

ists—continually consists in making of mutual concessions."

Speaking of how every nation has its own way of smoking, F. Marion Crawford says: "There is a hasty and vicious manner about the Frenchman's little cigarette of pungent black tobacco; the Italian dreams over his rat-tail cigar; the American either eats half his Havana while he smokes the other, or else he takes a frivolous delight in smoking delicately and keeping the white ash whole to the end; the German surrounds himself with a cloud, and, Godlike, meditates within it: there is a sacrificial air about the Asiatic's nargileh, as the thin spire rises steadily and spreads above his head; but the Englishman's short briar-root pipe has a powerful individuality of its own. Its simplicity is Gothic, its solidity is of the stone age; he smokes it in the face of the higher civilization, and it is the badge of the conqueror."

About 4,000,000,000 cigarettes are manufactured yearly in this country. In Chicago retailers of cigarettes are required to pay a special license of \$100. The trade in tobacco in this form has grown to be something enormous. While various leagues are engaged in fighting the cigarette, in and out of the public schools, and while certain judicial authorities are proclaiming against it, some of the best known physicians in the country defend it as the least injurious form in which tobacco can be used.—Exchange.

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GLASS MAKING BY ELECTRICITY.

An American glassmaker has patented apparatus for the production of glass by electric furnace, and he is said to have adopted in its construction a hint which he derived from an accidental breakage. Passing through his works one day, he saw the globe of an electric arc-

light track, and a piece of the broken glass dropped upon the white-hot carbon points and was almost instantaneously melted. Thereupon he had a box or vat made upon the interior of which were brought together pairs of carbon rods, powerful currents being sent through them to secure great heat. Immediately below them was a channel for the passage of sand and the other constituents of glass, and it is found that these are reduced to the vitreous state in as many minutes as it requires hours to melt glass under the old system.

FLOWERS OF SOUTH AFRICA.

The flora and fauna of the Cape Colony, Natal and the Transvaal are various and fascinating. Many of the flowers have perfumes peculiarly their own. The gigantic Cape daisy, and the glorious Table Mountain heaths, of hundreds of varieties, says "Gardening," have certainly no heavy perfumes, but, on the other hand, the thousands of quaint little peeping veldt flowers, from pimpernel to orchid, have subtle, suggestive odors which are exquisite and refreshing.

In the Cape Colony, for many miles between the Paarl and Cape Town, the line is bordered with so-called "pig-lilies." These are none other than our carefully tended and garden-produced richardias. But in South Africa they grow wild, and in luxuriant profusion. Near Ceres there are great fields full of these snowy white blossoms with their orange-yellow spadixes; and to see a couple of little negro children playing about in this amplitude of whiteness is a delightful study in black and white.

Up in the Transvaal, if a farmer cultivates flowers at all—and all Boers are not as unappreciative of beauty as their detractors suggest—he almost always has on his stoop, or veranda, a couple of tubs containing plants of

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