making a rude pottery suited to their primitive wants. But it was the invention of the potter's wheel which could alone lead to the development of these rude beginnings into an art adapted to the requirements of civilized life, and this first step was taken at a period so early that all trace of its origin is lost. The potter's wheel, and all the ordinary processes of the manufacture, are represented on the tombs at Beni Hassan, which are referred to a period more than two thousand years before the Christian era; and vases of red earthenware have been found in Egyptian sepulchres of almost all ages. It is much more remarkable that this singular people had made a nearer approach to the invention of true porcelain than was obtained by any European Nation till quite modern times. But they stopped just short of the point which would have rendered the discovery available for purposes of general utility; and the process, which had been long known in the remote empire of China, remained a secret to the nations of Europe till the beginning of of the eighteenth century. The word porcelain is said to be derived from pour cent agates, it being formerly believed that the materials of porcelain were matured under ground one hundred years. The manufacture of porcelain has been carried on in China at least since A. D. 442 and it is from that country that our finest lines of these goods still come.—*Christian at Work.*

## MISCELLANEOUS.

—It is said that not one tenth the quantity of snuff is bought and sold in New York that there was fifteen years ago. The chewing habit is also dying out, but more slowly.

—A legal Mormon holiday is the anniversary of the arrival at Salt Lake, July 24, 1847, of the first company of pioneer Saints. At the last celebration but nine people were reported surviving.

—Wong Chee, a San Francisco Chinaman, purchased a drawing-room ticket to Chicago recently. He is the first one of his nationality who ever committed such an extravagance. The privilege of riding in a drawing-room car from San Francisco to Chicago cost him $58 extra. His countrymen in California consider him daft.

—A gentleman of Americus, who, by the way, has a fad or two, was walking down town the other day with a witty lady, the intimate friend and guest of his wife, when he began to revile facetiously the gait and carriage of her sex. "Even you," said he, "walk with a very mechanical step." "Yes," she instantly replied, "I am going with a crank."—*Atlanta Constitution.*

—"Put me in the same room" says an old philosopher, "with a number of young girls, and I will tell you, when the postman knocks—merely by watching the looks of some, and the actions of others—how many of them are in love."



## ATHLETIC GIRLS.

**Their Brilliant success as Performers in the Lawn Tennis Court.**

Ten or fifteen years ago no man would have believed it possible that girls—that race of whose aptitudes Tom Tulliver entertained so disparaging an estimate—could ever have become such brilliant performers in the lawn tennis court. Even among men less prejudiced than the young hero of "The Mill on the Floss," it had always been an article of faith that women "can neither throw nor leap," and that the day would never come when a tennis bat wielded by a female arm would really and truly "strike" a ball instead of "spooning" it. They knew not what could be done with the female tennis player by merely "catching her young." The girls who have learned their tennis in the school room, so to speak, who began this game at the age when they began their "scales" and "exercises," are very often nowadays a match for their brothers. And of power has been born grace, which, indeed, if it does not always spring from power must always have power for one of its parents. No one who has ever seen a really skilled competitor in a "ladies' tournament" but will at once retract and apologize for the impious word "awkward" and "unfeminate" if any such slanders have ever passed his lips. Lawn tennis has now fairly won its title to be considered a fitting game not merely for "young men and children" but for "old men (or at any rate middle-aged men) and maidens" also. I have said my say on behalf of the latter, and as to the former they, if they are sensible men, are hardened against ridicule. Why may they not as legitimately breathe themselves, though unskilled, on the tennis court, as grasp the crab-catching oar or mount the unaccustomed horse? Aquatic and equestrian facilities, moreover, are less easily come by than the opportunities in these days for a bout at lawn tennis.—*English Illustrated Magazine.*

—There is a somewhat lengthy German word, consisting of thirty-seven syllables, 109 letters. Its translation is: "A stock company of bagpipe manufacturers in Constantinople paying 5½ per cent. dividends." This is the word: Constantinopolitanischefunfundeinhalbprocentizedadelsackmachergesellenherberbergsactienversicherrungsgesellschaft.

—A drum owned by Horace Thomas, of Visalia, Cal., was carried by his father in the battle of New Orleans, and afterward sounded its notes of alarm at the battles of Tippecanoe and Rising River. It was made from a sycamore log, the heart of which had been hollowed out, and both heads are gone, but it is highly prized as a relic.

—There is in the United States a dog for every three inhabitants. The cost of keeping twenty million dogs is at least $200,000,000 per annum. The food given to an average dog every year if fed to chickens would yield a return of more than $10. High-toned dogs are very expensive, their food costing a good deal more than that of some people.

—Ingenious Defense.—Magistrate—"Prisoner, this is the seventh time you have appeared before me." Prisoner—"I know it, your honor. Your honor always was a favorite of mine; you are so just." Magistrate (mollified)—"Well, I'll let you off this time, but don't come before me again." Prisoner—"That's a hard sentence, your honor, but I'll try to bear it without complaint."



Terms have been arranged for a railroad in Siam from Bangkok to Zimme.



An electric railway is in operation at Carbondale, Penn.



Boston is to have a zoological garden and aquarium.

## WHICH WAS IT? BACON OR SHAKESPEARE.

The authorship of the dramatic productions attributed to the last of the above named is agitating literary circles to the very centre, but affects the practical masses far less than the momentous question, how to regain or preserve health, that essential of bodily and mental activity, business success and the "pursuit of happiness." We can throw far more light on this latter subject than the most profound Shakespearian can on the question first propounded. If the system is depleted, the nerves shaky; if indigestion or constipation bothers one at times, or constantly; if the skin is yellow, and the tongue furred as in biliousness; if there are premonitory twinges of oncoming rheumatism or neuralgia; if the kidneys are inactive—use Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the finest recuperant of an age prolific in beneficial and successful remedies. Remember, if malaria threatens or afflicts, that it neutralizes the poison and fortifies the system.

At the International Exhibition at Brussels, the Westinghouse air brake received the highest prize.



Give not reins to your inflamed passions; take time and a little delay. Impetuousity manages all things badly.



There are 180,000 liquor saloons in England, 20,000 of which are in London.



A piano factory is being erected at Atlanta, Ga.



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