

According to a German scientist's experiments, the healthy eye is able to perceive about three hundred differences of colors.

The fibre of silk is the longest continuous fibre known. An ordinary cocoon of a well fed silkworm will often reel 1,000 yards, and reliable accounts are given of a cocoon yielding 1,295 yards, or a fibre nearly three quarters of a mile in length.

A New York paper stated on good authority that if the United States were to spend \$5,000,000 in fighting one particular insect which was mentioned, it would be the cheapest and most economical expenditure they ever made.

A clock has been invented, and is coming into use in Europe, which is warranted by its manufacturers to run for five years without either winding or regulation. The Belgian Government placed one in a railway station in 1881, sealed with the Government seal, and it has kept perfect time ever since.

Harrison Hahn of Wind Gap, Pa., has a two-year old daughter whose ears are bent forward and grown fast to the face. The girl was deformed when born. Both ears are without the orifice, but deafness is prevented by the girl hearing every sound, no matter how light, through her nose and mouth.—*Philadelphia News*.

Entomological.

In 1857, the wheat midge, (*Cecidomyia tritici*), destroyed 8,000,000 bushels of wheat in Canada, worth at least \$8,000,000.

The annual loss to the crops of the Dominion of Canada, caused by insects, is estimated at \$20,000,000. As some insects are useful, while others are injurious, it is evident that farmers should have some accurate knowledge of entomology in its relation to Agriculture.

The "Forest tent caterpillar," (*Clisiocampa sylvatica*), which was so destructive to the forests of Pictou County in 1882 and 1883, vanished last summer, 1884. Was it the coldness and wetness of the season in early summer, or the multiplication of its parasites, which caused this remarkable disappearance?

Some remarkable relics of ancient volcanic action in the northwestern portion of New Mexico, consist of a multitude of needle-like peaks rising out of the broad valley bottoms to altitudes varying from 1,000 to 2,200 feet. They are composed of black basaltic lava, having a beautiful columnar structure like the basalt of the Giant's causeway. They are remnants of lava, which once rose up out of the earth through the strata and congealed in the volcanic pipes or vents. In later periods the strata which enclosed them have been dissolved away and removed by the general erosion of the country, leaving these basaltic cones projecting many hundreds of feet in the air, as casts of the volcanic pipes or passages through which the ancient towers rose to the surface.