

Scientific and Useful.

SORENESS IN THE EAR.

As soon as any soreness is felt in the ear, let three or four drops of the tincture of arnica be poured in, and the orifice be filled with a little cotton to exclude the air, and in a short time the soreness is forgotten.

TREATMENT OF GOLD FISH.

In cases where gold fish are kept in vessels in rooms, etc., they should be kept in spring water. This will require to be changed according to the size of the vessel or the number of fish kept therein, but it is not well to change the water too often.

BORAX FOR COLDS.

A writer in the Medical Record cites a number of cases in which borax has proved a most effective remedy in certain forms of colds. He states that in sudden hoarseness or loss of voice in speakers and singers, from colds, relief for an hour or so, as by magic, may be often obtained by slowly dissolving and partially swallowing a lump of borax the size of a garden pea, or about three or four grains, held in the mouth ten minutes before speaking or singing.

DUCKS AS EGG PRODUCERS.

The number of eggs laid by a duck depends very much on the breed to which she belongs. In all poultry the non-sitters are more than those who are concerned in the rising generation. Thus the Aylesbury will lay a greater number of eggs than any other duck. The black duck, called the Labrador, the East Indian or Buenos Ayres, is a good layer. The Rouen is an average layer, and the wild duck lays few compared to these.

SALT IN SCIENCES.

Dr. Scudder remarks: "I am satisfied that I have seen patients die from deprivation of common salt during a protracted illness. It is a common impression that the food for the sick should not be seasoned, and whatever sloop may be given, it is most innocent of this essential of life. In the milk diet that I recommended in sickness, common salt is used freely, the milk being boiled and given hot. And if no patient cannot take the usual quantity in his food, I have it given in his drink."

This matter is so important that it cannot be repeated too often, or dwelt upon too long. The most marked example of this want of common salt I have ever noticed has been in surgical disease, especially in open wounds. Without a supply of salt the tongue would become broad, pallid, puffy, with a tenacious pasty coat, the secretions arrested, the circulation feeble, the effusion at the point of injury serous, with an unpleasant watery pus, which at last becomes micro-fanics or ichor. A few days of a free allowance would change all this, and the patient get along well."

AMMONIA ICE MACHINES.

It is a well-known fact that when a liquid is converted into gas it abstracts a certain amount of heat from the surrounding objects, and hence liquids which volatilize readily are said to produce a certain amount of cold. Ether, when placed on the skin, evaporates so rapidly as to produce the sensation of extreme cold. Gases, like sulphurous acid, nitrous oxide, carbonic acid, and ammonia, which may be liquefied by pressure, produce very intense cold if allowed to evaporate rapidly, which is done by removing the pressure. The apparatus invented by C. F. Carre, of Paris, for freezing water by means of ammonia, consists of a generator and a receiver made of iron boiler plate, and connected by means of a strong iron tube. In the generator is placed a solution of ammonia saturated at 2 deg. Fahrenheit, which is heated by means of a suitable furnace, while the empty receiver is immersed in cold water. On heating the solution of ammonia the gas is driven off and collected in the receiver, where it is condensed to a liquid as soon as the pressure passes ten atmospheres. The receiver is constructed with a cylindrical space, into which a closely fitting vessel filled with water is now placed, and the apparatus is reversed, the generator being immersed in the water. The liquefied ammonia, having the pressure removed, passes again into the gaseous state, and is re-absorbed by the water in the generator. By this means large quantities of ice are produced in tropical countries at a reasonable price. None of the gas is wasted, and the only expenses are for labour, apparatus and fuel. -Edward J. Hallock, in Journal of Applied Chemistry.

Mr. Whalley, the Tichborne champion and no leader of the rabid Anti-Papists in England, was sent to jail the other day for contempt of court. He had written a letter calculated to influence the jury in the Tichborne case, expressing his confidence in the wretched lunatic. His counsel could offer no other plea in mitigation of the sentence except that his client was almost a fool. His master paid his fine of \$1,250, and got him out of quod, and he has just been re-elected to Parliament.

Miscellaneous.

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