CONCERNING MEDALS.

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of Our Knowledge of Assist Namedal is now and, again made the medals so produced are not to the medals so produced are not to he for money. They are given to he for money out of compliment or an persons out of compliment or lie reward for some good or The medals on sale in the and those which come to us exhibitions are made in difparts of the country. They obtained chiefly, however, in gham. To make a coin reing one in sirculation and to ennor to pass it is a serious offense, persons guilty of doing this are new punished. But. any one may a medal, and indeed there is a soin London for the encouragement wirk of this kind, which offers ing upon public events or showing raits of eminent persons. A good dal is not only a very beautiful, but er useful article. When it is made rold or silver or bronze it may last centuries or for thousands of years, perly cared for, and it thus bees an important agent in conveyhistorical facts. We owe a good of our knowledge of ancient e and Rome to medals, and it is medals of those nations that we got our best portraits of the great the lived when Greece and Rome d first in art and civilization. Even our own country we are very much ebted to medals for portraits and es relating to our early sovereigns, it is because we recognize the ons such articles teach that in the that is placed in the hole of the ndation stone of any great buildwe place coins or medals. This ae that men and women who come rus may be helped in the inquiries will no doubt eagerly make the condition of life at the time building was erected. There few things of man's making older coins or medals, and some very ient ones have been discovered. e with portraits, however, have got that carry us further back six hundred years before Christ. se of the ancient medals give the face, and this adds to their value, e some have more than one face, as e case with a very beautiful speciissued for Ptolemy Philadelphus, was King in Egypt, and which rshis own head and that of Arsinoe Queen, on one side, and the heads is father and mother on the other. usual in a portrait medal to give likeness of the person honored on side and to put a design of a generind on the other side, and this was commonly long ago as well as The oldest English medal of ch we have any knowledge was ad in Yorkshire, in the district wa as the Forest of Knaresborough. ears the date 1380, and is supposed ave been brought over to this counfrom Italy. Our next oldest medal ad to be that of Henry VIII., which issued or struck in 1545. It is om Italy. Our next oldest medal er than a five shilling piece, and sa portrait of the King on the one and on the other are inscriptions ing forth his titles and declaring to be head of the church. From date medals were often struck in land, and there is a series in existbrought out in 1540, showing all Kings up to that time. All our tvictories have been commemoraty special medals, and it is possible eans of medals to trace the wars agland back to the Stuarts. Just g people take a delight in col ing postage stamps, some of their delight in collecting medals, h they divide into two great classancient and and modern. The notable collector of medals was arch, the Italian poet. It is reof him that he was asked on one ion by Charles IV. to write a work ning the lives of eminent men. put this monarch in the list. plied that he would do so as soon Emperor's life and conduct ild deserve such a distinction. time afterward he sent Charles a ber of gold and silver coins bearthe portraits of great men, and with it was an address with the "Behold whom you have suced. Behold whom you should adand imitate."-Leeds Mercury. A charming and unique friendsihp d to have sprung up between ing German and a young nan in South Holyoke, Mass. ean speak the language be other, and both are igno-of the English language. Unlinary circumstances these young would be lifelong strangers, but has thrown them together as roomin a boarding house, and, though e to converse other than by gesthere has sprung up between young men a friendship of more dinary warmth.

ARSENIC EATERS.

Great Increase in the Number of Person Addicted to This Polson. The habit of arsenic-eating is becom

ing more and more common among the young women of this city, and phys icians say that nothing too harsh can be uttered against this miserable practice. Arsenic preparations of all kinds are advertised and various preparations of this deadly drug are daily sold for the alleged purpose of beautifying the complexion. They who use it are daily laying the foundation of a disease that will one day destroy some of their most vital organs. The actual object to be gained by arsenic cating is that clear, white, almost transparent skin, which they so much admire and which may mean an early death. A well-known physician said to a reporter to-day: "The health department has become alarmed at the increase in the sale and use of these noxious complexion preparations. Advertisements or arsenic stare every body in the face in spite of attempts to prohibit the sale. Claims have been made by the venders that there is so little arsenic in the preparations that no harm can come of In opposition to this is the fact that wall papers where the green color is given by Scheel's arsenic compound have been tabooed by the health authorities on the grounds that even the small amount of arsenic given off by exhalation had caused death in some cases. Again, the results obtained by the use of arsenic show very plainly the hurtful nature of it. The exact state of affairs brought about by arsenic eating is a diminution of strength of the blood; the capillary blood-vessels are stopped from work-ing; the ends of the blood-vessels are killed; no blood is supplied to the skin, and the real reason for the white, transparent nature of the skin is that it is practically dead. If the result of arsenic eating is the highly transparent state of the skin, and if this can only result from the killing of blood-vessels, the claim that there is no harm done in the habit becomes an absurdity."

Physicians throughout the city are up in arms against the use of the drug. One prominent doctor said: "I hope that something will be done, and done soon, to stop this abominable traffic. If the destruction of blood-vessels was the only thing the arsenic-eater succeeded in doing it would be bad enough, but that is not all. The arsenic has a bad effect upon the kidneys, and is likely to bring out a disease which will end only in death. It has also a bad effect on the digestive organs, and soon destroys their action; the liver, too, is diseased by the poison, and the nerves become affected to such an extent that their control becomes impossible. It acts upon the system in such a way that the victims of the habit become lost to a'l sense of morality. The practice of arsenic eating is a vicious one that ought to be stopped immediately before any more harm is done."-N. Y. Cor. Chicago Tribune.

STRANGE MEDICINES.

Mysterious Powders and Decoctions Preribed by Oriental Physician

Mr. Mitford has told us how he saw a Chinese physician prescribe a decoction of three scorpions for a child struck down with fever, and Mr. Gill in his "River of Golden Sand" mentions having met a number of coolies laden with very kind to us. red deer's horns, some of them very fine twelve-tine antlers. They are only hunted when in velvet, and from the factory and the workmen making horns when in this state a medicine cartridges and bullets. Another day is made which is one of the most highly we visited the Englishman newspap prized in the Chinese pharmacopœia. With regard to the singular virtues supposed to attach to the medicinal of tiger, General Robert Warden us tells me that on one occasion when in India he was exhibiting some trophies of the chase, some Chinamen who were present became much excited at the sight of an unusually fine tiger skin. They eagerly inquired whether it would be possible to find the place where the carcass was buried, because from the bones of tigers dug up three months after burial a decoction may be prepared which gives immense muscular power to the fortunate man who swallows it. I am indebted to the same informant for an interesting note on the medicine folk-love of India, namely, that while camping in the jungle one of his men came to entreat him to shoot a nightjar for his benefit, because from the bright, prominent eyes of this bird of night an ointment is prepared which gives great clearness of vision, and is therefore highly prized. Miss Bird, too, has recorded some very remarkable details on the materia medica of China and Japan. When in a remote district of Japan she became so unwell as to deem it necessary to consult a native doctor, of whom she says: "He has great faith in ginseng and in rhinoceros horn, and in the powdered liver of some animal, which, from the description, I understood to be a tiger. all specifics of the Chinese school of medicines. Dr. Nosoki showed me a small box of unicorn's horn, which he

said was worth more than its weight in ord," -Nineteenth Century.

ASTONISHED AFGHANS.

A Chief Writes of His Visit to Calcutta and of What He Saw.

Certain Afghan chiefs in charge of the Khyber pass have lately visited Calcutta as guests of the government. The following is an interesting account which has been given by one of their number of the impressions derived from his visit.

"This is a King's country; every one ought to be astonished at seeing all the wonderful things to be seen in it. The thing which has most astonished us is the regularity with which every thing is conducted. During our railway journey we arrived at the different stations and left again with great regularity, as arranged There is no hing like this in our country. A country which is ill-governed is not a good country.

"We arrived at C doutta early in the morning, and, being tired, stayed in our lodgings the whole of that day. On the day following we went to Howrah to see the railway to Howrah to see the railway station and the workshops. We saw all the engines at work. There is nothing like these in our own country. is a poor country. We were wh ch then taken to the mint and saw the pice and four-anua pieces that are being coined there. The Cabul rupees are only worth twelve and one-half annas; they are stamped with a die and hammer. There is nothing to equal this government either in its silver or any thing else, or in its management of the country. visited the fort the next day, and con-sidered that very strong. We saw all the cannon and big gues there. They are very good guns.

"We were then taken to the botanical gardens in a steam launch. This is the first time we have been on board a steamer, and we enjoyed the trip very much. The gardens are by far the finest we have ever seen. We were then taken to the zoological gard-ns and to Mateabruz, the palace of the late King of Oude, which is a very The place. We saw all the animals at the zoological gardens. Some of the animals here we had seen before at Cabul, but some of them we have never seen before, and they greatly astonished us, as we could not tell to what country they belonged.

"We then paid a visit to the Bacchante, and were truly astonished by the big guns and by every thing on board. We never saw such things before. No other government could ver make ships like that. The chief wanged to distribute R. 900 among the crew for showing all these won-derful things, but the Captain of the ship said the sickar would be very angry at their accepting a present. The chiefs again wanted to give the sailors a present, but were told that they could not be allowed to do so, as what had been shown to them had been shown for their own amusement. When we went down in the hold we saw the men's tables spread in a minute and again taken up, their beds put down and taken up-all done in a minute-and in a moment the ship was made ready for a fight. The big guns were fired, but only with fuses. We saw the sailors going up the rigging very quickly, at the double, and run up the masts and remain quiet there. We have never seen these there. thing; before. We were presented to the Lord Sahib of the sea, who was

"We were then taken to D um-dum, where we saw a small-arms manu-

THE "KICKER" MAN. Result of Some Attempts to Ignore Him in a Social Way.

The last number of the Kicker costains the following: Arizona

"There is no use in attempting to disguise the fact that certain rings and factions in this gulch have f r the last three months made desperate attempts to ignore the existence of the Kicker. Having failed to frighten or bribe us, ostracism was their little game. They determined to freeze us out. We first became aware of this movement three months ago, when Mrs. Judge, Gilder-sleeve gave her blowout. At that time we received the following card:

: All gentlemen attending this "eception will be expected to wear a white shirt.

"The inference was as plain as the pimples on Mrs. Judge Gildersleeve's They thought we hadn't a white shirt. They thought we'd attend with an army blanket thrown carelessly over our shoulders. The object was to let us know that Mrs. Judge Gildersleeve didn't look upon us as knowing what belonged to manners. It was all right. We didn't go. As to whether the Gildersleeve ring came out ahead opinions differ. Our account of the party, headed: "Gathering of Vultures." is still going the rounds of the press. In that article we proved Judge Gildersleeve to be an embezzler and a horse-thief, and we adduced positive evidence that Mrs. Judge was a broken-down and played-out fortune-teller who had been compelled to skip from St. Louis. The Judge called at the Kicker office next day with a shotgun, but when we brought out more letters-proofs that he had served time in three prisons, and that Mrs. Judge still had the workhouse cut on her hair when she arrived in Arizona, the Judge didn't shoot.

"The Jackass Hill set next tried to make us sing small. They got mad because we weren't puffing them in ev-ery issue. Colonel Docker had two shillings' worth of repairs made to his mule harness, and the Kicker didn't notice it. Mrs. Prof. Frothingham turned an old silk dress from top-tobottom, and the Kicker didn't come out with a notice that she had received another five-hundred-dollar dress from

Worth. Major Hornblower put at porcelain doorknob on the frent door of his adobe, and the Kicker didn't come out and list it as one of the enterprises bound to bring in new settlers and boom real estate. It was there-fore determined to down us. Lily De Lisle, the red-headed daughter of the one-legged county clerk, made her debut, but we were not invited to the blow-out. It was an action intended to break our heart, and we promptly countered. It was on our that the sheriff went up about ten o'clock that evening and gathered in two bigamists from New England, an embezzler from Ohio and a fugitize from Chicago, all of whom were looked upon as the cream of society and were airing their frills and scollops at the grand debut.

We are here to stay. We put up our own shanty with our own hands. We board and lodge ourselves, and we have not only got the cost of our living down so fine, but are getting our white paper so cheap that we can make money on a list of thirty subscribers and three pages of dead ads. We are going to run the Kicker after our own style, whether it pleases the bigbugs on Jackass Hill or the half-starved coyotes of Poverty Hollow. .While we don't hanker after invitations to eucher parties and church socials, we don't opose to take a snub from While we are willing to boom the town we don't propose to sit up nights to let the outside world, know that some citizen has added a bath-tub to his dugout, or that some merchant has just received a fresh wad of bed-tick-There have been some hints thrown out by the court-house ring that we are to be starved out. Try it on gentle-We are now fifteen dollars men! ahead of the game, have paper enough on hand for ten weeks, and our living expenses last week footed up only sixty-seven cents. We came to stick. -Detroit Free Press

STORY OF A PARROT. d That Asked and Answered Qu dions Like a Human Being.

Sir William Temple tells this about a Brazilian parrot which Prince Maurice, met in his travels: "I had a mind," said Sir William, "to know from Prince Maurice's own mouth the account of a common and much-credited story of an old parrot he had seen in Brazil, during his government there, that spoke, and asked and answered common questions like a reasonable creature. Prince Maurice said there was something true, but a great deal false, of what had been reported. He had heard of such a parrot when he went to Brazil, and though he believed nothing of it, and it was a good way off, he had the cur-losity to send for it; that it was a very great and very old one, and when it came into the room where the Prince was with a good many Dutchmen about him, it said presently:

"What a company of white men . are here!'

"They asked it what it thought that man was, pointing to the Prince? It answered:

"'Some General or other.' "When they brought it close to him he asked it:

" "Whence came you?"

"'The Parrot-From Miriannan.'

"The Prince-To whom do you belong?'

'The Parrot-To a Portuguese.' "'The Prince-What do you here?"

" 'The Pariot-I look after the chickens.

"The Prince laughed and said:

"You look after the chickens?" "The parrot answered:

"Yes, I; and I know how to do it very well.

"And then he made the chuck, chuck, chuck, three or four times that people used to make to chickens when they called them.

"I set down the words of this dialogue,"' said Sir William, "just as Prince Maurice said them to me. I asked him in what language the parrot conversed, and he said in Brazilian. I asked him whether he understood Brazilian. He said no; but he had taken care to have two interpreters with him-one a Dutchman who spoke Brazilian and the other a Brazilian who spoke Dutch; that he asked them separately and privately, and both of them agreed in telling him just the same thing the parrot said."-Boston Record.

A DARMO'S HOUSE.

The Charming Houses of Wealthy and In-fluential Japanese Citizens. Life in one of the old families of wealth and position in Japan is full of unique and picturesque interest. We may call it heathen if we will, but it is still a home and replete with suggestive home history. Well do I remember one such, a grand old house of solid timber 69 feet broad by 100 deep, with lofty rooms and long, wide corridors. Its one story had an immense and imposing sloping roof, which covered 14 apartments and many balconies. The sliding partitions could all be removed and make on occasion a noble hall, with many columns. The ceiling was made of fine grained wood and 15 feet from the floor. The front of this house was protected from the inquisitive gaze of the world by a wall of tiles built with cement and lined with a row of firs with mighty girth and far spread-ing branches which measured their height by rods and their shadows by furlongs. The main gate of the court-yard was supported by heavy tree trunks and covered with a handsome roof, while just within was the porter's odge. Near this lodge was a clump of evergreens and under their shadow

enrich land that is poor, we ave manure or its equivalent in able matter, or apply plant food meshape to induce the growth of office, and saw them printing, and also making lead letters. One of us wrote a verse in Persian. A sahib then took paper, and with a machine, which cut like a very sharp knife into some white stuff, he wrote it. Then lead was poured on, and in a few minutes they were printing the verse on some copies of the Englishman, which were presented to us. We also spoke through the telephone. Some of us were at the Englishman office and some at Messre. King Hamilton's, and we recognized each other's voice. Then we visited the telegraph office, where we spoke with a friend at Peshawur-all in a few minutes. One of us asked a relative at Peshawur how he was, as he had been suffering from fever. He replied: 'Quite well; how's your boil?' Now, these words astonished us very much, because none of us knew that this man had had a boil -only his relative at Peshawur. Great are the ways of the sirkar!"-London Times.

-There is nothing so contradictory as human nature. Just when we are beginning to hate a man for his manners, we discover him to be possessed of some noble trait which compels us to admire, if not to love, him. -Dry Goods Chromele.

-Notwithstanding the depravity of uman nature, there are some things that men can not be hired to do. Take the tramp and the wood-pile for ex-ample. - Merchant Traveler.

-The source of vanity is from with-

-An East Indian scientific journal says that fibers of bamboo, China, grass and pinea, ple, after proper treatment, can be spun so fine that an expert could hardly distinguish the product from silk. Large quantities of cloth woven from China grass and bamboo are brought into the Rangoon markets by Chinamen and Bhamo, and although the material is not manufactured by modern looms, the quality is so fine as to resemble tussore silk.

The total number of coke ovens in the United States up to the time when last noted was 22,597; building, 4,154. The production of coke for 1886 was 6,845,369 tons, costing at oven \$1.63 per ton. Six years ago there were only 14.119 ovens, and the cost at ovens was then \$1.88 per ton. Pennsylvania has produced seventy-nine per dent. of all the coke made in the United States. The consumption of coal for 1886 was 10,688,972 tons. New coke works are still being projected.

stood an ark cut from solid stone, per-haps four feet high, used as the family shrine and holding in its depths sacred emblems and holy symbols. Just beyond was a rockery of great beauty, where fountains tossed their spray and played with the sun and moonbeams. Here and there the mockunji tree shed its purple blossoms to the breeze from lofty heights, while azalias and starry asters bloomed about its foot. All about the garden camelias of brilliant red or purest white unfolded their love-ly buds from low growing shrubs, while now and then a camelia tree, towering fifty feet in the air, drew the eve with its lovely wax-like blossoms -

Eight hundred a year for clapping your hands a dozen times every even-ing is good pay for light work. That is the lowest estimate of the income of the "chief of the claque" in Vienna; and the estimate is based upon the confessions of some forty or fifty ladies and gentlemen of the opera and ballet who have been in the habit of purchasing applause at the cheap rate of from ten shillings per month each. Out of this the chief of the claque has to pay his assistants; but as the work is pleasant and easy, and occupies only the even-ing-which might, no doubt, be much less agreeably spent-the annual expenditure upon this head can not be very large. It is tolerably clear that the astute gentleman who "controls" the claque in Vienna puts most of the fees into his own pocket, since he has quite recently purchased a pretty little estate in Hungary with his savings .-