

PULQUE.

THE NATIONAL DRINK OF THE MEXICAN—How It is Sold in the Capital of Our Sister Republic—Singular Customs.

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Mexico City is a town of 225,000 population. They drink daily in the city 100,000 gallons of pulque. It is drunk by the whole population, from the youngest members of the family to the oldest.

It is one of the most interesting sights of the country to see the natives gathering the juice of the plant and conveying it to the fermenting houses. The plant is a virile, thrifty growth, some ten feet in height, with large, rounded leaves, the central stem attaining from eight to twelve inches in diameter.

These antiquated methods still cling to the Mexicans, and it will take a long time before they adopt a more rational and easier way of doing their labor.

In referring again to my original topic, pulque, the plant is a most wonderful and useful natural product. Not only is this large quantity of nutritious beverage made from the juice.

Why do women have such poor hair nowadays? A very acute, observing man now asks. "When a young girl used to have hair they hardly knew what to do with it.

The briefest answer is that southern women perspire. Tropic warmth produces free flowing of all the fluids of the body, free throwing off of all effete substance and free nourishment of every gland and fiber.

A peasant saw, in a river, a floating egg. He thought he could catch it with his hand, and in the attempt, fell into the water. The egg was deep and he could not swim.

GOATHAM'S CHINESE RESTAURANTS.

Interior of a Celestial Eating House on Mott Street—The Stores.

Most Chinese restaurants are situated upon the second or third floors. The following is a description of Hong Fung Lo's establishment on Mott street.

The rear room, which opens to plain view from the dining room, is the kitchen, which, although overstocked with boxes, barrels, tables and cooking utensils, is scrupulously clean.

The stoves, if they can be called such, are curiosities in themselves. They are long ranges built of low, broad bricks. In the top are great pits, into which are firmly built iron griddles imported from China for frying, boiling or steaming purposes.

Who is Most Cosmopolitan? Taking it for granted that travel is essential to perfect culture, the question arises, "What nation is the most cosmopolitan?"

The American character is receptive. It is willing to imitate the good wherever found. This is the secret of our progress. It is not necessary for us to go abroad to become cosmopolitan, our country is so broad and has within itself such variety of soil, climate and production, and so many elements of race and nation.

Trying to Trick a Jeweler. "The Hellbush jeweler trick," said an attaché of the Burnet house, "reminds me of a similar game which a man attempted to play on Lang, the jeweler, about ten years ago.

The Ugliness of Bohemianism. Whatever Bohemianism there is in New York is simply vulgar and repulsive. You get the long lined poet, creature of nameless vices, drinker of a quart of whisky a day, smoker of opium and anxious borrower of money.

A Livelyhood in the City. In a great metropolis like New York, the methods by which people earn their livings are immensely varied. An old man who goes about from house to house begging for old tin cans says he makes a very good living by rolling out the sheets and then printing small signs on them.

Perambulating Ice Water Tank. The Moderation society of New York has a perambulating tank of ice water, which is driven about the city all day and makes frequent stops that the thirsty may take advantage of the water.

The Rev. Walter L. Huffman, of Peru, Ind., has married over 1,200 couples and preached 1,300 funeral services. His surpasses the record of any clergyman in the state.

THE SODA WATER HABIT.

CARBONIC ACID THE BASIS OF MOST SUMMER DRINKS.

Artful Wiles of the Faucet Turner—Big Money in the Business—How Good Syrups are Made—The "Foam"—Floating Island.

It was a pleasant looking young man, with a well trained bang and a set of stock smiles—sympathetic, questioning, confidential and deprecatory—that would have done credit to an emotional actress.

"The soda water business is better than a gold mine this year," said he. "Never before have carbonated beverages been so popular. See that man there filling up on Vichy water? That's his tenth glass for today.

"Much money in it? Yes, young man, an income that would make the owners of some first class hotel bars turn green with envy. One of the large drug stores pays its roan clerk hire out of the profits from its soda fountain, and has a large balance left.

"Soda water, as you may happen to know, is nothing but pure water heavily charged with carbonic acid gas. When properly made it is the best and healthiest hot weather drink known.

"This effect does not all come from the dispensing. Good syrups are made in this way: To the mixture of plain sugar and water, clarified with sizing of some sort, is added an antiseptic to keep the stuff from fermenting.

"To satisfy an absurd prejudice crushed fruit syrups have come in vogue. We take a lot of fresh berries—strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, or whortleberries—and crush 'em and mix 'em with syrup.

Opening the Dark Continent. The Dark continent is being rapidly opened to civilization. Surveys of the Congo railroad have been completed past the 235 miles of cataracts, and this, with the river itself, will, within two or three years, make it possible for travelers to visit the interior of Africa without a caravan.

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THE GENTLER SEX.

What the Newspapers Say Concerning the Daughters of Eve.

A Saratoga woman comes out in all red one day, all white the next, all black the third and so on.

The Kings' Daughters of Atlanta, Ga., have just opened a hospital there to be under their exclusive charge.

A negro woman who recently went insane at Atlanta, Ga., imagined that the sun had perched itself on her head and she could not shake it off.

Miss M. E. Orr is said to be the fastest woman type writing operator in the world. In a recent type writing tournament her average was ninety-five and one-fifth words a minute.

More than fifty of the best known ladies of Battle Creek, Mich., have formed a dress reform club and declared themselves against busts, high heels, tight shoes, stiff corsets, etc.

Mrs. Bates, the "giants" wife of the celebrated Capt. Bates, died recently at their Ohio home, near Wadsworth. They were the largest married couple in the world. Capt. Bates is eight feet tall, and his wife was seven feet and nine inches.

Amelie Rives Chandler reads but few books. Shakespeare, George Eliot and Edgar A. Poe are among her favorite authors. She reads French readily, and has begun to take an interest in German. She expects to study English when she has leisure.

Mrs. Capt. Tom is the name of the richest Indian woman in Alaska. She is worth about \$20,000, and lives royally at Sitka, surrounded by slaves. She supported two husbands until lately, having to give one up when she joined the Presbyterian Mission.

The young English poet known to the world as A. Mary F. Robinson is now Mme. Darmesteter, having married the enthusiastic gentleman who translated her English poetry into French prose not long since, thereby gaining for her some very pleasant praise from French critics.

Mrs. Harvey, of Shanklin, Isle of Wight, has founded an institution there which is doubly philanthropic in its work. It is a home for old ladies and a training school for servants at the same time. Servants who graduate there command the best wages, and are always in demand.

Queen Victoria has won quite a reputation among English agriculturists as what may be called a royal farmer of the gentler sex. At the show of the Isle of Wight Agricultural society recently she took three prizes for farm horses, one for Jersey cattle and four for Down sheep, winning the champion prize for the best ram and the award for the best pair of ewes.

Last March N. Kate Gentry filed at Washington an application for a patent on a "remedial cosmetic." She failed to obtain her patent because she parted her name in the middle. The examiners held that the signature was defective, as she had failed to write her Christian name in full.

Mme. Dieulafoy, who practically founded the Persian museum in Paris, has formally handed it over to the president of the republic. She has definitely adopted man's dress, and accordingly she appeared with short hair, and "dressed in a masculine suit of black trousers and palette, the latter buttoned up over the waistcoat, and showing shirt front and collar."

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