

**Work of Bacilli.**

It is a matter of popular knowledge now that all fermentation is caused by some microscopic organism, and special cultures of particular bacilli are sold to dairymen for the purpose of inoculating their cream to give the butter a specially fine flavor or good keeping quality. In the same way specific bacteria which helps various plants to get their nitrogen from the air have been cultivated, and will probably soon become articles of commerce, so that the farmer can buy the particular kind needed when he wishes to vaccinate his fields for clover or peas or alfalfa. And now it is reported in Garden and Forest, on the authority of the British consul at Naples, that a special ferment is largely used there in the manufacture of port wine from barley. The grain is malted, after which the specific bacilli which caused the fermentation in port wine are introduced into the mash, where they multiply abundantly and transform the immature beer into the richest port. After their work is finished a sufficient stock of the microbes is preserved in the laboratory for future use, and the product is then sterilized. The manufacture of a good quality of port wine from barley mash is certainly a new triumph of science.—New York Tribune.

**Told in New York.**

It is stated that more than 7 per cent. of those who people New York today were born of foreign mothers, while more than 40 per cent. were themselves born on foreign soil. Peter Stuyvesant ruled in his day over 1400 New Yorkers, who conversed in 18 different tongues. The population of New York cannot be called a church-going one. There are less than 600 places of Christian worship, seating only about 300,000 persons. The most valuable spots on the face of the earth are believed to be the four corners where Wall street touches Broad. Not long ago \$1,500,000 was paid for five lots on Broadway, opposite Bowling Green. It is said that there is scarcely a nation upon earth which has not eating places of its own in New York.

**Comparative Pavements**

A comparison of various pavements has been made at Wolverhampton, England, by a local engineer. The materials being laid on a Portland cement concrete six inches thick, he finds that granite costs \$3 per square yard, with a life of thirty years; Australian hardwood blocks, \$4.50 per square yard, lasting eighteen years; creosote deal blocks, \$3 per square yard, the durability being but twelve years. A 2-inch natural rock asphalt on the same bed, good for fifteen years, costs \$3.25 per square yard. To maintain 7992 square yards of pavement thirty years, including watering and scavenging, is found to cost \$45,000 for granite, \$87,210 for Australian hardwood, \$73,800 for creosote deal, and \$63,175 for natural rock asphalt.

Soxey—Why do so many young men carry their umbrellas under their arms? Knoxey—Oh, I suppose its because they like to have their arms around some kind of ribs.—Pittsburg News.

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