

SHE IS A METAL WORKER.

New England Girl Enthusiastic Over Trade She Has Taken Up—Buckles Her Specialty.

She has a little forge in one of the rooms of her home, and there this clever New England girl works away with metal and semi-precious stones, turning out buckles, buttons and dress ornaments that are the envy of all who cannot afford to buy them, says the New York Sun.

The fad is a comparatively new one with her inspiration for it came on a recent trip abroad when she became deeply interested in the exquisitely wrought metal ornaments she noticed in the shops of the dealers in antiques. It was the designs of these ornaments that first attracted her attention because for a good many years she had been interested in the study of design and had carried out many original ideas in embroidery.

When she got home she bought a forge and tools and began work. Her small forge blazes away day after day and her enthusiasm keeps blazing away too. The fad is now no longer really a fad for she takes orders for her work and has established a business of such proportions that she is justified in believing that she can soon take another trip abroad to study. She has made buckles her specialty.

"I was fortunate enough," she explained to a friend, "to get my trade started just when the craze for fancy buttons was so violent. My friends are all crazy for the ones I make because I make them to go with the gown and I study the wearer's individuality. This old girl set with garnets was made to go with a beautiful deep red velvet cloak.

"Individualism in dress is all the go now. That is why I have such a market for my buttons and dress ornaments. My customers know they are getting something positively unique." "Does the work take strength?" "Yes, and patience."

ORIGIN OF THE CUSTOM.

The Putting of Coins in Foundation Stone of New Building Based on Ghastly Practice.

There is nothing especially impressive in itself about the practice of putting coins under the foundation stone of a new building, especially if the denomination of the coins is modest. Yet this harmless practice is the shadow of an older, ghastly custom. The money stands, theoretically, for the ransom of the human being who by ancient superstition should have been buried in its place. Otherwise, it was held, the building would not stand firm and endure.

Weather Plant.

For 18 years Baron Fridland von Nowack has been studying the tropical "weather plant," Abrus Precatorius Nobilis, as an instrument of long-distance weather forecasting. He finds that the twigs and leaves respond in movement and even in color to electric and magnetic forces of the atmosphere, and that familiarity with the effects of sun-spots give a means of predicting barometric and earthquake conditions 24 or 28 days in advance. He believes that he can indicate areas of rainy, fine and foggy weather for two to seven days in advance. He contends moreover that very high or very low pressures affect the compass sufficiently to cause vessels to go out of their course, and he claims that these extremes of the barometer and the degree of their effect upon the compass can be foretold 24 or 28 days in advance.

BLOCK SYSTEM IN GERMANY

Exhibit at the World's Fair Has 1,500 Feet of Track with Station-House and Switch Towers.

The German government railroad exhibit at the St. Louis fair shows the block system and switch signals now in use in Germany. More than 1,500 feet of track in the construction of which both iron and wood were used, have been laid.

There are a station house, two switch towers and one intermediate block signal post. One of the switch towers is fitted with mechanical and one with electrical signal apparatus. The block system makes it impossible for a train to run down another between stations. The double track system prevents collisions. By means of electrical apparatus all switches except the one opening the desired track are locked, making an error impossible. As the last wheel of the train passes the switches are all released by rail contact, making way for the next train.

At intervals of about seven miles are placed intermediate block posts with a similar signal and switch apparatus. By automatic arrangement the levers are all locked, so that one train cannot leave the station until the train ahead has passed the next post, thus preventing one train from running down another. All the material used in construction was brought from Germany.

DESCRIBES OWN INSANITY.

Young Doctor of Lowell, Mass., Driven Crazy by Overwork Can Tell How He Felt.

The most interesting patient the Lowell, Mass., hospital has had for some time is Dr. Eugene Mayrand, who, with the physicians of the hospital staff, is watching for signs of returning insanity that caused his removal from his home recently.

"What you need is a season of unbroken rest," said Dr. C. E. Simpson, the superintendent. "Your trouble has been brought on by overwork, but need not prove serious." Dr. Mayrand has just completed his education after a struggle. Born of poor parents, he went to work as a boy and was married while still a very young man. Then he determined to study medicine and he worked his way through college while still supporting his wife. This summer he has obtained temporary employment in the assessor's department and intended to hang out his shingle in the fall.

He went insane on Friday night, imagined that he had committed a murder and then thought he had swallowed a bottle of carbolic acid and was dying. His removal to a hospital probably averted a tragedy. He recovered, his mental balance the other day and was able to describe the gradual loss of his senses.

WILL SLEEP ON SILVER BED

Eastern Potentate Orders Most Elaborate Set of Furniture of Precious Metal.

THAT MADE A DIFFERENCE

Employer Advised Economy, But in This Case It Was Entirely Unnecessary.

"They tell me that you're thinking of getting married, William," said the old-fashioned employer to his faithful and steady clerk, relates the Chicago Daily News.

"Yes, sir," said the young man, respectfully, "I expect to be married next month."

"So soon as that?" said the old-fashioned employer, in some surprise. "Well, William, you know best, I suppose, or you think you do. But I imagine that you won't mind if I give you a little advice. I have been married for 34 years myself, and I think I might be able to give you a few points. To begin with, practice frugality."

"You will probably be tempted to many little extravagances at the outset. If you have not bought your furniture, I would recommend you to avoid extravagance in that direction. Briefs-abrac and pictures are not necessities, and I wouldn't spend any money for them if I were you. You will need chairs and tables and household utensils of course. Dishes and culinary utensils, too, you will be obliged to have, but these, for a young couple in your circumstances should be of the plainest description. The money that you will save by denying yourself expensive decorated china and useless gimcracks you can deposit in the bank, where it will increase slowly but surely with your added savings, as a provision against sickness or other misfortune, and will perhaps even amount to an independence for your old age. I would, in your place, apportion my income—so much for rent, so much for household expenses, so much for clothing and so much for a modest life insurance, always reserving a certain sum to be laid aside for a rainy day and never going beyond that apportionment. I would not waste money upon theaters or similar places of amusement. There are always lectures on improving subjects which may be heard free, and there are museums, also free, which may be visited. Entertainment to friends or acquaintances which involves expense should not be indulged in. As to your table, plain food is the best, as well as the most wholesome. Some of these vegetarian dishes are quite appetizing. Lentils are said to be a tonic, and a good one, too. Potatoes are a valuable article of diet. But, of course, I could not undertake to mention everything that I might think proper for you to eat. I wish that it was in my power to raise your salary a trifle, but—"

"I'm much obliged, sir," said the clerk, "but I don't think we will need it. The lady I am going to marry has an income of \$70,000, and I hope to live with her unless she gets some more at her father's death, but—"

"Oh, that's entirely different, my boy," said the old-fashioned employer. "In that case, I'd recommend you to go ahead and enjoy life."

DOUBLE BALLOON AIRSHIP.

Invention of an Englishman That Will Be Something New and Novel.

A new type of dirigible balloon, invented by L. J. Anderson, of London, England, is described in the Scientific American. The principal features are two balloons, placed side by side, of identical shape and capacity, are employed to lift the vessel. The model having proved successful to the inventor, a full-sized vessel is now being constructed. The balloons are elliptical in shape and will measure 70 feet in length by 27 feet diameter at the widest part. They will each hold approximately 27,000 feet of hydrogen gas, thus giving them a lifting power of 4,000 pounds.

A LONE NAVIGATOR.

CROSSES THE OCEAN IN A NINETEEN-FOOT DORY.

Perilous Trip of Captain Eisenbaum—Driven Back on First Attempt—Finally Accomplishes Feat in Less Than Three Months.

Capt. Ludwig Eisenbaum, the lone navigator who made a perilous trip across the Atlantic to Marseilles in a 19-foot dory, the Columbia, has arrived at New York on the Red Star line steamship Kronland.

He brought his dory with him, in which his voyage was a continuous battle with death. Gale after gale he successfully weathered, and although capsized once he managed to right the little craft and finally reached the other side after a 54-day battle with the sea.

Capt. Eisenbaum was driven back on his first attempt to cross the Atlantic. On May 22, 1901, he left Boston in the Columbia. He made 350 miles in a dense fog. Rheumatism attacked him after a storm that drenched him for nearly a month, and fearing he would become helpless he turned back after being out 25 days.

Early in August he again set sail in the Columbia for Marseilles, a distance of 4,910 miles. "I had a pretty easy time of it until September 8," said Capt. Eisenbaum, in telling his story. "Then the waves swept over the Columbia so furiously that I had to lash myself aboard. In the afternoon the Columbia capsized. I was washed to the deck under water and I thought death had surely come, but I got from under all right, and after struggling for two hours I got the Columbia right. I lost most of my provisions, however. All I had left being canned goods. My water was gone, too. Two days after I lost my provisions, when I was almost starved, I sighted the Greenberian a British ship bound for Jamaica. Capt. Bower invited me on board, but the sea was high and I was afraid to leave the Columbia. He sent me bread and meat and water, after urging me to abandon the trip. I had another awful storm that lasted three days.

"I made Funchall, Madeira, on October 20. The sight of land was a great relief. I can tell you, though, that I was in a dory."

The Columbia is a dainty but staunch Swamphoot dory, decked all over excepting for a well used cabin.

INDULGE IN SMOKING TEAS

They Are a Specialty in Exclusive Female Club Circles in Germany—Active in Athletics.

SERVICE IN RUSSIAN ARMY.

Fall of Misery, Says a Deserter Who Comes to This Country with Tale of Woe.

Abraham Levinston, a deserter from the Russian army, arrived at St. Johns, N. H., from Liverpool recently and has gone to live with friends in Nova Scotia. Levinston, who is a fine looking, athletic young Russian Jew, says he did not desert the army solely to avoid service in the present war, but that he has for years been watching for a chance to break away from the miseries of the Russian service, says a Bangor (Me.) report to the New York Tribune.

His escape was ingeniously planned. He feigned sickness, and upon application secured a short leave of absence, during which he went to his home. Meanwhile his brother, L. Levinston, who lives at Digby, N. S., sent him a ticket to St. Johns, and Abraham was able, by bribing the guards, to leave Russian territory. After that all was easy, and he landed in St. Johns a happy man, though still in dread lest spies of the Russian government should be on his track. Levinston has been in the Russian army for four years, and had just eight months to serve, but such were the hardships of the life that he determined to remain no longer than was absolutely necessary.

Levinston says that the whole army is ready to revolt, owing to the rigors of the Russian military system. Every male person in the country, upon the age of 21, is called upon for four years and eight months of military service falling in which his parents or nearest relatives must pay a fine of about \$150. Taxes for the time he has been absent. If the young man leaves the country and returns later, he is still liable to service, and is also compelled to pay besides being liable to punishment for evading service.

After entering the army the recruit's miseries begin. They are drilled continually, and are bound to perform any service that may be required of them. The food consists of coarse black bread, such as none but a famishing person would eat. No tea, coffee or beer, or anything else in the way of food, is furnished. The men are partially clothed by the government, but are not furnished with boots. Instead, they are supplied with rough leather from which they must make their own boots.

The Russian army is sufficiently strong to overcome half a dozen nations like Japan if the soldiers were willing to fight. Levinston says. But there is so much insubordination among the men, due to cruel treatment, that the majority are ready to desert at the first opportunity. If a pitched battle takes place and a good chance offers it will not surprise those who know the army, says Levinston, to see whole regiments desert. The only thing that keeps the men in the ranks is dread of the awful punishments which follow even minor offenses against authority. A large proportion of the soldiers are nihilists, whose one aim is the overthrow of the present autocratic government.

Russian Jews living in Bangor verify the descriptions given by Levinston, as above, of Russian army life. They are delighted that Russia is in trouble and that she is likely to have a hard time of it. They are overjoyed at the success of the Japanese, and express the hope that they will march right on to Moscow. They say they would not mind, although they regard this as hardly possible.

Several immigrants lately arrived in Bangor tell vividly of the sufferings they endured while in Russia. One of them said: "You ask us for news. If you did that in Russia and I said anything a man would come around to see what we were talking about. Then if they found out we would be sent to Siberia and our friends might never know what became of us." In Russia any official inquiry where you happen to be. If you don't tell the truth in our town we had a Jewish school, but when the patrol police came the children would run home. The Russians don't allow schools, and the people are ignorant—just like beasts. When the soldiers come we run away. The soldiers steal everything out of every house. They are not bad men—no worse than we—but they are hungry. Lots of things happen in Russia that no one ever hears about. No man can print anything until the police see it, so people outside don't hear about the fights in the army when men kill the officers. It's an awful country—the worst country in the world—and I shall never go back there. We all hope the Japanese will win."

Electricity Restored Life.

Reduction by electricity of an aneurism or dilatation of the aorta, the main artery of the body, has been attempted in nine recorded cases, but only three of the patients survived. In a recent successful attempt, the galvanic current was applied to a Philadelphia man for one hour, reducing an aneurism that extended three inches above the base of the breast bone, and was 3 1/2 inches wide. Dr. James Brion, of Essex, Ont. has saved a child's life by electricity, the infant being born apparently dead, and the current being applied after 15 minutes. In 15 minutes more signs of returning life appeared, pulsation of the heart and breathing being normal ten minutes later.

SEA FLOWS INTO LAKE

NATURE'S ORDER IS REVERSED IN ABYSSINIA.

Body of Water Comprises About Sixteen Square Miles and Contains an Immense Supply of Good Salt.

In Consul Skinner's recent report on his visit to Abyssinia he mentions one of the most curious bodies of water in the world, though we rarely hear of it. He says that Lake Asal has an immense supply of good salt and holds out very exceptional prospects to capitalists. A concession has already been granted for the exploitation of the salt.

Lake Asal is a small body of very salt water lying seven or eight miles inland from the bay of Tadjoura, one of the French possessions in east Africa. It comprises only about 16 square miles. It is surrounded by a wonderful confusion of jagged mountains descending to the water's edge so that it is almost impossible to travel around it. Its waters are salt to the point of saturation, and at its lowest level there is seen upon its bank a layer of nearly pure salt over a foot thick.

For years nobody knew where it derived its waters. The few men who visited it could not ascertain that any stream flows into it. It was thought that the lake probably had subterranean affluents, but this theory was not demonstrated.

The mystery of Lake Asal was solved in 1885 by the French explorer, Henry Audou. He carefully examined the shores, though he found it very difficult. His hard work was at last rewarded by the murmur of a waterfall.

Guided by the sound, he approached the spot, and the solution of the enigma was before him. He found a large brook of crystalline water foaming over the stones and throwing itself impetuously into the lake. He tasted the water and found it as salt as the ocean, of which indeed it had been a part.

TO PROMOTE CUPID'S WORK

Marital Club Organized in London to Bring Young Men and Maidens Together.

The new London club is one for the purpose of bringing young men and maidens together with the object of matrimony. The enterprise is to be given a trial in London, and the records at Somerset House show that there has been registered under the Companies Act "The Matrimonial Club Ltd."