## THE LAMP'S EVOLUTION.

EXCAVATIONS OF ANCIENT CIT. IES SHOW IT OVER SIX THOUSAND YEARS OLD.

### Originally was a Conch Shell and a Twist of Cotton-Western Ingenuity Devised the Brass Burner and Regulator.

By EDGAR JAMES BANKS, Ph. D.

The Oriental lamp is the same now as it always has been-a simple dish of clay, stone, bronze or glass, filled with oil; its wick is a rag or a twist of cotton, one end of which is immersed in oil and the other rests over the edge of the dish to be lighted. This was the lamp not only of ancient Babylonia and Egypt, but also of the Hebrews, Greeks, Romans, and all other early peoples. Even to this day it is the com mon lamp of Mesopotamia. In Saint Sophia, the great mosque of Constantinople, there is no other method of illumination.

The first artificial light with which primitive man brightened the dark ness of night was the camp fire, the same fire with which he slightly roasted his meat and warmed his naked body. At just what age the idea of lighting by other means first occurred to him is no louger known, but the excavations at the Babylonian mound, Bismya, the ruin of the oldest known city in the world, have shown that it was in the very long ago, perhaps thousands of years before 4500 B. C.

During the excavations far beneath a temple which was constructed at that remote date, among the ruins of earlier ages, there was found a large conch shell about 8 inches in length. Its exterior had been worn smooth by constant handling, and a section at its opening and half o, its elongated valve had been cut away so that it formed a deep dish terminating in a long snout. In its interior were slight traces of a thin, black deposit. At first the use for which this dish was intended was puzzling; it was weeks later when it suddenly occurred to methat this sea-shell was the primitive lamp, the ancestor of the great family of lamps.

Some time later, while excavating at a higher level in the temple refuse heap, where the priests of 4500 B C. threw the broken and discarded utensils of the temp' service there appeared among the dozens of baskets full of polished and cut stone several triangular objects which resembled the couch shell in shape. One of ala baster was entire; others were fragmentary, yet their original forms could restored. They were the lamps which came into vogue after the conch had passed away, or when it became so scarce that it was no longer employed, and stone was substituted in its place. Although the conch was discarded, its triangular form remained. even to the natural shout for the support of the wick, which was reproduced in the stone

To the early Babylonian, the pure, almost transparent alabaster lamp was perfect in shape; the next step in the evolution was in its decoration. Instead of the plain exterior, it was engraved with reticulated or curved lines; but a more important step in its here. decoration was when the lamp maker conceived the idea of supporting the wick in a hole at the sharp corner.

the civilized West, who would no longer rest the wick upon the edge of the receptacle for the oil, to pass it through the brass arrangement which he called the burner, and to provide it with a screw in order that it might be raised or lowered, and the essentials of the modern oil lamp were as sembled.

While we have the sea-shell, the lamp of primitive man of over 6,000 years ago, it would be interesting to know what kind of oil was burned. The olive tree produces the illuminat ing oil of the mode. Orient, and although in other parts of the world the fat of animals was used, the unchanging customs of the East lead us to infer that onve oil was also then employed. The wick was doubtless a twist of the cotton which grows wild along the shores of the Tigtis and the Euphrates .- Engineering News,

### Old Methods Succeed.

It has been claimed that old methods of doing business cannot succeed in this twentieth century of ours, but a triking example of where old manners have been and are yet successful may be found in the busicst city of the world -New York. Right in the heart of the wholesale district may be found. restaurant that is feeding more people every day of the year than any othe house in New York City, and doing I along the line of "old methods."

It is claimed for this famous cating house that every pound of food used is paid for in each upon the day it is chased and that the proprietors have never yet given a check in payment for supplies, nor owed one dollar at the close of the day, and they keep no boo.s.

Each morning the dealers supplying this remarkable establishment deliver the necessary goods at the receiving department and then form in a line leading to the cushier's desk where each one in turn receives his money in good hard coin.

When evening comes whatever is left in the cash drawer is profit, less

charges such as taxes, light, fuel &c A further boast of the owner of this restaurant is that its doors have never been locked since first opened, why back in "wartime," and that no one knows where the key now is.

An idea of the number of people fed may be gained from the fact that table used exclusively by the patrons salt at the tables and not including any used for cooking, is purchased every four months in ten barrel lots, each containing three hundred barrel pounds

Wanted All the Goodies.

Teddy was about to be ten years old. In view of this interesting event Ted- cleared away, and in the clearing he dy's mother had ordered some icecream and cakes ond other dainties. and Teddy was told to invite his little mother, Nellie Custis Lewis, and I friends to a birthday party. The evening of the celebration came around, and all the goodles were waiting to be enjoyed. Teddy and his mother were M. also waiting.

"Mother, don't you think it's time to house passed through many hands and eat the ice-cream and cake new?" In 1900 was hought by Paul Kester, "No, indeed, my son," she replied who now sells it to Miss Sharp, 'we must wait until your friends are

Well, to tell you the truth, mother, began Teddy, "I just thought that for

once in my life I'd like to have enough

# FAMOUS VIRGINIA HOME.

WOODLAWN MANSION, PART OF WASHINGTON'S ESTATE, NOW CHANGES HANDS.

# Franceton Woman.

Another change of owners has come to Woodlawn Mansion, that historic property having been bought by Miss Elizabeth M. Sharp, of Princeton, N. J. rom Paul Kester, who dramatized When Knighthood Was in Flower,' and other plays.

Lawrence Lewis, son of Betty Wash- penditure on battle ships "If we stay

After threatening to call members by name if they did not obey, the band of agriculturists, shouting and yelling for the free seeds "loot" quieted down, and Mr. Cooks was enabled to proceed.

SEEDS VERSUS BATTLESHIPS. Free seeds found another doughty champion in South Trimble, of Ken-A Gift from the First President to fucky. Mr. Trimble asserted that the His Adopted Daughter-Playwright seed dealers of the country were Paul Kester Disposes of Manor to instituting the newspapers to fight free seeds. Real farmers wanted toese seeds, but kid-glove farmers who run the granges did not need them and did not want them. If this was graft, he said, it was the only kind

of which every one of the 70,000,000 people of the country got a piece.

Advocating economy in other direct

Woodlawn Mansion was the home of tions, Mr. Trimble suggested less ex-

postage stamps, and cash, instead of the seeds he has been sending out Some of Our Citizens Make Good nce he came to Congress. The readfarmers But Poor City Dwellers. ing of these letters again plunged the House in disorder and confusion.

PITY THE POOR FARMER.

Mr. Gaines, of Tennessee, undervared to be heard above the noise and confusion. As he sat down, by command of the Chair, he managed to say that the bill was loaded with all kinds of appropriations to take care of and appress the "mouth and foot disease, tollow horn, and hollow tail." but took away from the farmer the few seeds that he every year looked forward

This new outburst of elaquence on the part of Mr. Gaines throw the House into convulsive laughter. When the members had partially reovered their composure Mr. Gain's ushed down the abde, carrying a mass t manuscript in both hands, holding it doft, shouting that he had hundre . of letters from farmers favoring free confit

its hand for them, Mr. Gaines hald hem on a desk and began pulling from teveloped that among these time ally large portion of tills of various o relevancy to the seed question.

Again this members shricked and hairman to resort to every parllaentary expedient to secure order.

House will support the committee. Since 1890 the world's summal pro-duction of gold has doubled.

There are now one million pension. ers on the pension rolls of the United Elbert, 14.421. Pike's Peak is 14,108 States. Feel blich and there are twenty moun-States.

The number of cameras made in the

abjort.

cential occupation in this country they make good farmers and eventually good chizens The greater part of the immigrants,

to receiving.

As chairman Wadsworth reached out bunch various documents. It leads" of letters there were an much | cially, what will be most likely to enorts and other "puts does." that had paulonship of their fellow immigrants.

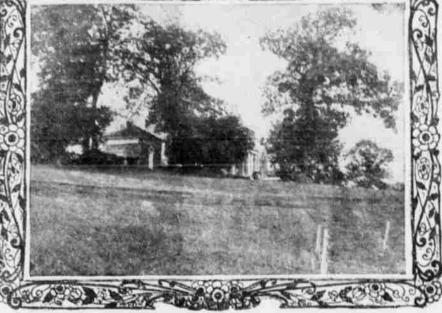
athered in the sisle, forcing the cepts employment on a farm,

The highest mountain in Colorado

is Massive, 14,424, and the next is tains in Colorado higher than this.

United States last year was 300,000. The must expensive fish in the fish markets of the United States is the ation ago a camera was on unusual English safe which retails for about sixty cents por pound.





WOODLAWN MANSION.

ington and Fielding Lewis, of Fred- | at home, mind our own business, let ricksburg, and nephew of the great other people alone, we shan't need a George Washington. The wife of Law-rence Lewis was Nellie Custis, grand-laughter of Mrs. Martha Washington the adopted daughter of George notwithtandlug the speaker was a Washington.

The marriage of Nellie Custis and young Lewis was the social event of the year 1799. The marriage took place in the mansion house at Mount Vernor on the birthday of Washington, and in the year of his death. Washingto gave to the couple a tract of forest lat overing a range of hills on the Mou Vernon property two miles southwe of the mansion house. Lewis personal ly saw that a part of the woods were had erected the great house which he called Woodlawn. The place passed to Lorenzo Lewis at the death of hi him was sold in 1848 to two Quakers from New Jersey, Chalkley Gillingham and Jacob M. Troth. The sons of these men live near the estate to-day, Jacob Troth, the younger, living on an adjoining farm and on land that was Suddenly the youngster said a part of the original Woodlawn The

# triffe mixed in his metaphor, met with profouged apphause from the gallant band of free-seeders.

Mr. Lilley, of Connecticut, read letters from his construents, some asking for Shropshire sheep, Durham bulls,

a fact, now pouring into the country are better qualified for agricultural and horticultural pursuits than for any others. These pursuits were theirs in their European homes, and but for certain difficulties they would naturally resort to them here. The trouble is,

there is nobody ready, as a general thing, to offer them employment, in groups, on the land, and transportation to the hand is more or less expensive. On the other hand, there are always contractors ready to engage them for rainend, mining and atmitar employments in the seaboard States, and cometimes in other States; more often they simply settle down in the big and already congested cities. They take what they can get; and, more espeable them to enjoy the continued com-The newcomer dreads the isolation which will usually be his lot if he ac.

FARMER IMMIGRANTS.

Many of our Italian hamigrants are

wretchedly poor, but they are chil-

cen of the soil and where they occa-

onally do get into the same con-

cool farmers, after their fashion of

aborious intensive cultivation. They

Under the far-sighted plan of the men who are colonizing some Western When the bill came up for a vote areas, particularly in California and he free seeds were continued by a New Mexico, all these difficulties are one of 153 to 82. A fight for the abol avoided. Groups of agriculturists of shment of the free seed practice will the same nationality are brought to ontinue, for it is believed that the gether, and invited to become owners nding out of the packages are of no of small tracts, sold to them on easy metical benefit to the farming classes terms. Ten acces of good land, so ob-f the country, and it is safe to say tainable-and the price of which he hat next year's bill will find the an neually pay in labor for othersrepriation, for these seeds omitted is a very attractive proposition to the when it comes from the countriffee average inmiligrant, especially when and the probabilities are that by that in his new home, he may be sur-time a majority of the members of the rounded by others of his own race. The plan has been already demonstrated to be very profitable to the pronuters also.

One such exar aple from the Bismyn goodles. temple refuse licap terminated in a now, 'cause I didn't invite anyone.



LAMPS OF LATE BABYLONIAN AND PERSIAN PERIODS.

ram's head, the lighted and of the wick projecting from its mouth. After the discovery of the hole for the wick, it was an easy step to cover the entire lamp, with the exception of an opening In the center to receive the off. Thus the lamp of classical times originated. Another interesting example from Bismya is an extremely large marble lamp, oval in shape and with vertical. The shout for its wick is a deep groove extending out about 2 inches, and with its support from beneith it resembles the handle of a modern dish. This tump held about two quarts of oil, and, as it was found in the ruins of the temple, its unusual size suggests that in the Babylonian temple, as in the synagogues of a later era, and in some churches, even to the present day, a light was kept perpetually burning.

Previous to 4000 B. C. the lamps, as well us most dishes and household efobjects of burned chry began to appear. Before that date lamps were found only in the rules of the temple; later elay lamps were found in the dwelling houses of the people. Of the latter a variety of shapes have appeared. Some are triangular, the shape suggested by the conchi one is a miniature boat; others of a later period are identical in shape and size with those of Rome and Greece. The imp of these nations was undoubtedly bor rowed from the older civilization of Babylonia. The common clay lamp of Persia and of the time of Haroun er Raschid assumed a round form with a dent in its rim for the wick. resembling in every respect a minin ture frying pan, from which the handle is missing. The lamp of modern Bagdad differs from it only in being set upon a pedestal and provided with a 19 44 bandle.

It remained for the lamp-maker of ton Star.

NOW THE WATCH TRUST.

#### Representative Vreeland the Victim of a Joke During Watch Monopoly Controversy.

When Representative Rainey of Illiois, a few days muo, made a speech in ongress on the alleged watch trust, he opened up a subject that has been d decided interest in Congressional ircles ever since. He had a collection of watches on his desk which he

fork found another phase of the watch who refused to take their seats when puestion which he wanted to tail about, and proceeded to stock up with ample watches and watch cases. He had the assortment nicely displayed on his desk, when, by a prearrangement, e was called out into the corridor.

As soon as he was gone a joker in a neighboring seat produced three memorandum spindles; two short and one feets, were of stone; after that time tall. He set them in a row on Vree iand's desk. Then he produced three oranges and carefully study one of the point of each spindle, producin the perfect effect of the three golder

balls of the pawn shop sign "Well, by gosh!" exclaimed Vree land, when he came back. The laugh scared his intended speech out of him.

Mrs. Ferguson.-George, dear, how

o you like my new hat? Mr. Ferguson .- Do you want my real pinion of it, Laura? Mrs. Ferguson .--- No, I don't, you nean thing!

"Do you think a man's importance is

mensured by his pocketbook?" "Certainly not," answered Senator Sorghum. "A pocketbook couldn't hold enough to amount to anything. It's the bank book that counts."-Washing-

of New Har muonly understood one of the chief clustries is that of raising rocks tanite, and marble, protested against ils assertion that the farmers were not a sympathy with the free-ood busi-They declared the farmers of their State demanded them anybow

HOUSE FOR FREE SEEDS.

(Continued from preceding page.)

Mr. Cocks read letters from the editors of practically every agricultural paper in the country, denouncing free seeds, and when he frankly admitted he had written these editors asking their opinion of the proposed action of the committees he was attacked by the advocates of free seeds as if he had committed some crime.

ALL ABOUT SEED "ADS."

Mr. Bartlett wanted to know if these papers carried advertisements of the ood dealers, to which Mr. Cocks affirmed that he had no doubt of it, as he business of selling words was a egitimate one. Mr. Fordney did not allove the answers represented an ionest opinion, as the replies had been

Mr. Coeks endeavored to proceed with his argument, re-enforcing it with itations from a stack of letters, but he spoke amid a confusion that marked the day as the most unruly of the entire session. Mr. Gains shouted himelf hoarse-and that is a difficult hing, even for Mr. Gaines to do: Mr. Mann scolded, as he often does when he fulls to approve; Mr. Fordney, Mr. French, Mr. Sims, ... Chandler, and others asked questions simultaneously, and the chairman of the committee all but broke his gaved in a vain endeavor to maintain order. At one time it looked as if the mace, that symbol of the dignity and power of the House,

would have to be taken from its perch and waved over the heads of refracshowed as exhibits, Representative Vreeland of New lory and angry free-seed mutineers o ordered.



Magistrate: What's your name? Prisoner (named Simpson; and a stam-

rer): SE-MS-AH-AB-HD-Magistrate: Constable, what's the pris or charged with? Constable: Sounda like seltzer water, yer Worship.



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