

accordingly made, when Master Simon came alone, and said it was the proper way to boil it. Nelly said it should be baked. Thereupon they quarreled, and even came to blows. Nelly threw the stool whereon she was sitting at Simon. Simon took the broom-handle to defend himself, but his sister soon got it away and beat him with it. Thus the quarrel went on, when Nelly said she would boil the cake first and then bake it. The compromise was accepted, and both set to work to build the fire. The stool and the broomstick were used for fuel, and some eggs, which had been broken in the scuffle, were used to smear over the cake, and give it a glossy appearance. The cooking was a great success, and every year the cake became more popular and was known as Simon-Nelly's cake. After a while, however, only the first parts of their names were used, and for short it was called *simnel cake*.—(F. Newton Perkins, in April) *Wide Awake*.

*Some Japanese Usages.*—The sovereign remedy for all ailments is shampooing, and he who inherits the trade is blinded in his childhood for the sake of modesty. Shampooers are in constant demand; at almost every corner one is met, feeling his way by the aid of a long staff, and blowing the whistle that designates his avocation. The women have graceful, modest bearing; in public never forward. In marriage they shave the eyebrows and stain the teeth as a tribute to the husband's honour. Notwithstanding, in all towns, except at seaports, frequented by foreigners, the public baths are used by both sexes in common; and when distress comes upon a family, the daughter who aids towards their support by making use of her allurements is commended as dutiful, and without reproach may afterward be sought in marriage.

Among the better classes great care is taken in the education of women; and time, pains, and patience are expended upon music. History, romance, and instructive facts are imparted by traditional poetry that is sung to the accompaniment of the *samisen*, an instrument not unlike the banjo, but with a square body. The vocalization is harsh and disagreeable.

Crime is speedily and severely rebuked. The capital punishments are *haru-hiri*, be-heading, and, for parricide and the gravest offences, crucifixion. The *haru-kiri* has been much modified of late; it is reserved for State offenders, to whom consideration is due, but death demanded. Ordinarily the execution takes place in a temple or at the palace of some Daimio, who is ordered to superintend the ceremony. A friend or two is selected, who stands by the offender with a drawn sword, the *katana*; a salver is then offered the principal, in which lies the knife for disembowling, and as he seizes it the second cleaves off his head at a blow. This is a humane modification of the method requiring the principal to cut into his abdomen before decapitation. This form, without interposition of a second, is quite popular as a method of seeking death when overpowered by grief for a lost friend or patron, or to oppose a sea of troubles. Beheading malefactors is done by a State agent, who has distinguished himself in military life. The victim is bound in a kneeling posture, and the executioner, standing behind, delivers a blow with the sword that severs the head. This is then exposed on a crossbeam by the roadside. In crucifixion, the culprit is bound to a cross with thongs, and, after a prescribed time of agonized exposure, life is tapped with spears. The *Tokaido*, the great thoroughfare of Japan, is thus ornamented with trophies of Justice to terrify the ill-disposed and to assure the upright.

Sword-making is considered an honourable occupation, and a connoisseur of blades can identify the handiwork of a celebrated maker with the certainty some of us recognize the painting of an old master. To fashion clothes make sandals and household utensils is ignoble and confined to the *Etas*, a proscribed class.

*Montgomery.*—Two recent pamphlets make material additions to the slight knowledge we have of one of the earlier and more romantic figures in the war of the American Revolution. General Cullum prepared a brief biographical sketch of Major-General Richard Montgomery for the authors and antiquarians who gathered in Philadelphia last summer. This deals somewhat critically with Montgomery's brief and brilliant military record. Another sketch, enriched by everything valuable which the carefully treasured correspondence of the family could furnish, has been prepared with equal grace and pains-taking care by the filial hands of the fair lady to whom Montgomery Place has descended. This is of special interest from the glimpses it gives of the General's private life, and the manners and feeling

of the times. There is here and there a slight discrepancy between the two accounts, as, for instance, where it is asserted in the one that Gen. Montgomery's dead body was carried from the field at Quebec by Benedict Arnold, while the other shows that this could not have occurred. But after all the person whom both these pamphlets leave most vividly impressed upon the mind is not the dashing young Revolutionary General, but the fair widow who so long cherished every early memento in the home her husband had provided for her, and at last left them to the equal care of her succeeding heirs. Daughter of Livingston, and sister of the lad who was to become the great Chancellor; married early to the handsome younger son of an Irish baronet, who had left the British army in disgust, and sought quiet in farming on the Hudson, permitted to live with him only through a brief honeymoon, troubled by the rising alarms of the Colonies, parting from him as he went, at Washington's command, to carry the war into the enemy's country, watching with all the Colonies his brief and successful campaign, which ended in the fall of Montreal, then struck by the fatal news from Quebec, and living for more than a generation afterward a solitary life in the stately place on the Hudson her soldier husband had left her; what a piteous, blighted life it was. Forty-three years after he fell she stood on the piazza of the old home as a steamer passed before her with flags saluting, and the noise of the band mingling with the thunder of the cannon from the neighbouring hills. The State of New York was conveying the body of the young husband, from whom she had parted in the honeymoon, from Quebec, where he fell, to St. Paul's graveyard, on Broadway, where he lies. These pamphlets deal only with the soldier; it is the woman in black, after a widowhood of nearly half a century, watching thus on the lonely piazza, whose figure they leave with us.

*Schools of Art and Design.*—Many of our readers are unaware of the fact that an effort, which we may characterize as strong and successful, is being made in this Province to give to the rising generation, and more particularly to the artisan class, sound instruction in the important subject of industrial drawing. That industrial art education has a value commercially as well as educationally is beyond all doubt. Two more valuable instruments than a pencil and pair of compasses cannot be put into the hands of the working man. They will prove not only of value in their use to him, but of value to society. In all industrial occupations in which it is employed, the skilful handling of the pencil is of so much importance in determining the value of an article, that where such skill does not exist on the part of the working man there is a serious loss—a loss to the manufacturer, a loss to the workman and a loss to the purchaser. At Worcester, Massachusetts, where many mechanical trades are carried on, the manufacturers say that a workman who is able to draw is worth to them thirty per cent. more than one who is unable to draw, and they are consequently prepared to pay higher wages to the latter than the former. The reason of this is that the skilled workman loses no time, does not need to have some one over him to show him, and puts into his work an accuracy and finish which could be acquired only from an intelligent use of his instruments, only to be acquired by delicacy in drawing. The possibility of teaching all to draw is beyond all doubt, and we are pleased to see that our Local Government has shown that it is alive to this important matter by making the teaching of drawing compulsory in all the schools in the Province.

The work which is being done in this matter by the Council of Arts and Manufactures deserves all encouragement. Under its control free evening schools have been established in Montreal, Quebec, Sorel, Three Rivers, St. Hyacinthe, Sherbrooke, Hochelaga, New Liverpool, Levis, St. Henri and Huntingdon, and in these classes as many as one thousand pupils have been receiving instruction, which cannot fail to prove of great benefit to them.

We hope that, after the close of the scholastic year, a display of the works from the various schools may be made, and thus give the public an opportunity of seeing what is being done and what may be accomplished in this important matter.

*A Woman's Appeal to the Medical Profession.*—If you are about to prescribe alcohol, in any form, to ladies, as a convenient and pleasant remedy, stay a moment, and consider the probable consequences. Would you wish to give fresh justification to the general assertion—only too well founded—that it is the doctors who teach women to drink?