

WOOD is "METALLIZED" and rendered susceptible of very fine polish, resembling a metallic mirror, while it is completely protected from the deteriorating effects of moisture, by being steeped in a bath of caustic alkali, then in one of hydro-sulphate of calcium and sulphur, and in a third one with acetate of lead.

A WRITER in *Hygiene Pratique* states that boots and shoes may be rendered waterproof by soaking them for some hours in thick soap water. The compound forms a fatty acid within the leather and makes it impervious to water.

BLINDNESS has steadily decreased in England for the last thirty years, owing, it is thought, to the improvement of the opticians and the almost complete extinction of the small-pox among children.

KEROSENE OIL will soften boots and shoes that have become hard after being wet, and will render them soft as when new, so says the *Scientific American*.

CLEAR boiling water, it is said, will remove tea stains; pour the water through the stain, and thus prevent its spreading over the fabric.

WIND PRESSURE.—During the gales of the 26th and 27th of January, unprecedented wind pressures were experienced at the Forth Bridge Works. The strongest gusts gave a momentary pressure of $35\frac{1}{4}$ pounds per sq. ft. on a large board, 300 sq. ft. area, and no less than 65 pounds per sq. ft. on a small board, containing 1.5 sq. ft.

OIL OF WINTERGREEN is pronounced more efficacious as an antiseptic than phenol, though it is more costly.

PLATINUM WIRE has been drawn out so fine that it cannot be seen with the unaided eye.

STATISTICS presented by Dr. Billings show that of one million colored infants born in Baltimore, one-half will have died before two years have passed. Of a similar number of white children born there, one-half will live thirty-five years.

THE PROCESSES of manufacturing lumber from straw, it appears, have been of late substantially improved. It is now affirmed that this material can be made to imitate successfully all varieties of natural wood in grain, color and solidity.

TO PREVENT SCRATCHING MATCHES ON PAINT, rub the spot where servants or others commence the process with flannel saturated with any liquid vaseline. After that one may try to strike matches there, but will neither get a light nor injure the paint, and the petroleum causes the existing mark to soon disappear when it occurs on dark paint.

USE OF PEROXIDE OF HYDROGEN IN DIPHTHERIA. By R. J. Nunn, M.D., Savannah, Ga., Physician to the Female Department of the Savannah Hospital. New York: H. A. Von-neidshutz, 69 Pearl Street.

Questions and Answers.

C. N., wants to know if any readers of this JOURNAL can give a good and well tried process for making good pure "home-made" bread—the staff of life.

W. D., will find in this number an article on drain testing which will guide him sufficiently.

HEALTH OFFICER—In disinfecting rooms use 2 lbs. of sulphur, mixed with a little saltpetre, for every 1,000 cubic feet of space. Suspend it in an iron vessel over a tub of water. Having closed chimney openings as well as doors and windows, ignite and get away from the fumes.

Publisher's Notices.

THE SOAPS, "Lily White," "Perfection" and "Queen's Own," manufactured by Rodger, Maclay & Co., Toronto, are generally regarded as of most excellent quality—pure and of good cleansing properties, and perfectly free from qualities injurious to the finest articles of clothing.

KEER'S HIMALAYAN TEA gives such perfect satisfaction to all, without exception, whom the writer knows have tried it, that they much prefer it to any other tea. In the next number of this JOURNAL directions will be given how best to prepare this beverage.

COAL is such an indispensable article in this country that it is of great importance to get it good and pure. A number of known consumers for many years have found that from Mr. P. Burns invariably the best and cleanest, and delivered by very civil, obliging carters.

THE REPORT OF THE MORTUARY STATISTICS of the Dominion was received too late for this issue, we purpose noticing it at considerable length in the May number.

AN APOLOGY is due our readers for the lateness of this issue, from circumstances over which we had no control.

TO GET PICTURES elegantly and neatly framed—and at reasonable prices, there can be no better place than at Matthews' Bros., 93 Yonge Street, Toronto.