# Agriculture.

### Causes Why Horses Become Blind.

A great many have noticed that among all domestic animals the horse is the one which suffers the most from ailments of the eye, and the one that gets blind most frequently. There are especially five causes of disease in the eyes of horses.

HIGH FODDER-RACKS.

The first lies in the high fodder-racks. These are in all ordinary stalls so fastened above the cribs, that the animal must pull the hay from the rack in a position which requires its neck to be stretched out, and with its head and eyes turned upwards. Thus it often happens that a beard of grain—which, as every one knows, is armed with little hooks—drops into the eye of the animal and fastens itself in such a secure way, that all the water flowing from the lachrymal duct is not able to remove it. An inflammation of the eye sets in, often causing the loss of that organ in consequence of the false or even cruel treatment to which it is often subjected.

AMMONIA IN STALLS.

A second cause is the sharp and biting vapor in the stable. The sharp ammoniacal gas produced in the stable, which even brings the tears from human eyes, must also do harm to those of horses. It is commonly believed that the latter are used to it, but that idea is totally wrong. The biting vapor from the stalls, which some think impossible to remove, can very easily be destroyed by cleanliness and careful management. Fortunately there are numerous horse stables in which there is not the least feeling of it. It is not necessary to use means of disinfection, such as gypsum, vitriol, etc.; cleanliness is a thorough remedy. The floor of the stalls, however, must not be so arranged that it absorbs the urine, etc., and so prepares a substratum of foul smells.

BADLY-LIGHTED STABLES.

The horse, although it looks straight forward much more than most animals, yet does not do so nearly as much as man, and therefore requires in its habitation an arrangement of light quite different from that in its owner's dwelling. Give the horse light from only one side, and it will direct only one of its eyes towards it, but the other eye will be in the shade; this inequality weakens both eyes. Put it in such a position that it looks into the dark, which is certainly unnatural, and when taken out of the stable the abrupt change from darkness to light will harm it. To place it straight against the light, gives the latter a blinding effect which is also injurious to the eyes. The horse-stable should therefore always receive its light from above, either through skylights or through windows placed near the ceiling in the wall to which the animal's head is turned as he stands in the stall. Moreover, the stable should be always bright, as bright indeed as daylight, for the horse is not a night or twilight animal, and is in no need of an artificial darkness, like fattening stock.

THE USE OF BLINKERS.

The fourth and the principal cause of the evil is to be found in the use of the blinkers. The eyes of the horse, as it is well known, lie at an acute angle with the nose-bone. They look, therefore, straight out sideways, but command a far larger view than those of men. To prevent the animals from being startled by objects suddenly seen, blinkers are used, square shades which compel the eye to look only straight ahead. But the horse's eye is not constructed for this purpose and is therefore perpetually strained. The inventor of blinkers had certainly the human eye in mind when he hit upon his device. A shade always attached to the human eyes would be almost harmless, and well fitted to put all objects on the sides of the road quickly out of sight. It is quite different, however, with the eye of a horse. Yet the blinkers forcibly compel him to direct his eye-balls towards the front, thus straining the superior oblique muscle and contracting the inferior muscle. Moreover, imagine the torture and the irritation of having a board, day after day, close before your eyes! Is it astonishing, then, that the horse gets dim-sighted, sick or completely blind? And all this evil is brought about by a device of no earthly use! For the blinkers actually tend to frighten a horse and thus increase the evil of timidity they were designed to diminish or prevent.

THE WHIP.

The fifth and last cause of the blindness of horses is the whip. How often does the fine end of the whip, even in playful whirls, strike the horse's eye and burst therein a blood-vessel or produce an inflammation, and consequently the loss of sight. Even drivers who treat their horses well often do this unwillingly, while only wishing to keep their animals lively and to cheer them up with an occasional touch. But far oftener does the evil occur at the hands of rough brutes who substitute lashes for oats, and, in doing so, are not content to confine their blows to the back and sides, but designedly lash the neck and head, so as to hurt the poor beast as much as possible.—*Rural New Yorker.*

### Seed Wheat.

"Any man," says J. B. Kellebrew, "who will establish in his garden an experimental plot, can select the best heads of the most prolific wheat, sowing the next year the best heads alone, and still selecting from this the best heads, using the balance for field use and in this manner keeping always one year ahead. This will make good seed. A practice that has resulted in a largely increased production has prevailed in some sections, and merits special mention:

'Select a few bundles and strike them over the head of a barrel lightly. The heaviest, best matured grain will fall out, leaving those not fully ripe in the bundle. A few minutes will suffice to secure, in this manner, seed that will improve the ordinary yield very largely. This proves the necessity of seed wheat being allowed to get fully ripe before cutting.'"

### Live Stock.

Animals must not be without a liberal supply of good water. They will suffer for want of it, and will not thrive so well. Arrange for pasture in abundance for late feeding. Sow some rye for pasture late in autumn and early spring, when the ground may be plowed for other crops. Look especially after the poor animals. Those which are poor in autumn should be disposed of in some way. Feed them up, sell them or knock them on the head. It is better to kill them now than to care for and watch over them with anxiety for the next six months, and then have them wither up and die. At this season of the year, an experienced eye will usually pick out most of the sheep which are not worth wintering. It is too late in the year to begin to feed up poor animals, and do it most profitably.—*Rural New Yorker.*

### Lumpy Ground.

One of the best things to do for lumps is to tile the land. Instead of spending so much time on the surface, begin at the foundation. It has always been found to pay to tile heavy land, especially if the soil was strong. Clods may be crushed by rolling and scraping and harrowing, but for the best results in seeding to wheat or any other crop, it is not best to crush all the lumps on the surface. After a rain, such soil will pack and bake hard if left too fine on top. Harrow thoroughly and pulverize below the surface and leave small lumps on the surface. Put in some furrows for surface drainage, running them obliquely down the hillsides to prevent washing by rapid currents.—*Ex.*

### Whitewash for Trees.

Mr. Meehan says that whitewash is frequently resorted to by farmers, but the great objection is its unsightly appearance—the result is otherwise good. The great opposition to washes formerly was, that the pores of the bark were closed by them—this was on the supposition that the bark was alive, but the external bark of most trees has been dead years before the time of application; and "the breathing," if so the operations of the pores can be called, is through the crevices formed in the old bark by the expansion of the growing tree, by which the living bark below has a chance of contact with the air. No matter what kind of coating is applied to the bark of a tree, it will soon crack sufficiently by the expansion of the trunk to permit all the "breathing" necessary.

Machinery on the farm means a good deal, remarks the *Scientific Farmer*. It means that the farmer has invested much capital in a way that is saving him much hard work. It means short days for you and the hired man. It means going to bed later and getting up later. It means less weariness and more opportunity for mind culture. Thus progress in agriculture not only means more and cheaper food and clothing, but it means greater opportunity for development of manhood. Let us welcome it, then, for the stomach's sake, the body's sake, and the mind's.

# Domestic.

HOW TO TREAT PLANTS FOR WINTER DECORATION. — Supposing that some plants have been procured for winter decoration of the room or window, the next thing to be done is to grow them in proper shape, and to prevent them from blooming, which is done in the following way:

They will need shifting or repotting from time to time, which can be judged by simply knocking them out of the pot and seeing if the roots are all matted together between the pot and the ball of soil; if they are, they require repotting; if not, wait a little longer. (By the term "knocking out" is not meant to break the pot all to pieces, as some have supposed, but simply to separate the pot from the ball of earth, which is done by taking hold of the pot with the right hand and spreading the fingers of the left hand over the surface of the soil in the pot, and allowing the plant to rest between the middle and first finger. Now invert pot and plant so that the latter hangs head down; give a gentle rap or two on the rim of the pot on the edge of some table or bench so as not to strike the plant, and it will slide out nicely into the left hand.)

In repotting, first put a handful or so of soil in the bottom of the new pot, so as to get the top of the ball of earth just one inch lower than the upper edge of the pot; this will allow plenty of room for watering. Set the ball in the centre of the pot and fill all around with fresh, rich soil; press well down with both thumbs and give a gentle rap on the bench to make the surface perfectly level. Then water well. If the roots are very much matted, loosen some of the soil from the top of the ball, outer edge first, and then repot. Always be careful to set the plant in the centre and have it rest perfectly straight, as nothing looks worse than to see a fine plant spoiled by leaning to one side.

The best pots to grow plants in are the common clay pots. After years of trial I have found plants to do better in them than in anything else, for the following reasons: If you have had plants you will notice that the sides of the clay pots are moist and always covered with a greenish, slimy substance; and the cause of this is that the surplus water finds at the sides of the pot the quickest outlet, being porous. Water will sink to the bottom of the pot when there is too much for the sides, and run into the saucer, if one is underneath to catch it. If this surplus water is allowed to stand in the pot, it will cause the soil to become sour, and the roots will rot and finally the plant perishes. It can therefore readily be seen that the side drainage is of as much consequence as that in the bottom, and for this reason glazed or painted pots will be found inferior to the clay pots, as all the pores they have in the sides are closed up with paint, etc. I know quite well that they have holes in the bottom, but the millions of little holes in the sides are not there. Fancy pots may be used to advantage in this way only: For those wishing to raise plants in summer for winter's use and having no garden, they can grow them in the window, but they must not be allowed to bloom. Pot the plant in clay pots that may be fitted into the fancy ones. Pot and set them in the window. In this way the clay pot is hidden and the drainage is not interfered with. Those having no fancy pots and wishing to hide the clay, can use a pot cover. It will hide the pot and give it a very neat and ornamental appearance without interfering with the side drainage. These covers are made of black walnut or whitewood painted green, red, blue, yellow, etc. Some are also gilded like picture frames, and others have gilt and green bars. They can be obtained any size from four to eight inches high, and from $1 to $7 per doz.

A very pretty arrangement can be used on the outside of a window in summer, or inside in winter. It is simply a wooden board resting on two iron brackets attached to the sill, with a black-walnut pot-fence around it; it can be bought to fit any window.

After fixing the stand as described, place in each corner a flower-pot containing a nice running vine, which can be trained up the sides of the window; and then other pots with flowing plants can be set on the stand. An additional attraction can be made by hanging a bird cage from the top of the window so as to centre with the running vines

Pruning will be required as the growth of the plants progresses, more or less. If the plant is too tall or spindling, and you wish it dwarf or bushy, cut the crown or centre stalk off as low down as is desired. This will force the plant to start or send out new branches from the sides of the old stalk. Cut away all dead or dried branches, that may by accident be broken off, and see that all the withered yellow leaves are removed. By cutting or pruning off all the buds as fast as they appear they will be prevented from blooming now, and will bloom in winter with more profusion. If allowed to bloom now they will not bloom in winter. Stop cutting off the buds about three weeks before bloom is desired. Those raising plants from seed will have little other care but watering, for three weeks to come; but see that they do not want for that, else one's labor will be of little avail.—*Rural New York.*

### Household Recipes.

DISH FOR LUNCHEON.—Take pieces of cold meats of any kind, chop fine, season with pepper and salt, just a little onion; break over the meat two or three eggs; add a small piece of butter; stir all together; pour it upon nicely buttered toast; serve hot; garnish with parsley.

CINNAMON JUMBLES.—Make one, two, three, four, or cup cake, a little thicker than usual; mix together equal parts of cinnamon and granulated sugar; drop a large spoonful of the dough into the cinnamon; when all have been well covered put into a quick oven; should be done in ten minutes.

TOMATO CATSUP.—A bushel of ripe tomatoes cut up and cooked thoroughly; strain through a sieve when cold; add three quarts vinegar, one pint and a half salt, three ounces each of whole cloves and allspice, three ounces white and black pepper, one and a half ounces cayenne pepper, twelve onions boiled whole in it for several hours, watching and stirring for fear of burning. It need not boil hard but simmer steadily. When cold bottle, after removing the onions when they have well flavored the mixture; keep in a cool, dry place.

SOFT SOAP.—Clean the fat by boiling with alum and water and straining; dissolve four pounds of potash in one pail water; after the potash is dissolved add six and one quarter pounds grease; either boil it until it is compounded, or let it stand a few days and it will do so itself; then, if it is sufficiently mixed, by adding a little water it will thicken: if the mixture has not been boiled or left standing long enough it will turn soft by adding the water; when it will bear the water test, add cold water enough to make it a thick jelly and good soap.

CHOCOLATE CREAM.—Mix the yolks of six eggs (strained) with two ounces powdered sugar and two ounces grated chocolate; add one pint of milk; set the mixture on the fire in a double saucepan, the inner one filled with hot water, and keep stirring till the cream thickens; dissolve in a little milk four sheets of best gelatine, add this to the cream, and strain it all into a bowl; put this over ice, stirring till the mixture begins to set; then add one pint of well-whipped cream; put a mold in the ice, pour in the cream, cover it with ice, and, when set, serve.

# Scientific.

*The Craters in the Moon.*—Since Galileo first turned a telescope upon the moon, the lunar craters have been among the wonders and mysteries of astronomy. It is not merely or even chiefly the vast size of some of these objects which excites astonishment. Indeed, it might almost be inferred from what we know of the moon's size and general structure, that her volcanic energies would be more effective, though not greater, than those of our own earth. The really surprising characteristic of the lunar surface is the amazing number of the lunar craters. Even Galileo, though with his weak telescope he could see but a few of the craters which really exist in the moon, compared those in the south-western part of the moon's disk to the eyes in a peacock's tail. With each increase of telescopic power, more and more craters have been seen. Regions supposed to be comparatively smooth have been found, on closer scrutiny with more favorable conditions, to be covered with minute craters. The slopes of the larger craters, even in some cases their floors, have been found to be strewn with small crater-shaped depressions. In fine, almost the whole surface of the moon may be said to be pitted with depressions of all sizes, from mighty guifs 300 or 400 miles across, down to minute saucer-shaped shallows, such as only the most powerful telescope will reveal.—*Belgravia.*

*A Gas Clock.*—There is a clock in Guildhall Museum, London, of which the motive power is hydrogen gas, generated by the action of diluted sulphuric acid on a ball of zinc. The clock itself resembles a large colored glass cylinder without any cover, and about half full of sulphuric acid. Floating on the top of the acid is a glass bell, and the gas generated forces forward this concave receiver until it nearly reaches the top of the cylinder, when, by the action of a delicate lever, the valves become simultaneously opened. One of these allows the gas to escape, thereby causing the receiver to descend, and the other permits a fresh ball of zinc to fall into the acid. The same operation is repeated as long as the materials for making the gas are supplied, and this is effected without winding or manipulation of any kind. The dial plate is fixed to the front of the cylinder, and communicates by wheels, etc., with a small glass perpendicular shaft, which rises with the receiver and sets the wheels in motion.

### Scientific Notes.

One of the objects of the Sir G. S. Nares expedition is to make careful surveys of some of the passes in the Straits of Magellan.

Quinodine, says M. Burdell, is very like quinine in its action, but is not likely to supersede the latter in acute intermittent fevers. In chronic cases it is, however, really superior, and in telluric and benignant fevers it may be administered with good results.

The yellow fever alarm has reached England. The *Lancet* advises the authorities, particularly those at Plymouth, Southampton, Swansea, Cardiff, Bristol, and Cork, to use all diligence in preventing the landing of the effects of persons who have died of the disease.

A notable instance of that curious natural illusion known as mirage, was observed early last month at Halberstadt. The house and tower on the Brocken were reproduced on a large and unusually distinct scale for about one minute. The architectural details, even to the outlines of the windows, were represented.

To give the conditions for the best effect of light from coal gas it has been suggested, as the result of an investigation by experts, that the gas should be burned at a comparatively low pressure, that district governors should be used to equalize the pressure in different levels in cities, and that regulators should be employed for houses and for street-lamps.

Gold was first discovered at Duriness, Sutherlandshire, Scotland, by Gilbert de Morava in 1245, and at intervals a sort of gold fever has been occasioned by the discovery of gold in that county ever since. In 1868 and 1869 there was a rush of people who expected to become suddenly rich by developing the gold deposits. But in 1868 there were only 577 ounces found, and the product dwindled down next year to 17 ounces.

A plant of somewhat remarkable properties is partially described by Major Stuart, in his report on Hayti. Its narcotic properties are so powerful that they can produce coma of any desired intensity and duration. A priest putting himself under the influence of an extract of this plant can simulate death and resurrection. All persons within a house can be put asleep by it and a burglary committed with impunity. A few families only know this plant and the knowledge of its properties is handed down from generation to generation as an heirloom; but it is believed that an experienced botanist may discover it and make it available for medicinal purposes.

# Humorous.

### Dot Lambs What Mary Haf Got.

A GERMAN VERSION.

Mary haf got a little lambs already;
Dose vool vas vite like snows;
Und every times dot Mary did vent out,
Dot lambs vent also oud, vid Mary.

Dots lambs did follow Mary von day to the school-house,
Vich was opposition to da rules of der school-master;
Also, vich it did caused dose schillen to schmile oud loude,
Ven dey did saw dose lambs on de insides of der school-house.

Und so dot school-master did kick de lambs quick oud:
Likewise dot lambs did loaf around on de outsides,
Und did shoo de flies mit his tail off patiently abound,
Until Mary did come also, from dot school-house oud.

Und den dot lambs did run right away quick to Mary,
Und did make his bet on Mary's arm,
Like he would said:—"I don't vos schared—
Mary vould kept me from drouble cuahow."

"Vot voo de reason abound it, of dot lambs and Mary?"
Dose schillen did ask it, dot school-master,
"Veel, doud you know it, dot Mary love dose lambs already,"
Dat school-master did say.

—Now let the wild charge on the oyster beds begin. Hip! hip—a raw!—*New Haven Register.*

—If you are stung by a bee, use hartshorn; if bitten by a snake, get drunk. So physicians say. O, hand a bee sting! give us a snake bite.—*Cincinnati Breakfast Table.*

—A newspaper editor, as he takes in an exchange, will discover the title of his own paper in a solid page of reading matter as quickly as a young lady who is one of a group standing before a mirror discovers her own reflection.—*Rome Sentinel.*

—"How is the corpse?" asked an Ann Arbor medical student of the pickler. "The corpse?" was the reply, "the corpse? Oh, it's in the best of spirits." For proof of which he showed the liquor that it was put up in.—*Keokuk Constitution.*

—Now and then there is a clergyman who says good things out of the pulpit. The late Rev. Dr. George Bethune was once asked why the cook didn't eat her apron, and after Mrs. Boffin had withdrawn remarked that the cook didn't eat her apron because it went against her stomach.

—"Do you call that clothes?" said sternly a British customs official to the woman who had sworn that there was nothing in her trunk but clothes for herself and husband, and as he spoke he pointed to six bottles of brandy. "Yes," said she softly, "those are his night-caps."

—One of the best cures we know of for small-pox is to have a fellow poke his head in at the door of the patient's room and whisper in a stage aside, "Is he dead yet? I'm after that ulster!" We have been there, and know what it is to live just to spite a fellow.—*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.*

—Feathers will be universally worn this winter.—*Fashion Item.* Guess not, exclaims the Norristown *Herald* man. We shall not wear feathers—not a solitary feather. If our friends choose to make themselves ridiculous they can do so; but no feathers for us.

—A reflective writer has been asking readers to cast their eyes back about ten years. Very few men have time for any such nonsense. Mrs. Lot cast her eyes back about three minutes, and that little act obliged Lot to get a fresh wife.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

—A clergyman who had just performed a wedding ceremony and was filling out a blank descriptive of the parties, asked the husband what his business was. "I am a wine merchant and a shoemaker," was the reply. "Yes," chimed in the bride, "so you can just set him down as a sherry cobbler."

—"There are seventeen sculptors and painters from the United States now residing in Rome," read Mrs. Bemis from the newspaper. "H'm!" grunted Mr. Bemis, who was anointing his feet coverings with the extract of hog; "no wonder I couldn't get a painter to whitewash that shed." Mrs. Bemis glore an awful glare at him.—*Rockland Courier.*

### THE RUBBER-STAMP FIEND

I was sitting comfortably in the parlor, enjoying a fragrant Havana. My wife had gone out for the day, and therefore I was enjoying the aforesaid prescribed luxury. I had just brought myself to believe that the Silver bill was a financial success, and was just about to tackle Talmage's views of Hell and Chicago, when I heard a timid tap at the door. Thinking it was one of my wife's lady friends come to make a call, I answered with all possible haste. It was *not* one of my wife's lady friends. It was a tall, angular man of about forty summers, and more winters. He was attired in a tight-fitting cutaway, out at the elbows. He wore a thirteenth-century hat of that class commonly known as a "stove-pipe." His pants very muchly bellied at the bottoms, and were much too short for him—disclosing very advantageously to view a No. 12 gaiter. His coat was buttoned up to the chin, leaving a casual observer very much in doubt as to whether he had on a collar—or a shirt, for that matter. He was daubed from head to foot with bright carmine ink.

"Good morning, sir!" he said, in silvery tones [It was five o'clock in the afternoon.] "Nice day!"

"Good afternoon, sir!" I answered, in forbidding tones.

"I have a scientific invention here that I would like to show you"—[fumbling in his pockets.]

"Don't want to see it!"—[forcibly.]

He pulled from one pocket a flat piece of something covered with the same brilliant color that bedecked his person. From another he pulled a little hand-stamp.

"Benjamin Franklin may have had his kite; Darius Green may have had his flying-machine; George Washington may have had his little hatchet—but the man who invented this had his little Patent Electric Uncomb..ative Oriental Rubber Hand-Stamp."

Then he began. He stamped it on the new wall-paper; on one of the copies of Hogarth which had cost me $27.26, (and I got it cheap,) completely ruining one of the Hudibras plates.

"Nice things for marking books! Marks linen better than anything ever before invented!"

Then he stamped it on my shirt-front. He stamped the family Bible from beginning to end. Stamped it on the framed copy of my marriage-certificate. Stamped it on several oil paintings. Then he paused at the window curtains.

"Think you'd like one?"

By this time I had worked myself around to the corner where stood my double-barreled shot-gun, which I had not unloaded since the riots. Now Richard was himself again! I pointed the gun square in his face.

"No, *sir!*"

"It is also good for marking all kinds of cutlery, guns, and all implements of warfare."

Then he stamped it on the barrel of the gun; on——But it is needless to go further. *I bought one!*

Since that time our front-door has been locked, and visitors are seen sneaking in and out of the back-door.

### WOODEN-SHOE MAKERS.

Let us describe a part of wooden-shoe makers, or as they are termed, *sabotiers*, at work near a clear stream. The whole family is together; the father with his son and son-in-law, the apprentices, the mother and children running about in the beds of cress. Under the trees rises a hut of planks, where all sleep; not far off the two mules which carry the belongings of the encampment are tethered. They are birds of passage, traversing the forest, and sojourning where the wood is cheap. In this green combe several fine beech-trees are marked for the axe; they are 50 feet high, and 3 feet in girth. Each will probably give six dozen pairs of wooden shoes. Other woods are spongy and soon penetrated with damp; but the beech *sabots* are light, of a close grain, and keep the feet dry in spite of snow and mud; and in this respect are greatly superior to leather. All is animation. The men cut down the tree; the trunk is sawn into lengths, and if the pieces prove too large, they are divided into quarters. The first workman fashions the *sabot* roughly with a hatchet, taking care to give the bend for right and left; the second takes it in hand, pierces the holes for the interior, and scoops the wood out with an instrument called the *cuiller*. The third is the artist of the company; it is his work to finish and polish it; carving a rose or a primrose upon the top, if it be for the fair sex. Sometimes he cuts an open border around the edge, so that the blue or white stocking may be shown by a coquettish girl. As they are finished, they are placed in rows under the white shavings; twice a week the apprentice exposes them to a fire which smokes and hardens the wood, giving it a warm, golden-brown hue. The largest sizes are cut from the lowest part of the bole, to to cover the workman's feet, who is out in the rain from morning to night. The middle part is for the busy housewife who is treading the wash-house, the dairy, or stands beside the village fountain. Next come those of the little shepherd, who wanders all day long with his flock, and still smaller ones for the school-boy. Those for the babies have the happiest lot; they are seldom worn out. As the foot grows, the mother keeps the little sabots in a corner of her cupboard beside the baptismal robe. Long after, when the child has become a man, and his chair is vacant by the hearth, they are drawn out to be looked at, sometimes with a smile, too often with tears. During all his toil the workman talks and sings; he is not taciturn like the charcoal-burner; his muscles continually in action, his work in the open air, keep him in good temper, and give him refreshing sleep and appetite. He sings like a linnet, while the women chatter and mend the family garments. When the trees have all been cut up, the camp is raised, the mules are loaded, adieu to the green hollow, and another place is sought for. Thus all the year long, whether the forest be tinted with pale spring verdure or covered with the yellow autumn leaves, in some corner will be heard the workers, busy as bees in a hive, gayly carrying on their simple, healthy forest-life.—*Chambers's Journal.*

### THE AMERICAN KINDERGARTEN.

The object of Kindergarten education is to develope the child and all its faculties in a natural manner, and in this respect it differs widely from schools where ordinary methods of imparting instruction are adopted, the usual aim of the latter being merely to communicate a knowledge of the so-called elementary branches, and to furnish quite incidentally such mental discipline as the study of these branches can afford.

It must be evident to a thoughtful person that these studies do not attract or interest the child, and the manner in which they are taught often tends to create in its mind a dislike for school and instruction. The mistake made by many parents is in supposing that it is of the greatest importance that the child should learn first to spell, read and write, whereas there are other subjects which can be understood more readily by a child, and after learning which it can acquire more quickly the alphabet of Language.

These are taught in the Kindergarten, and in this new system, while the child becomes an eager seeker after knowledge, not only are the mental powers developed, but the physical and moral natures each receive proper attention at the hands of a trained and experienced educator.

The study of Natural History, comprising the Animal, Vegetable and Mineral kingdoms, is largely introduced, the object being to improve and stimulate the faculties of perception, observation and comparison, and at the same time to interest the smallest child.

This subject forms a basis from which can be apply illustrated lessons in the alphabet of Color and Form (which are taught before the alphabet of Sound) by using all the "Froebel Gifts" and "Occupations," and other material especially designed for the American method. The child learns through these types to observe closely and to classify clearly the difference in the forms and color of the various objects which surround us. By the study of Form a solid foundation of knowledge in the elements of Geometry is secured, and the entire process so educates the child that useful information is easly and pleasantly derived from everything with which it comes in contact, and its perceptive and reflective powers greatly enlarged. After the mind has been thus trained and developed it is ready to receive the alphabet of Language, and in teaching this a new and peculiar method is observed in the use of the Froebel Occupations and other objects invented for the purpose. All this great variety of subjects, presented in lessons of only twenty minutes at a time, followed by a ten minute dumb-bell or calisthenic exercise, an imitation song, or a Kindergarten game or march, the piano being used in accompaniment. By these frequent changes the child has an opportunity of displaying its natural activity, overtaxing the mental faculties is prevented and its physical nature is strengthened.

Special care is also given to the moral training of every scholar, the Bible lesson with which each session is opened being made an important part of the day's duties; the endeavor being always to inculcate in the mind of each child obedience to, with reverence and love for, the Creator. This part of the labor of the teacher becomes less difficult because the child is continually looking into the wonderful works of nature, and therefore is deeply interested in learning about the Author of so many marvellous things. An earnest and conscientious effort to give thorough instruction in the manner herein indicated is constantly put forth, and as only twelve children are allotted to one teacher, individual attention can be devoted to each pupil. This in a great measure accounts for the very rapid progress made by children who are educated in an American Kindergarten.

### FRENCH DUELLING.

That men who do not really want to kill each other are able to avoid doing so without going through the absurdity of a sham contest is due to the art and mystery of fencing. Duels with pistols are apt to be very serious indeed, or else somewhat laughable. An accomplished shot may be able make certain of hitting his antagonist without endangering his life, but he can hardly make sure of hitting him and at the same time of not doing him serious injury. If he determines to miss him altogether, and if, either from similar magnanimity or from want of skill, the other also fires wide, the duel comes to an absolutely harmless end, but people are apt to make merry over the bloodless encounter. With sword duels, which as need hardly be said, are infinitely more common in France than the others, there is often little risk of a mortal or of a very bad wound, and at the same time the result is not ridiculous. In the fencing room a man learns how best to protect himself, and how to attack in the most effective manner, and in acquiring this knowledge he also necessarily learns what is of great importance in most combats—namely, how to attack his antagonist without making it absolutely necessary for his antagonist to kill him if he can. Those who have been much in *salles d'armes* know that when a man unaccustomed to fencing tries to use a foil, he frequently, after one or two unmeaning flourishes, rushes wildly in at his opponent usually with his hand down. If the other does not immediately give what is called the *coup d' arrêt*, lunging out and catching his assailant full on the chest as he advances, he is very likely to be hit himself, however great his skill may be. What happens in the mimic contest may also happen in the real one. The unskilled man rushes in, and his practical antagonist must either kill him as he does so, or run extreme risk of receiving a terrible wound himself. When both are skilled fencers the case is different. A regular attack can be parried without it being necessary to spit the assailant, and the *riposte* which is given by the fencer first attacked can be parried also. Of course, if both are in earnest, there will be a hit before long, but there is no necessity for immediate slaughter in self-defense; and moreover, men who have command of the sword and who are not actuated by very deadly hostility, will probably not concentrate all their energies in attacks on the vital parts, but, being able to play lightly and neatly, for the shoulder, the arm or the thigh, will do so, each seeking to draw an ounce or two of malapert blood from the other, but neither wishing to take life. Seeing that no very great harm results from most of the sword duels fought in France, it may fairly be assumed that in the majority of cases the combatants, being to some extent cunning of fence, defend themselves carefully without making any very vigorous attempt at homicide. The wounds, which are sooner or later inflicted, are though not dangerous, sufficient to prevent such contests from seeming ridiculous; and thus it is possible to comply with the rule which enjoins the duel without running excessive risk on the one hand, and with going through a solemn farce on the other. It may be said for the French that, if they have insisted on retaining the practice of duelling, they have certainly deprived it of its most objectionable features. That they should retain it at all does however, seem extremely strange. The vanity of a few who become famous for their encounters may be gratified, but it is wonderful that the practice of private combat should still prevail among so acute a people. Even if it be admitted, as many would be willing to admit, that there are some outrages which the law cannot reach, and which must therefore be avenged by the sufferers themselves, how absurd does it seem to say that men who have become wroth in political controversy are equally justified in taking the law in their own hands! There has been a sufficiently strong feeling on foreign politics in this country of late without doubt; but, even in these days of strange antics, a man would certainly not be thought sane and serious, who proposed to prove the soundness of his opinions by fighting a hostile editor or an outspoken and aggressive member of Parliament.—*The Saturday Review.*

—One of the most flourishing branches of industry in Prussia is at present the fabrication of arms. The great manufactories are busy, especially for Russian orders, for mitrailleuses of a new kind, after a Swedish model, which is said to surpass all that has been known till now in respect to quickness and the mass of the balls fired at the same time. These mitrailleuses, which carry very far, are said to be destined to make torpedo boats innocuous.

—Wealthy citizens of Montreal are considering the advisability of building a vice-regal residence for the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise, and their successors in the vice-royalty of the Dominion. A beautiful site at the foot of Mount Royal Park has been thought of. There can scarcely be any doubt, the Montreal *Witness* adds, in the fervor of its loyalty, that the establishment of the residence in the city would lead fashionable travel in this direction, and be of advantage to our trade to, some extent at least; as some of our keenest business men have been talking the matter over, it is quite possible something definite will come of it before long.

REGISTER'S LINIMENT is unequalled for man or animals.—See advertisement in another column.

—The cost of the Paris Exhibition buildings is set down at 50,000,000 francs and the receipts for the entire show are estimated at 21,500,000, but it is calculated that the Government and the Municipality will indirectly derive a revenue of about 100,000,000 from it in the form of Customs duties, taxes on railroads, omnibuses, and cabs, stamps for letters and dispatches, and excise duties on wines and liquors.

—In Japan and China the fan is carried now, as for centuries past, not only for use in everyday life, but also as an article of military equipment. Indeed the massive bronze fan carried by a Japanese mail-clad warrior will quite suffice to knock down an adversary; and it has frequently been used in lieu of a sword for replying in summary fashion to an intolerable insult.

—The sale of Queen Isabells jewels yielded $721,771.31, to be exact. The celebrated diadem was broken up and the brilliants were sold by weight to Madame Blanc, widow of the gambler-king of Monaco, for $33,323.

—The Town of Ortaglien, Italy, has been gradually sinking until it is some 15 feet below its former level, and the houses are all tipped from their perpendicular. The people have taken to the fields while an investigation is made into this extraordinary behavior.

**Vitalized Phosphates.**

A Brain and Nerve Food. Prepared from the Germ of the Wheat and the brain of the Ox.

Dr. Taylor of the "Consumption Hospital," England says:—"The introduction of these hypo-phosphites into the system produces a glowing influence, expanding the chest, increasing animal power, nervous force and removing pains. It increases appetite and cheerfulness, these points I have repeatedly proved." Drs. Bennet and Williams of London acknowledge that with *Cod Liver Oil* they had not cured two per cent. of their patients, whereas with these hypo-phosphites they had cured seventy-five per cent. Churchill uses it for all diseases of debility and nervous weakness. V. P. for sale by all Druggists. F. Crosby, 666 Sixth Avenue, New York.

**You are Certain to Want It.**

The present season—that of the early Fall, is confessedly the pleasantest period of the year. The sky is bright, the air during the day warm and invigorating, while the nights are cool and refreshing. But these apparently pleasant conditions are not relished by every one alike. To many, the Fall is a period of pain and discomfort, as Chills and Fever are then most severe in their action. Quinine is, as a rule, called into play, and however valuable this drug may be, it is assuredly both *expensive* and nauseous, and the sufferer is often indoubt whether the uncertain cure or the positive malady is the worst evil.

A druggist observed the other day, "A twenty-five cent box of THERMALINE cured a case of Chills and Fever after the patient had taken over $3 worth of quinine and pills." This remark has been duplicated in different forms in dozens of instances; in fact, this tasteless medicine (which is no *secret remedy*) has only to be tried once to become a permanent inmate of every house in malarious districts. THERMALINE has never *once* failed, and is sold by all druggists; price 25 CENTS A BOX. The ten cent explanatory book on Thermaline mailed FREE to readers of this paper, on application to DUNDAS, DICK & Co., 35 Wooster Street, N. Y.

# Advertisements.

**In writing to parties Advertising in these Columns please mention this paper.**

**PLAYS** New York Drama. All the latest and standard plays. The best published. Three full plays, in one volume, sent anywhere on receipt of fifteen cents. Send stamp for Catalogue. ERNEST HARVIER, 12 Union Square, N. Y.

**WANTED** One Agent *only* in every County. Any man can make a good and permanent living. Address W. A. COONS, Druggist, 51 Eighth Avenue, New York City.

**FRECKLES, PIMPLES** etc., will be removed by using one bottle of Mrs. Shaw's Freckle Lotion. Every imperfection of the skin radically cured. *Only sure cure.* Fully *warranted.* May be had of your druggist. Price reduced to $1.00. Full particulars free. Address Mrs. Dr. L. H. SHAW, 140 East 28th St., N.Y.

**TYPE FOR ALL, at the Lowest Prices.** THE NATIONAL TYPE CO. Catalogue, six cents. PHILADELPHIA.

**REGISTER'S LINIMENT FOR MAN OR BEAST IT NEVER FAILS.**

It cures Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Headache, Cuts Burns, Pains, Sores, Swellings, Injuries, Lameness, etc. Try it. Sold by Druggists and General Merchants everywhere. 25 and 50 cents a bottle. Laboratory No. 324 South 5th Street, Philadelphia. *Agents Wanted.—Write for Circular and Terms. Sold in Chestertown by Colin F. Slam, Druggist.*

**TO CANDIDATES**

ALL hand clipping dispensed with by using RNOLD'S Patent Ready-cut Election Stickers. SK your printer for a sample, or address JAS. RNOLD, Manufacturer, Phila., Pa.

**COMPOUND OXYGEN** The new cure for *Consumption, Asthma, Catarrh, Bronchitis, Headache, Dyspepsia,* and all Chronic Diseases, by a *revitalizing process.*

**REMARKABLE CURES** have been made, which are *attracting the widest attention.*

**STRONGLY ENDORSED** by the Hon. JUDGE KELLEY, P. S. ARTHUR, Hon. MONTGOMERY BLAIR, and others who have used this Treatment.

**SENT FREE!** Brochure (20 pp.) with many testimonials to *most remarkable cures.* DRS. STARKEY & PALEN, 1113 Girard St., Phila

ESTABLISHED 1845

For the Sale of all kinds of

*PRODUCE*

**ON COMMISSION.**

To which we give our personal attention. We employ no Agents.

**E. & O. WARD,**

279 Washington Street, between Warren and Chambers Streets,

*NEW YORK.*

☞ Reference:—Irving National Bank, New York

Established 1828.

MERCHANT'S

**Gargling Oil Liniment**

Yellow Wrapper for Animal and White for Human Flesh.

IS GOOD FOR

| | |
|---|---|
| Burns and Scalds, | Sprains and Bruises, |
| Chilblains, Frost Bites, | Stringhalt, Windgalls, |
| Scratches or Grease, | Foot Rot in Sheep, |
| Chapped Hands, | Foundered Feet, |
| Flesh Wounds, | Roup in Poultry, |
| External Poisons, | Cracked Heels, |
| Sand Cracks, | Epizootic, |
| Galls of all kinds, | Lame Back, |
| Sitfast, Ringbone, | Hemorrhoids or Piles, |
| Poll Evil, | Toothache, |
| Swellings, Tumors, | Rheumatism, |
| Garget in Cows, | Spavins, Sweeney, |
| Cracked Teats, | Fistula, Mange, |
| Callous, Lameness, | Caked Breasts, |
| Horn Distemper, | Sore Nipples, |
| Crownscab, Quittor, | Curb, Old Sores, |
| Foul Ulcers, Farcy, | Corns, Whitlows, |
| Abcess of the Udder, | Cramps, Boils, |
| Swelled Legs, | Weakness of the Joints |
| Thrush, | Contraction of Muscles. |

**Merchant's Gargling Oil** is the standard Liniment of the United States. Large size, $1; medium, 50c; small, 25c. Small size for family use, 25c. Manufactured at Lockport, N. Y., by Merchant's Gargling Oil Company.

JOHN HODGE, Sec'y.

©Maryland State Archives msa_sc3326_scm8204-0633