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An apparatus is on trial in Great Britain which, it is claimed, will abate the sewer gas nuisance in large cities.

It is said that the frigate bird can fly at the rate of 100 miles an hour and live in the air a week at a time without touching a roost.

Powerful yellow and red dyes, suitable for silk, and stable when washed, have been derived from the rare metal ruthenium, by Professor Joly, of the Paris Ecole Normale.

Perhaps that latest application of electric light to heating is in the form of a poultice. This may be raised to any desired temperature by regulating the amount of current.

Instantaneous photography with electric light on shipboard, for war purposes, was made the subject of experiment at Davenport, England, last month. The opinion thus reached is that the idea has merit.

Mechanical stokers for boiler-furnaces on land are getting to be an old story. But a series of papers is now being printed in *The Mechanical World* (London) on the feasibility of using the system on steamships.

Seats composed of steel rings knit together are being tried in some of the carriages of the North British Railway. Cleanliness, elasticity, durability and the quickness with which such seats can be rigged are the virtues claimed for them.

Cobaltic nitrate is found by Dr. Johan Antal, a chemist of Hungary, to be an antidote to prussic acid and cyanide poisoning. First he tried the cobalt on animals, and then, presumably at different times, on forty living persons, who had been accidentally poisoned by prussic acid, and in all cases the results are reported to have been satisfactory.

It is reported that M. Bertillon, the inventor of the anthropometrical system of identification adopted by the Paris police, is endeavouring to revive the use of the picture telegraph. He believes that in rapidly transmitting and disseminating the portraits of suspected anarchists and other criminals, it would be found of very great service.

Dr. Mueller, of Australia, claims that strychnine is a certain antidote to serpent venom. The Indian Government has recently had a series of experiments conducted with a view to test its efficacy. The results thus far have not been entirely satisfactory, but the experiments are to be continued for two years more before a final judgment will be passed.

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