If one is taken without previous agreement as to price, and at the conclusion of the service the proper far, be offered the driver, he will invariably demand more. If this is refused the driver will generally go quietly keep suffering women paying tribute year in away. But if through ignorance or mistaken generosity a larger sum be offered the driver flies into a rage, throws the money on the ground, demands three times as much and a threat to appeal to the police or an hour's argument is necessary before quiet is restored.

A wealthy American gentleman, being in Pekin in his journey around the world complained to me of the high prices charged by Chinese inn-keepers for rooms. He had so he said, offered \$2 in payment for a small room without bedding or furniture in a wretched inn. The landlord demanded \$5 for a single night. A long wrangle resulted, and finally the gentleman offered \$3, which the landford, after more worde, had concented to accept.

The customary price for such a room food not included, is twenty cents, and i the gentleman had offered this sum it would have been accepted without much discus-

The lack of laws or of their enforcement for standard weights and measures goes far to facilitate tricks of trade in China. Cloths of all sorts, whether of silk, linen, wool, or cotton, are sold by the foot. But the merchant invariably uses one foot when he buys, and a shorter one when he sells. The foot for cotton goods is longer than that for woolen, which in turn is longer than that used to measure silk.

Steelyards are regularly made and sold in the markets having two sets of pounds measured on them, one for buying and one for glow. selling. I have seen a respectable Chinese gentleman and a fisherman quarreling over the pri e, or rather the weight of a live carp, each having his own steelyards, which made a difference of a pound and a quarter etc., premature old age, loss of vitality caused by in the weight of the fish, which at the ut most could not have weighed over four pounds, unless, indeed, as is sometimes the above causes, or any cause not mentioned above, send case, the honest fisherman had forced a pound or two of coarse gravel into its

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In buying various grades of cotton-wool one gets a varying number of ounces to the pound. For the coarse grades one gets sixteen, a full pound; for medium qualities but twelve, while for the very finest twenty-two ounces are called a pound.

Of couse such variations, regularly estab lished by custom, practically counterbalance themselves, the price varying in accordance with the weight. At the same time it is quite impossible to find either reason or seuse in such practices. If an explanation is asked of the most intelligent Chinese he has none to give beyond the remark that it is an old custom.

I have often been trapped into the purchase of articles which I did not want in the following manner. A dealer in "curios," as they are called, old porcelains, cash, bronzes, etc., would come in and offer some object for sale, making a little speech about its rarity, beautiful form and color, and close by saying that the price was only five dollars. Not wishing the article at any price, I wou'd say: "I'll give you ten cents."

"Oh, look at it, see how fine it is!" says the merchant. "Can't, I'm busy, don't want it," I say. "Well," says the dealer, "I want to sell it to you very much; give me \$4.50."

" No; go away." "All right, it is yours for ten cents."-Youth's Comprnion.

Hygiene for Vocalists.

Dr. Ryerson delivered a lecture on

" special Hygiene for Vocalista" in Association Hall under the auspices of the Toronto Conservatory of Music. Life and health, he said, were influenced by various circumstances which might be thus classed :- Residence, ablutions, clothing, diet, exe cise, amusements and habits. What was conducive to the health of vocalists and public speakers was also beneficial to everybody. Vocalists must live for their art and must practise self-abnegation in many matters. They should never sing when their voices were not in good condition, as from a cold, or in the open air. In singing "encores" the same song should not be repeated, because it was rarely sung so well the second as the first time; also because it was a great strain if pitched high. Moderate exercise was essential to health. The speaker also recommended breathing exercises to increase the "wind." Fulness of tone depended on the amplitude of the air wave, not on shouting. A considerable interval should elapse between eating and using the voice-for singers at least four hours, and for speakers two or three hours. Evening parties, late hours, too much smoking, and the abuse of alcohol were liable to ruin the voice.

A Barbarian Legend.

There is current among the peasants of Bavaria a legend that the long life of Kai ser Wilhelm was due to a mysterious philter of which his Imperial Majesty alone possessed the secret. How the Emperor obtained the magic beverage is not known. It was said to be a kind of spirit which, if it did not give him immortality, would enable him to live many years more, and supply him with sufficient bodily and mental power to retain the government of his vast empire in his own hands. The legend furthermore states that the German sovereign condescended to make a present of a few drops of the charmed liquid to Marshal Moltke and Prince Bismarck, hence also their respectable age; but, strange to say, he de clined to give any of it to the Crown Prince, because he feared his heir would make use of his health restored by the philter to force of his health restored by the philter to force him to abdicate. Several crowned heads LTULE supply. Dealers billed out on liberal terms at the HALTON have, it appears, applied to the Emperor NURS ERIES, Burlington, Ont. for his wonderful secret, but in vain. The Czar, in particular, prayed for some of the spirit, and it was the refusal of the Kaiser to oblige him which was the real cause of the present conflict between Russia and

Imitation

Germany.

Is sometimes called the sincere form of flattery. This may account for the number of imitations of the original and only positive corn cure—Putnam's Painless Corn Ex-tractor. All such fail to possess equal merit, so when purchasing get the genuine "Putso when purchasing get the genuine "Put-Safe, sure and painless. All druggists.

Genteel Quacks.

"Yes, it pays," said a big, fat physician, with a rame which is known throughout the medical world. "I have a practice worth is discussed in advance, without at least \$40,000 a year." "Women?" "Yes, you've guessed it first time. They pay \$10 every time they come into my office. When one gets on my list I tell you she stays!" and Dr. H ___ laughed long and loud. This is quackery-gilt-edged, genteel quackery-to and year out, and doing them no good. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures the peculiar weaknesses and diseases of women. It does not lie to them nor rob them.

The greater our dread of crosses, the more necessary they are for us.

Shocking Accident.

So read the headlines of many a newspaper column, and we peruse with palpitating interest the details of the catastrophy, and are deeply impressed by the sacrince of human life involved. Yet thousands of men and women are falling victims every year to that terrible disease, consumption (scrofula of the lungs), and they and their friends are satisfied to believe the malady incurable. Now, there could be no greater mistake. No earthly power, of course, can restore a lung that is entire y wasted, but Dr. Pierce's Golden Medic I Discovery will rapidly and surely arrest the ravages of consumption, if taken in time. Do not, therefore, despair, until you have tried this wonderful remedy.

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. No man has learned anything rightly until he knows that every day is Doomsday.

A perfect specific-Dr. Sage's Catarrh

Words were given us to conceal our thoughts, eh! Just listen to the man who steals down stairs in the stilly night and catches his bare toe in the upturned corner of zinc that lurks near the firelight's ruddy

A Cure for Drunkenness

The opium habit, depsomania, the morphine habit, nervous prostration caused by the use of tobbaco, wakefulness, mental depression, softening of the brain, over exertion of the brain, and loss of natural strength from any cause whatever. Man-young, old or middle-aged-who are broken down from any of the your address and 10 cents in stamps for Lubon's Treatise, in book form, of Diseases of Man. Books sent sealed and secure from observation. &ddress M. V. LUBON, 47 Welli 1gton street East, Toronto, Ont

Venus, though losing luster, is still the chief jewel of the dawn.

Ocean Steamship Passengers Via New York should take the Erie railway, as it is not only the shortest and best line, but lands people close to the piers of the leading steamship companies In buy ing tickets, ask for the Erie.

Browne-"Why did you stop literary work? Somebody told me you received a check for your poem." Smithe-"Yes, did. It was a blue check-'No. 12.942. Declined with thanks. Ten cents due."

People who are subject to bad breath, foul coated tongue, or any disorder of the Stomach, can at once be relieved by using Dr. Carson's Stomach Bitters, the old and tried remedy. Ask your Drugglet

Young Physician (pompously)—Yes, I've called at Mr. Brown's three times a day for a week. He is a very sick man, Miss Smith. Miss Smith-He must be by this time.

Coff No More. Watson's cough drops are the best in the world for the throat and chest, for the voice unequalled. See that the letters R. & T. W are stamped on each drop.

When a saloonkeeper seeks to hide his business under the sign of "Sample Room," the Detroit Free Press says, he ought to bo ashamed enough to quit business entirely.

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Egyptians. Cousumption Surely Cured.

TO THE EDITOR :- Please inform your readers that have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy PRBE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and P. O. address. Respectfully, DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 37 Yonge St., Teronto, Ont. Ohio has fourteen rock-ribbed islands al

in Lake Erie. Whenever your Stomach or Bowels get out of or der, causing Biliousness, Dyspepsia, or Indigestion and their attendant evils, take at once a dose of Dr Carson's Stomach Bitters. Beet family medicins

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Stage whispers are frequently heard in [66] mail coaches.

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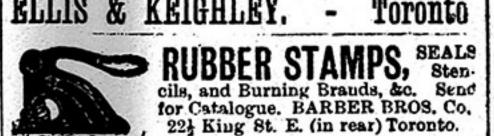
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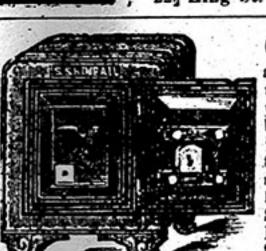
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