OUR WORKSHOP GIRLS

A Chapter on Boots, Shoes, Slippers and Their Manufacture.

TYPES OF FAIR FEMALE WORKERS

ketched From Life in Order to Show to the World the Faces of

PRETTY GIRLS AT WORK IN OUR FACTORIES.

Fondly, perhaps, we remember how. in tr infantlie days, slippers were not bought be worn alone on the feet, but as a means of punishment. Sentence to Dante's Inof purishment Sentence to Date Startern would not be heard with more dread than 'I'll use my slipper on you!' which rang in our childish ears as we, lay in-abject misery heroes the paternal knee. -We wonder." misery across the paternal knee. -We wonder?

bd why on earth slippers were ever invented.

The wonder grew greater, and extended to boot, as the young girl takes off herselinpers and quiety slips up skirs, while the
'old man' by the aid of his boot is extinguishing the heau, who feels' they are
wonderfully and heavily made.'' Then we
reach the height of bliss when we apply the
flipper to our own offspring, and practice
Lotta kicking on our oldest daughter's
'young man.'' Alve reach grand (atherly age
as we foddle around in boots four sizes too
large and lay claim to being the oldest in-

es we foddle around in boots four sizes too large and lay claim to being the oldest inhabitant, even remembering when George Washington came with pants stuck in hisboots a courting our ma. During all this time we never stop to ask how are shoes made? Not even when they pinch our toes. A neat shoe is the pride of most every person. Put a new shoe on a man and he feels dressed even if his clothes are shabby. Let him have on a new suit, and worn out, crocked shoes, and he will feel like a tramp. Men, in the majority, are more



One of the Girls.

One of the Girls.

Latticular in their foot gear than women. Every day on the streets can be noticed we men cladin silks and telest, with shabby, mischable shoes, heels run over, sides burst cut, back ripped, yet they hold their heads as high as if they were wearing the neatest and from expensive shoe in the market. They must fondly imagine people are in bilasful ignorance as to how their pedal extremities look. If, like the pea'owl, they would giance on past their legant dresses and see their own feet, they would likewise drop their high, heads and go home. Another blessing seeved for men is to be able to have their shoes, Dialkened. Now, when a woman gets her shoes, dirty she must clean them leves if, if she keeps no one around who will do it. Poor, forlorn creatures, they have not the happiness of making signs of themselves. Of course there is no law to prohibit it, but 'you know it is not the fashion.' If it only were bootblacks would teap a harves! teap a harvest.

In order to know how shoes are made I visited Schmertz & Co. 's shoe factory, Ohio street, Allegheny. While looking around "in search of a man," a pretty blonde was asked to designate the proprietor. "There she is, "she answered, "over in that part of the room. See? the one leaning against the table."

This was sufficient. "Are you the manageress?" was asked of the lady designated. "Well, yes; that is, 1 have the hiring of the jris," she answered, looking quite kindly.

y. am not in search of a position to-morely wish to see the owner or mana-

day, merely wish to see the owner or mana-ger."

"Very well, I will show you the way to his office. She opened a door leading into another room occupied by men. The mana-ger said, "Certainly you may go through. We have some good-looking girls up-stairs. The only Tault is they raik too much. Why, I dould put six Yankee girls in there and they would do as much as \$5 of those girls.— You will want to know what wages they re-ceive. Some of them was as look as \$1 of a week, where I was asen Yankee girls make \$5

"Have you any good-looking men on the DIFFACOR"
"Lots of them."
"Won't you speak a good word for usf Say there is a lot of pretty girls over here who are hunting littsbands."



In the course of the gossip the inspectress said: "If the least seraich or blemish is made on the shoe the one who does it must bay for the pair. Of course, she has the privilege of taking them home and selling to her brother, lover or who ever will take them. It is no difference how small the blemish, it is called damaged, consequently must be paid for by the operator. It makes then very careful, but scratches are very casily made. One reason the girls do not make as much as when one indies' shoes, its because the work does not come in steady. Sometimes we have to wait a half hour. Many such waitings reduce our-wages considerably, as we all work by the piece. Last summer when we worked on ladies' shoes we had 75 girls and were kept busy. Then we made good wages."

SHE CAN MARS A SHOR.

The forelady is well liked by all the girls. Before having she said: "I can tell you how to make a shoe complete from beginning to end, My father was a shoemaker, and have mude shoes often, from the cutting out to polishing heels and soles. I can make a shoe as well as any man in the building. I have not worked at 'if' for a good many years. When I left my father I came here. Since then I have done-pothing except oversee, instruct and manage the work. The work we are doing at present is much different from the former, although those who know nothing about it would think it all the same; yet color girls. Although those who know nothing about it would think it all the same; yet one; they don't know one part of the shoe from another. They see anything together. That is not cannot be shown to the private of a saint and the eye dones; to your see, instruct and the symbol those who know nothing about it would think it all the same; yet they have to learn to work on men's. That is no reason they do not make so much as before. This is a trade, you know, and must be learned. You cannot be cannot be complete, it was a full to the private of a saint and the eye of charcagie to get along here; but the girls we have understand their business



us as you did of the others, " were some of their parting words. From the bary, there's to you girls. As Rip would say, "Here's to you girls," way you live long and us as you did ot and the state parting words.

Fretty, jony, usppy, girls. As Rip would say, 'Hore's to you and your family, may you live long and your family, imay you live long and prosper.'' That the world may always appear as bright and chestful to you as it does to-day is the sincers wish of Nellie Bly.

BREATHING SPOTS. A Quiet Nook Where Weary Bodies Can Repose
During the Heated Term. JENNY JUNE

Tells About Faster Transformation Gotham's Gay Society.

ITS CHURCH AND CHARITY FAIRS.

Woman's Awakened Genius Asserting Riself in the Arts and Sciences.

ERCOING AS A FINE ART IN THE BIG CITY.

Special Correspondence of the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, April 8.—The Easter season was never more truly representative of its sentiment, so far as atmospheric influence is concerned, than it has been this year, which has admitted for the first time in the memory of woman—one woman—the wear-ing of the Easter bonnet, on Easter Sunday, and the change from furs to spring attire by those who had new costumes in readiby those who had now costumes in readiness. The change was, of course, too
sudden to last, but it filled the sidewalks
with blossoming beauty, and, though the
trees were still bare and the sod brown,
gave us an Easter bright with flowers and
flagrant with their perfume. It is a little
curious that the observance of Valentin6's
day has become nil, and all the effort, and
all the sentiment poetle and religious ail the sentiment, poetic and religious, clusters nowadays, about Christmas, and the Caster tide. There is not time or space in the busy winter for the interpolation of an old-fashioned Saints' day between December and April, and the religious' idea is always found to contain deoper and more permanent stees than mere romance. Besides this is not an age of love or romance. Poor St. Valentine would go back to his grave quite willingly should a visit in propria persona-reveal to him the small place true town the lover's hold in popular estimation—outside of the Seaside Library. The young, if anything, are more practical and worldly minded than the old. The latter have their memories, and as their heads grow hard their hearts, sometimes, grow soft; but soft heads and hard hearts are a pittable anomaly which it has been left for our age to produce.

In the meantime, we have listened to Easter sermons, and sent out Easter cards, or eggs, or lilles, and now we are looking forward to the breaking, up which always follows the advent of spring, and the next inquiry will be "What shall we do this summer?" Easter cards have had a great success, to be accounted for by their spring, like beauty and joyful awakening character. Delicate flowers, birds on the wing, nature in its lovelest and most rejoicing mood, mingle with the symbolic eggs, butterfiles, white rabbits and sacrificial lambs. Easter 18 kept and christmas—is kept, by general consent, and this is the only way to secure an observace of a religious or securar festival. Legal enactments will never do. all the sentiment, poetic and religious, clusters nowadays, about Christmas, and the

an observance of a religious or secular festival. Legal enactments will nevor do it.

CHURCH AND CHARITY FAIRS.

While people are in sympathetic mood, they will have plenty of opportunity for exercising their kindly feeling in the church and charity fairs that occupy a large part of the month of April. At the risk of being considered a monster of insensibility. I must confess to very little sympathy with these forms of philanthropic effort. It is such herculcan labor with such comparatively small result. Committees of men and women have been at work for months in behalf of a fair, which takes place at the Metropolitan Opera-house during the present month, the os ensible object of which is to endow a bed in a homeopathic hospital for sick working girls. The object has enlisted the co-operation of the principal store kespers, or at least it has made it impossible for them to resist the appeals made by interested customers, and they have furnished money and goods lavisbly, several large houses supplying and illing whole tables with wares drawn from their own numerous departments and named after their own establishments. This is, of course, the best thing they can do; it is an advertisement; it gives them a sort of quiet proque for their outlars. But the smaller oncorns, who are simply asked to contribute and dare not refuse, are the sufficeration of they can least afford it, and they receive no public credit or compensation.

The old-fashioned church, or charity fair, which brought-together articles; useful and ornamental made by women as a labor of love for an object or cause they had at heart had an excuse for existence, but the modern fair is simply an excuse for begging, for laying merchants and dealers under contribution; or compelling them to give the profits of a certain number of their wares. Naturally, what they give is often stuff they cannot sell, and it is supplemented by quantilies of useless "art" and "decorative" objects, which of late have added another to the insolvable problems of city housekeepi CHURCH AND CHARITY FAIRS.

The wise people are those who leaves the fruities "wear and ten?" and put their strength into making life agreeable to themselves and those about them. Some Faster

South Kensington, glory and profit, but representative of the long days, the quiet acternoons and lonely evenings which were, and often are still, the lot of women, but which cannot be enjoyed until every drop of ambitious and rebeillous blood has been stilled, until hope has departed, and quiet acceptance come to take its place.

The evidences of modern life and activity tell a different story. There are useful articles invented by women, furniture made and designed, and whole interiors decorated by women. There are arrived instruments, architectural plans, patterns drawn from nature, not stiff and rectangular, for wall-paper, dress stuffs and carpiets, and most excellent devices for saving or better performance of household labor, all due to the awakened genius of the heretofore neglected are finding tardy appreciation. The ancient spinning wheel has been drawn from its account of the same thought, the sages and spinning tardy appreciation. The ancient spinning-wheel has been drawn from its sections, sent for from Icelaud, transported from Ireland, and with it come women from lold-world regions, who, reading the sages and spinning round the old time free, become inspired with the same thought, the same dispin and spinning come to us with the light of fathernity that is struggling for expression in the Western world, and singling and spinning come to us with the light of fath and love in tist-gree and their hearts. One of the Icelandia women, Mrs. Magnicssen, has told the story of the spinning-world for the spin partited from the story of the spinning world to the world of the spinning for expression in the Western world and singling and spinning come to us with the light of fath and love in tist-gree and their hearts. One of the Icelandia women, Mrs. Magnicssen, has told the story of the spin hearts. One of the leclandia women, Mrs. Magnicssen, has told the story of the spin hearts in the spinning from the costumes of the peasantry, but age house the costumes of the peasantry, but age house in the spin hearts

first to last.

CIXMACTRISTIC FEMALE THEFFS.

A pale, refined looking girl out of a situation was taken into a family the other day, out of pity, till she could "get a place." The third day she disappeared with the eldest daughter's cherished bangles and a pair \$14 boots made to order and sent home for the mother. The theory was a too rapid development of taste. Had she been a practiced thief, it was thought she would have carried off also some heavy and usly gold-band bracelets which were equally within her reach. But her tastes were essletic, and she took those things that appealed to them. It is said that male thieves complain that the "liking" of women for special things that appeal to their sentiments or their fancy impairs thoir efficiency as coadjutors. In other words, few women are found who really stead for its own sake, or with a single cycle what can be made by melting down or 'turning over' the property thus acquired. They are often tempted by the 'latest bring,' which is often worth little iturinsically, or by something of fine and elaborate worth little to sell, and dangerous to sell or to keep. Expérienced thives, it is said, avoid these highly uncivilized articles, which cost so much and sell for so little, and prefer soil gold or silver in which the value is put into weight, not into work-manship.

A stranger acquainted only to's slight execut with our language would consider New York a city of No. 1s, for one may walk whole blocks, and find "No." upon one side of the transom in every door, but the other side being open or see whether the dure. They are will be out of sight, and therefore the mere negative has tend it own vay. The uselessuess of the No. has just begun to strike people. The more recent where she had not one in the own vay the figures will be out of sight, and therefore the mere negative has tend it is own vay. The uselessuess of the No. has just begun to surtke people. The more recent where he hamp-posts were removed from certain localities, extending through whole streets and a CHARACTERISTIC FEMALE THEFTS.

sight. A humor of months since the lamp-posts were removed from certain localities, extending through whole streets and ave-nues, and with them went all guidance and direction in regard to humber and name of streets and squares: There was no effort to provide temporary rubstituies, and the chance visitors must have thought New York more of a village than any small town or this

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