## Scientific and Alseful.

HOW TO PREPARE COUTER.

French cooks say good coffee cannot be made by boiling; it must be leached; the aroma and flavor of the coffee goes off in the steam if it is boiled. The ground coffee must be put in a vessel that is like a fine sieve in the bottom; pour boiling water on this and as soon as it passes through it is fit for use, and if not used immediately should be placed where it will simply keep but and not boil.—Journal of Health. hot and not boil .- Journal of Health.

#### CHANGE OF SEED.

The American Agriculturist answers a correspondent by saying: With all other grains than corn a change of seed now and then is considered avisable. Potatoes are especially improved by change procured from a different locality and soil. But corn has not been generally been found to de-teriorate by long planting; on the other hand there are many farmers who are now hand there are many luthers who are now planting seed produced from the corn their fathers planted a generation ago. Running out of the corn is more likely to be the re-sult of impoverished soil, and the best method of improvement would probably be a crop of clover upon the land, to be plowed under, or some other substantial

#### INDIGESTION.

"Plain water, as it is the most natural, "Plain water, as it is the most natural, so it is the most healthy beverage for the purpose of diluting the contents of the stomach; but where the powers of digestion are feeble, even that should be taken sparingly, as by diluting the gastric juice its activity is necessarily impaired. Malt liquor should never be used by persons of a titure betterned for feeble digestive. Dig. billous habit and of a feeble digestion. Dis-tilled spirits of every kind, and however diluted or disguised, have a direct tendency to weaken and impair the tone of the stomach, and should never be taken except medicinally."

#### HOME ORNAMENTS.

A pretty mantel-piece ornament may be obtained by syspending an acorn by a pieco of thread tied around it, within half an inch of the surface of some water contained in a vase, tumbler, or saucer, and allowing it to remain undisturbed for several weeks. It remain unaisturied for soveral weeks. It will soon burst open, and small roots will seek the water; a straight and tapering stem, with beautiful glossy green leaves, will shoet upward, and present a very pleasing appearance. Chestnut trees may be grown in the same manner, but their leaves are not so beautiful as those of the oak. The water should be changed once a month, taking care to supply water of the same warmth; bits of charcoal added to it will provent the water from sourgin. If the little leaves turn yellow, put one drop of ammonia into the uton-" which holds the water, and they will renew their luxuriance. Another pretty ornament i, made by wetting a sponge and sprinkling it with canary, hemp, grass, and other seeds. The sponge should be refreshed with water daily, so as to keep it moist. In a few days the seed will germinate, and the sponge will soon be covered with a mass of green

### IMPURE WATER.

Public attention can not be to often called to the danger of using impure water in households. The origin of typhoid fever, which so frequently runs through families in city and country, is oftener in wells and springs than is supposed. In cities it is easy to understand, when aqueduct water is not supplied, how wells may become contaminated, but for many it is not so easy to see how wells in the country, among the hills or in the green valleys, can become so impure as to be sources of disease. Since the general introduction of aqueduct water water into large cities, typhod fever has become more common in the country than in the city, and this disease is certainly zymotic, or one which results from a poison introduced into the blood. Wells in the country are very liable to become contaminated with house sowage, as they are generally placed, for convenience, very near the dweiling, and the waste liquids thrown out apon the ground find easy access by pro-clamation through the soil to the water. The instances of such contamination which have come to our notice, and which gave rise to fevers, are numerous. The gelatinous matter, which is often found covering the stones in wells affected by sewage, is a true fungoid growth, and highly poisonous when introduced into the system. It is un-doubtedly concerned in the production of typhoid fover. How it acts it is difficult to typhoid fever. How it acts it is difficult to determine, but it is at least concoiveable that the spores of the fungus may get into the blood and bring about changes after the manner of yeast in beer. These spores as is well known, develop rapidly by a kind of budding process, and but little time passes before the whole circulation becomes filled with these passes have a constant. with them, giving rise to abnormal heat and general derangement, called fover. These fungoid or codfervoid growths are always present in waters rendered impure by house drainage, and great caution should be used in maintaining well-waters free from all sources of pollutions.—Boston Journal of Chemistry.

The congregation of the Middle Parish Church, Paisley, have introduced a novelty in the election of a member by ballot. On Sunday, the Rev. Mr. Martin, who is minister of one of the burgh churches, intimated from the pulpit that the election would be made by ballot on Tucsday evening; but the Rev. Mr. Dodds, who is minister of the second charge of the Abbey Church, and who officiated in the afternoon, declined to make any such intimation on the grounds of it being an innovation not recognized by of it being an innovation not recognized by the Church Courts. He, however, asked the congregation to vait in church after he he had left the pulpit to hear an intimation, and in Mr. Dodd's absence, and when that gentleman was out of hearing, the session-clerk repeated the amountement made in the foreness by Park M. Morelly. the forenoon by Ray. Mr. Martin. The matter has caused a good deal of discussion in the town, and it is anticipated that the question will come before the Presbytery on Meanion will come peaks the Array in a carly date. The result of the election is s follows:—Rev. David Watson, 220; Rev. Aurnishings.

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