

USEFUL INFORMATION.

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USE OF BARKS.—Elm bark is very generally used in Norway for making leather: it is said the fine Norway gloves are prepared from the elm bark, and, that the softness and beauty are attributable to this bark. The white willow is used in Denmark for the leather used in the manufacture of gloves. Russia also uses this bark in the manufacture of fancy leather, the finished leather being impregnated with the oil of birch bark, which gives it a peculiar, agreeable smell. It is a noteworthy fact that the Norway tanners use birch and willow instead of oak bark.

TO RESTORE FADED WRITING.—Sometimes the ink of very old writing is so much faded by time as to be illegible, in consequence of the decay of the tanning matter and gallic acid contained in the ink, and a yellow or brown oxide of iron, therefore, alone remains on the paper. The original colour of the written characters may be restored, or, rather, a new body of colour may be given to the writing by pencilling it over carefully, first with a solution of prussiate of potass, and then with diluted muriatic acid.

If the pencilling be done neatly, and blotting paper be laid over the letters as fast as they become visible, their form will be retained distinctly. Pencilling over the letters with an infusion of gall nuts, or tincture of galls, also restores the blackness to a certain degree, but not so completely or so speedy as potass.

THE TEETH.—Wheat contains all the elements necessary for the perfect development of the teeth. But how is it used? Whether in bread, pies, puddings, crackers or what not, only the *fine flour* is used, and that which is *rejected* contains the elements for the nutrition and growth of the teeth in abundance. What folly! If you will not use coarse bread, at least make your bran and shorts into griddle cakes. All of these destructive causes are nothing, however, compared with the injury caused by food decomposing between the teeth. The mouth is a warm place, and particles of meat lodged between the teeth decompose, and gums and teeth suffer; but a *clean* tooth never decays. Mercury may loosen, discolour and injure the enamel, but will not of itself cause decay; yet great care should be used in taking some medicines to drink through a quill, straw or tube, thoroughly rinsing the mouth after. Use a quill pick, and rinse the mouth after eating; brush with castile soap every morning, and with clear water on retiring.