### Carpenter's Letter

(Continued from Sixth Page.)

ing else, the merchants coming there for their leaves and string

In the Markets of Djokja.

Some of the most interesting bazaars I have seen in Java are those of Djökja-This is the capital of a state far in the interior, ruled by a sultan, where the natives are much as they were centuries ago when the Dutch first came to the country. Djokja is a large city and its bazaars cover many acres. They consist of vast sheds roofed with thin brick tiles, which are green with the moss of old age. Here the business is done almost entirely by women, the various trades and goods being classified. in one section I found nothing but coal merchants, sooty-faced girls squatting on tables with piles of charcoal about them. Fach girl had a bundle of bahana leaves beside her and her measure of value seemed to be what one leaf would hold. The leaves were about as large as a sheet of feelscap and a leaf full of coal sold for 2 cents. The string was a strip of

Next to the coal sheds were the vegetable merchants, and farther on sheds contain-

HER BABY.

and be glad of the job.

woman keeps the purse of the family,

and the meat is seld at so much a slice, little regard being paid to the part of the

There is a great deal of fish in the mar-

kets, and especially dried fish, which is used to cook in rice and other veretable

stews. There are pieces of bullock skin

sold as cracklings for the same purpose,

and in the rice markets there are hundreds

The purchases are everywhere exceed-

the value of which, reduced to our money,

was just one-fortieth of a cent. The next

purchaser bought 2 cents' worth, getting

The worst thing about the women of Java

world that I have grown accustomed to it.

and rather like to see the blue wreaths

flowing from the ruby lips up into the air.

It is different with chewing, especially the

betel. This discolors the teeth, giving them

with a blood-red saliva and makes the

mous quids. I have seen girls with wads

As for smoking I have seen

animal from where the meat comes.



A PORTER OF THE BAZAAR.

ing fruits, bamboos, chickens and eggs. of yellow-faced girls with plug earrings The vegetables were sold in piles. I saw who squat before piles of white rice and one pile of five potatoes, each the size of measure it out in cocoanut shells at so a walnut, and was told that I could have much a shell. it for I Javanese cent, equal to two-fifths One-Cent Business. of a cent of our money. The same merchant had two piles of string beans, a little pile of tea, which she was selling out by the ingly small. A nickel will buy a meal for cupful, and, altogther, a stock worth not a family and a cent is the cost of many more than 25 cents of our money. single articles. I stood one day and

The cheapest things of all are the fruits, watched a woman buy some dried fish of a which are of every tropical variety. I come Chinese. The fish was cut up in pieces no frome every day loaded with mangosteens, larger than a postage stamp and about bananas, oranges and pineapples and my half an inch thick. The woman had picked chief drink is coccanut water, which I buy out five of these pieces, examining them of the cocoanut peddlers in the bazaars, carefully to see that they were good. She There is a sweet little cocoanut seller in finally put her hand on them and offered Djokja, who has the freshest of green the merchant a cent. The Chinese tock up coannts always on hand. She sells them the fish and wrapped it up in a banana leaf. for 2 cents apiece and will open them up leaving out one of the pieces. The woman with a cleaver, so that you can drink the refused to take it, and she fought for ten sweet coconnut water fresh from the shell, minutes in her efforts to get an extra piece, I assure you it is a drink for the gods.

#### Pigeons Which Whistle.

I stopped in the chicken market and eight little cubes of salt fish, and while I found that I could buy a pair of broilers waited, a full half hour, I judge, there was for a shilling and then went to a shed no purchase made of more than a nickel in where there were hundreds of cages of value. pigeons of all colors. The cages were of bamboo, each about as big around as a is their custom of chewing the betel and flour barrel and a foot or so high. Each tobacco. cage was filled with pigeons, which were women doing that in so many parts of the selling for 2 cents and upwards apiece. The woman who was peddling them out was selling whistles with them, to be tied to the tails of the pigeons, so that they might make a whistling noise as they flew through the air. This is one of the cus- the hue of black varnish; it fills the mouth toms of Java. I saw the same thing done in north China, the whistles being fastened tongue black. Tobacco chewing as done in to the tails of the birds to scare off the Java is fully as bad. The women use enorhawks. I bought four little whistles for inside their mouths as big as the fist of 10 cents and the Javanese maiden who sold them to me took out one of the birds and a thirteen-pound baby. Sometimes the girl fastened a bright red whistle to the roots keeps the chew in her cheek and sometimes of its tail feathers to show me how they she allows it to glide out to her lips, holdwere used. The whistle is tied round one ing it there between the teeth, while at or more feathers, so that it stands upright in the tail, catching the wind as the bird flies and making a shrill, whistling noise,

In the Djokja markets the women act as cashiers and bankers. In every bazaar I saw them squatting behind little tables with pennies and half pennies and all sorts of silver and copper coins piled up before them. The chief business of these women is making change. They charge 1 cent or more for each gulden, so that the lowest rate is 1 per cent. They are backed by the Chinese, who furnish the capital and pay them so much a day for their work. The Chinese, as I shall show later, do a large part of the retail business of Java. They have nearly all of the stores which require money to operate and they are also the wnbrokers.

Women as Porters and Laborers.

The Javanese women occupy a similar

#### THE ILLUSTRACED BEE.

others, mixed with saliva in a sort of musb. it placidly rests between her lower lip and lower teeth. In such cases there is often a stream of yellow julce trickling down from the corners of the mouth, and altogether it is disgusting.

FRANK G. CARPENTER





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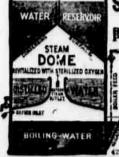
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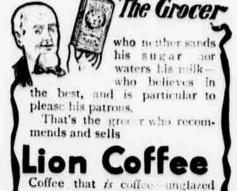
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