



THE POTATO DISEASE.

In Denmark some interesting and perhaps very valuable researches into the potato disease have been made by Prof. J. L. Jensen. The disease is found to consist of a fungus, whose spores are carried by the wind, and which first attacks the foliage of the plants. It spreads to the tubers in about seven days by spores washed down from the stem and foliage. Considering these facts, it was thought that the tubers might be protected by moulding the soil into a broad ridge 3 or 4 inches high and 10 or 12 inches wide, after the first weeding, and a further earthing up on one side only—causing the plants to bend so that the spores would fall away from the ridges—with in seven days after the appearance of the disease on the foliage. Some 150 farmers are said to have experimented in this way, with these astonishing results: Where no moulding or earthing up was done, the percentage of diseased potatoes was 34; where the moulding was imperfect, 12; and where the moulding was perfect, only 1. Infection during harvest was prevented by allowing the tubers to remain in the ground for a month after the withering of the tops.

Scientific Miscellany.

ARTIFICIAL SKULL-SHAPING.

Astonishing success has attended the efforts of Dr. Lannelongue, an eminent specialist of Paris, to give intelligence to a little idiot girl. Though four years old, the child could neither walk nor stand, and never smiled nor took notice of anything. The Doctor concluded that the abnormal narrowness of the head obstructed the growth of the brain, and in May last he made an incision in the centre of the skull and cut a piece of bone from the left side. The result was marvelous. Within less than a month the child could walk, and she has become quite bright—playing, smiling, and taking notice of everything around her.

PAIN-JOY.

A German anatomist has called the attention of his class to certain hysterical women who are affected with a kind of "pain joy"—not only experiencing no pain from surgical mutilation, but having a morbid desire to bear without anæsthetics operations, which should prove very painful. A young woman was introduced who had seriously injured her lower jaw, during a paroxysm of hysteria, but who had insisted upon hav-

ing the necessary removal of part of the jaw and ligation of two arteries performed without an anæsthetic, and subsequently declared that the operations had given her great pleasure.

THE MOON-WEATHER PROBLEM.

From tables made by the use of synoptic charts, eliminating local disturbances, Dr. G. Meyer believes he has accomplished what other investigators have sought to do without success—shown an influence of the moon on the weather. The height of the barometer, in months of September to January, is lowered at the time of full moon and raised during the first quarter. No effect can be traced for other months.

ELECTRICALLY-AIMED GUNS.

In an invention, a small dry battery, an electromagnet and a circuit-closer of mercury are so arranged in the stock of a gun that the weapon can be discharged only when elevated to a predetermined angle. At other positions the trigger is locked and cannot be pulled. The device is claimed to ensure precision in range, and accuracy of firing at night when the range has been previously obtained.

ANOTHER SILK.

A substance having all the essential qualities of silk has been made from wild hemp by Nayemura Sakusabura, of Hikone, Japan. The plant grows on moors and hill-sides, and could be cultivated. The fibre is strong and glossy, and several silk factories are said to have found it to be in no way inferior to silk.

COLD WAVES.

A cold wave is defined by Prof. T. Russell as a fall of temperature in twenty-four hours of 20 degrees over an area of 50,000 square miles. The temperature in some part of this area descending to 35 degrees. Between 1880 and 1890 no less than 691 cold waves were recorded in the United States. In the great cold wave of January 17, 1882, the fall of 20 degrees extended over an area of 1,101,000 square miles. In six cold waves of the ten years the area of the fall of 20 degrees was more than a million square miles. Cold waves follow a day after an area of low pressure, or occur to the southeast of an area of low pressure, or occur to the southeast of an area of high pressure, reaching their greatest extent when both conditions are present.

NESTS FOR GERMS.

The impurities that collect under finger-nails have been investigated in the bacteriological laboratories of Vienna. The matter ob-

tained in 78 examinations was placed in culture solutions, and gave 36 kinds of micrococci, 18 of bacilli, and 3 of sarcinae. Cleanliness of the nails is especially necessary for all who come near a wound, and for those who live in a neighborhood where an epidemic prevails.

A REMARKABLE PRESERVATIVE.

A Belgian chemist has found that the green tar left after extracting the oil from the white bark of the birch will effectually preserve even the most delicate textures from decay. It yields neither acid nor alkaloid, is remarkably fluid in alcoholic solution, and when once dried resists even the action of alcohol.

A NEW IDEA.

A recent contract provides for street lighting in Paris on a novel plan. Power is distributed by the compressed air system to a great number of small motors, each of which supplies electricity for a small number of lamps.

The Manufacturers' Record of November 22, in its weekly review of the South's industrial progress, says:

Notwithstanding the excitement in the great financial centers of the world, there has been no halting in the South's industrial progress. It is already being demonstrated that capitalists driven from Wall Street stock speculations by much troubles as we have been passing through, are turning their attention to the South, where investments are safer and where the profits are greater. The South moves along as though there had been no sign of financial trouble anywhere. This is very strikingly shown in the record of new enterprises reported during the week. A \$1,000,000 company has been organized to build a cotton mill at Huntsville; a \$500,000 mill will be built in Union county, S. C.; a large mill is to be moved to Alabama from Delaware, and a \$100,000 mill in Mississippi has been sold and will be enlarged to a \$1,000,000 plant; Nashville, Tenn., has organized a \$1,000,000 stock-yards and packing company; Glasgow, Va., a \$500,000 steel car building company; Beaumont, Texas, a \$500,000 car company; Bedford City, Va., secures the removal of a \$200,000 engine works from Pennsylvania; a \$2,000,000 company is building a 7,000 horse-power canal in North Carolina for a furnishing power to many new enterprises; Dalton, Ga., has organized a \$200,000 quarrying company; Grottoes, Va., a \$50,000 plumbers' supply company; Tyler, Texas, a \$50,000 lumber company; Mur-

ray, N. C., a \$500,000 improvement company; Newport News, Va., a \$2,000,000 improvement company; Buena Vista, Va., a \$500,000 company; Louisville, Ky., a \$100,000 lumber company; Pensacola, Fla., a \$50,000 manufacturing company; Norfolk, Va., is to have \$200,000 car works; 40,000 acres of coal land in West Virginia will be developed by Northern capitalists.

These are but illustrations of what the South has done during the past week. Not a complaint has been heard of any bad influence from the Wall Street troubles, but on the contrary, it is everywhere recognized that the South is on a solid substantial basis that insures rapid growth regardless of financial difficulties elsewhere.

From the many good words the Constitution has said of the recent W. C. T. U. Convention in Atlanta, we copy the following:

"The Sunday exercises were particularly interesting. Nearly all the churches of the city were thrown open to the women of the W. C. T. U., and religious services were held by them. In the afternoon Miss Willard and Mrs. Wallace, of Ohio, were invited to address the citizens of Atlanta, and the opera house was engaged for the occasion. Long before the appointed hour this large building was crowded to overflowing by the very best people in our city. Mrs. W. C. Sibley, president of the W. C. T. U. of Georgia, presided. After the singing of "How Firm a Foundation," the reading of Scripture and a prayer, the audience was addressed by Miss Willard, on the purity of our homes, and by Mrs. Wallace, on our duty to humanity. Both addresses were listened to with deep attention, and to say they were greatly enjoyed is expressing it feebly—it would be impossible to do justice to either in so short a notice.

There was not an objectionable feature during the whole convention, and even those most opposed to women on the platform were constrained to put aside all prejudice and acknowledge there was nothing masculine or unwomanly in anything said or done. A more refined, gentle and elegant company of ladies could never have been found than those so recently in our midst. Long may these noble women live to bless humanity by their good words and works.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.



Small little fortunes have been made at work for us. See Annals, Austin, Texas, and Joe Bonn, Toledo, Ohio, who cut others doing as well. Why not you? You can do the work and live at home, wherever you are. Even if you are only earning from \$5 to \$10 a day at all ages. We show you how and start you. Can work in spare time all the time. Big money for work. See future unknown among them. Now and wonderful. Particulars free.

H. Hallett & Co., Box 800 Portland, Maine

Forcing the Force bill, against the real sentiments of a respectable minority of its own party, has gotten the Republicans of the Senate into an ugly predicament, and were it not for the imminent danger of a financial panic, which was so strikingly set forth by Senator Gorman in a twenty minute speech this week, that is threatening our country there would be no sympathy for them. They sowed the wind and as a natural consequence are reaping the whirlwind. There is a serious revolt in their ranks, and unless the Force bill can be crowded through at once it will never go through.

It is sometimes said that men in public positions, who must mingle more or less with all classes, cannot decline to drink; but Gov. McKinley, of Virginia, gives positive testimony to the contrary. In his political campaigns many a time has he met persons who wish to "treat," but on being told, courteously and firmly, that he never drinks, it is not an uncommon reply for him to be told, "I think all the better of you." It is nonsense for any full-grown man who is not a baby to say that in certain society he must drink.—[Congregationalist.]

Secretaries Windom and Noble have become so alarmed over the pension payments, which bid fair to create such a big treasury deficit in the near future, that they have laid the matter before Mr. Harrison, in the hope that some feasible method of reducing the pension rolls, or otherwise may be concocted. They have succeeded in getting the pension committees of the House to decide that no special pension legislation would be reported at the present session.

Many parents seem to have absolved their consciences from all responsibility for the religious training of their children, and to have turned over this work entirely to the Sunday school and the Church. Alas! alas! that it should be so. The highest task ever committed to man or woman is to bring up children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."—[Advocate.]

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

The New Discovery.

You have heard your friends and neighbors talking about it. You may yourself be one of the many who know from personal experience just how good a thing it is. If you have ever tried it, you are one of its staunch friends, because the wonderful thing about it is, that when once given a trial, Dr. King's New Discovery ever after hold a place in the house. If you have never used it and should be afflicted with a cough, cold or any Throat, Lung or Chest trouble, secure a bottle at once and give it a fair trial. It is guaranteed every time or money refunded. Trial Bottles Free at all the drug stores.