

ART IN THE HOME.

Its Usefulness Demonstrated by a Blushing Bride.

He had not felt the slightest doubt as to the future when he had laid his heart and his vaguely prospective fortune at her feet.

"I'm not going to offer you any biscuit," she said.

"Did you make any?" "Yes. But I am sure they are not as they should be."

"Have you tasted one of them?" "No. It was not necessary. My eye for color was sufficient."

"But you don't employ the same methods and the same criterions in making a pan of biscuit that you do in painting a landscape, you know?"

"No; not exactly. But I've watched mother's baking enough to know that when biscuits are properly made they ought to be a delicate Vandyke brown over the top and a pure white inside.

"Well," he answered, cheerfully and contentedly, "I am sorry for your sake that they did not prove more like the usual thing. But it was lucky that you detected the dissimilarity before we ate them, and it goes to show that there is no telling when a knowledge of art is going to come in handy, even in the most practical affairs of life."

FRILLS OF FASHION.

What the Ladies Are Wearing in the Latest Costumes.

The difference between last season's skirts and those of the latest models is more noticeable in the trimmings than in the shapes; yet there is much less fullness between the extreme of fashion then and now.

Plaid velvets in light bright colors are used for vests, collars, revers and belts in wool costumes, and again for the entire bodice with cloth sleeves and boleros.

All the new figured silks have a moire ground, with distinct patterns in satin, which have a raised brocaded effect almost like embroidery. Broche silks, too, are very fashionable for wraps of various kinds, and they are either all silk, or silk with velvet figures, or silk and wool mixed, the last being especially recommended for evening cloaks.

Silk waists of shot silk, fine velveteen, velvet and corduroy, with the broad turn-over linen collar, are as much a feature of morning dress at present as the cotton variety in summer.

Silk petticoats to match the gown, or in a lighter shade of the same color, are the latest fancy, and the usual Spanish flounce trimmed with two or more ruffles is set up on the skirt, which is cut quite full underneath and fitted like the dress skirt around the hips.

Huge buckles of steel, jet or imitation jewels are a pronounced feature of large hats this season, and immense oval buckles appear on some of the French gowns directly in the back on a velvet belt.

"Grannie" muffs—as those of the large round shape are called—are considered the smartest styles by English women; but the pretty made-up muffs with the flaring ends and finish of tails in the center are much more attractive.

Tam o' Shanter hats trimmed with velvet roses and ostrich tips are among the stylish and becoming shapes.—N. Y. Sun.

Quince Roll.

Make a rich biscuit dough. Roll out a piece about one-quarter of an inch thick, spread the surface with a rich quince sauce or preserves mashed fine. Do not spread too near the edges. Put on a plate and steam one hour.—Ladies' World.

—It is well for man to be alone, when inheriting a fortune.—Up-to-Date.

EVOLUTION OF SMOKING.

King Nicotine Began His Reign in a Modest Way.

But Now Vassals and Serfs in Every Part of the Civilized and Barbaric World Acknowledge His Despotism.

[Special New York Letter.] It has been said that the tobacco habit is a curse to humanity. On the other hand, thousands are blessing the plant whose fumes afford them pleasure and consolation. Tobacco is held to be the friend of the rich and poor alike, and the laboring man after a hard day's work finds just as much pleasure in his clay pipe as the millionaire in his Havana. Some of the greatest men are warm advocates of the smoking habit,



SIXTEENTH CENTURY CIGAR.

and many of them have produced their greatest works under the beneficent influence of the narcotic leaves. Tennyson and his pipe were inseparable friends. It was his steady companion from morning until evening, and the thicker the clouds of smoke would belch from it the faster the inspiring thoughts came to the poet. And so it is with many other mental toilers.

The first historical mention of tobacco was made by Columbus. When the great discoverer landed at the islands of the West Indies he and his crew saw with great astonishment how the natives smoked dried herbs. In his report he says: "They are dried herbs, rolled in a broad, dried leaf; they look like the small muskets which Spanish children use on Pentecost. On one end they are lighted, and on the other end the people sucked and drank the smoke by inhalation. They get drunk from it, but it evidently prevents them from getting tired. They call these small muskets tabacos." Little did the invaders think at the time that 400 years later tobacco would rule the world, and that the production of the herb would amount to over 2,000,000,000 pounds yearly, at the value of hundreds of millions of dollars.

For a long time after its discovery tobacco remained a stranger to the European nations. The Spanish settlers and adventurers in the new world accustomed themselves soon to the use of the herb, but the "barbarian custom" did not make any notable progress. In the middle of the sixteenth century smoking sailors could be seen occasionally in European ports, but their example was not followed by the people in general. The cigars of that time were about the shape and size of a candle. It was not the cigar, however, which was destined to conquer the old world, but the pipe. Only with the advent of the latter began the victorious march of the narcotic herb around the globe.

In the course of time the Europeans in America became acquainted with various ways of smoking. The Aztecs in Mexico used peculiar pipes, about the manufacture of which the Franciscan monk, Bernardino de Sahagun reports the following: "Those Indians who



BAUBAU OF NEW GUINEA.

sell pipes for the inhalation of tobacco smoke cut reeds and clean these of the leaves. Then they are coated with finely pulverized wet charcoal and painted with flowers and animals. They also have such pipes where the painting only shows after long use. Some are finely gilded. The pipes are filled with the dry leaves of the tobacco and other aromatic herbs, rose leaves, etc., and then they are lighted."

When Ponce de Leon visited Florida for the first time he found the natives devoted to the tobacco habit, but their way of indulging in it was different from the Aztecs. The Floridians used hollow vessels of burned clay into which they inserted reed pipes. The vessels were filled with the dry tobacco leaves, and the smoke drawn through the reed. This smoking utensil was the prototype of the tobacco pipe of to-day, but did

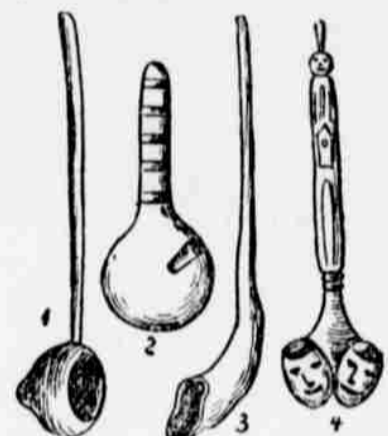
not attain any popularity at first. Six decades later Sir Walter Raleigh landed with his expedition in Virginia, where the colonists came in close contact with the native Indians. The latter used the same kind of tobacco pipes as the Floridians, and soon the colonists had accustomed themselves to the use of the herb. The mathematician, Thomas Hariot, a former teacher of Sir Walter, wrote the first letters to Europe praising the qualities of tobacco. The Virginia colony was no success, and Sir Francis Drake brought the men back to England, landing them in 1586 in Plymouth harbor. Here they created great astonishment, for tobacco smoking was seen for the first time in England. The Indian clay pipes found admirers and the habit of the returning colonists was contagious. Soon one could see everywhere in England men with tobacco pipes, and in 1598 smoking in London theaters was common. The herb was imported from America, but the burned clay pipes were manufactured by English potters, and as early as 1619 the guild of London pipemakers was incorporated. In 1590 English students introduced the habit in Holland. The fact that tobacco smoking temporarily overcomes hunger and thirst made it soon popular in the English and Dutch armies, and during the Thirty Years' war the soldiers of Wallenstein and Tilly acquired the habit from them.

During the seventeenth century tobacco was smoked from pipes formed after the Virginia pattern, but with the increasing popularity of the smoking habit efforts were made to improve and perfect the smoker's utensils, and many were the changes in style and material during the evolution of the rude Indian pipe to the perfect and artistic specimens of our day.

In the civilized countries cigar and cigarette smoking has during the last few decades largely crowded out the tobacco pipe, but the by far larger majority of smoking humanity all over the globe still adheres to the pipe, which in many cases has become a national characteristic.

The Turk loves the chibouk, with its red clay bowl, its long stem of weicheel and its mouthpiece of amber, and frequently adorns it with gold and precious stones. In the farther orient, in Arabia, Persia and India, the water pipe or nargileh is in high favor.

The Japanese smoke from metal pipes, which are frequently of the most exquisite workmanship, being inlaid with gold and silver. In the country of the mikado even young girls smoke dainty little pipes the size of a thimble,



1. Spoon Pipe of New Zealand; 2. Kiko Pipe of the Makraka; 3. Siberian Pipe; 4. Double Pipe of the Niam-Niam.

which have short brownish bamboo stems with metal mouthpieces.

The Kirghese bore a side hole into a mutton bone, fill the narrow cavity with tobacco and smoke through this primitive apparatus. Very simple is a Siberian pipe, which consists of the hollowed root of a tree. Next to this another pipe of the same country made of roughly-carved wood and adorned with tin mountings looks like a work of art. The latter pipe has also something which no other pipe possesses—an adjustable wooden protector for the bone mouthpiece.

It has been asserted that not all of the tobacco pipes of the Asiatic and African peoples have grown out of the North American pattern, but that the smoking habit was cultivated by some tribes before the discovery of America. There are no assured facts to this effect, but many circumstances point to the conclusion that the black race smoked long before the Caucasians. It was not tobacco, however, but the common, intoxicating leaves of the hemp and "daeha," another specific African kind of hemp.

Few things can be said about the native Australian smokers. They are not passionate smokers, and excepting the wooden spoonpipe, with the stem of bird's bone of the New Zealanders, the pipe of the Papuans of Roon island, and the "baubau" of the New Guinea tribes, one does not find interesting varieties. The "baubau" is a piece of bamboo more than a yard long, open on one end and having a side hole, like a flute, in it. A cigarette is put into the latter, the bamboo is filled with smoke by sucking at the open end, and the smoke inhaled through the side hole after removing the cigarette. This is the most tedious way of smoking in the world.

The shah of Persia owns the costliest and most magnificent pipe on earth. It is incrustated with rare and precious stones and said to be valued at \$400,000. Capt. Crabbe, in Brussels, owns the most complete collection of pipes, consisting of over 5,000 specimens, and including pipes of all periods, countries and materials. S. KRACUSZ.

It is said by scientific men that the hair from the tail of the horse is the strongest single animal thread known.

PROMISING YOUNG MAN.

He Wins Distinction by His Reliability and Integrity.

How Leroy J. McNeely, a Mere Youngster, Secured Executive Action by the Secretary of the Navy, Single-Handed and Alone.

[Special Washington Letter.] This is a story of commendable endeavor and noteworthy achievement.

Very often in the newspapers and sometimes on signs in front of store doors we see the words: "Boy wanted." But did it ever occur to you how few boys there are to be had, who are worth having, to merchants and other business men?

Four years ago I wanted a boy; an honest, industrious and educated boy. You may advertise day after day for weeks and possibly for months, and not get a good, well-bred, honorable, gentlemanly, capable boy. But when you also want a boy who can write shorthand and transcribe on a typewriter the difficulty becomes the more pronounced.

A long-time personal friend one Sunday afternoon came to my house and introduced a slender, modest, unpretentious youth, who had seen so little of the world that he blushed like a school-girl when he was addressed and made answer to inquiries. He did not claim to be an expert stenographer or rapid typewriter. He simply wanted an opportunity to develop what talent he might possess, and he was willing to learn. Gentlemen who had known him from the cradle spoke of him in the highest terms. He seemed to be just the boy wanted, and he went to work.

Gradually, timidly, gingerly he began to learn the corridors, committee rooms and offices in the big capitol building; the places where news items are obtained by the diligent correspondents of metropolitan newspapers. Within a month he knew all of the routine work, and performed it like a veteran. He was, first of all, a reliable young man. Not one out of a thousand is always and under all circumstances reliable. But when this young man had learned the work he did it well, and, when evening came, his employer was satisfied that no news item had escaped the vigilance of the youthful worker. He was well assured that the young man had done his duty every day, just as well and as faithfully as his employer could have done it for himself.

Then the young man had another lesson to learn, and it was not so easy. Diligent men may learn places, things and dates without embarrassment, but when it comes to making acquaintances with many men it is different. This young man was obliged to become acquainted with a number of senators and representatives in congress. He not only was obliged to become acquainted with them, but to see them every day, and ask them all sorts of questions.

He was taught to approach public men as the fully accredited representative of his employer. Public men were told that the young man could be trusted with private affairs, and they were requested to talk freely with him. His modesty of demeanor proved to be captivating, and he soon won his way into the regard and esteem of many men. He worked for a man who represented daily newspapers in Philadelphia, New York, Detroit, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Omaha and other cities.

Therefore he was obliged to become acquainted with the senators and representatives from Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and other western states.

You may well imagine that it was no easy task. Your young friends will understand very well that it must have been embarrassing to meet with popular political leaders from various sections of the country. It would embarrass any young man. But it was a part of the duty of the profession which this lad sought to learn and he went about it systematically and diligently.

The day before Lieut. Gen. Schofield retired from command of the army, this young reporter, then but little past his nineteenth birthday, called upon the old commander in his office at the war department, and secured from him an interesting interview concerning his feelings and regrets at severing his connection with the army after a lifetime of service. Older and more experienced newspaper men tried to interview the lieutenant general, but he would not talk to any of them.

When Gen. Miles was placed in command of the army this growing young man prepared all the facts for a seven-column ar-

ticle in a prominent newspaper in the east, giving historical facts concerning all the commanders of the American army from George Washington to Nelson A. Miles. It was excellent work.

But the boy was now getting to be a man, and he was ambitious to work for himself. He sought and secured employment from a daily paper in Wheeling, W. Va., and proceeded to render efficient service, albeit his salary was meager. He still retained his connection with the newspaper man under whose training he had grown, but he reached out for himself in a commendable manner.

He became intensely interested in the affairs of West Virginia. Having ascertained at the navy department that within a year a number of new cruisers would be named after principal cities of the country, this young man filed an application for the city of Wheeling, soliciting the secretary of the navy to name one of the new cruisers of the navy after the principal city of West Virginia. His application was placed on file, but nothing would have come of it but for the energy and determination of character which the young man displayed. He wrote articles about the application, incited action on the part of the citizens of Wheeling, and then urged Senators Faulkner and Elkins to



LEROY J. McNEELY.

go to the secretary of the navy and request that one of the cruisers be named Wheeling. They did so, but had little hope of accomplishing anything by their requests.

But the young reporter was hopeful, earnest and audacious. He kept track of the proceedings in the navy department, and when the cruisers were about to be named he called upon Postmaster-General Wilson, who had been a West Virginia congressman for 12 years, and urged him to see the secretary of the navy in behalf of his application that one of the cruisers be named Wheeling. In compliance with this request the postmaster-general saw the secretary of the navy and suggested the propriety of naming a cruiser after the city of Wheeling. And it was done.

When you remember that few men of experience in public life have the courage to approach a member of the cabinet with suggestions, particularly concerning a proposed important executive action, you will realize that this young man exhibited considerable moral courage and displayed an unusual amount of self-reliance. He was seeking nothing for himself, asking no individual favor, but was pressing the claims of a prominent city to recognition in an important matter. He wisely and sagaciously discerned the necessity of political influence to accomplish his object, and hence called upon statesmen who had been honored by the suffrage of the people of West Virginia. Moreover, he urged them to go to the front. His last aggressive movement deserves particular praise.

He knew that Postmaster General Wilson and Secretary of the Navy Herbert had served together in the national house of representatives for at least half a score of years; and that their personal and political relations were of the most cordial nature. He knew that if the postmaster general could be induced to make an earnest plea to the secretary of the navy, his request would most likely be granted. Therefore he sought the postmaster general at the most opportune time and solicited his interest in the case. By so doing he clinched his arguments and appeals and achieved success in his undertaking. You may well believe that he was a proud young man when he was able to telegraph his paper at Wheeling that one of the new cruisers had been named Wheeling.

On Wednesday evening, November 10, the city council of Wheeling passed resolutions of thanks to the secretary of the navy, to the senators, to the postmaster general, and also to Leroy J. McNeely, the young newspaper man who originated the idea and fostered it until success was won. It is believed that this is the only instance in which any one newspaper man has been influential or potential in securing executive action favorable to any city in the matter of the naming of a cruiser for the new navy. Heretofore the honor has been conferred in compliance with the action of municipal and state authorities, petitioning through their congressional representatives. In this instance, the originator, promoter and guardian of the idea was one man, and he but barely attaining his majority.

SMITH D. FRY.

Comparison. A promise, like yob's eyahments, should be handled wif' gret' care. Ef yob makes it in er hurry, hit am likely not ter wear.

—Washington Star.



HE WAS WILLING TO LEARN.