

BUYING RUBIES IN BURMA. THINGS HE DIDN'T KNOW.

A Transaction Which Is Entered Into with the Greatest Precaution.

The peculiar business methods of oriental merchants are illustrated by the manner of buying rubies in Burma. In the examination of rubies artificial light is not used, the merchants holding that full sunlight alone can bring out the color and brilliancy of the gems. Sales must therefore take place between nine a. m and three p. m., and the sky must be clear, says the Jewelers' Weekly.

The purchaser, placed near a window, has before him a large copper plate. The sellers come to him one by one, and each empties upon this plate his little bag of rubies. The purchaser proceeds to arrange them for valuation in a number of small heaps. The first division is into three grades, according to size; each of these groups is divided into three piles, according to color, and each of these piles, in turn, is again divided into three groups, according to shape. The bright copper plate has a curious use. The sunlight reflected from it through the stones brings out, with true rubies, a color effect different from that with red spinels and tourmalines, which are thus easily separated.

The buyer and seller then go through a very peculiar method of bargaining by signs, or, rather, grips, in perfect silence. After agreeing upon the fairness of the classification, they join their right hands, covered with a handkerchief or the flap of a garment, and by grips and pressures mutually understood among all these dealers, they make, modify and accept proposals of purchase and sale. The hands are then uncovered and the prices are recorded.

How the Countryman Interviewed the Smart Young City Chap—Still a Little He Could Learn.

It was a tiny village up the state, and among the people gathered around the stove in the "hotel" office for the regular evening session was one young fellow, a visitor from the city, whose clothes were so correct as to be almost beyond the point of good taste, and who showed by his conversation that there was nothing in city life he didn't know all about, says the Philadelphia Record.

The young fellow talked a long monologue loaded with sophistication, and showing every now and then a covert sneer for the ignorance and awkwardness of the country-bred person. But he was listened to with much politeness, and even interest, until he seemed to have talked himself out. When he paused at last a little dried-up fellow, with sufficient wrinkles in his face to suggest the map of the theater of war between Russia and Japan, said:

"Wall, stranger, that's all right about the city, but how many teeth has a cow?"

"I can't say," said the city youth, looking around to see if he was being "guyed."

"Huh! Well, why is the front wheels of a wagon smaller than the hind ones?"

"I give that up, too."

"How long does it take a hog to hatch out its young?"

"Hatch? I never knew."

"Which end of a horse gets up first?"

"I—I never saw it happen."

By this time the spectators of the cross-examination had drawn close with interest.

"Wall," said the man of wrinkles, "I suppose it's all right for you to run around the city, 'cause there the police can take keer of yer, but before yer come to the country agin yer wanten git some one thet's got the time to teach yer, so's yer can learn a thing or two."

American Cash That Goes Abroad.

That Americans contribute in no inconsiderable degree to the material prosperity of Europe is evidenced by the number of tourists from this country that annually cross the Atlantic. The Statistical Abstract of the United States for 1903 casts some interesting light on this matter. According to the Statistical Abstract 168,211 cabin passengers were carried away from United States ports during 1903. The showing is impressive, however, as giving a slight idea of the amount of American money that annually finds its way into European coffers. While the expenditures are as varied as the number of tourists, a conservative estimate places the average sum for each at \$700. This being the case, it will be seen that upward of \$100,000,000 is thus spent annually by Americans.—Detroit Free Press.

DOES YOUR HOUSE NEED PAINTING?

No matter where you have been buying, come to us this time and let us figure on the job. Let us show you our latest designs and newest combinations. We wil gladly be of service to you in the selection of your Wall Paper if you desire. We can furnish you the Plate Chair or Photo Rail Room Moulding and Beading to match our Papers

We also carry a full line of Mixed Paints Lead and Oils, Glass, Varnishes and Brushes.

White's Wall Paper Store

Falls City, Nebraska

Foes for Nearly a Century.

Ever since the fall of Napoleon momentous rivalry between England and Russia has grown. Whether right or wrong in her policy, England has never failed in a crisis to attack Russian interests. It was so in the group of questions affecting Turkey and Russia's desire to reach the sea by way of Constantinople. And now that the Slav has finally reached the Pacific where ice does not seal up his commercial and naval outlet several months of the year, he confronts the same foe. Wherever he turns, he meets England—in Turkey, in China, in Thibet, in Persia, everywhere—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

The Ladies Auxiliary to Steele Cemetery association invites you to sample the menu at King soda fountain.

NO RED-HEADED DOLLS.

Made in Marvelous Variety Otherwise, They Are All Blondes or Brunettes.

"Dolls," said a dealer in such things, according to the New York Sun, "are made in marvelous variety. And yet there are no red heads among them. All are either blondes or brunettes.

"You never thought of this before? Very likely not. But if you look through any stock of dolls, anywhere, you will find it to be true that there are no red-headed dolls.

"They might be made that way, of course, if they were wanted, as easily as they could be made with blonde or with dark hair, but there is no demand for them."

The Ladies Auxiliary to Steele Cemetery association will have charge of the opening of the soda fountain at Kings pharmacy Saturday. A fine lot of drioks will be served.

Makes Eye Quick.

There is no athletic game that has so increased in popularity in so short a space of time as handball. Handball is a particularly healthful and exhilarating sport. It gets into play all the big muscles of the body and imparts quickness to the eye.

Problem in Millinery.

"Why, oh, why," remarked the observer of events and things, "will a woman smile with delight when she sees a hat in a milliner's window and frown when she sees the same hat on her neighbor's head?"—Yonkers Statesman.

Large Storage Room Needed.

Tom—I had all the conceit taken out of me yesterday.

Dora—Indeed! And where did they find room to put it all?—Illustrated Bits.

The taste tells. For proof visit the opening of Kings soda fountain Saturday.

GRADUATION GIFTS

A glance through our store affords many suggestions to parents and friends for the remembrances so appropriate at commencement time.

Our Watches, Chains, rings and Brooches should interest those near to the graduates, and their good friends will also find many acceptable articles in our stock of novelties, ebony goods, souvenir spoons and the like.

Our prices are as low as is consistent with good quality and we are always anxious to please.

A. E. JAQUET

The Old Reliable Jeweler

THE BEST IS NONE TO GOOD

WE ARE MIGHTYBUSY

CAN HANDLE A LITTLE MORE THOUGH

We have sold more high class decorations in WALL PAPER than all combined.

WONDER WHY?

BAXTER & CO The Decorators