

of long poles. The workmen engaged in this work were injured by the introduction into their eyes of some scales from these insects. There resulted from it an intense conjunctivitis, with blepharospasm, photophobia and excessive secretion of tears. After having removed the foreign bodies, treatment led to recovery, but the inflammation did not succumb in one case till after 26 days.

C. I. KINGSETT, F.C.S., recently read a paper before the London Chemical Society: "The Comparative Antiseptic Values of Various Chemical Substances." He stated that the processes of chemical change set up by micro-organisms are two—viz., hydration and oxidation. It is, he considered, by chemical hydrolysis as induced by micro-organisms that toxic products, like sepsin, tyrotoxin, ptomaines, etc., are elaborated. He pointed out a deficiency in perchloride of mercury as a disinfectant—viz., its want of power of oxidation. While it kills all micro-organisms, it has no effect on the products they elaborate.

PROF. HUMPHREY, in *British Medical*, gave in "Collective Investigations on Aged Persons," some most important information on *good sleeping* and the habit of *early rising*. The habit of early rising, in itself healthy, is a good sign of health when it signifies rapid recovery from fatigue. The nervous exhaustion which keeps a man wakeful during the small hours produces sleep late in the morning. Such exhaustion is caused by anxiety or indiscretion in eating and drinking. But to turn a weary man out of bed at seven o'clock will not prolong his life. According to Prof. Humphrey *good sleeping* is *quick sleeping* in the sense that the reparative process is rapid.

THE Committee of the French Senate on the "Purification of the Seine and the Utilization of Sewage for Agricultural Purposes," examined at length Bourgoïn, Dugardin-Beaumetz, Provost, Pasteur, and others on the following points:—

1st.—If, with the progress of science, we can believe the soil of Gennevilliers and of Achères will permit the destruction of pathogenic germs.

2nd.—If the water which pours itself from drains, after purification, will not contain them.

3rd.—If the vegetables grown from them are not dangerous.

M. Grancher's experiments have hitherto made it appear that the method is not fraught with any danger to the public.

It gives us much pleasure to see the interest the Honorable the Minister of Education is showing in all matters relating to the education of the people in matters of a technical and practical scientific character. The following circular shows how he is determined to obtain all the information possible in order that a proper commencement can be made:—

TORONTO, 3rd DECEMBER, 1888.

DEAR SIR,—I purpose submitting to the Legislative Assembly at its next session, a scheme for establishing, in the School of Practical Science, full courses of instruction in Applied Chemistry, Applied Mechanics and Architecture.

While in the interests of the industrial classes it is necessary that the course of instruction should be thoroughly practical, and at the same time educational, it is also necessary that the special wants of the industries of the country should be kept in view. It occurred to me, therefore, if I only could consult those employing skilled labor of various kinds, that I should be able to provide this special training with more certainty and satisfaction to both manufacturer and artisan.

I have accordingly decided to invite a number of manufacturers, skilled mechanics and others having interests of a similar character, to meet me at the Educational Department on Wednesday the 19th instant, at 2.30 p.m., in order that I may ascertain, if possible, on what particular lines, instruction such as I have above indicated, could be made most useful.

The attention of the meeting will be mainly directed (1) To a consideration of the various kinds of skilled labor now required to carry on the industries of the country and the best means of rendering it more productive and therefore more valuable; (2) To a consideration of what courses of instruction would be necessary to provide such skilled labor at home as is now supplied from abroad, and (3) To enquire what industries (if any) not yet established in Ontario could be made productive, provided we could supply them with skilled labor.

I shall be gratified if you can make it convenient to attend at the time above mentioned and aid with your counsel and experience.

Yours truly,

GEO. W. ROSS,
Minister of Education.