

changing color; ninth, crocodile broth, to make them amphibious, and be able to pursue and fight their enemies both on land and water; eighth, jaguar's liver cooked in wine, in order to have the rapidity and fury of that quadruped; seventh, hawks' heads, in order to have the quick eye of that bird in distinguishing the enemy; sixth, zebra's intestines, to be able to imitate the cry of that animal; fifth, hippopotamus' brains, to make the body impenetrable to balls; fourth, stewed monkeys, to acquire the activity of that race; third, scorpions, in order that all the wounds inflicted by them may be as venomous as the sting of those reptiles. On the day before the battle, the half raw breast of a panther, in order to be as pitiless as that animal; and on the morning of the battle they must drink a glass of leopard's blood, in order that they may imitate that animal, which never turns round while devouring its prey. Tremble and obey.

The writer adds that on observing to a Chinese prisoner that, notwithstanding the above preparations for combat, the Braves had fled before their enemies, the Chinaman explained that the cheat of a cook had for his own profit served up the flesh of calves instead of that of panthers and tiger, and that that circumstance had made them cowards.

THE OLYMPIAN GAMES.

These noted festivals of antiquity were celebrated every fourth year at Olympia, on the banks of the river Alpheus, near Ellis, in Western Greece. They began about the year 776 B. C., and appear to have continued long after the Christian era. They were largely attended from all parts of the country, from the Grecian colonies abroad, and even from foreign lands. None but Greeks, however, were suffered to participate in the games, and females were at first excluded from the grounds on penalty of death; but it seems women were subsequently admitted, and became competitors in some of the exercises. The games consisted of horse and foot races, leaping, throwing, boxing and wrestling. The length of the races was at first but thirty-eight rods, afterwards twice that distance, and finally much farther.

There were also contests in poetry and music at the Olympian festivals. The prizes awarded to the victors at first con-

sisted simply of a garland of wild olive, plucked from a sacred grove in the vicinity. Palm leaves were placed in the hands of the conquerors, and their names and the contests in which they had come off victorious were proclaimed by a herald. Great honors, however, awaited the victors on their return home from the games—triumphal entries, public feasts, odes, &c.—the Athenians also bestowing a large sum of money on their fortunate sons, and the Spartans placing theirs in the foremost rank in battle. In some instances even altars and sacrifices were decreed to the victors by their fellow-citizens. The grandest temple and statue of Jupiter, in all Greece, was in the sacred grove at Olympia—the statue being of colossal proportions, composed of gold and ivory, and wrought by Phidias, the greatest artist of his time.

WATCHMAKING.

Watchmaking in Europe is chiefly done by hand. The rough parts of the movement are collected usually from several distinct work-shops, all meeting at last upon the bench of the finisher, perhaps in a distant city or some foreign country, where the mechanism is fitted by measurement, and put in motion. The slightest deviation in size, length, or form of any part of the intricate mechanism, impairs its value, and perhaps renders it entirely useless. The variation of the ten thousandth part of an inch in the size of a socket, or the measurements to determine its proper position, may make all the difference between a perfect time-keeper and one that is worthless. Its jewellery, especially is the highest accuracy of workmanship required. This process, in watchmaking, is the setting of precious stones, usually rubies, sapphires or chrysolites—in positions subjected to friction, in order to avoid the least change of form or size by long wear. Thus, holes to receive metal pinions must be made in substances inferior only to the diamond in hardness; and in planing, turning and drilling the jewels, microscopic exactness is indispensable.

A PICTURE OF WARSAW.

A letter from Warsaw gives the following account of the appearance of that city since the insurrection in Poland broke out. "The cavalry occupy the squares and

the artillery is posted at the different outlets. The public gardens are closed and filled with soldiers. At eleven o'clock drums and trumpets are heard, and throughout the whole city there is nothing but the tramp of soldiers and the noise of horses—it is the hour for relieving guard. When that is over the city again falls back into its usual quiet. At three, as if by enchantment, Warsaw becomes animated for an hour, and the crowds pass and repass before the batteries and the lines of troops. At four o'clock everything is again quiet, and the persons in the streets gradually disappear. At six some lamps are lighted, and are seen at the windows. At nine all are extinguished, and Warsaw is dark and a desert. At ten the drums and trumpets sound the signal for fires to be put out, and those persons who may happen to be out of doors hasten home, happy if they can escape the guard. Cavalry and infantry patrol the streets, and woe be to any one they may meet! If a house be on fire, or a person dying, no one can dare go out to seek for assistance. If the sick die without medical help, that is their affair.'

TATTLING.

"It is a great thing to mind one's own business," said a certain philosopher; and he was right. It is a "great thing" to let other people's business alone, and this much is implied by the maxim above quoted. In view, there is hardly a class of pests in modern society—and they are numerous—so superlatively contemptible as that class known as tattlers, or meddlers in other people's business. We don't admire a thief; we have no affinity for gamblers; we abominate drunkards, and have no respect for misers; but either of these are gentlemen in comparison with the inquisitive jealous-minded tattler, who goes mousing about in a garb of social respectability, poking his nose or fingers into the affairs of his neighbors, and seizing from every trifling circumstance that comes within the wide swoop of his remorseless curiosity for the purpose of making capital against those whose character he cannot understand because it is pure and above impeachment. These mischief-making busy-bodies are simply an unmitigated nuisance, and should be frowned upon by all sincere lovers of social peace and happiness.