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The so-called raft spider is among the largest of the British species. It receives its name from the fact that it constructs a raft of dry leaves and rubbish united by threads of silk, and thus pursues its prey on water.—*Boston Journal of Commerce.*

A special mouthpiece for public telephones is being introduced in Germany with the object of avoiding the spread of diseases carried by the condensed moisture of the breath. A pad or a large number of disks of paper, with a hole in the middle, is inserted in the mouthpiece, and the upper disk of paper is torn off after every conversation.—*Electricity.*

Certain species of ants make slaves of others. If a colony of slave-making ants is changing the nest, a matter which is left to the discretion of the slaves, the latter carry their mistresses to their new home. One kind of slave-making ants has become so dependent on slaves, that even if provided with food they will die of hunger unless there are slaves to put it in their mouths.

The success of Austin Corbin's 28,000-acre game preserve in New Hampshire has stimulated English sportsmen and naturalists to form a plan for the construction of a similar preserve in South Africa. It is proposed to inclose 100,000 acres and stock it with game, such as giraffe, zebra, eland,gnu, koodoo, and other antelopes, many of which animals are threatened with extinction by the indiscriminate slaughter of too enthusiastic hunters.

R. J. Grosse has just registered a trade mark in Germany for a new thermometer, in which toluol is substituted for the mercury and alcohol that have been employed up to the present. The advantages of such substitution are claimed to be many. In the first place, toluol is a liquid of a deep black color, which renders the column very visible; in the second place, the freezing point of this liquid is very remote from its boiling point, and, finally, it costs less than mercury, and the manipulation of it is attended with no danger to the health of the workmen.—*Die Natur.*

Dr. Vaughan Harley, of London, has found that sugar is a great promoter of muscular power. He added 200 grammes to a small meal which increased the total amount of work done from 6 to 39 per cent. Sugar (250 grammes—about eight ounces) was now added to a large mixed meal, when it was found not only to increase the amount of work done from 8 to 16 per cent, but increased the resistance against fatigue. As a concluding experiment, 250 grammes of sugar were added to the meals of a full diet day, causing the work done during the period of eight hours to be increased 22 to 36 per cent.

J. A. Lintner, the entomologist of the State, has issued a circular about the cicada. Six distinct broods of the insect are known. The cicada with which we are now afflicted has been designated as the "Hudson River brood." Its northern limit is in the vicinity of Schuylerville and Fort Miller (Saratoga and Washington Counties), and thence its territory extends south along both sides of the Hudson to its mouth, east to New Haven in Connecticut, and west across the north part of New Jersey and into Pennsylvania. The State Entomologist admits that comparatively little is known about this pest.—*New York Tribune.*

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An important paper has been issued in England, bearing the signatures of the archbishops and all the bishops of the church of England save one, against the proposed disestablishment of the Church in Wales. The paper characterizes the proposal of the Government as an attempt to dismember the Church. The bishops see in the movement a step toward disestablishment in Great Britain, and they are not slow to use every resource in their power to prevent its being taken.—*Outlook.*

416 Sherbourne St., Toronto,  
March 20th, 1894.

Dear Sirs,—

"It is with great pleasure that I bear testimony to the efficacy of your Acetocura. Owing to a chill I was suffering great pain from a severe attack of toothache, and my gums were also very painful and much inflamed. Knowing from previous experience the effects produced from Acetocura, I was assured that the nerves, causing the trouble, could be relieved and soothed. The acid was first applied, as directed in your pamphlet, at the back of the head, until a smarting flush was produced, and then over the temporal muscle immediately behind the ear, with the Acid diluted. After the application there was little pain, and this mainly owing to the gums being in such an inflamed condition. I then fell into a refreshing sleep which lasted until morning and awoke to find the pain gone and the inflammation in the gums much reduced.

"My wife, who suffers from severe headaches, has also derived much benefit by applying the Acid to the top and back of the head, and using the spray producer, which has a refreshing effect on the forehead."

Yours truly, ALEX. COWAN.  
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