

HOUSES BUILT IN MANILA.

Stone Does Not Figure in the Construction of Upper Stories.

The sky-scraping tower of stone and iron which is becoming so common an eyesore in American cities has not invaded that land of the earthquake and the typhoon, the Philippine Islands, and is not likely to do so soon. These perilous visitants govern the character and the size of the houses, which are very rarely more than two stories in height, even in the best quarters of Manila. Of these the ground floor is used as a coach house or to lodge the native servants. It is apt to be too damp for the family, who live on the upper floor, which is divided into a spacious hall, dining and reception rooms, and bed and other apartments. The kitchen is often a separate building, with a roofed passage leading to the house. Besides it is the bathroom, an apartment much in demand among the Filipinos, with whom cleanliness is one of the chief virtues and bathing a daily duty.

These houses were formerly of stone, but since the great earthquake of 1880 only wood has been permitted in the second stories. These are fitted with sliding windows all around, to permit the freest entrance of air. At the same time, to keep out the hot glow of the sunlight, glass is replaced in the windows by translucent seashells, through which only a modicum of light can filter. Corrugated iron roofs are common, but they are very hot. To obviate this, many roofs are covered with a thin layer of nipa-palm thatching, which is cooler, though dangerous in case of fire.

NOTABLE MEN AND WOMEN.

Dr. James M. Gray, who has been engaged in teaching in the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago during the summer, will spend the winter in New England conducting his classes in the synthetic study of the Bible in Boston and elsewhere as usual, beginning in the fall.

Dr. Thomas McClelland, the new president of Knox College, was president of Tabor College several years ago. At that time he wanted a railroad to connect Tabor with the rest of the world. Failing to interest other roads in the enterprise, he built it himself and afterwards sold it on favorable terms to the Burlington.

Major D. W. Whittle, who is said to be dying in East Northfield, Mass., is one of the best-known evangelists in the country. "There Shall be Showers of Blessing" and "I Know Whom I Have Believed" are two of his most familiar hymns. For two years Major Whittle has been confined to his bed by rheumatic fever.

Count Tolstol, the famous Russian novelist, neither drinks, smokes nor eats meat. It is his boast that he does not possess a single article he could possibly dispense with; and he has even refused to receive a bicycle as a present, on the ground that it is a luxury. His recreations are chess and lawn tennis, at both of which he is adept.

The Diette and Hygienic Gazette says: "Walter Baker & Co., of Dorchester, Mass., U. S. A., have given years of study to the skilful preparation of cocoa and chocolate, and have devised machinery and systems peculiar to their methods of treatment, whereby the purity, palatability, and highest nutrient characteristics are retained. Their preparations are known the world over, and have received the highest endorsements from the medical practitioner, the nurse, and the intelligent housekeeper and caterer."

Opening Cans with Safety.

With the majority of can-openers it is no pleasant task to cut the tin which allows the contents of the can to be removed, and oftentimes there is danger of injury to the hands from the slipping of the cutter, allowing the hand to scrape across the jagged edges of the tin. A man at Cairo, Ill., has designed an implement with which cans may not only be opened rapidly, but with entire safety to the operator. It consists of a spring-controlled vertical rod, having a cutting blade of peculiar shape attached to the curved upper end, with a foot lever controlling the movement of the rod. The machine may be placed on the kitchen table in a position convenient for use. The can to be opened is placed on the table under the cutter, and by depressing the treadle the cutter is forced into the top of the can, the construction of the blade being such that the sharpened point first punctures the top, when the beveled edges finish the work by a shearing cut. This machine will be found especially useful in hotels, boarding houses and restaurants, where large quantities of canned goods are used at certain seasons of the year.—Chicago Journal.

Camille Saint-Saens, the French composer, has received from the German kaiser the Prussian order "Pour le Merite."

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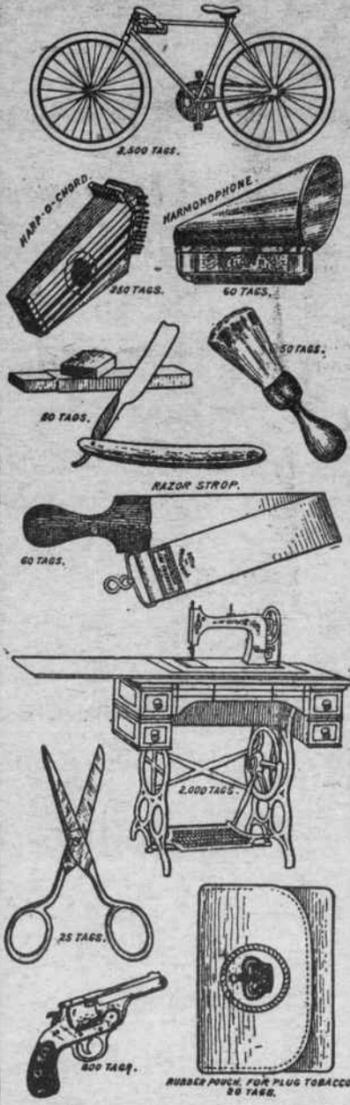
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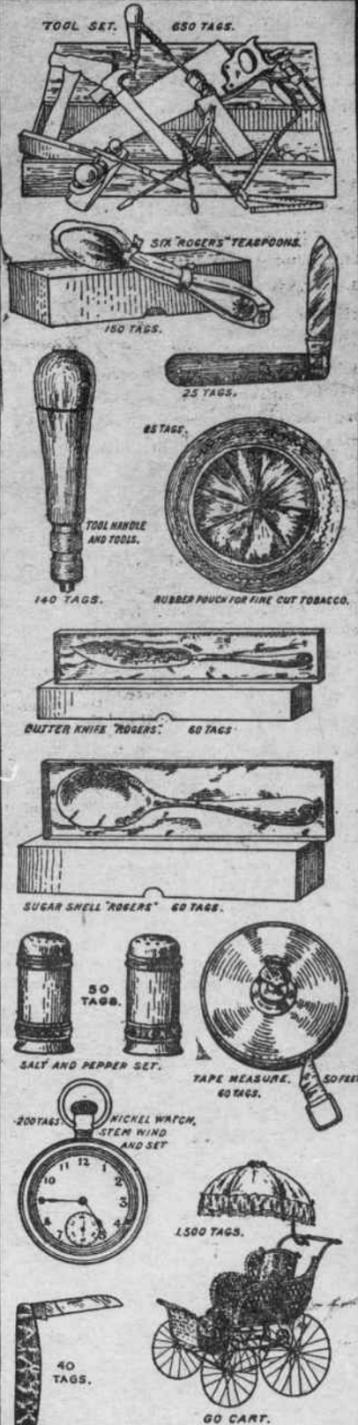
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