To Cleanse the Hair.—The yolk of eggs act in the same way as soap in removing the dandriff, but having little or no alkaline qualities, does not, like soap change the color of the hair, nor render it harsh, as spirit does; but, on the contrary, makes it soft and silklike. It is used thus: Beat up the yolk of an egg (perfectly free from the white) with an equal quantity of soft water or rose water; apply it to the hair with a very soft brush (a shaving brush is best) until a good lather is produced; then clean it all well off either with soft water, or rose, elder, or orange-flower water. If a new-laid egg, the better.

Cutting Butter in cold weather.—To cut a slice of butter from a large roll in cold weather, first dip the knife in hot water, and all trouble of breaking the butter will be avoided.

Cough Syrup.—Take one ounce thorough-wort, one ounce of slippery elm, one ounce of stick-licorice, and one ounce of flax-seed. Simmer them together in one quart of water, until the strength is entirely extracted, then strain carefully, and add one pint of best treacle and a half-pound of loaf-sugar; simmer them all together, and when cold bottle up tight for use. This is the cheapest, best and safest medicine for coughs in use. A few doses, of one tablespoonful at a time will alleviate the most distressing lung cough.

Hasty Pudding.—Set some milk on the fire, and when it boils put in a little salt. Stir in by degrees as much flour as will make it of a proper thickness. Let it boil quickly a few minutes, beating it constantly while on the fire. Pour it into a dish, and eat it with cold butter and sugar. Some persons add eggs to this.

For Chapped Hands.—Mix a quarter of a pound of unsalted hog's lard, which has been washed in common and then rose-water, with the yolks of two new laid eggs and a large spoonful of honey. Add as much fine oatmeal or almond-paste as will work it into a proper consistence, and rub in well before going to bed.

How to clean Kid Gloves.—To wash kid gloves, have ready a little new milk in one saucer, and a piece of brown soap in another, and a clean cloth, folded three or four times. Spread the glove neatly on the cloth; take a piece of flannel; dip in the milk; rub well with the soap then apply briskly to the glove, holding it firmly with the left hand, and rubbing it downward towards the fingers. When well cleaned, let it dry, and it will look as good as new.

To Purify Water.—Pounded alum possesses the property of purifying water. A tablespoonful of pulverised alum sprinkled into a hogshead of water (the water stirred at the time) will, after the lapse of a few hours, by precipitating to the bottom the impure particles so purify it that it will be found to posesss nearly all the freshness and clearness of the finest spring water. A pailful containing four gallons may be purified by a single teaspoonful.

Apple Meringue.—This is a simple dish, but very attractive-looking, and very pleasant to eat. Take some stewed apple which has been carefully prepared and is entirely free from lumps. It must be strained through a cullender if necessary. Put it into a pudding-dish; beat up the whites of two eggs with not quite as much sugar as you use for frosting; heap this upon the apple; let it stand in a cool oven long enough to become slightly brown. The apple may be flavored with lemon, wine or cinnamon. Any other fruit may be used. This kind of frosting is often put on lemon and other pies which have no upper crust.

REPTILES.

Of old, when the waters that covered the earth had subsided, there were, according to tradition, and the limited discoveries of geologists, left stranded amid the ooze and mud certain monsters or reptiles which were hideous and repulsive in form. These are said to have been *chelonians* or those belonging to the tortoise family; *saurians* or lizards, and *ophidians* or serpents. Reptiles do not undergo any change of nature, and are always air-breathers, although cold-blooded; they have neither mammæ nor breasts for sucking their young, nor yet hair nor feathers. By the two former peculiarities they are distinguished from fishes and batrachians, and by the two latter from mammals or those which do not suckle their young, and from birds. Reptiles breathe air by lungs, like birds and mammals, but the pulmonary circulation is incomplete, only a part of the blood being sent to the lungs, while from the vetricles of the heart a mixed arterial and venous blood is sent to the other organs. The number of species of reptiles is set down at 2,000 or less than that of mammals or birds; most of them are terrestrial, but some, it is said, can sustain themselves in the air.

Some reptiles live habitually in the water, swimming by means of flattened fins (as the turtles) or by a thin tail, as in crocodiles; others dwell in subterranean burrows.

Every degree of speed is found among reptiles, and while some are fitted for running over dry sand, others are better adapted to climbing trees, or ascending smooth surfaces. The means of defence which nature has provided reptiles are many, and, although their appearance is sufficient to terrify most animals, yet they are furnished with other safeguards, which render an attack upon them, to say the least, unpleasant. The crocodile and turtle are sufficiently protected against ordinary assault; the agility of the lizard serves him well, for he darts into his hole at the expence, possibly, of his tail, which is soon reproduced. The great boas can prevail over every foe but man, and the poisonous fangs of other serpents and the bristling spines of the horned lizard are amply sufficient to guard them from the attacks of predaceous and other ill-disposed members of the animal kingdom. Reptiles are very useful to man in various ways; some fulfil the law of their being by catching insects, while still others serve as food, or supply material useful in the arts. The muscles of reptiles are red, though paler than in mammals and birds; they preserve their irritability for a long time after death. Tortoises have been known to live eighteen days after their brains have been removed. Life seems in a marked degree independent of the brain, as they vegetate rather than live; and being comparatively insensible to pain, they grow slowly, live long, and are very tenacious of life. The sense of touch is dull, whether exercised by the skin, toes, lips, tongue or tail; taste must also be dull, as the food of reptiles is swallowed without mastication. Reptiles eat and drink comparatively little, and are able to go a long time without food; most of them are oviparous, their eggs being hatched by the heat of the sun. The young when born are able to provide for themselves, and are generally indifferent to the mother, who has neither the joys nor the sorrows of maternity.

LAKE SUPERIOR IN WINTER.

The people who live in those cold regions tell large stories respecting the snow and the ice which they have to encounter. Winter sets in pretty early there: and when it comes, it locks up that immense lake as fast as a miser ever locked his strong-box.

Then the residents of that upper country are almost completely shut out from the rest of the world, and so they remain till late in the spring, the boats com-