

## Water for Dyeing.

Success in dyeing depends upon the materials used. For dyestuffs, use Diamond Dyes only. These dyes, used with soft water will always give good results. Fresh, clean snow or rain water is best. Hard water can be made fit for dyeing by boiling one-half ounce of Castile or white soap in two gallons of water, and skimming off the lime soap that will rise to the top.

Do not use more water than will cover the goods when in the dye vessel, as otherwise some of the dye will be wasted.

## Vessels for Dyeing.

Dye bright colors in wooden, tin, earthen, or enameled vessels; dark colors in copper or brass. An agate or porcelain-lined vessel is the best for all colors. It should be large enough to allow the goods to be worked easily, and without crowding. Be sure that the vessels are perfectly clean.

If the dye vessel does not seem large enough to work all the goods without crowding, get a larger one, for if they are crowded, or dyed at different times, the result will be unsatisfactory. If the goods are of the same color, they should all be put into the dye bath at one time, and the vessel must be of sufficient size to allow the goods to be easily worked. Do not let them lie in the bath after the desired shade is obtained, or a spotted, streaked color will result.

## Clean Goods and Discharge Old Colors Before Dyeing.

All goods must be perfectly clean before they are dyed, and as much as possible of the original color discharged. Take out paint or tar spots, if any, by wetting the spots with the following preparation, and rubbing with a sponge or rag until out. Shake together in a bottle,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of benzine,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of water, 4 ounces of ammonia, 4 ounces of sal soda. After this has stood for a few hours, it will be ready for use. Keep it tightly corked. This preparation is the one used so successfully by the best French dyers and scourers, and in the United States has often been sold at 25 cents for a small bottle.

After the paint or tar spots have been taken out, the goods should be thoroughly cleansed in the following manner. Dissolve one pound of sal soda in five pailfuls of hot water. Handle the goods well in this for ten minutes. If there are any grease spots, rub them between the hands in the soda water. After the goods have been drained and cooled for a few minutes, rinse perfectly in two clean, cold waters.