

## OBSERVATIONS AND ANNOTATIONS.

THE difficulty of obtaining a good model of either sex increases with the increase of civilization. A man's limbs may be perfect but his chest is narrow; or his head is fine while his shoulders are sloping. In one of the churches in New York, directly behind the pulpit, stands a noble stained glass window, in which is represented the full-length figure of a scantily-robed angel. Whether the angel is male or female nobody knows. After photographing fully a dozen female models, selected with infinite pains and at considerable expense, the artist had not one satisfactory figure. In his despair he fell back upon an uncouth Italian tramp, who turned out to be a good model, with the exception of his ankles. With some "idealizing" of outlines a moderately successful angel was produced; but none of the worshipers who gaze at him know how much trouble he cost.

A PITTSBURG writer makes the assertion that in fifty years, or perhaps half that time, coal will not be carried from the mines to its place of destination in bulk, but only its actual heat energy will be transported and that by wire, a process which he says, can be accomplished by converting coal into heat, the heat into motion and the motion into electricity; a storage battery at Cincinnati would take it up as fast as generated at the mines, and from this battery it could be taken and converted back into motion and heat, or changed into light.

THE difference between one boy and another is not so much in talent as in energy.—DR. ARNOLD.

DR. KOLBE states with regard to the fatigue occasioned to the eyes by paper of various colors, that red and green papers produce more fatigue than blue and yellow, and these again more than grey and white of the same degrees of brightness. Altogether, he does not think that a colored paper for printed books presents any advantage, as far as eyesight is concerned, over white paper.

ATTENTION is called in German medical journals to the fact that, so far back as 1849, the usefulness of inoculation with rabies-

poison, as an antidote and preventive against the effects of bites by mad dogs, was discussed in *Jahr's Klinischen Anweisungen*, in the articles, on "Poisoning" and "Dog-Rabies." In a much attenuated form it has been used to considerable extent in this country. So says the *New York Medical Times*.

A NUMBER of writers in recent medical journals attribute epidemics of diphtheria to proximity to manure heaps, and one, in the *British Medical Journal*, connects a peculiar form of throat disease with the Croydon sewage-farm. He writes that: "Though it is difficult to prove that the sewage-farm is a cause of disease, yet he has such a number of throat-cases, with spotted tongues, of a bad drainage type (the neighborhood itself being well drained), and which, from examinations, do not depend upon bad house-drainage, or impure water or milk, that he attributes these throat-cases to the fact that the Elmers End Road, bordering the farm, is the way into the country much frequented; and that children loiter and play near the brook draining the farm, the cases principally occurring in children. About three years since, he had a family with these throats. All the drains had been put in order before taking possession; but he was not satisfied, had all the drains re-inspected, and found all the sanitary arrangements perfect. The milk was derived from the occupier's own cow. This family did not regain strength till they were sent away for a long change. In the following year, notwithstanding all that had been done, the same symptoms appeared again; and one child was attacked with severe diphtheria, and died."

ANOTHER writer in the same journal, Dr. Steavenson, of London, having had his attention directed to the fact that a writer in *Lyon Medical*, M. Ferraud, traced some relation between manure-heaps and epidemics of diphtheria, recalls the circumstance that, when resident at the Children's Hospital, he was struck with the frequency with which children with diphtheria were brought in from the mews. In those cases the families occupied the rooms over the stables. So noticeable was the connection, he says, that he mentioned the point in a paper on diph-