

feels warm; but if a wind arises, the same atmosphere feels cold. Now a thermometer suspended under shelter, and in a calm place, will indicate exactly the same temperature as a thermometer on which the wind blows. These circumstances may be satisfactorily explained, when it is considered that the human body maintains itself almost invariably, in all situations, and at all parts of the globe, at the temperature of 96 deg.; that a sensation of cold is produced when heat is withdrawn from any part of the body faster than it is generated in the animal system; and, on the other hand, warmth is felt when either the natural escape of the heat generated is intercepted, or when some object is placed in contact with the body, which has a higher temperature than that of the body, and, consequently, imparts heat to it. The transition of heat from the body to any object, when that object has a lower temperature, or from the object to the body, when it has a higher temperature, depends, in a certain degree, on the conducting power of the objects severally; and the transition will be slow or rapid according to that conducting power.

**SWALLOWS.**—These mysterious visitants, creatures of instinct, are by many persons supposed to perform their eccentric gyrations from mere caprice, while in reality, they are amongst the very best friends of mankind. I would as soon see a man shoot one of my fowls or my ducks, or rather he would steal his hateful of eggs from the hen-roost, as shoot one of these beautiful annual visitants, or destroy one of their nests. My servants think I have a superstitious love, or dread, or fear of them, from the religious regard I pay to their preservation. If it were not for such beautiful and graceful birds, our crops would be totally annihilated. We have no idea of the number of such. Take the plant-louse—the British locust. Bonnet, whose researches on it remind us of Huber on the Honey-bee, isolated an individual of this species, and found that from the 1st to the 22nd of June, it produced 95 young insects, and that there were, in the summer, no less than 9 generations. There are both wingless and winged, and Bonnet calculates a single specimen may produce 550, 970,489,000,000,000 in a single year, and Dr. Richardson very far beyond this. When we see the swallow flying high in the air, he is heard every now and then snapping his bill, and swallowing these and similar destroyers. Now, if at this season a swallow destroy some 900 mothers per day on an average, and estimating each of these the parent of one-tenth of the above number, it is beyond all appreciable power of arithmetic to calculate. If instead of paying boys for destroying birds and their nests, they would pay their cottagers, children a prize for every nest fledged of swallows, martens, and swifts, they would confer tenfold more benefit on their crops.

**VIPERS.**—I have no doubt whatever as to the fact of young vipers entering the stomachs of their mothers in case of alarm; for I have seen it happen under my own eyes. About 10 years ago I was building a wall near my house; and an old quarry being near, my men were taking from it some loose stones, under which they had found and killed several vipers; at length they moved a large stone under which lodged about a dozen little vipers, about 5 inches long and about the thickness of a tobacco pipe; they were very active and ran away in all directions, we killed several of them, and saw four or five go under another large stone near, upon moving which we found, not the little vipers but a large one; from the size of the latter, I suspected that it must have received the young ones into its stomach; we killed it and immediately after saw the head of one of the young ones coming out of its mouth! I obtained a glass bottle, which I placed against the old one's mouth; one of the men trod upon the tail, and with a stick I gently pressed the stomach, out of which four or five young vipers ran with great activity into the bottle, which I stopped closely with a cork, and gave to Mr. Adye, surgeon, of Bradford, our then country coroner, who kept the vipers alive in it for some time.—*William Stone, Winsley, near Brnsford, July 1.*

**TRANSMUTATION OF CORN.**—I was attracted in passing a cottage garden on the 30th May by some fine ears of Barley,

and so unusually early a period for its development made me suspect it had been planted as Wheat. On enquiry I found this to have been the case; the occupier of the garden (James Thompson, of Paston, a village on the sea coast,) informed me that his son and himself dibbled a very choice sample of red Wheat a few days before old Michaelmas; that from its growing rank, he mowed it the beginning of January, and the result has been a fine crop of Barley, the ears well set with grain; on one side, where the plants were not touched, the natural produce of Wheat has been produced. The North Walsham Club, in whose district the village of Paston is, will most likely, through some of its members, draw attention to it. What will be the result of the crop next year from this seed Barely?

**UNNATURAL AND INJURIOUS OVER-FEEDING OF BREEDING ANIMALS.**—At very many of the meetings and gatherings of the president, vice-president, and members of council, as well as at the yearly general and country meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, and, in short, at most agricultural societies, you will find this subject discussed, and correct views on it most strongly and urgently recommended, and instructions given to the judges not to take into consideration the fatness of animals in awarding prizes to stock intended for the purpose of breeding. In the face of these instructions, what is the general result? Why, that year after year, and meeting after meeting, the premiums are still given to a most unnatural and (to breeding stock) very injurious fatness. Fat is sure and certain to carry away the palm whenever placed in competition against rational and fitly fed animals of every class and description, and that are in a natural and much safer condition for breeding, both as regards themselves as well as their produce, but that are not made almost immoveable—most unweildy, by their joints and sinews being, as it were, rendered of no effect by useless and injurious fat. Bear in mind that I confine my observations wholly and solely to breeding stock, and if the judges would, in awarding the premiums, take into consideration the aptness and fitness of condition for breeding, combined with shape and make and quality, and give these their proper and right and all important place (even to the discarding of over-fed breeding animals,) they would be doing greater and truer and stricter justice to the intentions and objects of the Society, and confer a much greater benefit on those engaged in the breeding, not the fattening (for they should be viewed and considered separately,) of animals than by encouraging, as the awards mostly do, the great and injurious evil of feeding breeding stock so over and preposterously fat.—*A breeder of Stock.*

**BARN-DOOR FOWLS.**—Crammed fowls are very nasty things: but 'barn-door' fowls, as they are called, are sometimes a great deal more nasty. *Barn-door* would, indeed, do exceedingly well; but it unfortunately happens that the *stable* is generally pretty near to the barn. And now let any gentleman who talks about sweet barn-door fowls, have one caught in the yard, where the *stable* is also. Let him have it brought in, killed, and the craw taken out and cut open. Then let him take a ball of horse-dung from the stable-door; and let his nose tell him how very small is the difference between the smell of the horse-dung and the smell of the craw of his fowl. In short, roast the fowl, and then pull aside the skin at the neck, put your nose to the place, and you will almost think that you are at the stable-door. Hence the necessity of taking them away from the barn-door a fortnight, at least, before they are killed. One thing, however, about fowls ought always to be borne in mind. They are never good for anything when they have attained their full growth, unless they be *capons poullards*. If the poulets be old enough to have little eggs in them, they are not worth one farthing; and as to the cocks of the same age, they are fit for nothing but to make soup for soldiers on their march, and they ought to be taken for that purpose.—*Cobbet's Cottage Economy.*

**HYDROPHOBIA.**—A copious draught of vinegar, morning, noon, and night, is said to be a cure for hydrophobia.