Scientific and Useful.

A SIMPLE REMEDY.

A correspondent of the London *Field* suggests an easy and, he says, most effectual way of getting rid of slugs and snails, namely: Put small heaps of bran (about two handfulls) close to the plants which they destroy most, and then, about ten or eleven o'clock at night, go round and put a handful of quicklime on each heap; the number of slugs found killed in the morning will be almost incredible. Slugs prefer bran to any fruit or vegetable, and will congregate on these heaps from all parts of the garden.

FROSTED FEET.

Twenty-five years ago I was terribly afflicted with chilblains, and had been for fifteen years, being laid up some winters for weeks, and after trying many remedies stumbled on the following: Soak the feet in hot water for at least half an hour, occasionally adding hot water to keep up the heat all that can be endured. After wiping the feet hold them to a hot stove just as hot as can be endured another half hour occasionally bathing them with some healing liniment. Repeat this for three or four nights. I have never suffered an hour since this trial was made.—*P. B. S., in Country Gentleman.*

THE VITALITY OF SEEDS.

Seeds of artichoke (globe) lasts good for 5 years; asparagus, 4; beans (garden) 5; beans (French), 2 to 3; beet, 5, cabbage, 5; carrot, 4; cauliflower, 5; celery, 7; cress, (garden), 5; cress (water), 4; cucumber, 5; dandelion, 1; egg-plant, 7; fennel 6; gourds, 6; leeks, 2; lettuce, 5; maize, 2; melon, 5; mustard, 5; nasturtium 5; onions, 2 to 3; parsnip, 1; parsley, 3; peas, 4 to 5; pepper (long), 4; potatoes, 3; radish, 5; rhubarb, 3; salsify, 2; spinach, 5; strawberry, 3; thyme, 2 to 3; tomato, 5; and turnip, 5.

NEW METHOD OF PRESERVING GRAPES.

A French vine-dresser preserves grapes through the entire winter, their freshness beauty and savor remaining unimpaired, even until the month of April. His method is thus described: The grapes are left upon the vine as late as possible, care being had, however, to cut them before the first frost. The bunch, in cutting, is not detached from the stalk or cane, but the latter is cut so that the cluster has attached to it after cutting, two or three knots and joints below the cluster and two above. The upper end is then covered with wax, to prevent the evaporation of the fluids contained within the pores of the wood. All grapes not absolutely healthy are carefully removed from the cluster, after which the lower end of the stock is thrust through the hole in a perforated cork, and down into a bottle filled with water. In the water is a little wood charcoal, which prevents it from becoming impure. The cork is covered with melting wax around the stalk, so as to close the bottle, water and air-tight. The bottles are then placed in a dry chamber, which is kept below the freezing point. The bottles are placed at such intervals that the bunches do not come in contact with each other. The bunches must be, from time to time, carefully examined, and each single grapes as show symptoms of spoiling must be removed.

TOMATOES.

How different this edible, in our day, from the "Love Apples," of fifty years ago, when tender mothers warned their children, as they went to play in the fields and lanes, not to eat the love-apples, because they were poison! But we prophesy that the difference between the love-apples of yore, and the tomatoes now consumed at our tables, is not greater than will mark them the next half century. We do not mean by this that the entire crop will become twice as valuable as now; for some kinds are already greatly improved, and some cultivators are using the choicest seed and giving to the crop the very best cultivation. These are contributing much to enhance the value of the plant, while others, by indifference about their seed, and by careless cultivation, are degrading the tomato into the same condition as when prudent mothers forbade their children to eat it. That the tomato is a health-giving food, we have no doubt; and that in some cases its action is medicinal and curative, we believe nearly all physicians are agreed; and we therefore urge all sowers of it to cultivate the plants in the best manner. In doing this they will have their sure reward.—*Exchange.*

SALT IN SICKNESS.

A man apparently in the advanced stages of consumption became very fond of salt, so much so that he carried it in his vest pocket, which was replenished every morning; he took a pinch at a time and allowed it to dissolve in his mouth; he used a tablespoonful or more of it every day. He recovered with good health afterward. In any form of sickness there is a craving for salt, it may be safely considered as an indication that nature demands that element, and that the ailment is, in part at least, owing to the want of it. In some forms of sores and wounds which are slow to heal, or which give out bad odor, a very free use of salt alone or on the food, will often cause a remarkable change for the better in a few days. There is no repugnance in its use.

Mr. T. B. Whytehead, York, who was engaged in the Pacific Island trade in 1868, writes to the *Times* to corroborate the statements of the Communists regarding the Jesuit missionaries. Hostates that he among natives and Europeans an "almost universal and strong feeling of animosity towards the Jesuit missions. The ground appeared to be the same as that upon which the Communist prisoners have based their charges. The Fathers were spoken of as idle and greedy; in fact, it was said that their missions were simply trading depots, and that they enrich their society by the labours of their "converts."

Miscellaneous.

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Statement for the year ending Dec. 31, 1873.

RECEIPTS.

Premiums	$1,670,286 12
Interest	501,701 52
Total Receipts	$2,171,986 64

DISBURSEMENTS.

Death Losses	$416,800 00
Paid for Surrendered Policies	189,888 81
Paid Return Premiums	54,405 17
Paid Matured Endowments	7,900 00
Total amount returned Policy-holders	$669,409 41

Assets, $8,000,000; Surplus at 41 per Cent., $1,503,871.

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IN THE SURROGATE COURT OF THE COUNTY OF YORK.

In the matter of the guardianship of the infant children of Samuel Higgins late of the City of Toronto, in the county of York, Hotel keeper, deceased.

TAKE NOTICE

That after the expiration of twenty days from the first insertion hereof, application will be made to the Judge of the Surrogate Court of the County of York by Ann Castle, the mother of said Infant children, to be appointed guardian over such infants.

This notice is given under the provisions of section 3 of Chapter 74 of the consolidated statutes of Upper Canada.

CAMERON, McMICHAEL, HOSKIN & ROSS,
Solicitors for said applicant, Ann Castle
Dated this 29th day of June, A.D., 1874.

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