

having sixteen horses to pull him through the narrow streets of the city. Ordinarily an attempt to gratify vanity results in the approval which is sought by the individual, but in extreme cases like this it often results in disapproval, and this man was known in Florence for years as "that fool American." A well-known French count, who through marriage became possessed of means, gratified the instincts of vanity by proceeding to spend untold sums in building a large and useless colonnade of pillars, simply to show that he was able to do so. A person not long ago left a will providing \$1,000,000 for the erection of his own tomb. Cleopatra once showed what she could afford by drinking a dissolved pearl. Pliny states that after Cleopatra did this she was imitated by the son of a famous actor, and the practice of drinking pearls became a sort of fashion in Rome, as to-day some men of a less subtle vanity light cigars with \$5 bills. It was probably this practice which led to the phrase "money to burn." In Philadelphia not very long ago a lady had a carpet made with a special design, and when the carpet was completed she was careful to have the design destroyed lest any one else should have a carpet like hers. A well-known speculator is said to have bought for his wife for \$30,000 a particular carnation, in order that it might be called by her name. In Holland, centuries ago, there was a furor over tulip bulbs which took such a hold on the people and led to such extravagantly high prices that in 1639 one bulb sold for what would be approximately \$2000 in our money.

The powerful influence of vanity is illustrated by the admiration people have for foreign importations. Many people really delude themselves with the idea that they care for an imported cigar or wine because they believe it to be superior to the domestic article. Nor is this the only species of vanity appeased by the purchase of foreign goods. An art dealer in San Francisco found that certain people preferred to pay \$4000 in Paris for the same picture which they could