

### A NEW METAL ALLOY.

**Vanadium Steel Said to Possess Remarkable Qualities.**

Vanadium steel is the latest naval experiment, and at various navy yards and gun shops experiments are being made which are watched with keen interest from Washington to ascertain the peculiar qualities of the new alloy. All sorts of claims are made for this metal. It is said to be the toughest of steels as well as the hardest, and it rolls and presses like the softest of Swedish iron, and the reduction to a minimum of the number of annealings required by large pieces of fabrication is an important element of economy.

These are the principal claims which the navy department is trying to sift out. So far it has succeeded rather unexpectedly in producing an alloy so hard that no ordinary tool will touch it, which should make it especially valuable for the teeth of cutters and machine tools generally. There is also a suggestion that such hard metal might make a good face for armor plate. But it is suspected of brittleness in this condition, a fatal defect, and an effort is to be made to unite it with a soft and tough steel backing, making the armor correspond with the present face hardened armor.

Vanadium is very expensive, but the navy department is promised an abundant supply at low figures in the future.

### DIET OF CONSUMPTIVES.

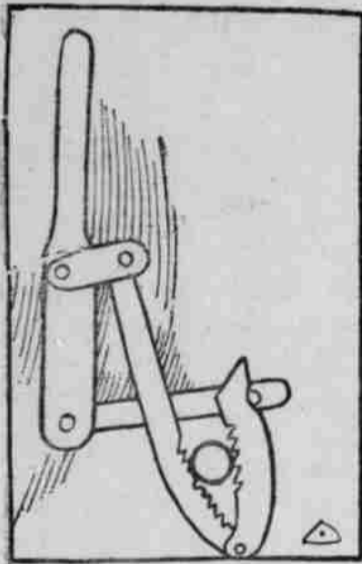
**Overfeeding Recommended, but Proper Digestion Must Be Assured.**

Herbert C. Clapp of Boston says that diet is a most important factor in the treatment of tuberculosis. A consumptive is much more likely to eat too little than too much. Systematic overfeeding and proper digestion of the food are the accepted remedies. The food must be palatable and well served, and the amount must vary with the patient and his circumstances. The outdoor air will enable him to assimilate large amounts.

Milk and eggs are the best foods to produce fats, which are most necessary to the patient. The author advocates three solid meals a day, with lunches between of milk and eggs, about three quarts of milk and six eggs a day being taken. Fresh meats are especially necessary for these patients, but a milked diet is undoubtedly the best. Meat juice is valuable. Pastry, candy, fried foods and cabbage should be let alone. Alcohol is not advisable, but coffee, tea and chocolate may be taken moderately.—Medical Record.

### Nonslipping Pipe Wrench.

Inventors have studied and worked over the problem of devising a satisfactory pipe wrench for many years. Hundreds have been patented, but few have been practical in use. A great many have been too complicated, making the cost of manufacture prohibitive. A Wisconsin man has devised the one shown here, which has the merits both of simplicity and practicability. By referring to the illustration...



WRENCH CANNOT SLIP.

tration the method of operation will be apparent. The jaws of the wrench are placed around the pipe, the free end of the lower jaw being pivoted to the handle, which serves as a lever. The greater the pressure on the handle, the tighter will the jaws grasp the pipe. When the pressure has become sufficient to rigidly hold the pipe the latter will then be forced to follow the direction the handle is traveling. In addition no time is lost in obtaining a fresh grip on the pipe for the next turn.

### Nondiving Rod.

The diving rod expert who was sent by the German authorities to their colony in southwest Africa has been unsuccessful in his attempts to find water. This expert made many discoveries of underground water supplies in Germany, and the home government accordingly determined to utilize his services in the colony, where the need of water is pressing. It was stated that he was successful in but one place, a valley where a chalk formation contained a great deal of water and wells would have been successful if driven anywhere.

### Progress of Wireless Telephony.

Professor Kennelly of Harvard college says wireless telephony is making steady progress, though the present range is only about ten miles. The reason for the short range as compared with wireless telegraphy is the feebleness of the electric currents used in telephonic communication. In the development of a method of using stronger currents lies the extension of the range of wireless telephony.

### Barley for Sale

Chopped barley, without sacks, \$18 per ton. Sacked \$21. Inquire of Helrich Bros., O'Neil, Ore. 2-611

### Attention Homeseekers.

People coming to Crook county with the intention of locating on government land should first write or call on Cady & Jones, Prineville, Or.

### Costly Drink.

"Speaking of costly drink," said a wine expert, "do you know that at the Criterion, in London, they have a cabinet lock at \$35 a bottle? We tried it, the boss and I, the last time we were abroad, and our bottle was undrinkable. It had gone bad. Nevertheless we had to pay our \$35 for it just the same, for, with this as with all very old and rare wines, patrons order at their own risk. The wine cards tell you so. It is tough, though, isn't it, to pay \$35 for a bottle of wine that you have to throw out?"—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

### Believed Himself Invisible.

The first Lord Lytton was certainly daft. One morning while he was entertaining a large company at his country seat the guests were assembled at breakfast in the great hall when their host came in in an old dressing gown, poured out a cup of tea and disappeared without uttering a word to any one. Arthur Russell expressed his surprise to his next neighbor, who said: "He believes himself to be invisible." And, sure enough, in a little time he appeared in his usual dress and saluted his friends as if he had not seen them since the previous night.

### Servants in Spain.

Servant worries in Spain are reduced to a minimum, not because the domestic class is an ideal one, but for the reason that nothing very exalted is expected of it. Servants are taken less seriously than in England and allowed fuller play of those impulses natural to their youth and class. Spanish servants sing over their work as a matter of course. As they wash in the courtyard they talk and laugh freely over the wall with neighboring maids at the tub, their mistress' proximity to the balcony being no hindrance to outbursts of merriment.—Woman's Life.

### Cruel of the Judge.

A man was recently being tried for murder, but the evidence against him was so weak that the judge directed the jury to find a verdict of "Not guilty" and notified the court of his intention to stop the case. But the youthful counsel for the defense wanted the opportunity of becoming famous. He asked permission to address the court. "Certainly, Mr. Cantsput," remarked the judge. "We'll hear you with pleasure, but first, for safety's sake, we'll acquit the prisoner." The learned counsel blushed.—London Scraps.

### Wonderful Bird Flights.

A naturalist says that perhaps the longest continuous flight made by birds in their migrations is accomplished by some of the shore and water birds that nest in the islands of Bering sea and spend the winter at Hawaii and Fanning Island, 2,200 miles away. As some of these birds live entirely on the shore and are probably unable to rest on the surface of water, they must accomplish the whole distance in a single flight. Yet they make their way to their destinations with absolute precision.—Montreal Star.

### Worse and Worse.

A convict in a German prison had been extremely refractory. One means and another had been tried, but nothing could break his spirit. One morning the governor said to the warden: "I say, Huber, the scoundrel is behaving worse than ever. Put him on bread and water." "But he is already doing two fast days, sir." "Then give him a cookery book to read. We must break his spirit somehow."—Illustrated Bits.

### Whittier's Humor.

A story is told of Whittier which illustrates the character of his humor. Two of his neighbors, an aged brother and sister, had accumulated a competency. He thought they were working harder than was necessary in view of their age and worldly accumulations and spoke of it. "We must lay by something for our last sickness and have enough left to bury us," said the sister. "Mary," replied Whittier, "did thee ever know any one in his last sickness to stick by the way for want of funds?"

### The Age of Man on Earth.

Man's past history upon this planet has been immeasurably lengthened out by the discoveries of the geologists, but it is impossible to fix upon any hard and fast date for the beginning of the species. It is certain, says so careful a man as John Fiske, that men were living in Britain contemporaneously with the big nosed rhinoceros, which became extinct about the beginning of the glacial period. The glacial period, according to the best authorities, began at least 240,000 years ago. In all probability human beings have been living on the earth for that length of time at the least calculation. How much longer men have been here does not appear.—New York American.

**Patriotic Names in Humble Life.** India is not the only country where historic names are borne by people in humble life. The same thing is found in the Italian Tyrol. The district formerly belonged to Venice, and many of the peasants are probably descended from Venetian grandees who in the palmy days of the republic were lords of the soil. This would explain a certain eastern flavor, for Venice was nothing if not Byzantine. A common surname in the Tyrol is Constantine. Climbing in the Dolomites, with a correspondent, I was accompanied one of the family. It gave me a dignity to the ascents to feel that my guide was a possible descendant of the emperors of the east, and he is the part.

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