

which help, in connection with the feathers of the back, to hide the spot, being drawn either down or back too far. If the wing is placed too low, the same spot is seen, only it is elongated and extends along the back between the secondaries and feathers of the back; if too high the feathers of the back will appear pushed up, and will not lie smooth for obvious seasons. When the wing is in the right position, the feathers of the wing-coverts and back will bend nicely and smoothly, and the feathers of the sides of the breast will lie smoothly over the bend of the wing; the ends of the closed quills will lie flat upon the tail or nearly so. Now draw the thread through so that but an inch is visible inside the skin, then push the needle through the skin from the outside just below the quill that it came out through, draw the thread through, and tie to the projecting end, thereby fastening the wing firmly to the side; proceed in this way with the other wing.

Roll up loosely an oblong body of cotton or hemp of the same size as the body taken out, place it in the skin neatly, then draw the edges of the skin together where the incision was made, and sew them once in the centre; tie the ends of the thread together. Take care to put the needle through the edge of the skin so as not to disturb the feathers. Smooth the feathers on the abdomen. Cross the feet up on the tail—which is spread slightly,—then place the skin upon its back, taking care that the feathers are perfectly smooth, and place a little cotton on each side to prevent its getting displaced. This is what is technically termed “a skin.”

The largest diamond ever brought to this country is now in Boston to be cut. It weighs 125 carats; the famous Kohinoor weighed 186 before cutting.

(For the SCIENTIST.)

CHEMISTRY.

INTRODUCTION.

We purpose through the columns of the SCIENTIST to give series of lessons on Elementary Chemistry, hoping thereby to assist those who desire a knowledge of the elements but who have not time to devote to the thorough study of the subject.

To the Science of Chemistry the explanation of many natural phenomena must be attributed. The phenomena of respiration, the decay and growth of plants, the causes of rain, hail and earthquakes, can only be explained by the aid of Chemistry.

As an art Chemistry probably is more or less intimately connected with every branch of human industry. To the agriculturalist and manufacturer it is of incalculable value. It is by this science that the farmer learns what is required to make fruitful his barren land and how he can best adapt his land to the growth of any given kind of plants. The manufacturer is constantly employing chemistry in his works. Glass blowing, bleaching, manufacture of soap and almost every kind of medicine depend very largely on the knowledge obtained from chemistry.

Since we can claim for Chemistry first place among the most important sciences, we should be able to define what Chemistry is, but the nearest to a definition that can be given of this science is that it investigates the composition and properties of bodies, either by analysis or synthesis, that by the separation of compounds into their simple elements or the recombination of the simple elements into compounds. The first question which the chemist seeks to ascertain concerning every substance is does it consist of one kind or of several kinds of