

By its use, too, certain maladies sometimes almost incurable, are said to be easily removed, and phthisis, etc., are prevented by use of a small portion daily. There are other marvelous properties in this new extract which we must now mention. Every one knows that good tools are the soul of industry, and that they must be produced before great manufacturing wealth can exist. The art of working steel in ancient times was in such high perfection that they were able to give this metal the softness and pliancy of silk, and the excellence of the Damascus blade which no nation has since been able to more than imitate. Their method of manufacture has been lost, and all efforts of modern times have proved futile in its resuscitation. Mr. Clark, however, the discoverer of this extract, claims, without fear of being contradicted, that he has reproduced this secret lost for centuries.

His extract of guano hardens iron, and gives it the properties of steel; while to steel it gives the fineness, sharpness, and softness of the Damascus manufacture. This, too, is the formula, which is very simple. Temper the steel and iron in the extract of guano, at eight degrees of strength, as indicated by Baume, and it will produce these marvellous results. The more they are tempered anew the better they become, qualities contrary to the ordinary tempering. We have here presented some of the ideas given in the specifications of Mr. Clark's improvements, though we have not been minute, as we shall refer to it again.

A CHINESE GENTLEMAN'S HOUSE.—The following description of a Chinese gentleman's house, by Albert Smith, will be read with interest. He says the Chinese gentleman first took him to his country house, now uninhabited. It was a perfect residence of a Chinese gentleman. There was a very large garden, with bamboo hedges and large fish tanks, edged with wall of blue bricks and perforated tiles. His pigs were in admirable condition, and as beautifully kept as the Prince Consort's at Windsor. About the grounds were nutmegs, mangostans, plantains, cocoa nuts, daniens, and small creepers trained with baskets and pagodas. Inside the house the drawing-room had doors sliding across circular openings. He then went into this good gentleman's private residence, entering by a Chinese triumphal gate. There were six miles of carriage road round his estate. It is on a fine undulating tract of land reclaimed from the jungle, and laid out with rare taste. In the out-plot a tiger killed a man the other day. In his garden he found Jocko living in a cane cage next door to a porcupine; there were also some rare birds. There were all sorts of beautiful flowers placed about in enormous China vases. Here he first saw the tea-plant growing. It is of the camelia tribe three or four feet high, perhaps, and bears a small white flower, like the open day rose; also he has shown the moon flower a kind of rounded convolvulus that only opens at night. There was a bower of monkey cups, the pitcher flower which collects water, and from which Jacko refreshes himself in the jungle. The fair palm, a beautiful tree on the lacon, produced water of clear cold quality by being pierced with a pen-knife. Several minute creepers were trained over wire forms to imitate dragons with egg-shells for their eyes; and there were many of the celebrated dwarf-trees, the first I had seen, like oaks and elms, about 18 inches high, like small withered men. The house here was superbly furnished in the English style, but with lamps all