

BEE STINGS.

Nearly twenty years ago I lived in western Ohio. Our family consisted of my wife and myself, a little girl about three years old, and a little boy, a babe. One day my wife started on a visit on horseback, intending to return in the evening. I helped her on the horse, and went probably about thirty rods distance with her to let down the fence for her to pass through. During the time we left the children in the house, thinking they would not be likely to receive harm till I came back; but, to my great surprise, on returning to the house I found that the little girl had made her way to the bee-hives, and, I suppose, had thrust out one of her arms into a hive, as it stood up some distance from the ground, and in this way had stirred up the bees. When I took her into the house she was suffering extremely from the great number of stings which she had received. I took her upon my knee, and counted the number of stingers as I pulled them out from her face, arms and neck—I found 33—and afterwards discovered that there were as many more in her hair. Of course this looked to me like a very serious injury—enough to cause her death, if I could not adopt some mode of treatment that would be very effective. I had not been in the habit of using medicine in my family in a long time, but depended entirely upon water. After pulling out the stingers, I stripped the child, filled a tub half full of water, right cold from the well, and placed her in it for about a minute; then took her out and wrapped her in a sheet, and put her in the cradle. I repeated this process, bathing her about three times, ten minutes apart, and had the satisfaction of seeing it alleviate her suffering. After I had bathed her three times and wrapped her up warmly in the sheet, she dropped to sleep and did not wake up for about 20 minutes. Then the fever and pain woke her up, and I bathed her again. After two more baths she slept soundly, and on waking seemed to be nearly recovered. By the time her mother came home that evening, she was able to be around, with scarcely any marks of the stings upon her person. I do not believe that any other than water treatment would have brought about such a good result in so short a time.—*Ex.*

BENEFITS OF EXERCISE.—In addition to the physical benefits derived from athletic exercise, it has a moral value; it affords a diversion and a vent to those animal energies which otherwise are sure to explode in debauch and all kinds of vicious excesses. The sympathetic thrill by which the mind accompanies a daring gymnastic feat, and the enthusiasm of athletic contests form the most salutary and, perhaps, the only normal gratification of that love of excitement which is either the legitimate manifestation of a healthy instinct, or else a wholly irremediable disease of our nature. The soul needs emotion as the body needs exercise—a fact we do not, as a people, realize. In times of scarcity the paupers of China and Siam silence the clamors of their hungry children by dosing them with opium; and for analogous reasons millions of our fellow citizens seek relief in alcohol.

BENZOATE OF SODA FOR DYPHTHERIA.—Prof. Klebs, of Prague, announces that the benzoate of soda is the best antiseptic in all infectious diseases. It acts, as the experiments of the author show, very powerfully. It is claimed that a daily dose of from 30 to 50 grammes to a full-grown man will render the poison of diphtheria inoperative. The benzoate is prepared by dissolving crystallized benzoic acid in water, neutralizing at a slight heat with a solution of caustic soda, drying, and then allowing the solution to crystallize over sulphuric acid under a bell glass. Large doses do not appear to be absolutely necessary. Good results may be obtained by the daily administration of about 12 grammes.

HOME-MADE ORNAMENTS.

"Bessie Victor" writes, for an exchange, an interesting article regarding home-made ornaments. "Rustic adornments," she says, "if thrown together indiscriminately, without regard to order or taste, will not only spoil the effect intended, but the article will be worthless. Those materials which differ in color should never be used on the same piece of work. Corn, beans, and other light-colored materials, if used on frames for bead-work, should be stained some dark color and varnished. The nicest way I ever saw them used, however, is to string them and form into baskets; and they can be formed into such a charming variety of shapes that their diversity is almost endless. They are beautiful used as fringes for baskets, corner-shelves and what-nots; and if painted dark brown and varnished resemble closely very handsome carvings. "Oak bark is very pretty for rustic frames—in fact, any rough bark looks nicely made into frames. They need not be stained, as their natural color is the best, and a coat of varnish gives a beautiful finish. The corners can be ornamented by groups of acorn cups. To hang a rustic frame, string acorns on a stout linen thread, making tassels of allspice, trimmed with a gilt-paper band. A strip of gilt inside the frame is an improvement. If your picture is dark use a light frame; if light, a dark frame.

"While visiting a friend last week I saw a work-basket, the edge of which was beautified by a crocheted border in shell pattern. This was first starched very stiffly, tacked in place, pulled out smoothly and left to dry; afterward stained and varnished. The effect was beautiful. This style of ornamentation might be duplicated in frames for photos, borders for shelves, brackets, boxes, etc.

CHIPS.

There are no sweets in family jars.

"MAN," says Victor Hugo, "was the conundrum of the eighteenth century; woman is the conundrum of the nineteenth century." An American editor adds: "We can't guess her, but will never give her up—no, never!"

"WHY, Dick," said a lady teacher the other day, "you are getting to be an awfully good boy lately; ever so much better than you were last year. How is it?" "Oh! pahaw! Miss Hetty," said the youngster, "I don't have so much tum-tick-ache now."

At a municipal election—First voter: "I've just been and plumped for Carter." Second voter: "Plumped for Carter! Why, I don't believe you know him." First voter: "No; that's why I vote for him. He may be an honest man. I know the others."

"Now, Johnny, you've had a merry Christmas, and you must be good till next Christmas to pay for it." "Oh yes, of course, be good. I don't believe you can hire me to be good for a year for a tin horse and story book just like what Bill Jones was going to trade me for three marbles. Not much."

INTERESTING DISCOVERY.—Considerable excitement is said to have been caused in Lyons by a discovery which purports to give to flax all the qualities and appearance of silk. It has long been known that silk is soluble, not only in powerful acids, but also in soda and chloride of zinc, and it is said that these qualities are made use of in the new process. A company is being formed with a capital of \$6,000,000 for the manufacture of the new textile.

ETCHING ON GLASS.—Etching on glass is performed by laying on the glass a ground of bees-wax, and drawing the design thereon with the needle, as in etching upon copper. Sulphuric acid is then poured on, and fluor spar sprinkled on it. After four or five hours it is taken off, and the work cleaned with oil of turpentine.

A DAILY action of the bowels, says *Hall's Journal of Health*, is essential to good health under all circumstances; the want of it engenders the most painful and fatal diseases. Nature prompts this action with great regularity, most generally after breakfast. Hurry or excitement will dispel that prompting and the result is, nature is baffled. Her regular routine is interfered with, and harm is done. This is a thing which most persons do not hesitate to postpone, and in the case of riding to town, a delay of one or two hours is involved. This never can occur with impunity, in any single instance, to any person living. This very little thing—postponing nature's daily bowel actions—failing to have them with regularity—is the cause of all cases of piles and anal fistulas, to say nothing of various other forms of disease: fever, dyspepsia, headache, and the whole family of neuralgias. A man had better lose a dinner, better sacrifice the earnings of a day, than repress the call of nature; for it will inevitably lead to constipation, the attendant and aggravator of almost every disease. To arrange this thing safely, breakfast should be had at such an early time as will allow of a full half hour's leisure between the close of the meal and the time of leaving for the cars.

WHAT SMOKING DOES FOR BOYS.—A certain doctor, struck with the large number of boys under 15 years of age he observed smoking, was led to inquire into the effect the habit had upon the general health. He took for his purpose 38 aged from 9 to 15, and carefully examined them. In 27 he discovered injurious traces of the habit. In 22 there were various disorders of the circulation and digestion, palpitation of the heart, and a more or less taste for strong drink. In 12 there were frequent bleedings of the nose, 10 had disturbed sleep, and 12 had slight ulceration of the mucous membrane of the mouth, which disappeared on ceasing the use of tobacco for some days. The doctor treated them all for weakness, but with little effect until the smoking was discontinued, when health and strength were soon restored. Now, this is no "old wife's tale," as these facts are given under the authority of the *British Medical Monthly*.

STEAM HEATING.—The idea of heating buildings over a large area by steam from some central source seems to be gaining favor. There is probably more in it than the public in general are aware of. The experiment of steam heating has been tried in Detroit, and pronounced a success, since which time several cities have granted privileges for the improvement, among them Cincinnati. A select committee of the Board of Aldermen of that city, appointed to investigate the subject, concluded their work by agreeing unanimously to report the bill authorizing the laying of pipes under the streets, which the Board of Councilmen have already passed. The Committee made inquiries about the working of the system in Detroit, and all the information they received was favorable to it.

TESTING CELLARS FOR DAMPNESS.—Provide yourself with a thermometer, a glass tumbler filled with water; and a piece of ice; then notice how low your thermometer, when placed in the tumbler, has to sink before any moisture begins to show itself on the outside of the vessel of cold water. The lower the temperature to which the thermometer has to sink before moisture is precipitated, the less there is of it in the moisture of the cellar.

A MONUMENT is to be erected in commemoration of Gen. Stark's victory over the British at Bennington, Vt.

THE total coinage of the United States Mints during January was \$9,575,500.

THE Leopold Cross has been conferred upon Rosa Bonheur by the King of Belgium.