

**To Rid a House of Lice.**

Take common soap (soft soap is to be preferred) and heat it until soft, then stir in as much coal oil as it will assimilate. To this mixture add ten parts water and it is ready for application which can be done thoroughly with a spraying machine or small pump. This recipe has been used by a market poultryman of our acquaintance, and he claims with good results.

Another application said to be very good is crude carbolic acid and water. This latter is cheap and easy to apply and would have a wholesome effect generally.—Midland Poultry Journal.

**Horiculture: Plants.**

A vigorous stock is an item in budding.

A common mistake is the setting out too thick.

Stir the soil thoroughly before watering the plants.

Do not plow the ground too deep near the growing trees.

When necessary to apply liquid manure, do not put on the plants.

The quince varies but slightly in form, but in size they vary decidedly.

Generally for fruit trees one pound of poison to 200 gallons of water is sufficient.

Layering is one of the easiest and best ways of propagating with many varieties.

Hogs are certainly preferable in the orchard to a blue grass sod around the trees.

When currants or gooseberries lack vigor, a dressing of manure can be applied with benefit.

All of the fungus diseases of plants, such as mildew, scab blight, rot and rust, are contagious.

The kerosene soap emulsion is the best remedy to use on trees or shrubs infested with plant lice.

It is claimed that only ten per cent of the apple trees that are planted out ever come into bearing.

One ounce of paris green to six pounds of flour is sufficient to use in destroying the cabbage worm.

Constant mowing with the lawn mower will kill out the plantain that is so often difficult to get rid of.

Applying a little water and often is a bad principle in watering plants and should be avoided. If watering is needed, water thoroughly.

With grapes give plenty of air to all vines upon which the grapes are beginning to color; look over the vines and pinch off all useless laterals.

**Household Hints.**

Cleanse cistern water with powdered borax and alum.

Heat, skim and seal up fruit juices in bottles without sweetening and keep for summer drink.

Starch the tablecloths slightly; it will give them a new look, and besides they will keep clean much longer.

It is said that the unpleasant smell of newly-painted woodwork may be lessened by setting pails of fresh water about in the rooms.

A quantity of stock articles in the kitchen should be prepared at one time. Dry beans may be kept picked over, potatoes washed, raisins seeded, etc.

To clean marble: Take a little soft soap and pumice stone on a flannel. Rub it all over the surface then wash it off, wipe dry, and rub it with a clean cloth. But if the marble is spotted send it to be repolished.

A piece of beef weighing 10 pounds requires two hours to roast. Allow 10 minutes to every pound over or under its weight. The second cut of the surloin, the second cut of the ribs and the back of the rump are considered the best parts of beef for roasting.

**Art Squares and Other Rugs.**

A subscriber asks what the cost of art squares is, and what would be the expense of having a square rug made from Brussels or other carpeting. The term "art square" may be applied to a certain kind of carpet in one place, and to something entirely different in another locality. The common American art squares cost about a dollar a square yard, and come in sizes of from about 2 1-2x3 yards to 4x5 yards. Art squares of English manufacture, known as Woodstock, cost one dollar and a half a square yard.

A rug of good quality of body Brussels would cost from 90 cents to \$1.25 a square yard. Made of Wilton, the rug would cost from \$1.80 to \$2.25 a square yard. These squares, or rectangular rugs, are used a great deal on floors that have a natural-wood, stained, or painted border. It is best to fasten them to the floor at each corner and in the center of each side.

When having rugs made, avoid the use of carpeting with large and pronounced designs. Select instead such as have small and mixed figures and colors like those found in Oriental rugs. Moquette carpets have small figures, as well as the soft blending of colors so desirable, but they are not so closely woven as the body Brussels, and therefore do not wear so well.

**In the Academic des Sciences.**

At the Academie des Sciences, France, the number of foreign associates is limited to eight. The late Emperor of Brazil, Dom Pedro, was one of these. By his death, a vacancy was created. Since the number is so limited, the honor is much coveted and the Academie is correspondingly careful upon whom it confers it. It seems now as if Lord Kelvin (Sir William Thomson) is likely to be the one upon whom the honor of filling the present vacancy will devolve. Certainly it could not be conferred upon a more worthy person than the "first physicist" in the world, and the Academie will honor itself by honoring him.—Electricity.

**A Convenient Velvet Bodice.**

A velvet bodice made slightly open at the throat, with elbow sleeves also slightly open, is a most useful addition to a woman's wardrobe. Net or lace sleeves set in full below the velvet sleeve can be changed at will to match various styles and tints of neck dressing. Lace or folds of chiffon or net are lightly arranged to outline the opening at the throat. Cross folds of crepe de Chine can also be used to raise the bodice front to any desired height, while the dressy appearance of the V outline yet remains.

**Monuments Move.**

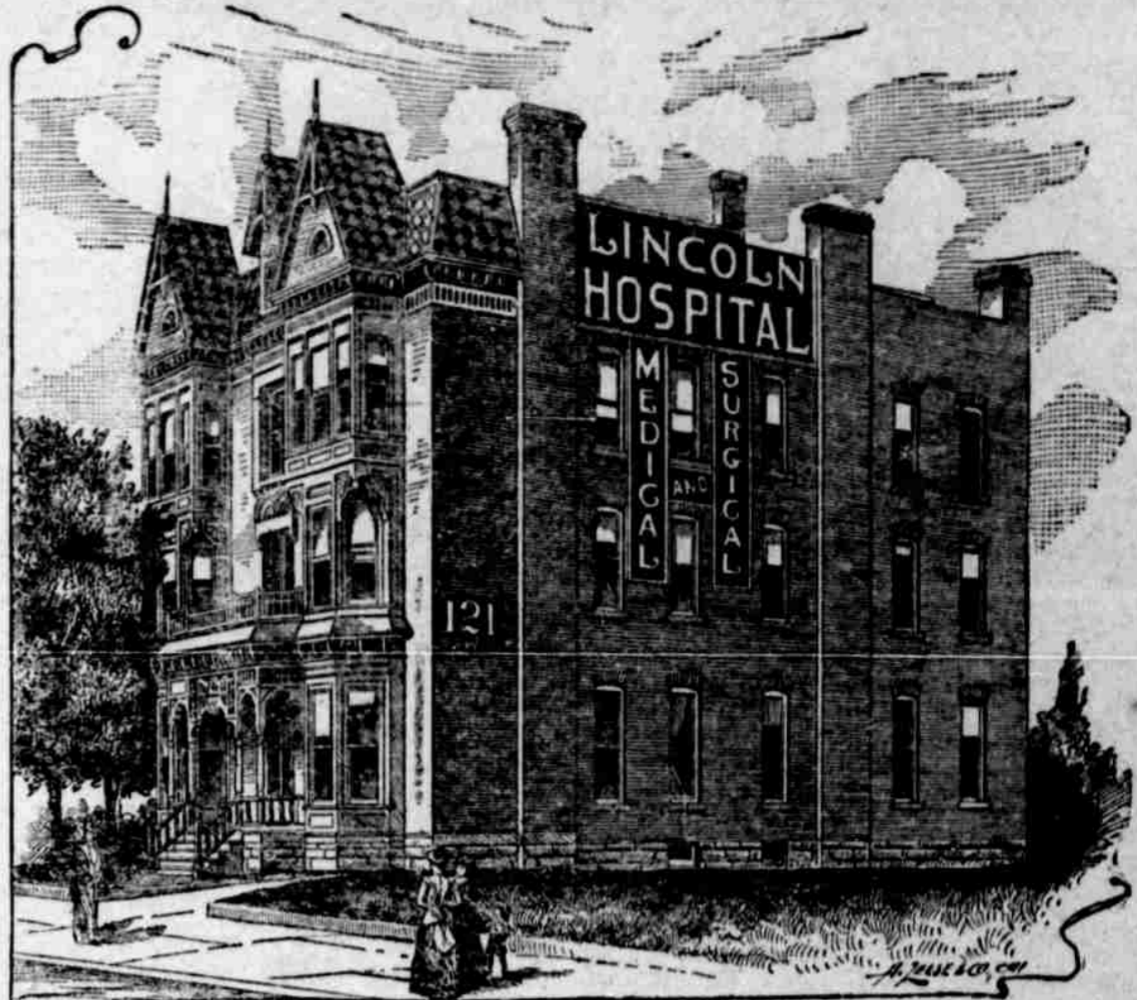
The perpendicularity of a monument is, although few may be aware of it, visibly affected by the rays of the sun. On every sunny day, a tall monument has a regular swing leaning away from the sun. This phenomenon is due to the greater expansion of the side on which the rays of the sun fall. A pendulum placed inside, say, Nelson's column, in Trafalgar square, would be found to describe on every clear day an ellipse of nearly half an inch in diameter.

**Remarkable Railway Track.**

A stretch of track along the pampas on the Argentine Pacific Railroad from Buenos Ayres to the foot of the Andes is 211 miles long, without a curve, a single bridge, an opening larger than an ordinary drain, a cut greater than one metre in depth, or an embankment more than one metre in height.

**Double-Headed Reptiles.**

Double-headed snakes have been known to occur; and in a German journal Dr. Collin of Berlin, describes and figures a double-tailed earth-worm, and mentions four other cases of such malformations. Double-tailed lizards have occurred, also double-headed and double-tailed fishes.



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