

Ingrain Carpets and Matting

Our phenomenal Carpet Sale in April has kept that entire department so busy ever since that this is the first chance we have had to again call attention to the extraordinary Carpet values that we are showing. We sell Carpets, as we do furniture, at a moderate margin of profit, and this accounts for the enormous volume of business that has marked our Spring trade.

To-day we call particular attention to our special values in choice serviceable Ingrains, new spring patterns, and of the best weaves. Here are some sample offerings:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Heavy Jute and Linen Ingrains, regular 30c goods for | 28c |
| Stair Carpets same price. | |
| Union Half Wool Ingrains, regular 50c value for | 43c |
| Choice All Wool C. C. Ingrains, regular 70c value for | 59c |
| Extra Super All Wool Ingrains, regular 75c value for | 63c |

RUGS, we show a large line of choice rugs, in all grades and sizes and in a variety of handsome patterns. One of the extra values we offer a heavy, reversible rug, 9x12 feet in all the new colorings, Medallion and Oriental effects, regular \$11 goods, our special price **\$11.95**

MATTINGS, China and Japanese Mattings, our own importations, purchased before the recent advance in prices. Fresh new goods that have just arrived. We offer all the regular 15c, 18c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c and 40c grades at 20 per cent reduction by the piece, 40 yards.

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INITIATING THE BOXER.

How the Applicant Becomes Proof Against Bullets and Swords.

The period of training covers forty-nine days. The priest's fee is \$20, paid in advance. When the recruits have gone through their drill they are taught to believe that they are proof against bullet and sword. It is reported that there are considerable numbers of people who are drawn away. They have to swallow pills in which are Buddhistic charms.

"When the drill is ended the priest gives each of the recruits a belt, made after the pattern said to have been worn by an ancient famous actor, on which are worked eight diagrams in which the Chinese have such an implicit faith. Also there are some signs worked in red and, among others, are two diving blocks, which all visitors to Chinese temples are so familiar with.

"These insignia were what the Boxers placed their faith in and the skill which will follow the acceptance of this sorcery was the real inspiration of the actors in that fatal outbreak."

Ras Makonnen's Present.

It appears that it is the custom in Abyssinia, when a man makes a present, to suggest what he would like given him in return, which explains why Ras Makonnen, in sending two fine zebras to the United States Department of Agriculture, wrote "I am sending the beasts as a token of esteem and good will toward the American people. I would suggest that the return present be in the form of repeating rifles or cannon of the latest pattern." At the current price for zebras Ras Makonnen cannot expect much in the way of artillery in return, but it will be interesting to see how the United States Government handles the rather delicate situation which has arisen through the gutless Abyssinian's ignorance of western etiquette.—London Graphic.

Training Cats in France.

The cat is the latest member of the animal kingdom to receive an education. France is the country where this idea originated, and some of the results have been remarkable. One animal trainer in France says that he has been astonished at the intelligence of the cats. In unexpected ways, too. For instance, he was attempting to make one stand on her hind legs and having done it once readily enough she evidently thought it was sufficient, and did not want to do it again. The trainer then hit the cat and immediately she stood on her hind legs and with her front paw reached up and gave the trainer a long scratch on the hand. Then she got down and ran quickly away.

Adulteration of Milk.

"Most of the milk sold in Penang is shocking stuff. The Indian milkmen are the biggest rogues in creation. The other day I found the milk particularly weak. I called up the milk and expostulated mildly but firmly about it. He told me next day that the milkman was very sorry. He'd given me milk out of the wrong tin! Further investigation showed that the man had two tins, one of which contained 'sahib's' and the other what I was a real sahib, but I explained to the milkman when I paid his bill that in future I should have a sanitary inspector or something of the sort hidden behind the door to take samples of his wares now and again. Since then my milk has been over-powerfully strong."—Chicago News.

Madrid's Beautiful Palace.

The throne room of the royal palace at Madrid is one of the most magnificent in the world. Decorated in red and gold, it contains rock-crystal chandeliers, colossal looking glasses of the finest quality, marble tables and priceless porphyry. The ceiling is painted by Topacio with the "Majesty of Spain," in illustration of the virtue of the kings and the manliness of the people, who are represented in different costumes of the provinces. Here the sovereigns of Spain receive on grand occasions when alive and when dead are laid out in state.

Early Days of Rope-Making.

Although the name of the first rope maker and that of the land in which he practiced his art have both been lost to history Egyptian sculptors prove that the art was practiced at least 2,000 years before the time of Christ.

Costly Crown For the Vatican.

The Pope ordered a firm of Florence jewelers to manufacture a crown set with imitation stones for the image of the Virgin in the basilica of the Vatican, in place of the crown containing gems valued at \$7,500,000, which is to be deposited in the vaults of the Vatican.

Of the very latest type of freight steamers is the British ship Bellerophon, built without masts, instead of which she has four pillars, two abreast fore and aft, for derricks. The hold is made especially to accommodate heavy machinery and other bulky consignments for the China and Japan trade. Twenty-six winches and derricks can be worked from the deck.

A curious circumstance in connection with the death of the king of Denmark is the fact that one of the Danish colonists, Greenland, could not learn the news for three months, owing to the difficulty of ships reaching the land. In ignorance of the melancholy event, the Greenlanders celebrate King Christian's birthday in the usual manner.

THE THEATRE IN JAPAN.

Staging and Acting Very Crude—Women Never Take Part.

A Japanese theater is a very curious affair both inside and outside. Blood curdling posters in flaming colors usually adorn the entrance, and scores of gaudy little Chinese lanterns are hung about to make it look attractive. The Japanese, however, do not need much enticing. They are a nation of merry-makers, and the theatre is one of the chief sources of their amusement.

Japanese drama is rather a lengthy affair. A play usually starts at about ten in the morning and goes on until midnight, with intervals, of course, between acts. Theater-goers make up parties to attend the play, and prepare luncheon baskets as though they were going out for a picnic. Thus they are able to have their meals with the same regularity as they can at home.

The theatre is not very luxuriously furnished. The pit, the favorite part of the house, is merely a collection of bare wooden seats. The boxes are desolate places with stools. The ventilation is usually very bad, and, as smoking is allowed, the theatre positively reeks with tobacco fumes by the time the play is in full swing. Two curious customs prevail in Japanese theatres. The female portion of the audience invariably sits apart from the men, and for the payment of a small sum you are permitted to stand and watch the performance regardless of the annoyance to those seated behind.

The stage itself has some peculiarities too. At both ends a platform projects out into the auditorium, and whenever a person is represented as starting on or returning from a journey the actor always makes use of this projection. The stage is fixed on rollers, so that when a change of scene is necessary the whole, actors included, can be turned bodily round. Women do not act on the stage, any female part that occurs is played by a man specially trained for that purpose. When actors are delivering their speeches attendants lighten up their faces by means of candles fastened upon long bamboo sticks.

When the play commences the audience is called to attention by the rapping of a little mallet. Besides the actors proper there other persons concealed above the stage, who sing the chorus, accompanied by the samisen. The noise these people make is enough to deafen the foreigner, but the Jap seems to find immense pleasure in the din and discord. As the actors warm to their work the noise increases, and the house has all the appearance of a pandemonium. The players leap and bound about the stage, and give such ear-piercing yells as would make a Red Indian's heart turn green with envy. This continues until the first act is over. However much the spectator may have approved or disapproved of the acting they remain quite passive, as it is not the custom in Japanese theatres to shout or clap the hands.

During the interval luncheon baskets are brought out, and the people regale themselves upon such delicacies as eggs, fruit and rice cakes. The afternoon section of the performance passes away in just such a hubbub as did that of the morning. Another interval—this time for tea—and servants from neighboring tea-houses appear and bring round tea, rice, eggs and sweetmeats for the consumption of the hungry audience. When the curtain goes up on the last installment of the play the spectators are again all attention, and rarely take their eyes off the actors or anything else, save puff away at their eternal pipes.

About midnight all is over, and the audience pours out into the street delighted with the day's pleasure, albeit the next morning may find it with a splitting headache as the inevitable penalty. The plays that find most favor among Japanese theatergoers are such as contain much melodramatic incident. Historical plays dealing with the ancient days of the Japanese empire are also very popular, and draw big audiences to the playhouses.

Few Australians Here.

There are only a few Australians distributed throughout the United States, and their number is so small that in most of the official bulletins they come under the head of "unclassified."

There are in New York city less than 500 Australians and the majority of these are such "in name only," having been born in Australia during the temporary residence of their parents. One such case is that of Mme. Melba, the prima donna, who was born in Melbourne, Australia, in 1866, though her home is in England.

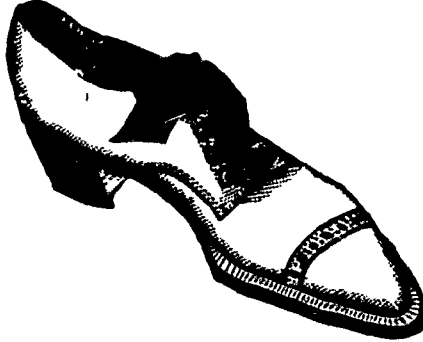
The only city in the country in which there is any considerable number of Australians is San Francisco, in which there are about a thousand. Chicago has some 300, and Oakland, a suburb of San Francisco, 250. Once every year the Australians in New York city assemble for fraternal meeting, and it is found usually that the larger number of those present are traveling Australians.

Paris newspapers have a bit of gossip about King Edward, once upon a time, lending Emperor William a considerable sum of money. What would have been more natural than for him to borrow from his "uncle."

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