Actors and singers of a century ago who made history in their social meetings in the green room would no doubt have been astonished had they been told that their most noted successors would meet to talk or sing into a machine that would faithfully produce their voices. There is a pleasant room on the eighth floor in the big building at Sixteenth street, New York city, where men and women who are footlight favorites meet to laugh and talk, smoke cigarettes and exchange gossip. Their chief business there is to record in the phonograph some of the gems of operas or striking passages in plays. But incidentally there is a deal of enjoyment in bearing repeated the voices of other artists, perhaps on the other side of the world. The room is the studio, workshop and office of Lieutenant Gianni Bettini of the Italian cavalry, who has been at work since 1889 improving and simplifying the Edison phonograph attachment. It reproduces the voice in loud, distinct and natural tones to a far greater extent than the ordinary phonograph of commerce. No hearing tubes are used, but its sound is emitted from a trumpet-mouth appendage. Lieutenant Bettini has been in this country but a few years. When he turned his attention to the phonograph, he experimented with diaphragms until he invented one that would reproduce the tones of the voice without the equeaky noise usually heard in [the machine. The result was most noticeable in the reproduction of the full and high notes of the voices of women. For professional artists and singers the value of the invention was at once apparent. Lieutenant Bettini has a very large acquaintance among noted entertainers who come to this country, and his studio became a resort Taken altogether, there are stored away

on cylinders, in properly labeled boxes, the voices of some of the most famous professional artists and singers in the world, and the collection is unequaled anywhere. There are songs by Yvette Gailbert, who sang into Lieutenant Bettini's phonograph on her recent visit to this country. Yvette's voice sounded from the phonograph one wins many victories. None more of her English songs, "I Want You, My oney." Then the voice gave "La Soularde" and an imitation of Bernhardt's style of delivery in a favorite character. Then followed a selection from "Izeyl," by Bernhardt herself, with all the passion in which the passage was recited on the stage. By way of variety Mr. Farko of the "Artist's Model" company gave a laughing song that was infectious. It was accompanied by the piano and was a revelation to those who have only heard the phonographs in the ferry houses and s alcers. Therotes tirkled out as clear as those of a church bell. This cylinder was removed and Lieutenant Bettini put in one labeled "Melba." It proved to be a selection trem the opera of "Faust." It was one of the best cylinders of the capacity of the attachment in bringing out the fullness of the notes, especially on the h igh notes. These soaredaway above the staff and were rich and clear. Mark Twain interrupted the singer with a tew remarks on the experience he had had in trying to make practical use of the instrument. The humorist is now on his lecturing tour around the world and the record he make in the phonograph was taken in December, 1893. He said that he had made a failure up to that time in making practical use of the insrument. The capacity of the phonograph was then tested with a banjo and solo, the peculiar twarg of the instrument could be heard even in the adjoining rooms. A cornet solo followed, with a piano accompaniment. Mrs. Lily Langtry's voice followed in a selection from her play "Gossip." All these and very many more cylinders

are packed away in pretty wooden boxes and put carefully into a cabinet with glass doors that occupies one side of the laboratory. On another side are instuments in the process of manufacture. Lieutenant Bettini says the artists are in the habit of using the cylinders to test their voices and in this way they make a practical use of the machine. When they are in good voice they register their notes on a cylinder and put it away. By reproducing the notes they are enabled to compare their voices with their own records at the time comparison is needed for study. When singing the artists are unable to hear and judge correctly of the quality of their performance. Another use which the phonograph is put is to send messages to relatives far away who want to hear the sound of the voice. The heutenant predicts that it will soon be practicable for persons traveling to step into a room at the rotel, record a long missive in a few minutes' conversation and dispatch the cylinder, perhaps half way around the world. He is in the habit of sending messages across the ocean to friends on the other side. One difficulty with the cylinders is that they are tragile, beirg made of parafine and soap and other materials, and he hopes soon to produce metal cylinders for general use. He has already devised a system for making dupheates of cylinders now in use.-Brooklyn Eagle.

If a child is troubled with a cough at night, Haw-ker's balsam will soothe it instantly and enable the little one to go to sleep. A short course of the balsam will completely cure the couch

Deafness caused by catarrh is quite comm n. Hawker's catarrh cure will remove the disease and restore the hearing.

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WILLIAM CLARK.

UNSOCIAL NEW YORK.

The City a Place where Friendships Are Not Easily made at First.

A woman coming from a smaller city to make a home in New York will find many things that will strike her as peculiar says the Advertiser. In her former home she had many friends and could not go anywhere without meeting someone who seemed glad to see her. The perfect in difference of New York people to each other is something that is difficult for her to understand. Perhaps there is no place in the world where it is more difficult to make friends than in New York, not because the people are cold and unresponsive to overtures of friendship but simply because they have no time to devote to its cultivation.

One may live for years in one of the large apartment houses without even knowing the names of the people living above or below on the same floor. One not only does not know their names but does not care to know them, and a birth, marriage or death may occur without her having the slightest knowledge of the fact. The reason for this may be that the neighbor of to-day may live miles away next year, for New York people do not have the same love of home that people in smaller cities possess, and unless owning their houses will pack up and move at the slightest provocation. The same spirit of unrest seems to pervade business life as well as home life.

It is a rare occurence to meet an acquaintance at the theater or on the street, and at any entertainment that is not strictly private not more than a dozen people seem to know any one outside of their immediate party.

A woman has no time for a friendly visit, where she can remove her bonnet and sit and chat for an hour or so. She makes a call of five minutes here and five minutes there, drinks a cup of tea and is off to pay some other call. Her hostess has no time for any personal talk with her, nor she for a talk with her hostess, for she is wondering how soon she can leave so as to have time to go somewhere else. A stranger in New York calling at an acquaintance's house on a reception day is made to teel that she is a stranger indeed, and leaves the house knowing as few people as when she entered it.

Perhaps in the churches this exclusiveness is carried to a greater extent than anywhere else. People meet Sunday after Sunday, sit in adjoining pews, sing the same hymns, confess that they are miserable sinners, go to the same communion table, and yet pass each other week after week without so much as a smile of recognition. Christmas, with its "Good will to men," passes and Easter, with its glad rejoicings for all fades into the distance, while these members of one family continue to look at each other with a cold stare, as

if hardly aware of each other's existence. In the societies connected with the churches it is the same. A few members, who know each other socially outside of the church, talk together while the stranger if joining in the conversation is made to feel that she intrudes. Unless she is pushing, and refuses to take offense at anything, her acquaintance with the different members of the society will begin and end while they are working together. The woman who thinks that by becoming an active worker in any of the societies will gain her a single friend is very much mistaken. Her work is acceptable, her contribution are still more acceptable, but her friend-ship is not desired. I am speaking of the larger. richer churches in New York, where the people do not need to join in working to raise money to pay some debt or to give to some loved charity. In small churches the uniting for some desired end often makes lifelong friends of the workers.

As a general thing, every woman has her own circle of friends, and does not care to make that circle larger. It is only by living in New York for some years that one begins to have her own circle of friends, and then the strange fact appear that she forgets she ever was a stranger herself, and does not give a passing thought to the strangers she may meet, desirous of joining the mystic circle.

Scientific Illustration.

The latest handbook for the use of preachers, lawyers, and all orators is called "A Dictionary of Scientific Illustration." For example, suppose a minister is searching for an illustration of the power of sin in the world, and finds that the familiar similes about "Satan going forth as a lion," etc., have been used too frequently, He opens this invaluable manual at "evil thing-terrible torce of sin," and then on Sunday he startles his hearers

with this terrible description:
"The lance-headed viper, or Trigonocephalus (Bottuops lanceolatus), is n'ost common in the West Indian Islands, where it is justly dreaded. It has been computed that at Martinique fifty persons out of 125,000 die annually from the bite of these odious reptiles. Their fecundity is frightful. Every female bears sixty young, which, on their very advent into the world. are completely formed and able to wound. This viper, unlike the rattlesnake, carries no warning rattle; nothing indicates its

The application is obvious: "How much more deadly and insidious, my brethren. etc., etc.-Buffalo Commercial.

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has been endorsed by the medical profession for twenty years. (Ask your doctor.) This is because it is always palatable—always uniform—always contains the purest Norwegian Cod-liver Oil and Hypophosphites.

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Just spend his Four Quarters for a bottle of Burdock Blood Bitters as all sensible people do; because it cures Dyspepsia, Constipation, Biliousness, Sick Headache, Bad Blood, and all Diseases of the Stomach, Liver, Kidneys, Bowels and Blood from a common Pimple to the worst Scrofulous Sore.

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Weakness of Body and Mind. Effects of Errors or Excesses in Old or Young. Robust, Noble Manhood, fully Restored. How to enlarge and Strengthen Weak, Undeveloped Organs and Parts of Body. Absolutely unfailing Home Treatment-Benefits in a day. Men testify from 50 States and Foreign Countries. Write them. Descriptive Book, explanation and proofs mailed (sealed) free.

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The ratives of Venezuela and adjoining countries on the North side of the river Amazon often avail themselves of the services of a native crane to care for their poultry, and also, in the place of collies or shepherd dogs, used by North Americans and Europeans, to guard and herd their domestic animals.

VENEZUELA'S SHEPHERD BIRD.

It Is Called the Yakamik and is as Good

as a Dog for Caring for a Flock,

This remarkable bird, which the Indians call yakamik and ornithologists Psophia crepitans is found in a wild atate in the great forests that lie between the northern coasts of South America and the Amazon River, particularly in Venezuela and British Guiana. The birds never leave the forests unless shot or captured. They travel about in flocks of from 100 to 200, in search of the berries, fruits, and insects, upon which they subsist. Their usual gait is a slow and stately march, but they enliven themselves from time to time by leaping up into the air, executing eccentric and fantastic waltzes, and striking the most absurd and preposterous attitudes. If pur-

they endeavor to save themselves by running, for their flight is so weak, according to Schomburgk, that when they attempt to fly over a body of water of any considerable width they are often obliged to drop upon it and save themselves by swimming. When alarmed they utter the peculiar cry which has obtained for them their name of trumpeters. The sound is something like that produced by a person endeavoring to shout the syllables "tow, tow, tow; tow, tow, tow," with his mouth shut, or the doleful noise made by children on New Year's with their trumpets. The yakamiks usually deposit their eggs in a hollow in the ground often at the foot of a tree.

A nest generally contains ten eggs, of a pale green color. The young birds follow their mothers as soon as they are batched, but do not lose their pretty downy covering until several weeks old. The yakamiks are very readily tamed, and prove valuable servants to the Indians, who domesticate them, and as they are courageous and will protect animals intrusted to their care at every risk to themselves. even dogs are obliged to yield to their authority. They may be trusted with the care of a flock of sheep or domestic towls. and every morning will drive the ducks and poultry to their feeding places and, carefully collecting any stragglers, bring them safely home at night. A yakamik soon learns to know and to obey the voice of its master, follows him, when permitted, wherever he goes, and appears delighted at receiving his caresses. It repines at his absence and welcomes his return, and is extremely jealous of any rival. Should any dog or cat approach, it flies at it with the utmost fury, and attacking it with wings and beak drives it away.

It presents itself regularly during meals from which it chases all domestic animals, and even the negroes who wait on the table, if it is not well acquainted with them. and only asks for a share of the eatables after it has driven away all who might aspire to a favorable notice from the family. It appreciates favors in the same proportion as it is jealous of sharing them with others, and manifests joy and affection by the most extravagant capers and gesticulations. When the animals of which it has charge are shut up for the night, the yakamik roosts upon some shed or tree near at hand to be ready to take its place as keeper as soon as soon as they are let out in the morning. One quality that makes it valuable is its sense of location, which is perfect; however far it may wander with the flocks or herds it guards, it never fails to find its way home at night, driving before it all the creatures intrusted to its care. -Popualr Science News.

The Discontented Woman

Considering discontented women of all kinds individually, it is evident that they must be dull women. They see only the dull side of things, and naturally fall into a monotonous way of expressing themselves. They have also the habit of complaining, a habit which quickens only the lower intellect. Where is there a more discontented creature than a watchdog? He is forever looking for som infringament of his rights and an approaching step or a distant bark drives him into a fury of protest. Discontented women are always egotists; they view everything in regard to themselves, and have, therefore, the defective sympathies that belong to low organizations. They never win confidence, for their discontent breeds distrust and doubt, and however, clever they may naturally be, an obtrusive self, with its train of likings and Money orders sold to points in For this reason it is almost a hopeless effect to show them how little people generally care about their grievances, for they cannot conceive of any other subject inter esting to the rest of the world.

The Greatest of Rivers.

The Amazon is the king of streams. From first to last it receives over 1,200 tributaries, of which more than 100 are large-sized rivers, and these rise so far apart and have their floods and ebbs at such different seasons that the Amazon is at about the same height the year round. At some points on its lower course one bank is invisible from the other; the be-some tribes of Indians on the lower portion knew nothing of the existence of the oppo-site shore and did not believe that it existed, saying that "the great river flowed all around the world." Its mouth, including that of the Para, is 180 miles in width, and it is navigable for large-sized ocean steamers for 1,000 miles from the sea, and so vast is the flood of water which it pours into the Atlantic that the ocean is tinged yellow for 400 miles from the coast of Brazil.



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