

Scientific and Sanitary.

The stoppage of the oxygenation of the blood stops its circulation, carbonic acid gas accumulates therein; insensibility and death ensues.

In a large London banking house the substitution of electric light for illuminating gas paid for the change in the extra work secured through the improved health of the force.

For seven years the St. Lawrence River gradually decreases in depth; then for seven years it gradually increases in depth, the difference in level being about five feet. Why it does so, no one has yet discovered.

Spectroscope analysis has been applied in England to the determination of the constituent elements in alloys and their quantities. Tests can thus be applied to objects made of precious metals, without the injury which would result from a chemical analysis.

A very satisfactory dressing for wounds, consisting of bags of straw charcoal, is used by the Japanese. It fits perfectly to the wounds, and has considerable absorbing power and antiseptic properties. The charcoal is prepared by burning straw in a covered vessel.

Cats have been suspected of conveying the infection of diphtheria, and scarlet fever has been traced to them. To this may be added the unwelcome news that a health officer has reported a case of smallpox which has been brought about in the same way; that is to say, by a cat from an infected house entering a neighbour's. — *Popular Science*.

The British Association has resolved to invite the presidents, vice-presidents, and officers of the American Association to attend its meeting next year at Toronto as honorary members; also to admit all fellows and members of the American Association as members of the British Association on the same terms as old annual members—namely, on payment of \$5 without requiring an admission fee.

A curious experiment is recorded in *La Nature* by M. F. Crestin, in which, by the application of a magnet, he extracted a needle from a woman's hand, in which it had been imbedded two months. The hand was placed upon one of the poles of an electro-magnet, and a current giving an attractive force of three grammes was applied for about two hours at a time. After nine sittings, or about twenty hours of magnetic action, the needle, with the point broken off, came out and adhered to the magnet, the whole operation having been performed without pain or loss of blood.

That petroleum can be produced, or at least imitated, by proper treatment of linseed oil, has been announced by Professor Sadtler. This was shown that by subjecting this oil to destructive distillation, under pressure, various products identical with certain petroleum hydrocarbons can be produced. This fact is of great significance and importance. It bears directly upon and affords proofs of one of two theories regarding the origin of petroleum. These theories are: one, that petroleum is of animal origin, the other that it is of vegetable origin. Possibly, perhaps probably, both are true. Without discussing the theory of animal origin, Professor Sadtler's results would seem to prove the other.

In an experiment recently made at an Austrian wood pulp factory to determine how quickly it was possible to make a newspaper from a tree, three trees were felled in the presence of a notary and witnesses at 7.35 a.m. The trees were taken to the factory and cut into short pieces, which were stripped of their bark and converted into mechanical pulp. This was placed in a vat and mixed with the materials necessary to form paper, and the first leaf of paper came out at 9.34 a.m. Some of the sheets were taken, the notary still watching the proceedings, to a printing office about three miles away, and a printed newspaper was issued at ten o'clock. It took thus two hours and twenty-five minutes to convert a tree into a newspaper.

unfortunate

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