

And very important principles in ethics, natural philosophy, and mechanics, have been discovered by accidents, incidents and details, which are common in domestic life; but who would have thought, in olden times, of consulting with a four-paneled door, as a philosophic and a metaphysical friend, to obtain a knowledge of the hidden mysteries and the general effects of the human mind?

During the last ten years, in the winter season, according to our daily record, we have noticed the manner in which one thousand persons who called for work, have opened, shut or not shut our store door: this, you may say, is a futile and a useless undertaking; but we entertain a very different opinion. What are the facts, and what the deduction?

First, out of the 1,000 persons recorded, 355 opened the door and shut it after them carefully, when they came in and when they went out, without much noise.

Secondly, 226 opened it in a hurry and made an attempt to shut it, but did not and merely pulled it to, when they went out.

Thirdly, 202 did not attempt to shut it at all, either on coming in or going out.

Fourthly, 96 left it open when they came in, but when reminded of the fact, made ample apology, and shut it when they went out.

Fifthly, 102 opened it in a great hurry, and then slammed it to violently, but left it open when they went out.

Sixthly, 20 came in with "how do you do, sir," or "good morning," or "good evening, sir," and all these went through the operation of wiping their feet on the mat, but did not shut the door when they came in, nor when they went out.

REMARKS.—We have employed men out of all the above classes, and during that time have had an opportunity of judging of their merit, &c.

The first class, of 355, were those who knew their trade, and commenced and finished their work in a methodical manner, were quiet, had but little to say in their working hours, and were well approved of by those for whom we did the work. They were punctual to time, and left nothing undone which they had been ordered to do. They did not complain about trifles, and in all respects they were reliable men, and were kind and obliging in their general conduct.

Class the second, 226.—These were not methodical in their work, had much to talk about, were generally late, but were willing to quit work early. They were always in a hurry when we overlooked them, but they did not do as much work in the same time as class the first, and often left little things unfinished, and if they were told of it, would make many trifling excuses, but highly extol their own abilities.

Class the third, 202.—These were negligent in personal appearance and in their work. They talked much about their own good qualities, and were better acquainted with the business and domestic habits of their neighbours than with their own. They always belonged to the temperance society when first set to work, but in a few days afterward their breath would smell more like an old rum cask, than that of human beings. These men were not steady at their work, were always short of

money, and could not be relied on in regard to truth and honesty.

Class the fourth, 96.—These are careless in their manner of work, committed many errors, but when they were pointed out to them, would apologize most willingly; soon forgot particular small items, were tenacious of their own rights, but not very nice about the rights of others; still, there was something pleasant in their manners at first sight, but they did not improve on further acquaintance. They required much watching and often talked about what they had done and what they had been, what they could do and what they intended to do, but they seldom did any thing properly.

Class the fifth, 102.—They were of a strong, nervous temperament—always in a hurry—little order and method in their work, often met with accidents, and often got themselves into difficulties by their hasty proceedings: otherwise, they were kind and willing to oblige, but the promises they so hastily made were soon forgotten.

Class the sixth, 20.—These were better dressed than the others, but were not good workmen, as they had tried many things, but had not mastered any one in particular. Their politeness was artificial, and one day was often sufficient to expose their deception. Innocent and small impositions seemed to be their legitimate business. They were too ignorant to blush at their own folly, and too proud to acknowledge their own faults. They were vain in the extreme, and unreliable.

REMARKS.—Whether these rules are applicable to all trades, professions and classes of men, I do not know, but I am thoroughly acquainted with the facts above stated, and also with the traits of character I have there described: therefore I leave the reader to make his own deductions."

The Dangers of Gasoline.

The *American Artisan* says the Compton House (New York) conflagration arose from a cask of that volatile fluid, gasoline, which is of the same ignitable family as petroleum, with more of its perilous qualities. Its specific gravity is less than ether, and is so volatile that an ounce exposed to the evaporation of the atmosphere will disappear in a few hours. It is highly inflammable, burning under almost any circumstances, and ought never to be admitted into a house, especially when incased in such an insecure vessel as a wooden cask. We trust that some measure will be adopted to exclude this liquid from use as a burning oil.

Cheese as Food.

Compared with other people the Americans place but little value on cheese as an article of food. We use it as a condiment, sauce, or side dish, rather than as necessary or proper food. In England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and in many parts of continental Europe, it is regarded as a common and sometimes a necessary article of food. There is reason why it should be so regarded. Its composition is very similar to that of flesh, the casein representing the muscular fibre, and the buttery matter the fat portion. Casein is an albuminous substance, useful in building up the muscles, and the buttery matter is a concentrated carbon as useful, in its way, for