Good Health.

A New Medicinal Plant.

A Brazilian plant bearing the savage name of "Jaborandi" appears to be the coming drug. It was first introduced into Europe about one year ago, but has grown rapidly in estimation with the medical fraternity since that time, so much so that the English wholesale drug houses are ordering immense quantities of it from Pernambuco, near which port it abounds. It is a shrub which grows about five feet high, with a cylindrical, tapering root, very sparingly branched, the bark of a pale yellowish color and very brittle.

Experiments with the drug suggest a curious relation, partly of analogy but mainly of opposition, between jaborandi and belladonna. It resembles atropia in quickening the pulse, flushing the face, and exerting a more decided influence on adults than on children. On the other hand, it is diametrically opposed to atropia in its actions on the salivary, sudoral, and mammary secretions, on the pupil, and on the minute arteries. Further, the tendency of belladonna to cause delirium contrasts with that of jaborandi to cause prostration and sleepiness. It has been proved that atropia is able to arrest the flow of saliva caused by jaborandi; and Ringer found that a dose of the latter drug speedily removed the dryness of the mouth in a case of accidental poisoning by atropia. Sweating after jaborandi may be prevented or checked by the subcutaneous injection of one-hundreth of a grain of atropia.

As a sudorific the drug is likely to prove of great value. It may also turn out to be a trustworthy antidote in poisoning by belladonna; and other virtues, unsuspected as yet, may be found to exist in the plant when it becomes better known. Hence pharmaceutical, medicinal, and chemical investigators are turning their attention to jaborandi. Dr. Ringer and some of his associates at the London University College hospital have been experimenting with the medicine therapeutically. To adults they have administered doses of from sixty to ninety grains in the form of infusion, and in nearly all cases profuse perspiration and most enormous salivation ensued very rapidly. The saliva collected from the patients averaged about an Imperial pint, and in one instance amounted to twenty-seven fluid ounces. Evidently the medicine is possessed of very important properties, and it now becomes a question of considerable interest to ascertain the precise principle of the plant to which these effects are due. Several chemists are working at the subject, and this doubt will therefore probably be soon cleared up.

Don't Eat Mathematically.

Persons in good health should not eat any article of food simply because it is "healthy," nor avoid any article because some one says it is "unhealthy;" nature's instincts are a better and safer guide, for she craves food, the distinctive elements of which are needed in the system; hence no man's likes or dislikes of an article of diet should be the guide of another, any more than all soils should require the same fertilizer, in quality and quantity.

Sometimes, indeed — but rarely in good health—a man may crave earnestly an article of food, and after eating it feel uncomfortable; yet, rather than conclude it did not agree with him, and discard it, a smaller quantity should be taken next time, and very often that smaller quantity, well divided, prepared properly and eaten slowly will "agree," simply because the system needed only that smaller quantity.

Brown bread is said to be good for many persons by its keeping the system open and free; but if a man is well enough in that respect, he would do well not to eat brown bread, unless he was fond of it, so as to have it to fall back upon, should he need its medicinal effect. In short, eat according to the natural appetite as to quantity and quality, and not according to artificial rules and regulations.

If a man is an invalid and has a family physician, it is safer and better to put himself under that physician's guidance; if he has no physician, let him feel his own way, taking small quantities at regular intervals, and closely observe the effects. But for both sick and well, it is just as unwise to measure and weigh each meal day after day, as it would be to wear the same amount of clothing and consume the same amount of fuel every day in the year, winter and summer. In mature life we eat for two reasons, to repair wastes and to keep the body warm; the wastes are in proportion to the preceding exercise, and the internal warmth needed is in proportion to the temperature of the atmosphere about the body. If you eat to-day while idle, and the thermometer is at sixty, as much as you did yesterday, when it was at zero, and you worked hard, you will certainly be sick to-morrow. After all, don't make a god of your belly, but accustom yourself to think of eating and what you shall eat, only when the time for eating comes; a beast or a glutton may do otherwise, a man will not. —*Hall's Journal.*

Domestic Economy.

Cooking Rhubarb.—Rhubarb is best cut in lengths, boiled in water and sugar and served with boiled rice round the dish; or, it may be treated like "gooseberry fool." A little good cream gives it a delicate taste, which it never has in a pudding or tart. The following are excellent recipes for making rhubarb jam and marmalade: Cut the rhubarb as if for tarts, and to every quart give one pound of good moist sugar; put the sugar over the rhubarb and leave it twenty-four hours to draw out the juice. By this method the pieces of rhubarb remain separate from each other when the preserve is done. It keeps good a year if kept in jars well dried, and in a dry place. For the marmalade procure six oranges, peel them and take away the white rind and pips, then slice the pulp into a stewpan along with the peel; cut very small; add thereto one quart of rhubarb cut finely, and from one pound to one pound and a half of sugar. Boil the whole down in the usual way as for other preserves. Made in this manner it is nearly equal to Scotch marmalade, which is regarded on all hands to be the finest anywhere made.

Saratoga Potatoes.—The following is said to be all there is of the cook's secret in producing those world-renowned potatoes served at Moon's Lake House, Saratoga Springs, every summer: Peel good sized potatoes, and slice them as evenly as possible; drop them into ice water. Have a kettle of lard, as for fried cakes, and very hot. Put a few at a time into a towel, shake them about to dry them, and then drop into the hot lard. Stir them occasionally; and when of a light brown take them out with a skimmer. If properly done, they will not be at all greasy, but crisp without, and mealy within.

Summer Salad.

At our leading hotels and restaurants, indeed on the tables of the distingnished, it is very rare, says the Germantown *Telegraph*, to find lettuce, as a salad, worthy of the name. Green and bitter, by the aid of mustard, eggs, oil, or occasionally a scald, it is rendered just passable, but as unlike what cool delicious salad ought to be as is possible. It seems practically to be forgotten by those who grow salad that lettuce was never intended to be eaten unless blanched. In Europe they grow a long broad-leaved kind, called the Roman or Cos lettuce, which, after having attained considerable development, has the leaves drawn up and tied together at the top. The interior continuing to grow, and of course in the dark, by the tying up of the outer leaves, makes a hard mass like an elongated cabbage, which cuts up as white and crisp and sweet as a stick of celery. This kind has never found a place in American gardens, because our climate induces it to run to seed too quickly. The various kinds of cabbage lettuce are preferred, because they close in their leaves naturally, and are supposed to blanch themselves. But this is, as we have shown, a pleasant fiction, as there is very little of the white about any that we see, except where there is great care in the culture.

Of course our country is not so well adapted to the growth of good lettuce as England is. It will not stand extreme cold, nor does it like warm days and hot suns. It wants to go to seed as soon as the temperature goes over sixty-five degrees. But we could have much better than we do. In the spring we sometimes get a tolerable article. Started by a little protection from frames, it is brought to perfection before the warm weather comes. To have it good later is not difficult, by employing very rich land and as cool a spot as can be obtained. All vegetables that we value for their succulence require a rich soil to their best development, but it is an essential to good summer lettuce.

Of course varieties will assist. Some of American origin have been found to stand our heats without running to seed much better than the English varieties, which are better suited to that cooler summer climate. Of these the Indian lettuces are examples. Some of these have been improved, and of these the Hanson bears a good reputation.

Drink Milk and Grow Fat.—Livingstone found that in Africa the use of sour milk promoted the growth of the muscle and fatty matters, and it also appeared to be a preventive of biliousness, while sweet milk had the opposite effect. It is stated that a pinch of salt in sweet milk will prevent any disordered stomach, drowsiness or other ailment, and that if any one wishes to grow fleshy, a pint, slightly salted, taken before retiring at night, will soon cover the scrawniest bones. In cases of fever and summer complaint milk is now given with excellent results. The idea that milk is "feverish" has exploded, and it is now the physician's great reliance in bringing through typhoid patients, or those in too low state to be nourished by solid food.

Asparagus and Beans.—Cut the tender parts of the asparagus into quarter inch lengths, boil in an equal quantity of water, adding about an equal amount of well cooked Lima beans. Cook until the asparagus is tender, and serve warm. Instead of the beans the asparagus may be thickened with flour or with cracker crumbs.

Miscellaneous.

Box Measures.

Farmers and gardeners will find a series of box measures very useful; and they can readily be made by any one who understands the two-foot rule and can handle the saw and hammer. A box 16 by 16¼ inches, square and 8 inches deep, will contain a bushel, or 2,150.4 cubic inches, each inch in depth holding one gallon.

A box 24 by 11 1-5 inches square and 8 inches deep, will also contain a bushel, or 2,150.4 cubic inches, each inch in depth holding one gallon.

A box 12 by 11 1-5 inches square and 8 inches deep, will contain half a bushel or 1,075.2 cubic inches, each inch in depth holding half a gallon.

A box 8 by 8¼ inches square and 8 inches deep, will contain half a peck or 298.8 cubic inches. The gallon dry measure.

A box 4 by 4 inches square and 4 1-5 inches deep, will contain one quart, or 67.2 cubic inches.

Weight of Grain, Etc.

Wheat, pounds per bushel, 60; rye, 56; corn, 56; oats, 32; barley, 48; buckwheat, 42; clover seed, 60; timothy seed, 45; flax seed, 56; hemp seed, 44; bluegrass seed, 14; apples, dried, 28; peaches, 28; coarse salt, 50; fine salt, 50; potatoes, 60; peas, 60; beans, 60; castor beans, 46; onions, 57; cornmeal, 50; mineral coal, 70.

Glazing of Pottery Without Lead.

A mixture of feldspar, silex, kaolin and fluorspar may be used to glaze bricks and pottery in a manner as perfect as the common lead glazing, and much more safe in a sanitary point of view. When the ingredients are once mixed, they are ground in cylinders to a powder, which is passed through a very fine sieve. This powder, of which the natural color is white, but to which all the tints can be given, is mixed with water in a tub, till it presents nearly the consistency of molding plaster.

The brick, or piece of pottery which is to be glazed, is then plunged into the mixture. It adheres, on account of the porosity of the material, with which it incorporates while drying. Being placed in earthen forms, they are exposed in ovens to 1,500° Fahrenheit. The heat melts the preparation, and the glazing spreads uniformly over the surface of the objects, which only have to be taken out of the oven to cool.

Bricks treated in this way have great advantages. They are of an unusual strength, and resist as well the influences of the atmosphere as the action of the acids. They can successfully be employed to cover walls on the inside or outside, which they preserve completely from dampness. This method of glazing may be made available for many industrial applications.

Copying Manuscript.—The following is a simple way of obtaining copies of writing without the use of a copying press: Mix white sugar with the ink, one and a half drams sugar to one ounce ink. Use this with an ordinary pen, and place over the writing a moistened sheet of unsized paper. Lay both leaves between two layers of carpet; put the whole under a piece of board large enough to cover. Then stand on the board for a few seconds. An excellent impression will be found on the copying paper.

The best pine wood evaporates five pounds of water per pound of wood consumed in a steam boiler furnace. One cord of wood can be consumed per hour on sixty square feet of grate. One pound carbon burnt to carbonic acid requires the oxygen of 153 cubic feet of atmospheric air.

The New Glass—Another Process of Producing It.

It is announced that Mr. Charles Pieper, a German inventor, has devised a way of toughening glass, which the German papers pronounce superior to that of M. de la Bastie, already described in these columns. The Pieper glass is said to be fully as strong as that of the latter inventor, and its appearance is much purer and clearer. Extended experiments upon it have begun in Germany. The Association of German Glass Makers has already entered into negotiations with Mr. Pieper for the use of his invention, suspending similar dealings with M. de la Bastie, on account of the immense price asked by him, over eight million dollars.

Hardening Glass.

In connection with the above the following will be read with interest: A process of hardening glass has been patented by Mr. Macintosh, of Westminster, Eng., a civil engineer who has devoted much time and attention to the hardening of iron, steel and alloys. Starting on the broad ground that, the lower the degree of temperature of the liquid in which certain heated bodies were plunged, the harder such bodies became, Mr. Macintosh has found that glass, graphite, uncrystallized carbon, slag and other analogous substances may be rendered exceedingly hard by means which are usually indicated for metals. Colored glass may, by this treatment, be rendered so hard as to be effectively used as a substitute for gems, and, what is curious, may be pulverized and used in the same way as diamond dust or emery powder.

In hardening the substance, the method pursued by the patentee is to place a small quantity of fused or nearly fused clear or colored glass in iron or other molds to shape the glass, and the substance is taken out of the molds and placed in platinum molds, and fused or nearly fused, and suddenly deprived of its caloric by frigorific mixtures of iced water and salt, or any of the freezing compounds that produce extreme cold; the sum and substance of which is that the glass is heated to a very high degree of temperature and then rapidly cooled in a very frigid fluid. A startling statement is made by Mr. Macintosh when he asserts that when the component parts of gems are treated by the above process, he is enabled to produce thereby fictitious gems even harder than real diamonds.

The Cold Steam Motor.

We have made several allusions to what is claimed by a Philadelphia inventor as a new motive power which is to supersede steam, by virtue of its being far more powerful and very much cheaper. It is claimed that its cost is a mere trifle, compared to the cost of steam, while it is capable of being used with the utmost safety at a pressure many times that of the ordinary use of steam.

The discoverer refuses to tell, even the capitalists associated with him, how he obtains his power; although he freely permits his associates and some of their friends, as experts, to see the machine both at rest and at work. According to reports, they find that it actually possesses wonderful power, developed in a manner which they cannot explain. They have taken the machine to pieces, watched the discoverer, Keeley, while putting in water and blowing in air, examined the vapor which issues from the machine when in operation, and found that the power amounts to a pressure of several thousand pounds to the square inch. There is no fire, no heat, and, so far as they can discover, no chemical; and they suppose that the power is obtained by decomposing water into its constituent gases by some process not generally understood. Keeley says he must keep his secret till he gets his patents. He refuses to give a name to the motor; but others, led by guess, call it "cold steam." The machine is described as about three feet high, two long, and a foot wide; and contains a number of pipes of wrought iron connected by valves. It has been seen at work by Mr. Rutherford, Chief Engineer of the United States Navy, and he, with others, signed an opinion which has been published in a pamphlet for the use of the stockholders.

We understand that neither Mr. K. nor the parties associated with him desire to part with any stock in the invention, and they express the belief that within a short time trains will be driven by the new motor on some one or more of our principal railroads. While mechanics and others are on the tiptoe of expectation, all prefer to wait for a practical demonstration, on the principal that only seeing will lead to full confidence in the reality of the invention.

American Tea.—Georgia is going to try her hand once more at tea growing. Those who have investigated the subject assure us that the obstacle to the culture of tea successfully as an article of commerce in the Southern States is the want of experience, but chiefly of cheap labor. The tea tree of China has been grown by several persons in Georgia, from the Piedmont region to the sea coast. The shrub is a hardy and vigorous evergreen and thrives as well with us as it does in China or Japan. It grows from three to five feet high—a neat, compact, laurel-leaved shrub, with pretty, white flowers in spring, and is quite ornamental. It is perfectly hardy and will stand any exposure to the climate, as has been tested in Athens and many other localities in Georgia. We are told it would be an easy matter for any family that has a home and a few feet of ground to produce their own tea and a little to sell. Its general introduction for home use would most likely lead to its production for the market. There will be many things for the people to learn before they are able to manufacture the article as we get it from China; but, it is said, a very good tea, and free from adulteration, can be made by simply picking and drying the leaves in the same manner that sage leaves are cured.—*N. Y. Bulletin.*

The Effect of Emotion.—It is related by Sprengel in his "Geschichte der Arzneikunde," that the Arabian physicians sometimes relied with great success on moral means, of which the following is a striking instance: One of Haroun Al-Raschid's wives suffered from paralysis of both arms. Dschibrail, the court physician, induced the caliph to summon all the leading nobles to a large hall in his palace, and then introduced the lady to the assembled multitude. Without a word of preface he raised her veil, when feelings of shame and fear restored strength to the palsied arms. The lady hastily drew her veil down again, and was cured from that hour.

The Effect of Buckwheat on the Blood.—Does it drive the impurity of the blood to the outside, or does it make the blood more impure and, by reason of excess, cause impurities to come to the surface? Ans.—The harm is not due to any injurious ingredient in the buckwheat. It is to be ascribed to the large amounts of butter and fatty matters eaten at the same time.

White horn buttons may be made to imitate mother-of-pearl by being boiled in a saturated solution of sugar of lead and then laid in very dilute hydrochloric acid.

English Oak for Spokes vs. Hickory.

A great deal of the mistrust which is often to be found in the minds of workmen, respecting the information to be derived from books and papers, upon their own trades, is not without some foundation. If this mistrust be traced to its source, it will be found that the writers in question are oftentimes not acquainted with the practical parts of their subjects as practiced in the workshop; and therefore errors creep in, as almost every day's reading unfortunately proves. These, when observed by workmen as being directly opposed to experience gained by years of practice, are the first things laid hold of, and produce an unfavorable impression regarding all kinds of book learning, very difficult to eradicate. The subject of timber is one that has often been handled by scientific writers, and many extraordinary statements have been made respecting the various properties of the different kinds, which statements are entirely at variance with the teachings of every-day life. Numerous instances might be given, but my present intention is to give facts respecting British timber, gathered from practical observation, rather than a collection of errors.

Out of the many different species of wood used in British carriage building, the oak and ash are usually taken as the representatives, and, together with a slight spice of elm, form the principal woods used for the more important parts of carriage frame work. In England, no tree is held in such esteem as the oak, and there is none more deserving, for in whatever light oak may be considered, it appears to advantage.

In carriage building, the parts to which English oak is most adapted are the spokes, and no country has as yet produced a material to equal it in this respect. Hickory may excel in some respects, but for general good qualities nothing equals the oak. The way the oak is converted into timber at present is not such as to produce the most valuable wood, but to secure the most profit to the owner. If the tree were to be cut down in winter, as it ought to be, the bark would adhere so firmly as to become almost part of the wood itself, but when the value of the bark is about a third or more of the timber, it makes it worth while to sacrifice some of the value of the timber to secure the bark.

A cross-section of an oak tree shows, in addition to the growth, two distinct kinds of wood. Nearest the center the wood has a red aspect, and is known as "heart of oak;" the outer part is called the sap, and as the tree is cut down in spring, when the sap is up or running, the heart and sap are as widely different in their natures as if they belonged to two distinct species.

With the exception of oak and larch, scarcely any trees are here cut down in spring or summer for timber purposes, as these two trees are the principle if not the only ones whose bark is made use of. The bark of oak is of sufficient value to make it worth while peeling all parts, from the trunk down to almost the smallest sticks, and the wood or plantation where bark-peeling is going on is a scene of lively animation, from the number of young persons of both sexes employed.

The best method of preparing the oak wood for spokes is a subject whereof many various opinions are expressed by old experienced "spoke-haggers."

Some recommend that the timber ought to be buried in dry soil for a short time, while others hold that it ought to be soaked in fresh water; but the object in view is simply to get rid of the natural juices as expeditiously as possible, without injury to the wood in the shape of cracks or shakes. The simplest, and perhaps best way, is to cross-cut the tree into the required spoke lengths, and afterwards split up the pieces by wedges into sizes, which, after rough dressing and the shrinkage of drying, are large enough for ordinary spokes. The line of cleavage is very important, and to secure the best spokes it must not be taken at random, but must be through the medullary rays, or those easily discerned growths, which, in oak particularly, are found radiating from the pith like the spokes of a wheel. While the spokes are still green, they are roughly dressed up with an ax, and are ready for storing by to dry. The above is not so economical a method as sawing out the spokes, but it is without doubt the best; for with the medullary rays running from back to front of spokes, the fiber is considered to be in the best position for strength. Sawn spokes have not this advantage; and, moreover, they have a bad name, through wood being often cut into spokes that is quite unfit, through crossness, for that purpose.—*Carriage Maker.*

The Sand Blast—New Applications.

The sand blast has, in the four years it has been in operation, wrought a revolution in all kinds of ornamental stone cutting. For cutting glass the pressure of an ordinary blower is sufficient to make either a plain, uniformly depolished surface, or copy the most delicate line engraving; while for stone and metal cutting a pressure of from 90 to 100 pounds is employed. The contractor for furnishing 250,000 head stones to the government employs the blast; and by its use completes them at the rate of 300 per day, averaging eighteen letters each.

One great use of the blast, at present, is in the manufacture of plain and colored glass signs, of all descriptions, as well as door lights of most artistic and beautiful designs. It is also beginning to be used in lapidary work of all kinds, especially in the manufacture of initial jewelry. It is also employed very largely in giving the popular "satin finish" to silver-plated ware, and, more recently, to the manufacture of glass globes, bearing elaborate and artistic patterns.

The Ames shovel works, at Taunton, Mass. are proposing to apply the blast to the cleaning of their iron from rust, etc., a process now attended with considerable labor and inconvenience. A Taunton (Mass.) tack factory, which cleans 17,000 square feet of tack plate per diem, is also proposing to apply it to the same purpose. One of its most novel applications was the recent furnishing of 200 appropriately engraved glass cards, for the glass wedding of an eccentric Englishman. Some twenty tons of five-eighth inch glass for the dome of the New Orleans custom house were recently cleaned and depolished. Such thick glass is always full of little specks of dirt, etc., on its surface; but by the use of the blast a perfectly clean surface was obtained, which transmitted a clear, pleasant light.

New Barrel Machine.—It is said that Mr. J. W. Jones, of Wheeling, W. Va., has invented a crozier that cuts, grades the thickness, squares the ends, champers and grooves a stave at one stroke. One machine is capable of turning out in a day eight hundred "stands" of staves, or kegs, the labor required for feeding being that of a boy only. It is automatic, in fact, and is a self-feeder to a great extent.

The leaves of the eucalyptus (blue gum) tree are found to be an excellent article for deodorizing water closets and vaults.

Glycerine added to paper stock increases the flexibility of the paper.

Black Walnut Finishing.

The fashionable finish for black walnut work, particularly chamber sets, is what is known to the trade as the "dead oil finish." It is admired, perhaps, because it has a gloss, rather than a shine of the varnish stamp. There is no more labor required upon it than upon a bright finish, but the process of manipulation is different, and harder upon the fingers.

It should be premised that the walnut work of the day bears upon its surface, to a greater or less extent, raised panels covered with French burl veneer. And upon this fact depends the beauty of the production to a very great extent. And the effort is, to so finish the article that there shall be a contrast between the panel and the ground work on which it is placed. In other words, the former should be of a light color, while the latter is of a darker shade. In that view the palest shellac should be used on the panels and darker pieces, liver colored, etc., on the body of the work. The darker grades of shellac are the cheaper and will answer for the bulk of the work, but the clearest only for the panels.

In commencing to finish a job direct from the cabinet maker's hand, rough, and innocent of any knowledge of sandpaper, the panels should first be covered with a coat of shellac to prevent the oil in the filling from coloring them dark. Next, cover the body of the work with a wood filling composed of whiting and plaster of paris, mixed up with japan, benzine and raw linseed oil, or the lubricating oil made from petroleum; the whole colored with umber, to which, in rare cases, if a reddish shade is wanted, venetian red is also added. This filling is then rubbed off with cloths, and by this process tends to close up the grain of the wood and produce an even surface. More or less time should be allowed after each of the several steps in the finishing process for the work to dry and harden, though much less is required in working with shellac than with varnishes composed of turpentine, oil and gums. But the time allowed is often hurried by the desire to get the work through as soon as possible, so that no standard can be set up as to the number of hours required between each of the several processes. It would be well if twelve hours intervened, but if the work must be hurried through in three days, which ten could well be devoted to, obviously, the processes must follow each other in a corresponding haste.

A coating of shellac is then given the whole work, light on the panels and dark on the body work, and when it has dried and hardened, which it does very soon, it may be rubbed down. This process of "rubbing down" should be done evenly and carefully, so as not to rub through the shellac at any point, and is done with the finer grades of sandpaper for the cheaper class of work, particularly at first, but at a later period of the process, and for the better class of articles in all cases, hair cloth should be used; the material for the "rubbing down" should be pumice stone moistened with raw linseed oil for the best work, and the lubricating oil, before mentioned, for cheaper work or the covered parts of the better grades. This rubbing down involves labor, wear of fingers and finger nails, and is carried on with an ordinary bit of hair cloth, the smooth surface next the wood, and not made in any particular shape, such as a wad, or ball, or otherwise. In the corners and crevices where the hair cloth will not enter it will be necessary to sandpaper; the finest grades, and worn pieces only.

Three coats of shellac are put on, followed each time by this "rubbing down" process, each one giving the work a smoother feeling and a more perfect appearance. Afterward, to complete the whole, a coating of japan, thinned with benzine, is applied, which gives a clean appearance to the work, and the dead glossy finish.

There is this objection to the above style of finish, that the japan catches all the dust which touches it and holds it permanently, so that many of the best workmen will not have work finished in this way for their own private houses, preferring the brighter look made by shellac and varnish without rubbing down the last coat, and saying that the work can be kept much cleaner.

The large oval panels of desks, etc., covered with French veneer, are generally taken out and finished by themselves. The process is similar to that above given, successive coats of shellac, and varnish also, with the oil and pumice stone "rubbing down"; but the final part of this latter process is a "rubbing down" with rotten stone; then a very trifle of sweet oil is applied all over the surface and wiped off.—*Cabinet Maker.*

A New Artificial Light for Photographing.—The following is a description of a new artificial light for photographing, which has been recently invented in France. A quart bottle, with a somewhat large mouth, has a cork with two openings. Through one of these a tube passes to near the bottom of the bottle; through the second a larger tube, packed with iron scale, issues. Fragments of pumice fill the bottle, and on these carbon disulphide is poured. A current of nitric oxide prepared by Deville's method—by the action of nitric and sulphuric acids on metallic iron contained in a self-regulating reservoir—is passed through the bottle, where it takes up the vapor of the disulphide. It is then led through the safety tube packed with iron scale to the burner. Excellent photographs were taken in five seconds with this light, the object being six feet distant In photographic power the light is asserted to be superior to the magnesium or calcium light, and even to surpass the electric light itself. The products of combustion are noxious and must be got rid of.

The Ear.—Mr. James Hinton, in his "Physiology," affirms that the passage of the ear does not require cleaning by us. Nature undertakes that task, and in the healthy state fulfils it perfectly. Her means for cleansing the ear is the wax, which dries up into thin scales, and peels off and falls away imperceptibly. In health the passage of the ear is never dirty, but an attempt to clean it will infallibly make it so. Washing the ear out with soap and water is bad; it keeps the wax moist when it ought to become dry and scaly, and makes it absorb dust. But the most hurtful thing is the introduction of the corner of a towel screwed up and twisted around. This proceeding irritates the passage and presses down the wax and flakes of skin upon the membrane of the tympanum, producing pain and inflammation and deafness. Washing should only extend to the outer surface, as far as the finger can reach.

To Fit a Key.—When it is not convenient to take a lock apart to fit a new key, the key blank should be smoked over a candle, inserted in the keyhole, and pressed firmly against the opposing wards of the lock. The indentations in the smoked portion made by the wards will show where to file.

To make green gold, melt together nineteen grains pure gold and five grains pure silver. The metal thus prepared has a beautiful green shade.

To buy all the land one can is like a merchant paying all his money for a building.