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NEW YORK'S SKY LINE.

A Riot of Architecture In Its Jagged Forest of Towers. The best of New York is against the sky. We have not an equally arrayed town like Paris or London, with a tolerably even roof line and only a few monuments here and there rearing heads above the ruck. Everything in New York tries to be higher than everything else. The profile of the city is as jagged as a second growth forest. A city of towers is the name that has been used to describe Manhattan. But it is far too polite. We are much more like a colossal factory town with an unending variety of work-shops topped by the tallest of marble chimneys. Restlessness and activity are its watchwords. Even our private houses are stood on end. A few millionaires can afford to buy a block and spread out their homes so as actually to look rooted to the ground. The rest of the world must live on end in a tree-house connected by many ladders, that might walk off down the street at any moment. Our few monumental structures, like the custom house and the library and the Metropolitan museum are simply noteworthy exceptions whose placidity makes the surrounding upheaval all the more turbulent. More change in the manner of the Gothic log is not the real spirit of New York's sky line, however. It is turbulence with a method. Contest rivalry the will to beat out one's neighbor stick out in every jutting corner, in every soaring tower. The brick facade of the newer dwelling houses quarrel with each other in exactly the same fashion. Restraint, modesty, a desire to melt into the general scheme of things almost never comes to owner-architect. One of the newer houses of Fifth Avenue comes to mind, a perfect world in dignity and restraint. It is almost indolently conspicuous because of its contrast with its shouting, tempestuous neighbors. New York Tribune.

THEIR SENSELESS DREAMS.

They Were Not Forgotten, as the Little Czar Had Ordered. An incident which occurred at the very beginning of Nicholas II's reign is very characteristic of the attitude of the former emperor toward his share of the people in the government of Russia. A deputation of the foremost representatives of the Russian nobility was sent to bring congratulations to the new emperor. Very bright hopes were connected with the ascension to the throne of the young monarch after a period of almost ten years during the reign of his father, Alexander III, and in consequence it was decided to present to him the such a decoration of the nobles as extremely to meet his expectations in favor of an honorable chamber of representatives the only proposed right of which was the right to be accepted by the emperor whenever it pleased him. The deputation, composed of twenty respectable and venerable members, gathered around the young monarch and lined up in the big hall of the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg and standing in a military order and in complete silence or more than two hours. At that moment a deputation of disgruntled horse guards entered the hall with a large case and passed it to the front of the emperor's throne. Then the two emperors would enter. The emperor took the case and the horse guards and the rest of the deputation entered a brief but very definite speech to the emperor which consisted of the following proposition: I order you to accept as a member of the nobility in World's Work. Nature's Protection For the Ear. The nobleman being the most of the ear and the rest of the ear of the nobility which is very sensitive having an intensely bitter taste. The purpose of this is to prevent the entrance of insects and to keep the ear clean, as the liver of wax does in the scales which rapidly fall away thus removing with them any particles of dust or dirt which might enter the ear and cause any trouble. Teachers From the City. Elizabeth I see a lot of New York so-called women are traveling about telling the farmers wives how to mind and preserve themselves. Next thing I expect to see is the West street men going into the rural districts to show the farmers how to water their stock. Yonkers Standard.

Tip For Shoe Lace. When the tip has come off a shoe, first slip the loose end in house hold glue and press hard between the fingers to a long pointed end and let harden well. You will find the tip will stay together and can be faced up even through the grain holes without the least trouble. She Was Cruel. They seated themselves at a restaurant table. "Will you have a little shrimp?" he asked. "Dear me," the bright little lady exclaimed. "This is so sudden!" - Louisville Courier-Journal. Tact. On fact the last word was spoken by Barlow d'Aurillo when he said: "If fact could be bought only those already possessed of it would want to buy it." The Kind. "That pretty girl makes quite an affecting picture when she cries." "Yes, a regular moving picture." - Baltimore American.

THE RIFLE BARREL.

Making It Perfectly Straight Is a Delicate Operation. Following the reaming operation in rifle manufacture which leaves the bore of the barrel smooth and polished, comes one of the most delicate and exacting operations in gunmaking - that of straightening the interior of the barrel. In straightening a barrel everything depends on the skill and experience of the operator, for although machines have been devised to perform this difficult work, they still require skilled men to operate them, and they cannot turn out as much work as is done by hand by the old method that has been practiced for years and which has only been acquired by long experience. The straightening tool has a heavy base, on which are fixed two hardened bars of steel set a short distance apart and at an angle with one another. A north window is necessary where a steady, unobstructed light is had and the upper half of this window usually has a large pane of the second glass. Across this pane at about the middle is laid a straightened rod of wood. The operator places a barrel on a rest and looks through it at the straightening rod in the window, observing the shadow cast by the edge on the polished interior of the bore. This shadow extends about halfway down the bore and if the barrel is perfectly straight the shadow shows two straight dark lines, one on either side of the bore and slightly below its center. If, however, there is a crook in the bore the shadow of the straightening rod in various directions as the operator revolves the barrel by hand. This indicates that there are crooks in the barrel. To correctly observe these delicate indications requires unusually perfect sight, and to locate the point and nature of the crook is a matter of long experience and judgment. When the operator has located a crook he lays the barrel across the lines of his straightening tool with the high point of the curve uppermost and strikes it with a heavy hammer made of upper or ballist metal, and great judgment is necessary to know just how hard to strike to remove the crook. This process of observation and straightening is repeated until the two shadow lines are perfectly true for one half of the length of the barrel and then is repeated for the other half. Observations being taken from the opposite end. Another method of straightening sometimes practiced is by placing in the muzzle of the gun a lens covered with cement, in which a circle is scratched. On looking through the barrel with a suitable light a series of rings appears in the bore, and the slightest lack of concentricity of these rings indicates a defect. This is said to be an extremely delicate test. - Scientific American.

Won by His Cool Head. "One day," says a writer in Nunsey's Magazine, "when H. P. Davidson of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co. was a teller in the Astor Place bank, a crank presented a draft for \$1,000 and young Davidson looked up to see a pistol pointed at him. He smiled and commenced to read the face of the draft. "Astor Place bank - Pay to the order of Almighty God the sum of \$1,000 when presented by Charles Freeman." "Do you want it in dimes?" asked Davidson in a very loud voice and began to count the money. Then the bank's policeman whose attention had been called to the situation by the teller's loud utterance, seized the half crazy man from behind. The teller's level headedness and nerve saved his life, doubtless. Good Reason. "Why don't you ever hear my jokes?" "Because I was brought up to respect old age and feebleness." - Baltimore American.

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How Parchment Got Its Name. The name of parchment is said to have been derived from the skins of the goat or sheep. They were carried to the city of all fat, thinned uniformly by the knife, dyed or whitened and finally cut red down with white or stone to a smooth and even surface. Called parchment from the city of its origin the new material became parchment in archaic French and parchment in the Latin tongue.

Mind Reading. "What subject do you best adapted for beginners practice in mind reading?" asks the inquisitive editor of Wharton. That sort of thing is Sanskrit to us, but if you hear a girl ask her beau why he doesn't save his money by investing it in a bank, you might see if you can't take what she is thinking of. - Houston Post.

Optimistic. "Would you consider Jassbery an optimistic?" "I'm sure he is." "Quite positive, eh?" "Yes, I've seen him follow a golf crank to the links, hoping he would get a chance to talk business with him." - Birmingham Age Herald.

Teamwork. Wilkins-Jones' stammering doesn't bother him when talking to his wife Bilkins - How so? Wilkins - Well, when she stops for breath he says a word, and by the time she's out of breath again he's ready to say another word. - New York Globe.

Mean. "He has brain fever." "That so? Just proves again the statement of scientists that disease germs always strike a man in his weakest spot." - Detroit Free Press. Skeptical. "What is a skeptic?" "A man who always puts paste on the back of a postage stamp." - Puck. Who keeps one end in view makes all things sure. - Browning. The Average. Cityman - How many servants do you keep? Suburbanite - About one out of twelve. - Buffalo Express.

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