

**THE VALUE OF THE WILLOW.**—In France and Germany the Golden Willow is required to be planted on the banks of rivers, mill dams, races, stagnant and unhealthy streams, not only to promote health, that tree being a greater absorbent of unhealthy miasma than any other, but also to prevent the banks being washed by the current, tide, or otherwise injured, and for revenue from the annual clippings of the twigs for making baskets, the bodies of light carriages, sleighs, &c. The same custom is prevalent in many parts of New England. It is no unfrequent sight to observe a mill dam across many of their mountain streams lined on each side with thick set rows of the willow, the branches of which meeting above, form a beautiful arch, impervious to the sun. The tree grows rapidly near the water, and its numerous roots strengthen the dam.

#### SCRAPS FOR THE LADIES.

**TO CLEAN COLOURED SILKS.**—Dissolve white soap in warm water until you form a strong lather, at about heat put in the article. If strong, it may be rubbed as in washing; rinse it quickly in warm water—then in another vessel of warm water add a little oil of vitriol to give it a sourish taste for bright yellows, crimsons, maroons and scarlets;—for pinks, rose colours and their shades use lemon juice instead of oil of vitriol; but for bright scarlet use the solution of tin and after rinsing squeeze gently with the hand and then roll in a coarse sheet and wring it out—hang in a warm room to dry, and finish by mangling. For blues, purple, and their shades, use a little pearlash in the last water and it will restore the colours. Wash the articles like a linen garment, but do not wring them. For oranges, fawns, browns, or other shades, the last washing should be pure water, without any acid or alkali. For black, take oxgall and add boiling water sufficient to make it warm, and with a clean sponge rub the silk well on both sides, then rinse repeatedly in pure spring water; dry in the air, and finish by applying glue or isinglass water on the wrong side.

**TO EXTRACT STAINS,** use 1 part essence lemon to 5 of spirits turpentine, and apply with a linen rag.

**BALL FOR REMOVING GREASE SPOTS FROM CLOTH.**—Fullers' earth 3 parts, French chalk 1 part, yellow soap 20 parts, Pearlash 15 parts—mix into a paste with spirits turpentine, and cut into cakes to be dried for use.

**A HINT TO THE LADIES.**—We have always considered it an unerring sign of innate vulgarity, when we hear young ladies take particular pains to impress us with an idea of their ignorance of all domestic matters, save that of sewing lace, or weaving a net to encase their delicate hands. Ladies, by some curious kind of hocus pocus, have got into their heads that the best way to catch a husband is to show him how profoundly capable they are of doing nothing for his comfort. Frightening a pianist into fits, or murdering the king's French, may be good baits for certain kinds of fish, but they must be of that small kind usually found in very shallow waters. The surest way to secure a good husband is to cultivate those accomplishments which make a good wife.

**A MODERN KNITTING LOOM.**—In Connecticut, a machine of the most perfect kind has been invented, which knits all kinds of cotton, woolle and silk with amazing rapidity. It will knit a sock in an hour, and one girl can easily oversee ten machines. The weight of the machine is only about 3 pounds, and it may be placed on a centre-table in any lady's drawing-room.

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