

THE HOUSE.

A RECIPE FOR WASHING.—My way of washing calico for forty-five years, says an Iowa lady, has been to take one half peck or more of wheat bran; put it in the wash-bowling and pour on from four to six gallons of water; let it come slowly to a boil; strain through a coarse cloth, cooling it enough to bear the hands in. Wash the calico in it, not using any soap, as it is of a lathery consistence; rinse and starch in the shade, and it will set the colour of new calico so that it can be washed afterward in the ordinary way.

MAKING A HOME.—I might ask, "What is it that makes a home?" and you would answer, "A mother's love." You know what it would be to spend one of your winter evenings in a chamber without a fire on the hearth or a carpet on the floor; even though the furniture was costly and friends congenial, nothing could impart the lacking comfort or diffuse the wanted radiance. And in this wintry world a tender mother's love, and a pious mother's care, are the carpet on the floor and the blaze on the hearth. They make the home, and to life's latest moment they mingle in every picture of preeminent happiness.—Dr. J. Hamilton.

ICE HOUSES.—Double walls versus single walls is a moot point among ice harvesters. An exchange says:—If the double walls are kept perfectly filled with sawdust, and the ice is cut so as to fit closely all around, this mode will answer; but on account of the liability to form openings or crevices in the sawdust from various causes, it is safer to use single walls only, and pack around the ice and within the walls ten or twelve inches of sawdust. As this is laid and packed as the mass of ice is built up, all crevices are avoided and there is no danger of any air spaces being left. Double walls render a less width necessary to the sawdust stratum around the ice, where both modes are combined.

SALT FOR SOURKROUT.—The quantity of salt required for sourkROUT is as much as will just cover a layer of cabbage about two inches thick. When the cabbage is sliced lay first in the tub a sprinkling of salt to quite cover the bottom, then put in two inches depth of cabbage; cover this completely with salt, so the cabbage is not seen, then put on more cabbage and more salt; when three layers are put in pound it down with a rammer until it is well packed, or water appears on the surface. Continue so until the tub is full, then lay on a board cut to fit the tub loosely, and put a weight on it to press the cabbage down and keep it covered with the water which comes from it.

SCIENCE.

FIRST USE OF ANTHRACITE COAL.—Anthracite coal was discovered in Pennsylvania soon after the settlement of the Wyoming Valley, but its first practical use was by Obadiah Grose in his blacksmith shop, in the year 1768. In 1791 Philip Ginter discovered anthracite coal on the Lehigh. In 1802 Robert Morris, of Philadelphia, formed a company and purchased 6,000 acres of the property on which Ginter discovered the coal. The coal company was called the Lehigh Coal Mine. This company opened the mine and found the vein to be 6 feet thick and of the very best quality of coal. The Company made every effort to secure a demand for the coal, but without success, and having become thoroughly disgusted with their speculation, leased the 6,000 acres of this man-of-war coal field to Messrs. White & Hazard, of Philadelphia, for twenty years, at an annual rental of one acre of corn. Messrs. White & Hazard tried to use the coal in the blast furnace in 1826, but failed; the furnace chilled. In 1832 Neilson conceived the idea of the hot blast saving fuel, and in 1833 David Thomas adopted the idea of the hot blast and anthracite together. White & Hazard had, previous to this, formed a company and bought the property. In 1839 Thomas made the use of anthracite for pigging metal a success, by which the twenty acres of corn were transferred into \$20,000,000. And this is the early history of the great

Lehigh coal mines of the present day. I remember well the banquet given by Burd Batterson and Nicholas Biddle at Mount Carbon in 1840, at which time they paid William Lyman, proprietor of the Pioneer Furnace, \$5,000, the premium, they had offered for the first successful use of anthracite coal as fuel in the blast furnace. But David Thomas was the lion of the day.—Pittsburg Commercial.

Some ingenious person has succeeded in making a fine quality of 'ivory' from potatoes. The gradual decrease of the elephant crop gives this discovery peculiar importance.

A CURE FOR SEASICKNESS AT LAST.—In a late report of the proceedings of the New York Academy of Sciences mention is made of a paper read by the Rev. Mr. Thwing describing a new and peculiar method of curing seasickness, which the author has tried with success in several instances.

He approaches the sufferer unawares from behind, places his hand upon the patient's head, and speaks in an assuring tone of voice. This puts the passenger into a trance, his sickness is ended, he is supremely happy. The doctor then pronounces the words "all right," which instantly restores the sick man to sense and health, enabling him thereafter to enjoy full meals of victuals without let or hindrance. The paper was listened to with profound interest by the members present, was discussed, and will be duly published in the printed proceedings of the Academy. If we were owners of a popular steamship line, our first business would be to negotiate with the author to take the chaplaincy of our best boat. One thousand dollars a trip would be nothing for the services of such a man.

[We copy the above from the Scientific American. If it is a joke, all right, although it is rather too serious a matter for those who suffer from the malady to joke over. If it be no joke it would be well for medical men to try their "hands" at the business.—Ed. C. M.]

HEALTH HINTS

CATARACT OF THE EYE.—The front portion of the eye is filled with a transparent watery fluid called the aqueous; the large back part of the eye with a transparent gelatinous fluid, and is called the vitreous. Between the two is the crystalline lens, by which, mainly, the rays of light that enter the eye are centred upon a thin membrane, called the retina, there forming the minute image of everything seen.

This crystalline lens is liable to become more or less cloudy, thus wholly, or partially, preventing the passage of light through it. This is cataract.

The opacity—or inability to allow light to pass through it—may be in the nucleus or central portion, or may, for a time at least, be in the outer portion, called the cortex. It is sometimes caused by blows; sometimes by inflammation extending to it from other parts of the eye; but in most cases it is impossible to detect any exciting cause.

One form of it tends to develop mainly somewhat late in life. The opacity may increase very slowly, or at a more rapid rate, but still gradually; or slowly for a long time, and then with great rapidity, ending within a few days in total blindness. A cataract in one eye may be expected sooner or later to manifest itself in the other.

Many persons allow themselves to be blind for the rest of their lives, not knowing that good, serviceable sight might probably be theirs. By the improved methods of the present day the oculist succeeds in restoring the sight in nine cases out of ten, the final success depending on the patient's general health, favorable surroundings, and the faithfulness with which the instructions are followed during subsequent treatment. No matter how old the person is, provided his health and his eyes in other respects are in good condition. It is important that the opacity be brought to the oculist's attention early.—Youth's Companion.

An international exhibition will be opened in Calcutta, next December and will close on February 29, 1884.

TO CURE A COLD.—A bad cold will run its course of about ten days in spite of what may be done for it, unless remedial means are employed within forty-eight hours. Many a life will be spared by cutting a cold short off in the following manner: On the first day, there is an unpleasant sensation of chilliness. The moment you observe this, go to your room, and keep it at such a temperature as will entirely prevent this chilly feeling, even if it requires 100 deg. Fabr. Put your feet in hot water half-leg deep, adding hot water from time to time for a quarter of an hour, so that the water will be hotter when you take your feet out than when you put them in; then dry thoroughly and put on thick woolen stockings; for twenty-four hours eat no food, but drink freely of any kind of warm teas, and, at the end of that time, if not sooner, the cold will be effectually broken without medicine.

A dainty way to prepare an egg for an invalid is to first beat it till very light, then season with a little pepper, salt and a tiny lump of butter; then pour it over a slice of dry buttered toast, and set the plate containing it in the steamer; cover closely and let it steam for two or three minutes. An egg prepared thus will not be likely to distress the weakest stomach.

VARIETIES.

Scotch Laird (to poor portrait painter):—"Ye mun ken ma dochter's birthday is verra near, and I promised her ma pictur. Weel, I've just faune ane (o' somebody else) in a broker's window thar'll dae fine, and I wud like ye tae put a wheen feenishin' touches till; as cheap as ye can, ye understan'!"

The mistress had gently reprimanded her maid for oversleeping herself in the morning. "You see, ma'am," said the servant, "I sleep very slowly, and so you see, ma'am it takes me much longer to get my full sleep than it does others, you see, ma'am."

Professor Porson, a short time before his death, was in a mixed company, among which were many distinguished literary characters. One of the number, a person of some celebrity, had a very high opinion of his talents, and when the conversation turned on his productions, as usual he began to extol their merits. "I will tell you, sir," said Mr. Porson "what I think of your poetical works. They will be read when Shakespeare's and Milton's are forgotten"—every eye was instantly turned on the professor—"but not until then."

Mother—"Now, George, you must divide the cake honourably with your brother Charlie." George—"what is honourably, mother?" Mother—"It means that you must give him the largest piece." George—"Then I should rather Charlie would cut it."

A bore is a man who talks so much about himself that you don't get a chance to talk about yourself.—Eli Perkins.

In Lady Bloomfield's "Reminiscences," just published, is the following anecdote, told by her Majesty on her return from a visit to Belvoir:—"An inspector was examining the children at the Duke's school. Among other questions he asked the meaning of 'grace,' upon which the children all exclaimed, with one accord, that it meant the Duke of Rutland."

A marriage ceremony came to an abrupt and ludicrous termination the other day in Atlanta, Ga. A prominent clergyman of that city having consented to unite a coloured couple, had just asked the solemn question, "Wilt thou take this woman, etc.?" when an old flame of the bridegroom poked her head into the room and said, "Henry, I jess dar you say yes." Henry sank into the nearest chair without a word, and the company thoughtfully withdrew.

A young lady, when presented with a pair of opera glasses, asked: "How in the world am I to keep them on?"

Care for what you say, or what you say will make you care.

The table of interest.—The dinner table.

Places of interest.—Banks.

AYER'S Hair Vigor

restores, with the gloss and freshness of youth, faded or gray hair to a natural, rich brown color, or deep black, as may be desired. By its use light or red hair may be darkened, thin hair thickened, and baldness often, though not always, cured.

It checks the falling of the hair, and stimulates a weak and sickly growth to vigor. It prevents and cures scurf and dandruff, and heals nearly every disease peculiar to the scalp. As a Ladies' Hair Dressing, the Vigor is unequalled: it contains neither oil nor dyes, renders the hair soft, glossy, and silken in appearance, and imparts a delicate, agreeable, and lasting perfume.

Mr. C. P. BRICHER writes from Kirby, O., July 3, 1882: "Last fall my hair commenced falling out, and in a short time I became nearly bald. I used part of a bottle of AYER'S HAIR VIGOR, which stopped the falling of the hair, and started a new growth. I have now a full head of hair growing vigorously, and am convinced that the use of your preparation I should have been entirely bald."

J. W. BOWEN, proprietor of the McArthur (Ohio) Reporter, says: "AYER'S HAIR VIGOR is a most excellent preparation for the hair. I speak of it from my own experience. Its use promotes the growth of new hair, and makes it glossy and soft. The Vigor is also a sure cure for dandruff. Notwithstanding my knowledge has the preparation ever failed to give entire satisfaction."

MR. ANDERSON FAIRBANKS, leader of the celebrated Fairbank Family of Scottish Vocalists, writes from Boston, Mass., Feb. 6, 1882: "Ever since my hair began to fall I have used AYER'S HAIR VIGOR, and so have been able to maintain an appearance of youthfulness—a matter of considerable consequence to ministers, orators, actors, and in fact every one who lives in the eyes of the public."

Mrs. O. A. PRESCOTT, writing from 18 Elm St., Charlestown, Mass., April 11, 1882, says: "I was nearly bald about two-thirds of my head came off. It thinned very rapidly, and I was fast growing bald. On using AYER'S HAIR VIGOR the falling stopped and a new growth commenced, and in about a month my head was completely covered with short hair. It has continued to grow, and is now as good as before it fell. I regularly used but one bottle of the Vigor, but how use it occasionally as a dressing."

We have hundreds of similar testimonials to the efficacy of AYER'S HAIR VIGOR. It needs but a trial to convince the most skeptical of its value.

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