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How We Treat Our Feet.

"A well formed loot," says Chapman in the American Drawing Book, "is rarely to be met with in our day, from the lamentable distortion it is compelled to endure by the fashion of our boots and shoes. Instead of being allowed the same freedom as the fingers to exercise the purposes for which nature intended them, the toes are cramped together and are of little more value than if all in one; their joints enlarged, stiffened and distorted, forced and packed together, often overlapping one another in sad confusion, and wantonly placed beyond the power of service. As for the little toe and its neighbor, in a shoe-deformed foot, they are usually thrust out of the way altogether, as if considered supernumerary and useless, while all the work is thrown on the great toe, although that toe is scarcely allowed working room in its prison-house of leather. It is, therefore, hopeless to look for a foot that has grown under the restraints of leather for perfection of form; and known is that of the castle of Simonetta, hence the feet of children, though less marked in their external anatomical casioned by the existence of two parallel development, present the best models walls of considerable length. It refor the study and exercise of the pupil in drawing.

Camper, who wrote in the seventeenth century, on "The Best Form of Shoe," says that his treatise originated work on such a subject," which indicates the small estimate which was put upon the foot as an organ of the body. that from the earliest infancy the footcoverings worn serve but to deform them and make walking painful, and blame on the ignorance of the shoe-

James Dowie, a practical and scientific Scotch shoemaker, in his excellent little book, makes the same statements as the artist; and the great Dutch surgeon, whose treatise he had translated into the English language, also laments that the subject of the feet is so much neglected by those who are competent to instruct us about them. Lord Palmerston said to Dowie that "shoe-Monthly.

How Not to Be Disagreeable.

"How do you manage to win the confidence of all the young people who meet you in society?' I asked a friend who was no longer young, but a great favorite with her own, and also the opposite sex, in friendship that seemed always sincere.

"I do not know of any secret in it," she said, "only that I am a good listener, and I can manifest an interest and sympathy in conversation. To be talk now and then, to look the speaker in the eye, and not to interrupt. I try not to show superior knowledge, for there is nothing more disagreeable than to have people all the time setting you straight. I do not like it myself; so, when some one tells me a story that I have heard before, even if it is a little different in detail, I let it pass as something I am hearing for the first time. I think if anyone will talk naturally, speaking with eyes as well as lips, and without affection, they need not fear criticism, unless the conversation is made personal by one's own or neigh-bors' affairs. If I were to give rules for becoming a good conversationalist I should say, avoid slang, grammatical errors and bad punctuation, be as refined as possible, and let that very re-

finement be your natural self. Be courteous and discreet, revere sacred subjects, never treat them lightly, even in a joke; adhere strictly to the truth and listen intelligently .- Annie L. Jack, in Philadelphia Call.

A Few Big Things.

The greatest wall in the world is the Chinese wall, built by the first emperor of the Tsin dynasty, about 220 B. C., as a protection against the Tartars. It traverses the northern boundary of China and is carried over the highest hills, through the deepest valleys, across rivers and every other natural object. Its length is 1,250 miles.

Among the most remarkable natural echoes is that on Eagle's Nest on the banks of Killarney, in Ireland, which repeats a bugle call until it seems to be sounded from a hundred instruments, and that of the Naha, between Bingen and Coblentz, which repeats a sound seventeen times.

The most remarkable artificial echo about two miles from Milan. It is ocpeats the report of a pistol sixty times.

The most remarkable whirlpool is the maelstrom of the northwest coast of Norway and southwest of Moskenæsol, the most southerly of the Lofoden isles. in a jest with his pupils, who "did not lt was once supposed to be unfathom-believe I would dare to make public- a able, but the depth has been shown not to exceed twenty fathoms.

The greatest cataract in the world is that of Niagara. The Horseshoe fall, on He begins by deploring the perversity the Canadian side, has a perpendicular which wholly neglects the human feet descent of 158 feet. The height of the while forcing the greatest attention to American fall is 167 feet. The Horsewhile forcing the greatest attention to American fall is 167 feet. The Horse-the feet of "horses, mules, oxen and shoe fall, which carries a larger volume other shimals of burden," and declares of water than the American fall, is about 600 yards wide and extends from the Canadian shore to Goat island.

The biggest diamond in the world, if sometimes impossible; and he lays the indeed it be a diamond, is the Breganza, which forms part of the Portuguese crown jewels. It weighs 1.860 carats, However, not a little doubt exists of its being a diamond, as the government has never allowed it to be tested. It was found in Brazil in 1741.

The largest tested but ancut diamond is the Mattam, belonging to the rajah of Mattam, in Borneo. It is of pure water, weighs 367 carats, and is of pear shape, indented at the thick end. It was found about 1760 at Landard, in Borneo. It makers should all be treated like pi- has been the cause of a sanguinary war. rates, put to death without trial or mer- Before it was cut the Koh-i-noor, which ey, as they had inflicted more suffering is one of the English crown jewels, was on mankind than any class he knew. The largest tested diamond. It then -Ada H. Kepley in Popular Science weighed 798 carats. When in possession of the Emperor Aurengezbe it was reduced by unskillful cutting to 186 carats. During the Sikh mutiny it was captured by British troops and presented to Queen Victoria. It was recut, and now weighs 106 1-6 carats. - Philadelphia News.

A Sea Cucumber.

Yesterday there was quite a sensation created on Sullivan's island by the capture of a fish of a genus hitherto unknown in our waters. It was beached by the waves, and was taken by a party of ladies, who were unable an agreeable listener it is necessary to to satisfy themselves as to what manner of fish it was, until one of the party, a lady from Michigan now visiting the island, and whose knowledge of ichthology is by no means limited, threw light on the subject. The fish belongs to the species known as sea cucumber, and to the genus holothuria. They are not rare, by any means, the only remarkable feature of its capture being the locality in which it was found. This fish is indigenous to tropical waters, and it is the first ever caught in our harbor. In size it is about six inches long and is shaped very much like a cucumber, from which it takes its name. It has neither fine nor feet, but swims by the motion of its body, as an eel does, its body being At the Armstrong Works, in Engvery supple, considering its bulk. It land, a gun that will cast a one-tonhas a large mouth, which is surround- shell fifteen miles has been made.

ed by a soft fuzzy fringe. It will est almost anything and can be easily kept in an aquarium for years with proper attention. - Charleston News

The Chinaman's "Four Most Preci Things."

In China the "four most precious things" are the paper-plant, lnk and its saucer, and the brush.

The hornet, whose sharp sting ie the terror of children, is the recognized pioneer of paper-makers. Its cellular nest, on trees and rocks, is built of material which resembles the most delicate tissue-paper.

Eighteen hundred years ago, the Chinese, acting upon the wasp's suggestion, made paper from fibrous matter reduced to pulp. Now, each province makes its own peculiar variety from the inner most bark of different trees. The young bamboo, which grows six or eight inches in a single night, is whitened, reduced to pulp in a mortar, and sized with alum. From this pulp sheets of paper are made in a mold by hand. The celebrated Chinese rice paper, that so resembles woolen and silk fabrics, and on which are painted quaint birds and flowers, is manufactured from compressed pith, which is first cut spirally, by a keen knife, into thin slices, six inches wide and twice as long. Immense quanti-ties of paper are used by the Chinese for a great variety of purposes. Funeral papers, or paper imitations of earthly things which they-desire to bestow on departed friends, are burned over their graves. They use paper windowframes, paper sliding-doors, and paper visiting-cards a yard long. It is related that when a distinguished representative of the British Government once visited Pekin, several servants brought him a huge roll, which, when spread out over the large floor, proved to be the visiting-card of the Chinese Emperor. - From Paper: Its Origin and History" by Chas. E. Bolton, in St. Nicholas for August.

Pasteur Studying Hydrophobia.

Biting dogs and bitten dogs fill the laboratory. Without reckoning the hundreds of mad dogs that have died in the laboratory during the last three years, there never occurs a case of hydrophobia in Paris of which Pasteur is not informed. Not long ago a veterinary surgeon telegraphed him: "Attack at its height in poodle dog and bulldog.Come." Pasteur invited me to accompany him, and we started, carrying six rabbits with us in a baske.. The two dogs were rabid to the last degree. The bulldog especially, an enormous creature, howled and foamed in its cage. A bar of iron was held out to him; he threw himself upon it, and there was a great difficulty in drawing it away from his bloody fangs. One of the rabbits was then brought near to the cage, and its drooping ear was allowed to pass through the bars. But notwithstanding this provocation the dog flung himself down at the bottom of his cage and refused to bite. Two youths then threw a cord with a slip loop over the dog as a lasso is thrown. The animal was caught and drawn to the edge of the cage. There they managed to get hold of him and secure his jaws, and the dog, suffocating with fury his eyes blood-shot, and his body convulsed with a violent spasm, was extended upon a table and held motionless, while Pasteur, leaning over his foaming head at the distance of a finger's breadth, sucked up into a narrow tube some drops of saliva. In the basement of the veterinary surgeon's house witnessing this formidable tete-a-tete, I thought Pasteur grander than I had ever thought him before .-Histoire d'un Savant par un Ignorant, by Valery Radot.