

We take the following recipe for cleaning feathers from the Scientific American: To Purify Feathers for Beds, Pillows, Etc.—Prepare a quantity of lime water in the following manner: Mix well 1 lb. of quicklime in each gallon of water required, and let it stand until all the undissolved lime is precipitated, as a fine powder, to the bottom of the tub or pan, then pour off the clear liquor for use. The number of gallons to be prepared will, of course, depend on the quantity of feathers to be cleaned. Put the feathers into a clean tub, pour the lime water on them, and stir them well into it until they all sink to the bottom. There should then be sufficient of the lime water to cover them to a depth of three inches. Let them stand in this for three or four days, then take them out, drain them in a sieve, and afterwards well wash and rinse them in clean water. Dry on nets having a mesh about the same size as a cabbage net; shake the net occasionally, and the dry feathers will fall through. When they are dried, beat them well to get rid of the dust. It will take about three weeks to clean and dry a sufficient quantity for a bed. This process was awarded the prize offered by the Society of Arts.

A cucumber lotion which is said to be very softening, whitening and cleansing, is prepared as follows: Expressed juice of cucumbers, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint; deodorized alcohol, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ounces; sweet almond oil, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ounces; shaving cream, 1 dram; blanched almonds, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ drams. Dissolve the shaving cream in rosewater by heating in a small saucepan. Beat the almonds in a mortar, and by degrees work in the cream and rosewater. Strain through muslin, and return to the mortar. Stir constantly, working the alcohol in gradually in which the oils have been dissolved.

Ideal Cleanness.

Ideal cleanness requires the cleanness of the individual, of his possessions, and of his environment. Each individual is directly responsible for his personal cleanness, and that of his possessions; but over a large part of his environment he has only indirect control. Not until direct personal responsibility is felt in its fullest sense, and exercised in all directions toward the formation and carrying out of sufficient public laws, will sanitary cleanness supplant the cure of a large number of diseases by their prevention.

Many of the diseases of childhood are directly traceable to uncleanness, somewhere. By these diseases the system is often so weakened that others of different character are caused which, though slow in action, may battle all science in their cure.

The necessity of forming systematic habits of cleanness in the young is the first step toward sanitary health. They should, then, step by step, as they are able to grasp the reasons for the habits, be educated in all the sciences which give them the knowledge of the cause and effects of uncleanness, the methods of prevention and removal, and the relation of all these to building laws and municipal regulations.

The first environment to be kept clean is the home. But personal cleanness and household cleanness should not be rendered partially futile by unclean school-houses, public buildings, and streets.

The housekeeping of the schoolhouses, especially, should be carried on with a high regard to all hygienic details, since here the degree of danger is even greater than in the home. In public school-houses the conditions favorable to the presence of disease germs abound. If present, their growth is rapid, and the extent of contagion beyond calculation. The co-operation of all most interested—pupils and teachers—should be expected and required as freely as their co-operation in any other department of education.

The sanitary condition of every school building should be a model object lesson for the home, then, instruction in personal cleanness will carry the weight of an acknowledged authority.

Schoolhouses which are models of sanitary cleanness will cause a demand for streets and public conveyances of like character; then all public buildings will be brought under the same laws of evident wisdom.

Not till the right of cleanness is added to the right to be well fed, and both are

assured to each individual by the knowledge and consent of the whole people, can the greater gospel of prevention make good its claims. The Chemistry of Cooking and Cleaning.

Battle Hymn of the Republic.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is tramping out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible, quick sword;
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I have read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps,
His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel;
"As ye deal with my contemners so my grace with you shall deal."
Let the hero born of woman crush the serpent with his heel,
Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;
O, be swift my soul to answer Him, be jubilant my feet,
Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.
JULIA WARD HOWE.

The Scrap Bag.

BREAD BOXES.

Tin boxes for keeping bread are better than wooden boxes, as bread moulds more quickly in wood than in tin.

FLATIRONS.

If flatirons are rough or smoky, lay a little salt on a flat surface and rub the irons back and forth on it, it will prevent them from sticking to anything starched, and will make them smooth.

TO REMOVE PAINT FROM GLASS.

Dissolve soda in very hot water, and wash with a soft flannel. Glass should never be scraped with an ordinary knife, but with a putty-knife. Paint is easily removed without injury to the glass.

LIQUID BLUING.

One ounce of soluble blue, one gallon of hot water. Put the blue in an earthen dish, pour in the hot water, and allow it to stand until thoroughly dissolved. Strain through two thicknesses of flannel, bottle, and it is ready for use.

SPOTS ON POLISHED WOOD.

An authority on household matters says that the rings and spots on polished tables, caused by hot teacups, wet vases, etc., can be removed by rubbing thoroughly with a mixture of salt and salad oil, which mixture is also an excellent furniture polish.

BORAX SOLUTION.

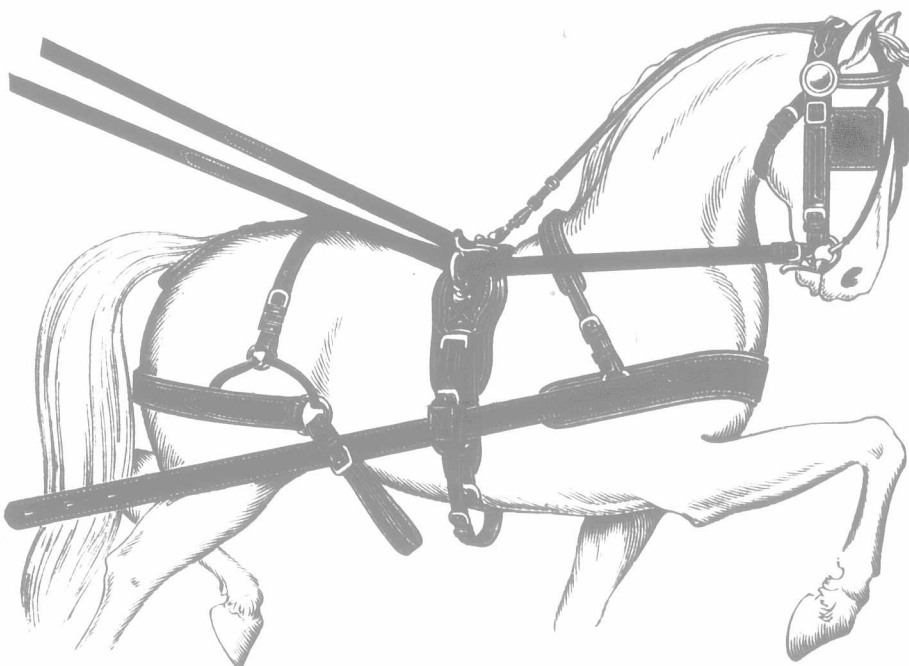
One and one-quarter pounds of super-carbonate soda, one-quarter pound of borax. Dissolve in one gallon of boiling water. When cold, add three ounces of ammonia. For washing hands, use one ounce of this liquid to one gallon of water; for clothes, use two ounces to the gallon.

TO PRESERVE COLOR IN BLACK STOCKINGS.

Black stockings are apt to take on a greenish hue after repeated washings. It is said that a simple way of preserving the color is to wash them with soap free from soda, and in the last rinsing water to add a tablespoonful of good vinegar.

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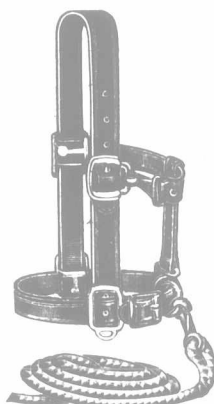
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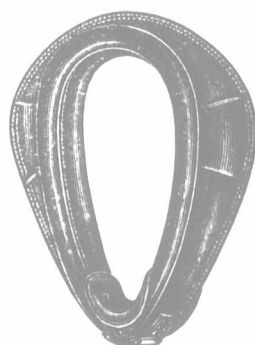
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