

coarse kinds from the coast of Barbary. Of eleven kinds of sponge are found on the coast of England—none of them, however, are of use.

ILLDS.—If a man begins to cough, as the result of a common cold, it is the effort of nature attempting the cure, and she will effect her own time, and more effectually than man can do, if she is let alone, and her instincts cherished. What are these instincts? She abhors food and craves warmth. Hence the moment a man is satisfied that he has taken cold, let him do three things. First, eat not anything; second, go to bed and cover up warm in bed; third, drink as much cold water as he can, or as much hot herb tea as he can, and in three or four days, he will be entirely well in six hours.—*Hall's Journal of Health*

ACCLIMATIZATION UNDER WATER.—I have had ample opportunity to watch the pameletis, in every season, every spring, for the last years. At that time, it approaches in pairs scores of the ponds in which it lives, and seeks shallow, gravelly places, overgrown with water-lilies, water-lilies and other aquatic plants in which it begins by clearing a space of a foot in diameter, rooting out the plants, tearing, with violent jerks of its tail, the large-leaved, and leaving a clean spot of fine sand, where it deposits its eggs, surrounded and over-looked by a grove of verdure. In this enclosure of the parents remains hovering over the brood, and keeping at a distance all intruders. The office of watching over the progeny does not devolve exclusively upon either of the sexes, the males and females watch alternately. The earnestness with which they dart at their enemies, and the anxiety with which they look out for every approaching danger, show that they are endowed with stronger instincts than have been known heretofore in any of their class. The foresight goes so far as to avoid the bait set to any hook, however near it may be brought to them, and however lively and tempting it may be. However near to one another, the pair of one nest do not interfere with those of another; but, like good neighbors, they live peacefully together, passing over each other's heads when going out for food, without making any disturbance. But whenever an unmated fish makes its appearance among the nests, it is chased away, like an intruding libertine. The development of the egg is rapid. In less than a week, the young are hatched, and the parents soon cease to take any care of them.—*Agassiz*.

Preservation of Forests.

In the manner in which the Germans preserve and improve their forests, our countrymen may take a valuable lesson. At Hohenheim

this forms one of the most important departments of study. The pupils are instructed in the best method of preserving, propagating and improving their forest trees, while at the same time a proper estimation of the pecuniary and moral value of those noble productions of nature is instilled into their minds, which must eventually become the common sentiment.

Our people must give attention to this subject, sooner or later; and every day's neglect of this practical science will entail evils upon us for which years of labor will hardly make amends. We do not, as a people, appreciate the value of our forests. Negligently, carelessly and wantonly we are destroying them on every side, not considering that in them lies a mine of untold wealth; for the time comes with every people when they can turn their own natural productions to the most advantageous use for themselves; and this law applies as firmly to trees as to the coals and various mineral ores. What destruction of the best and most valuable timber have we witnessed during the past forty years! A statistical statement of the pecuniary loss would astonish the reader, to say nothing of the loss of health and domestic comfort.

The connection of family health, enjoyment and comfort, with a grove of primeval forest trees about the homestead, never entered the practical heads of our fathers; and their sons, true to the example before them pursue the same suicidal course. Down come the lofty oaks and the beautiful maple, leaving the homestead to parch and the spring to dry up in the scorching rays of the sun.

If there are exceptions here and there, you will find the value of the farm increased a thousand fold, simply because the trees have been let alone.—*Exchange*.

The Marvels of a Seed.

Have you ever considered how wonderful a thing the seed of a plant is? It is the mystery of mysteries. God said, Let there be "plants yielding seed;" and it is further added, each one, "after his kind."

The great naturalist, Cuvier, thought that the germs of all past, present, and future generations of seeds were contained one within the other, as if packed within a succession of boxes. Other learned men have explained this mystery in a different way. But what signify all their explanations? Let them explain it as they will, the wonder remains the same, and we must still look upon the reproduction of the seed as a continual mystery.

Is there upon earth a machine, is there a palace, is there even a city, which contains so much that is wonderful as is enclosed in a single little seed—one grain of corn, one little