

METROPOLITAN METHODS.

Not Admired by Rural Dealer Who Doesn't Believe in Specialties.

Mr. Cutter had spent a week in the city, and he came home with a much food for thought.

One of the most curious things about the way the storekeepers do below make their money on specialties, he said, one day, after a long period of silence.

Mrs. Cutter knew better than to attempt an answer where none was desired, so she smiled and looked intelligent.

"Well, I'll tell you," said the returned traveler. "A man keeps a picture shop. Founda well and looks well, but it's liable to dull seasons, so he gets his wife's sister-in-law or an orphan cousin or some such to fat a few of these armer strips for the neck, and strings a number of colored beads into chains, and puts 'em in one corner of the window with a card saying orders must be given six weeks in advance, and then his business begins to look up.

"If he keeps a cutlery shop he sells a few hats from Manilly that come through a friend, and are high, as they are skuse. If his business is stationary, he has a counter of hand-sewed neckties and pinupshirts; if his trade is supposed to be selling embroidered pillows and table-cloths, he has a counter of German silver goods; if his sign says 'jewelry and crockery,' you'll find a little glass case that'll have painted boxes of chocolate and peanut candy in it; and if he gives out that he's selling drugs, you'll find the drawing card in his establishment is bedslippers and head-purses. Don't talk to me 'bout specialties! I've seen 'em, and I know!"

COMPARING SHOP GIRLS.

English Writer Places the American Ahead of Those of His Own Country.

There seems to be little to choose between the shopmen of New York and London. The American shop girl, however, is by a head of her English cousin. She is not so ladylike and polite, but she is a bundle of intelligent chaff.

There are 3,500 employees at Wanamaker's place in Broadway. In summer the hours are from eight to five, with a half-holiday on Saturday; in winter the hours are from eight to six, with no half-holiday at all.

Where the American is better off is that he and she have more wholesome food and plenty of it. The compere of the girl whom you will see in a London A. B. C. place making a lunch of a cup of tea and a piece of cake for four pence, you will see in one of Child's many restaurants in New York having a "quick lunch" of melon, soup, roast beef and a few breads for two shillings.

HORSE'S HEART BREAKS.

Former Charger of Gen. Boulanger Dies in Most Tragical Manner.

A column of troops marched past the Alsace column in the Place de la Concorde, Paris, the other day with drums beating and rifles playing, says a recent Paris report.

A broken-down old black horse drawing a cart heaped up with vegetables, heard the music and saw the soldiers.

In the seat of the cart, half asleep in the blazing sun, was Mme. Lecocq, who had been to Paris market to buy supplies for her grocery store.

At the sound of the drums and the sight of the red-legged soldiers in the Place de la Concorde the old horse came to life. He braced and trotted at the head of

RAREST PLANT IN WORLD.

Big Pitcher Which Catches and Digests All Kinds of Insects Has No Peer.

Both the greenhouse collection and the herbarium of the University of Pennsylvania are much richer for the long journey from which Dr. J. M. Macfarlane, professor of botany and director of the botanic garden, has returned.

Already the newly arrived plants have been placed in the greenhouses in connection with biological hall and are recovering from any slight malady they may have felt.

LIGHTENS THEIR LABORS.

Firm of Cigar Manufacturers Entertain Their Employees with Music.

A modern philosopher has expressed his approval of the man who sings at his work, says Cassell's Journal.

A recognition of the fact that work is improved by being performed under cheerful conditions has led a certain firm of American cigar manufacturers to entertain their employees with music.

Every day a performer on the guitar attends at the factory, and plays and sings to the operatives. The musician sits in a chair and thrums out the popular melodies of the day, thus putting the workers in the best of spirits.

As the factory is a large one, the troubadour shifts his position from time to time, so that all the workers shall have the benefit of his music.

Some of the cigarmakers are of Spanish blood, and at times it happens that they become so engrossed in the music as to cease their work. When this occurs the minstrel promptly recalls them to their duties by "moving on."

The proprietors find the little innovation entirely beneficial, for it prevents the sullenness and discontent that proceed from close confinement and monotonous work.

Benefits from Volcanic Eruptions.

It appears that the volcanic eruptions which devastated Guatemala last year were really blessings in disguise. The coffee fincas, or plantations, suffered severely, and so gloomy was the outlook that many planters abandoned their ash-covered acres and considered themselves ruined.

HE FEARS ALL FOREIGNERS

Uncle Zachariah Falls Into Sad Suspicion at Huns and Slavs in Pennsylvania.

A well-known character in Blankville, Uncle Zachariah, has fallen into a sad suspicion of the new Americans that come from Hungary, Russia, Syria and Italy, relates the Brooklyn Eagle.

TO CAPTURE RATTLESNAKES.

Not Such a Difficult Feat When One Goes About It the Right Way.

Trained Horse's Tricks.

Hens, the performing horse, which made a sensation in Berlin for a few days because it was thought he could count, spell, etc., has been proved a fraud, or his owner has. His groom has confessed. As to the counting, as long as the groom kept his eyes on the ground Hans continued stamping with a hoof.

Germ Destroyers.

A French bacteriologist declares that lemonade, cider, ritz or similar drinks will kill typhoid germs, while alcohol at 25 per cent. destroys microbes, and at 2 per cent. prevents their development.

FAKES AND TO INJECT THE FIGHTFUL

Polka. If the intruder is without striking distance and remains where he is, he is in little danger, as only in the rarest cases have the snakes been known to attack and assume the initiative.

Pushing the end of the stick toward the reptile, the hunter watches his chance. The rattler is motionless, as if carved out of stone, only its head, its eyes fastened upon the end of the stick to await the proper moment to bite.

PECULATIONS UNPUNISHED.

Dishonesty in Office Is Seldom If Ever Brought to Public Notice in Russia.

Six years ago a secret official report to the czar on the discontent in Poland gave official order as the main cause, says N. T. Dawson, in Bookletters Magazine.

PAID SMOKERS OF PIPES.

Paris Tobacco Houses Hire Many Men to Color Their Meerschmaums.

"With the growth of the hobby of smoking meerschmaum pipes," said the Hincenforer, of Philadelphia, reports the Louisville Herald, "there have sprung up concerns which make a business of coloring these pipes."

INSURED HIS ELECTION.

Ingenuous Proceeding of a Titled Father to Secure Club Membership for Son.

The son of Count — lately applied for admission to one of the principal Italian clubs where several candidates had been blackballed, relates a London exchange.

THE EARTH'S NEW GIRDLE.

The completion last May of the determination of the difference of longitude between San Francisco and Manila, by means of the new Pacific cables, is a new "longitude girdle" of the earth.

HE WAS "OFF AND ON."

Minister Van Swinderen, of the Netherlands, is an excellent horseman, and like all excellent horsemen he is apt to criticize trenchantly those who do not ride with skill.

Carries Mirror in State.

A mirror, a crystal and a sword are carried before the emperor of Japan on all state occasions. "Know thyself" is the message of the mirror; "Be pure and shine" is the crystal's injunction, while the sword is a reminder to "Be strong."

Stay in Harness.

"Stay in the harness and this avoid growing rusty" is the motto of Judge John J. Jackson, of the Eastern district of Virginia.

Gloucester's Waste Paper.

The city of Gloucester makes \$7,500 a year profit out of waste paper collected in the streets. Liverpool has now decided to add to its income in the same manner.

MEXICO BUYS MOST HERE.

Southern Republic Purchases Three-Fifths of Her Imported Goods from United States.

Of all the goods Mexico buys abroad she gets three-fifths from the United States. Of all the goods she sells abroad she sells three-quarters to the United States. To be exact, the precise proportions are 59 per cent. and 76 per cent., respectively.

CONCERNING CHURCHES.

Methodism has 1,224 churches. The Evangelical church council of Hungary has given taxpaying women the right to vote.

ELEVATION AND CLIMATE.

All Are Familiar with Relation of One to the Other—Facts and Figures.

Everybody is familiar with the fact that elevation affects the climate. In California snow-capped mountains are common in summer, while in the plains below snow seldom falls in the winter.

CAUGHT IN THE CURRENT.

Keshelski, 41, once the metropolis of the west, has been almost swallowed up by the river.

Professional Puppeteer of England

Whose Remains Lie in Westminster Abbey.

That a prize fighter is buried in Westminster abbey is widely known because it happens to be mentioned in the official denary guide which every visitor buys, and many are the ejaculations of pious horror that have been uttered over such a scandalous desecration of this most famous of all sanctuaries of the dead.

DISCOVERY OF INSTANCES WHERE GIFTS WERE POOLED BRINGS ABOUT A MUCH-NEEDED REFORM.

It is not surprising that 2,000 Paris waiters should meet and adopt resolutions calling for the abolition of tipping, says the New York Sun.

THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT OPERATES 15,200 TELEPHONE STATIONS.

Nagata is worth \$100,000,000 as a source of electrical power.

THE ELECTRIC WELD IS BECOMING A MORE AND MORE IMPORTANT FACTOR IN MANY INDUSTRIES.

The electric weld is becoming a more and more important factor in many industries. During recent years the extension of its application has been steady, and each year has witnessed its entrance into new fields.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Charlottenburg is the first German commune to appoint a woman school doctor.

MARKED DOWNS.

"So Arline is to marry the duke?" "Yes, but he was a great bargain."

THE GLORY OF ROME.

"And what was the most interesting thing you saw in Rome?" "I saw the pope. He was the most interesting thing I saw in Rome."

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