

Scientific and Useful.

COLOURED WASH FOR WALLS.—Three or four handfuls of Portland cement put in a pailful of whitewash will make a nice stone-coloured cement for walls or out-buildings, that will look well and not wash or rub off.

LILIES.—It is stated in some of the foreign journals that Auratum and other lilies that do not seem to bear well the full blaze of the sun, nor very much shade, succeed admirably if planted among low growing shrubs that will afford shade to the roots while the top ascends to enjoy the full sunshine.

DROOPING OF CUT FLOWERS.—The "Gardener's Chronicle" says that if flowers cut for bouquets or other work are stood in water for several hours after being cut and before they are made, they will endure much longer without flagging than if immediately arranged. The more water they can absorb after being severed from the plant the better they will stand.

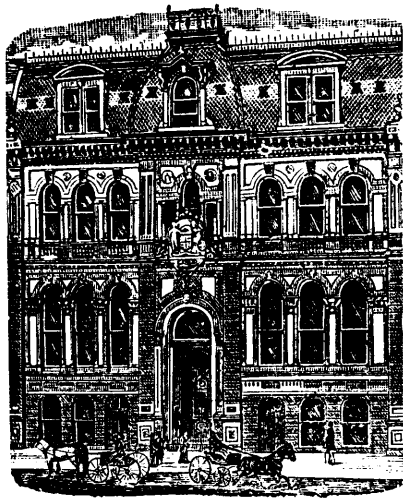
COCOANUT AND ALMOND CAKE.—Two and a half cups powdered sugar; one cup of butter; four full cups prepared flour; whites of seven eggs, whisked stiff; one small cup of milk, with a mere pinch of soda; one grated cocoanut; one-half tea-spoonful nutmeg; juice and half the grated peel of one lemon; cream, butter, and sugar; stir in lemon and nutmeg; mix well, add the milk, the whites and flour alternately; lastly, stir in the grated cocoanut swiftly and lightly. Bake in four jelly-cake tins.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.—One of the British Medical Officers of Health, Mr. F. E. Mauby, suggests that if a medical certificate that each child was in good health, and had not been exposed to any known infectious influence during the holidays, could be required at both public and private schools at the commencement of each term, and if a systematic inquiry could be made, say at the beginning of each week, in each school, as to causes of absence, a very great step would be taken towards the checking of contagious diseases, since it is certain that the gathering together of children at schools is the principal means of spreading these among the population.

CARBOLIC ACID IN MALARIAL DISEASE.—A strong plea for the value of carbolic acid in malarial disease is published in the "Virginia Medical Monthly," from the pen of Dr. A. G. Tebault. He says: "As a prophylactic, carbolic acid given in grain doses, at intervals of three to six hours, has, in my hands, yielded comparatively far happier results, even in cases where unmistakable prodromes (forerunners) of malarial fever were actually present. In experiments instituted during the past seven years, on my own person and others, feelings of lassitude, malaise, cutaneous torpors, disturbed sleep, furred tongue, nauseous taste and anorexia (want of appetite), often gave way under this treatment within twenty-four hours; and a pulse hitherto jerking and irritable became calm and of natural rhythm, while a soothing pleasant sensation pervaded the system. No fever manifested itself in any of the cases; on the contrary, the person felt refreshed and buoyant. No other agent which I have employed has ever superseded carbolic acid as an apparent disinfectant of the malarious taint within the system; and this, after anxious thought on the subject for years, is to my mind the first glimmer of light that may lead to the discovery of means to act directly on the poison of fever."

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE NIAGARA SUSPENSION BRIDGE.—The railway suspension bridge at Niagara, built by John A. Roebling more than twenty years ago, has probably seen as much hard service as any structure in the country. Since its completion, the amount of travel over it, and the weight of the engines and trains that cross, have increased enormously beyond what was expected. A little more than a year ago the directors commenced a complete examination of the strength of the structure. Wire was taken from the cables and tested, and found to be as strong as when it was first laid. The anchorages were, however, found not to be heavy enough for the present travel, and have been strengthened by a new set of anchor bars. During the present summer the wooden superstructure of the bridge is to be replaced with steel, the Pittsburgh Bridge Company having contracted to do the work for \$60,000, completing the job by the first of November. The running of trains will not be interfered with, nor the traffic on the carriage way. The change will lessen the weight of the structure about two hundred tons. The skillful manner in which Mr. Buck, the engineer in charge, strengthened the anchorages, makes it certain that at the end of the summer the bridge will be better than ever before.

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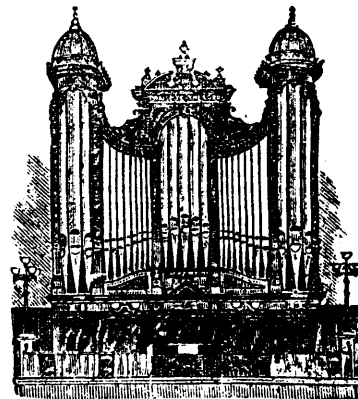
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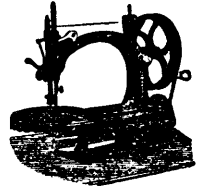


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