

PURE OKUM toilet paper is coming into use, and will doubtless be very suitable for the purpose intended. It is specialy prepared from oakum, and possesses the odour of the tarry matters contained in the original rope. It is very tough and does not tear with moisture, and becomes soft and unirritating when gently rubbed.

DYER'S IMPROVED FOOD FOR INFANTS is another baby food now in the market, prepared by Messrs. W.A. Dyer & Co. of Montreal. The good effects of long continued heat in rendering all starchy foods more digestible are well known. The process in preparing this food consists in converting the starch, by means of continued heat, largely into a form of Dextrin, but not into Maltose or Glucose; thus allowing the digestive organs of the baby to accomplish what it can without being overtaxed.

AS A BREAKFAST dish for all who use porridge we believe there is no other food in the world equal to the Desiccated wheat of the Ireland National Food Co., of Toronto. Wheat we believe to be the most natural food for man, and in this crushed or cracked desiccated form it makes the most digestible and nutritious of all cereals.

FROM AN EXPERIENCE of several years we have pleasure in recommending Vick's garden seeds. We believe there are no better, few so good. His roses, too, and bulbs, we have found all that could reasonably be desired.

NOTES ON CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS (Amer. ed'n, World Buil'g New York) is surpassing itself in excellence in some recent numbers. That especially of Feb. 21 is like a holiday number, giving some very fine tinted illustrations of "D reams," by Jerome K. Jerome. Such well-known writers too as James Payn, Andrew Lang, Walter Besant, Robert Buchanan, Clement Scott, Dr. Richard Garnett, William Archer, Edmund Gosse and Frederick Greenwood are frequent contributors to this paper; while recent extensive alterations in the literary make-up of its columns has made that department much more interesting and attractive than ever before.

The DOMINION ILLUSTRATED is steadily improving under its present energetic management, and is, it appears, as steadily growing in public favour. The enlargement afforded opportunity for great improvement in its literary contents, the contributors to which now include many well-known writers, Historic

sketches, healthy fiction, crisp editorials on current topics, bright correspondents from London, New York, Toronto and other cities, sports, etc., make up, with the numerous illustrations dealing chiefly with Canadian scenes, events and personages, an excellent journal for Canadian readers, which should have a large circulation.

THE METHODIST MAGAZINE for March is one of the best numbers of this interesting monthly that has ever been issued, and gives strong evidence of a permanent improvement in the periodical. Besides many "Footprints of Wesley" and much other matter, it contains two very interesting articles—"Through Hungary," and "On the Track of St. Paul"—Cyprus Rhodes and Smyrna," both well illustrated.

THE CENTURY for March has a third instalment of the famous Talleyrand Memoirs dealing with Napoleon Bonaparte, Josephine, and the Emperor Alexander. The California series takes up the Fremont explorations, first with a brief paper giving a resume of the first exploration; second with a paper by Mrs. Fremont on the "Origin of the Fremont Explorations"; and third, with a post humorous narrative of the terrible experience of the fourth expedition under the title of "Rough Times in Rough Places," being a personal record of Micajah McGehee of Mississippi. It is an excellent number.

A DECIDED ACQUISITION to the staff of the Cosmopolitan Magazine is Mr. Brander Mathews, President of the Nineteenth Century Club, the well known litterateur, who takes charge of the department of book reviews. His keen critical taste and fine judgment in literary matters will make his opinion valued in every household. Added to his name are that of Edward Everett Hale, in charge of "Social Problems;" Murat Halstead, reviewing "Current Events;" and Miss Bisland, with her European articles, which give the Cosmopolitan a staff of exceptionally good writers.

In the POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY for April the subject of Street Cleaning in large cities will be treated by General Emmons Clark of New York. The article will include explicit practical suggestions for the proper performance of this important work. The battle between Prof. Huxley and the defenders of theology is still going on in the monthly. That for April will have an essay by the Duke of Argyle, entitled Prof. Huxley on the war-path.