

"What those facts are I have learned

from Miss Knox," was the quiet reply.

The Deputy Commissioner looked as startled as he felt. A tete-a-tete with a

murderer in any case was unpleasant,

but when, to add to this, the murderer

was aware of his companion's suspicions

perhaps, too, that he was the only per-

"It is to question you as to those facts

"It is quite illegal-against all eti-

"Granted. Still I don't think you will

quette," stummered the Commissioner, in

refuse to let me know what case you have

against me, and allow me to prove myself

innocent if I can"-with a half smile.
"But you cannot?" was the violent re-

tort, the speaker losing his magisterial

demeanor in the exasperation he felt at

the audacious composure of the other. "Who else had any motive for commit-

ting such a crime? You were in love

with Miss Knox; she was first engaged to

engagement was broken, she refused to

marry you while he lived. She com-

plained to you of the persecution to which

she was subjected by him, and almost ins

this I have directly, or indirectly, learned,

"The merest circumstantial evidence,"

remarked the Colonel, gently impatient.

oblige me, Mr. Knollys, by reading this?

and Major Larron subsequently

A little nervously the Deputy Commis-

sioner fixed his glasses to peruse it. An

clusions, or at least expressed them too

speechless, open mouthed dismay before

believed me capable of such an act.

picture of contrition and confusion.

by maintaining a similar silence."

"I can hardly credit that you ever really

The Deputy Commissioner looked the

"Forgive me, Colonel Prinsep. I can

"Do not attempt it, please. Let it be

ter, and you can atone for your mistake

Then Colonel Prinsep repaired to the

with him for more than an hour. When

"It is all right. I can see it in your

"What a wise little girl it is! Yes, I

She stole a hurried upward glance. He

was looking grave, yet not absolutely

farewell, she must not betray her own.

The Colonel was looking down at her

stendily; and as he gazed, an expression

of restrained yearning came into his eyes

Yet he made no sign. Sweet as it would

have been to whisper words in her car

that would have cleared away the sad

ness from the pretty, pathetic face, he

dared not risk anything by a premature

suffer something now for awhile than con

eclaircissement. Better far that she should

None, I thank you."

them, after all.

eyes!" she cried, coming eagerly toward

he came out, Jane was waiting in the

not express my regret," he faltered out.

frankly.

veranda.

of regret?

see that, don't you?"

and more still remains to be proved.

son that held them-the position grew

CHAPTER XLIV.

When he entered the anteroom he gave a searching look round, and, apparently not seeing the person he wanted, sat down and took up a paper to wait his arrival. It was some twenty minutes later that Barry Larron came in and took up his

position by the fire. Christmas weather with a vengeance, "If positively dangerous. he grumbled, as he rubbed his hands. this goes on for another week we shall be I am here," continued the Colonel. able to eat our plum-puddings and mincepies without feeling the incongruity of the fare."

The ground was quite white with frost this morning," said Valentine Graeme.

A young subaltern looked up eagerly. He was just out from England, and having found so much unlike what he had been led to expect, began to wonder whether he had also been advised wrongly to leave his skates at home. Valentine, reading his unspoken

thoughts, laughed aloud.

No. no. De Vere. Put that out of your head at once. The ice is not likely

to hear; though, by Jove, it helps us to bear the hot weather." If it helped us to bear your bad jokes with equanimity, it might be of even more

service," said Larron, grimly. 'It should help you to take even them

coolly," was the quick retort. Colonel Prinsep broke into the idle chat.

"Will it be taxing your memory too severely, Larron," he said, putting down his paper, "if I ask you to let me know any recollections you may have of the seventh of November?"

"The seventh of November!" cried irrepressible Val. "Why, that was the day poor Lynn was murdered."

"Ah, yes, to be sure! Thank you for reminding me, Graeme. It was the day of poor Lynn's murder, Colonel."

Major Larron spoke carelessly enough, and stroked his dark mustache with a swagger that seemed like consummate ease to the admiring subalterns, but not to his interlocutor.

"It was a more personal remembrance that I wished for," the Colonel went on. "Do you happen to remember that you and I were on the rifle range that day from one o'clock till after four?"

"I have the worst memory in the world," was the shy reply; looking, how-

ever, studiously in the opposite direction. "I am afraid I must ask you to exert it in this case," said the Colonel, firmly. Though the matter in itself is trivial, to forgotten. I shall never revive the man me it is of importance; and I think" with emphasis "you can scarcely fail to remember that you were with me, that day, acting as umpire in a match with the Bengal Cavalry."

"You were," emphatically declared Val-entine. "It was I who met you both with

the news about Lynn." Hitherto this fact had escaped the memory of all three. Now it recurred to

"Oh yes, of course! Now I recollect the circumstance perfectly," said Larron,

quickly. Then I am sure you will not object to put it down in black and white lest you should forget again. It is to settle some doubt that ought never to have arisen. Ah, thank you, Valentine," as the Adjutant handed him a paper on which, unasked, he had jotted down some memoranda. Then he handed it to Major Lar ron, who hastily scrawled his name in

attestation. "Is that all you require?" he asked, rather definatly.

Yes, that is all. I had no idea you had such a bad memory, Larron."

The Colonel spoke with an accept of sympathy that deceived all his hearers. except him to whom it was addressed In his case conscious guilt caused to instantly detect the satire. When Colonel Prinsep took up his hat, and, thrusting the paper into an inner pocket, went out, he followed him into the ver-

"You don't think, Colonel, that I intentionally suppressed any knowledge I pos

he asked, doggedly. "Qui s'excuse s'accuse. you with having behaved dishonorably toward me, it will be time enough to de-fend yourself."

Colonel Prinsep left and walked on quickly in the direction of the Cutchery. At any other time he would have felt unmitigated disgust at Major Larron's perfidy; but now his mind was so en grossed with other more important matters that he could even smile at the discomfiture which his evident knowledge of the truth had caused.

When he reached the Cutchery, he was told that the "burra sahib" was engaged, but would be at leisure presently. Then almost immediately a second messenger came to admit him to the Commissioner's

When he entered he saw at once that his advent was embarrassing as well as unwelcome. Mr. Knollys looked flurried and hot, beyond the heat for which the huge fire that was burning beside him

could account.
"I have come," said the Colonel, after a cold bow had been accorded to him and returned with politeness, "to discuss with you some private information I have received from Calcutta. It appears that, in consequence of an inquiry that is to be made again as to Trooper Lynn's death, all leave in the regiment is stopped. Now this is so grave an aspersion upon myself and brother officers that you will understand that I came to you at once to put

the matter on a proper footing."
"Excuse me, sir," broke in the Deputy Commissioner, angrily, "if I decline to re ceive any communication from you, save

in an official form." That you have the power to do so I freely admit, but surely in this case, con-sidering the friendship that has always existed between yourself and so..." but I implored him got to betray me and OUR RURAL READERS. will shine directly on the animals for spoil your happiness as well as his own don't think that even then he would have consented to remain silent-for he knew how obstinate you were, and that SOMETHING HERE THAT WILL you would never listen to reason only that you yourself came and called him. You looked so pretty and loving, Jenny

Jane did not answer. She was wondering whether it was not her own obstinney, at first, which she had hitherto dignified by the name of firmness, the had really been to blame for all that had subsequently occurred. Ah, well, if it were so, she was sufficiently punished! There would be no more efforts to try to its merits, or wider divergencies of make her change her mind: Her firm opinion as to its quality, as the Kleffer ness was no longer doubted. On this she could congratulate herself; but, oh, what It has been the subject of unstinted a barren honor it was!

So the days dragged on—those last days which are most difficult to live through, when, all arrangements having been made, and nothing left to do to occupy the hands at least, if not the mind, it only remains to wait patiently the mo I have had reason to respect as well as ment of departure.

Only four days remained when Stephen Prinsep rode up to the Quartermaster's bungalow, and meeting Mrs. Knox, was allowed to go in alone to find Jane. He opened the door quietly, and stood upon threshold. There she was, leaning pressed against the glass, as she looked him? He had taken another road, so it happened that she did not see him come.

The light shining through the window showed clearly the slender outline of her drooping figure, and made her dark-blue serge assume a richer hue for the time light, but it seemed as though nothing could give brightness to the sweet, pale face, the tired eyes, so languidly upraised.

Nothing? That remained to be seen. He came forward quietly, so quietly that, still as everything was in the room she never heard his footsteps. He had risked his all on this chance of taking her by surprise-would be fail? . Hope, doubt. and despair chased each other through his brain as he stood with arms stretched the deceased, and afterward, when that forward.

Jenny! My love!" She turned and saw him. A quick gleam came into the hazel eyes, a warm flush made more beautiful the lovely, sormediately the persecution ceased; though not-heaven forbid!—as she intended. All rowful face. She forgot everything save that he loved her, and was here, as with a glad low cry she threw herself weeping into his arms.

When, the first happy oblivion over, she tried to draw herself away again, she "Not a case to bring into court, certainly; found it was too late. He held her fast. and it falls to pieces at once before the defense that I have brought. Will you "Do you think I shall ever let you es cape me again?" he asked, with a trium

phant, tender smile. He handed over the paper containing the statement that Valentine had drawn "I thought you were not even coming to say "good-by," she sobbed, tearfully, as

hough to excuse, or at least account for her emotion. Nor have I. Please heaven, I shall not say 'good by' to you again, my dar

uneasy doubt crept into his mind whether he had not been premature in his con-She shook her head, yet could not restrain a happy smile at his musterful Then, when he had read it through, his glasses fell, and he stared in We start for England on Friday"-

disengaging herself from his embrace, "An unlucky day, Marry me to-morrow instead!" he suggested, audaciously. "Have you forgotten?" she asked, re-proachfully. "How could I marry you,

when I should only bring disgrace? "And happiness complete, and pride unspeakable in the loveliest wife man ever had! Would all that count for noth-

The sweet flattery soothed her momen tary indignation. There was no shadow on her face as she looked up to ask him

Quartermaster's bungalow. He asked to see Mr. Knox himself, and was closeted "And you have loved meall the time?" tory that his offense was condoned, and at how little expense, a plant room can

> subject them to her approval. Jane could only smile her thanks, her feelings were too deep for words; yet the lovely humid eyes told their own tale of gratitude and love. They could never misunderstand each other again.

think the danger is over now. But there is one thing you may not like. Your father is sending in his papers, and will Presently Stephen Prinsep raised her go home at once. It was impossible that two white hands and looked at them crithe could remain in the regiment. You leally.

"You have the loveliest hands in the Jane nodded comprehensively, but her world, Jenny, and they certainly need no countenance fell. Even when they had adornment; but why is it you never wear been going for a year-she felt a dread a ring? That silver oneforeboding that they might never meet "I lost the best part of that!" was the again; but now that this eternal separa quick reply.

ton was certain-did he feel not a tinge "I wonder if by any chance I found it?" It was growing dark, but even through the gloom the golden hoop shone brightly as he drew it from his pocket. She recognized it at once, and blushing

sad; as their eyes met he even gave a slow smile. If he felt no sorrow in saying beautifully, stretched out her hand to But he held it high above her head.

"It is best so, I suppose," she observed "It was the only thing that could be "Not yet, my love-not yet! It shall be yours again very soon, never fear; but not done," he insisted, gently. Then, after a slight pause, he added: "I am spending now-not to-day-to-morrow!"
(The end.) Christmas at the Molnets' with Dene. Have you any message I can take?"

A MOUNTAIN COURTSHIP. Sudden and Successful Woolng De

scribed by an Eye-Witness. "I was in what's known as the 'flag pond' district of Unicoi County, Tennessee," said a traveling man to a Washington Star writer, "when a young where I was stopping and spoke to a

girl who was dipping water from a

"'But I hain't got no clo's,' remon-

"'Well, we'll jess ride on you side of

Erwin to Sister Mag's in the cove, an'

"Not another word was said. Sal

dropped the bucket and Jumped on the

"'Mam, me an' Tom is going ter git

married at Erwin. We'll be by here in

"The mother started as if to call her

back, but the horse was galloping cown

the lane, and she went and carried in

the bucket of water without comment.

No More Knouts.

Punishment by the knout is to be

demn them both to life-long misery spring. "Good-by, Jenny," he said, gently. " 'Howdy, Sal.' A bright flush suffused her face. She raised her eyes shyly, and half laughed, " 'Howdy, Tom.' "'Come jump on the hoss an' go to more in tenderness than mirth. Erwin with me. What a frail barrier it was between " What fur?

ter marry yer, though."

strated the girl.

I'll git yer a dress.'

" 'Sho'ly, Sal.'

the mornin'.'

"Sho'ly, Tom?"

" 'What kin' of a dress?'

"'Best thar is in Lowe's sto'."

horse, shouting to her mother:

" Ter git married," CHAPTER XLV. " 'But yo' hain't done co'ted me yit.' "'I know I hain't, but I've done been oo pestered with work. I allus intended

Christmas came and went. To Jane the festivities seemed the dreariest that had ever been. They had several invita tions-for, whatever people might say or think, they could not be less than civil to them, seeing that both Mrs. Dene and Miss Knollys retained their friendship-but these had been declined on the plea of Mr. Knox's illness. But the Quartermaster was more like himself since he had spoken with the Colonel.

Christmas, Jane had fulfilled her promise She asked her mother to tell the whole story of the intercepted letters, or rather, all of it that was connected with Stepher Prinsep.

"He was not to blame at all!" declared

Mrs. Knox, stoutly.
"Yet he knew that Jacob Lynn ked not

really given me up." "Not until about two days before that fixed for your wedding. I had heard the detachment was to march in, and, afraid that they might arrive too soon, I con-fessed to him what I had done!"

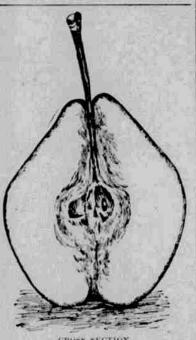
"And he let the deceit continue." "That he did so was my fault. His first impulse was to go to you and tell you all; done away with in Russia. INTEREST THEM.

as you stood outside the window, I did Merits of the Kieffer Pear-Adding not wonder he could not give you up."

an Inexpensive Greenhouse to the an Inexpensive Greenhouse to the Home-Warm and Well Ventilated Stables Prevent Taberculosis.

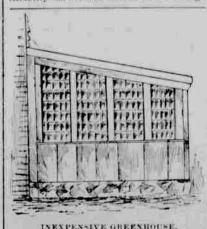
The Kieffer Pear. Probably no one variety of fruit has

given rise to as much discussion as to pear, says the Orange Judd Farmer. praise, as well as the target for general abuse. The pear was originated by Mr. Peter Kieffer of Roxbury, near Philadelphia, and is a seedling of the worthless Chinese Sand pear. Downcrossed with the Anjon -a thing within sixty degrees. With a lead pencil the drink with me. Last night I had ing intimates that it was accidentally the possibilities. In its favor, the following may be sald: It is a most vigoris unequalled by any of our standard done. Before setting the hens, clean actly the amount the Philadelphia man ous grower, and it has a foliage that varieties. It is also an early as well against the window-frame, her face as a prolific yielder. In a large part of the country the fruit will not grade along the road. Was she looking for high as to quality. The specimen from which our illustration was made was grown in Columbia County, New York. Growers are firmly of the opinion that their Kieffers are much improved in first. Be sure the hen wants to set bequality when Bartletts are grown near Her hair gleamed like gold in the strong them, so that the pollen from the Bart-



letts can reach and modify the Kieffers. The fruit is large and moderately long, round, full in the middle, and tapering to both ends. The skin is a deep, brilliant yellow, and such specimens as secure sunlight have a ruddy cheek. The stalk is stout and of moderate length, the calyx open in a medium, uneven basin. The flesh is white, a little coarse, and at its best very juley and sprightly, with a decided quince flavor. It must be carefully ripened in the dark to attain its best condition-ripening at the north the last of October and early in November.

Adding a Plant Room. If it were understood how easily, and he was allowed to unfold his plans and | be added to an ordinary farm or villace house there would certainly be more of these useful and pleasure-giving adjuncts to country and suburban homes. The Illustration gives a suggestion of a very neat and simple addition that will let in enough sunlight, even though the roof be of shingles instend of glass, to keep plants growing thriftily all winter and to start a large



INEXPENSIVE GREENHOUSE.

assortment of plants for the kitchen garden, which will bring vegetables upon the table at least a month earlier than is now the case. In cold climates man rode up in front of the cabla the senson for garden growth is too short to give us the full benefit of fruits and vegetables. A sunny room like that figured here will very materially lengthen the season, and with a succession of plantings after the weather becomes warm, will make the garden a joy throughout the whole summer. An oil stove may be used for heating; or a hot water pipe, or a hot air flue from the furnace or boiler. if one is used for heating the house, may be carried into the plant room Build tight to keep the wind out, and heating will be a comparatively easy untter.

Tuberculosis in Cows. In view of the increasing prevalence of tuberculosis, farmers and others need to take especial care that their cows are kept under good sanitary conditions. In this case prevention is, as usual, far better and cheaper than cure, says E. E. Rockwood, in the New York Tribune. While actual infection may not come from foul stables, they certainly have a tendency to weaker the constitutions of the animals kept in them, thereby rendering them more liable to disease. Fresh air and sun shine are two of the best preventives This does not mean that cows should be turned out of doors every day and all day during winter, but that their stables should be well provided with windows, where, if possible, the sun under the direction of experts.

at least a portion of the time. The stables should be warm and free from Strange Manner in Which a Stranger draughts, yet it is better for the health of the cows that they be turned out of A gentleman from Philadelphia who them for a while each pleasant day to has been in Hartford for several days give them a chance to breathe the pure on business lost his pocketbook conoutside air. Close, unventilated stables taining \$73 a few evenings ago. He are a menace to the health of animals made diligent inquiries for it at places kept in them continually from fall to where he had been, including the opera spring, as is the practice of some house cafe, where he had taken some of dairymen with their cows, under the his meals. Mr. Barby, manager, said impression that they get more milk by that the pocketbook had not been found so doing. This may be, yet in the there, and added that if any of the end I believe that they will be the waiters had found it it would have gainer by giving the cows a moderate been handed over to him. He called all amount of exposure to the air, even in the waiters up and all of them said they

Setting the Hens.

The early broods of chickens bring the most money. As the eggs are daily gathered, place them carefully in a them in a moderately warm room, say about the temperature of fifty-five to basket, lined with soft cotton, and keep mark the day of the month on them should not be set, though it is often bottom of nests well saturated with out or wheat chaff are excellent; sprinthe hen is a large one, fifteen eggs may be given her. Set three to five hens federate bill."

The man in at a time, so that chickens may be 4t and asked his accuser who he was given to two or three hens and the other hens shut up for a few days, un charge. til they forget about their chickens. and place it in the setting room. This room should be kept especially for the setting of hens; place fresh water and at once took the book out of his pocket feed daily in room, and twice a week and returned it to the owner, none of let the hens out to get fresh grass and its contents having been disturbed. exercise. The attendant must look This is a true story, but it is hard to after this business, if he hopes for suc-beat.—Hartford Courant. cess. The American.

Fertilizers for Peaches. Fertilizers for peach trees have been experimented with for eleven years on ty, New Jersey. The experiment station concludes that it pays to manure peach orchards, because it extends the profitable bearing period of the trees. Fertilizers or stable manure containnitrogen, phosphoric acid and potashwere more useful than any one or two yard manure.

Moss Roses. of them flower after June. Still one could not find anywhere among his must have them for the exquisite beauty of the buds, which are at their best Northwestern stock. He could not say for Memorial Day. I confess to a fond-whether it had been lost or stolen. At ness for the sweetbriar, with its une- last he gave a bond to the railroad comqualed fragrance and dainty pink sin-gle flowers. Equally beautiful, but the old issue was cancelled. At the lacking the perfume of the sweetbrier, beginning of the following year the deare the wild roses of our Indiana road-

Potash and Bone for Fruit. ash and bone fertilizers are best adapt- tained. The capitalist was sent for ed to fruits, and they are generally and the envelope given to him. He himunderstood to be more lasting in their self received the envelope in apparent effects than most other commercial Ignorance of its contents until he openfertilizers; the potash can most readily ed it and found within the missing 2, be procured and applied in the form | 000 shares of the par value of \$200,000. of muriate of potash, says the Country | The whole transaction was an utter

Value of Scales on Farms. use, as they enable the farmer to know abstainer.—Philadelphia Press. whether his stock are gaining, and the kinds of food to use to make the greatest gain. Scales may be considered an be practiced.

tried with excellent results.

to cramps.

Professor Roberts, of Cornell University, says there are three implements that should be in every cow stablethe scales, the Babcock milk test and the shotgun. Oftentimes the profit of a herd of afteen cows is being made by

er, and the apples from land that has been fimed have a better flavor, better color and better keeping qualities than those grown on unlimed lands.

one from which you can secure 300 pounds of butter per year from each cow. You may suppose such an amount of butter to be too large, but there are cows that have produced 1,000 pounds. per year. They are few, it is true, but by the use of butter breeds. An averfrom each cow in a herd is not extraordinary.

other men are doing in other places. The letins from experiment stations and the their importance and beauty. attendance of farmers' institutes is to be recommended; also for young people, a term, or a year, or a course at an agricultural college where both

RECOVERED HIS MONEY.

Got Back His Pocketbook. had not seen it. The gentleman went out and walked down Main street. Behind him he heard two men talking.

"Let's stop in the City Hotel and have a drink," said one. The other inquired where the City Hotel was, and

when laid. Eggs over a month old nothing and to-night I have \$73." The fact that the amount named was exout the nests, then whitewash with had lost attracted his notice and he hot wash, adding one pint of coal oil turned around to see who was talking. to a bucket of the wash. Have the He recognized the speaker as a man he had known in Philadelphia. Stepping the wash. For making nests, sawdust, aside he let the two pass and followed them into the City Hotel barroom. Stepping up to the man who said he

fore giving her eggs; when hen is ready must hand it over. It is a little red "You have my pocketbook and you to set, place thirteen eggs in nest; if book and contains \$73 and a \$10 Con-

The man indignantly denied having that he should dare make such a

Then they may be let out with the "and I'll tell you who you are. You "I'll tell you who I am." he replied, other hens; they will soon start into the hens; they will soon start into laying. Mark on the box of each hen the day she was set and when she will and selling stamps. Now hand over and selling stamps. Now hand over hatch. After the hen is set, take a box the pocketbook or it will go hard with

The fellow recognized his accuser and

A Forgotten Fortune.

One of the great capitalists in New York, a man whose achievements by a farm well adapted for fruit, located reason of their magnitude cause his on the trap-rock soil of Somerset Counthat of almost any other man in New York, went into the safe deposit vaults one day and gave to the manager an envelope which he said contained 2,000 shares of Northwestern stock. He did ing all the elements of plant food - not want to put this stock in his vault for reasons best known to himself. The envelope was given to an employe who of these elements. Chemical fertiliz- did not know its contents, who was iners proved more profitable than barnvault until called for and with that arrangement the capitalist seemed content. A few months later this cap-Moss roses are very hardy, but few italist was in a great state of mind. He possessions a block of 2,000 shares of posit company's employe asked that h might be relieved of the responsibility of caring for that capitalist's envelope, Generally, it is safe to say that pot- although he did not know what it conblank to him. If he had been a man of intemperate habits it might have been Scales on the farm soon pay for their explained, but he is practically a total

Napoleon and Washington.

Sobered for the moment by contemplating a past danger which had threatabsolute necessity if the system is to ened annihilation, and by the crowding responsibilities of the future, the better side of the First Consul's nature Outs and peas on the same plot to- was for a time dominant. So far as gether may be seeded early as a source consistent with his aspirations for perfor supplying the cows with green food sonal power and glory, he put into praclater on, as the combination has been tical operation many of the most inportant revolutionary ideals, failing Young goslings should not be permit- only in that which sought to substitute ted to go on ponds until they are well a national for a Roman church. But feathered, as they are easily chilled in this process he took full advantage when the water is cold. The same ap of the state of French society to make plies to ducklings, which are subject himself indispensable to the continuance of French life on its new pach. Incapable of the noble self-abnegation which characterized the close of Washington's career, by the parade of civil liberty and a restored social order be so minimized the popular, representative, constitutional side of his reconstructed government as to erect it into a virtual tyranny on its political side. A clay soil containing lime in abundance is the best for apples, according the name fit each other was overpowerto the experience of a prominent grow- ing, for the self-styled commonwealth, with a chief magistrate claiming to hold his office as a public trust, was quite ready to be launched as a liberal empire under a ruler who in reality The breed of cows you use should be held the highest power as a possession. -Century.

Women in the Congo.

A strange custom among the Bayanzi, who live along the upper Congo, has been described by explorers. Brass they are examples of what can be done rings, sometimes weighing thirty pounds, are welded around the necks age of 300 pounds of butter per year of the wives. At first the neck becomes raw by the chating of the ring, but after a while it becomes calloused, Many a dollar can be saved and much although a woman has to hold the ring hard work avoided by learning what up frequently to get relief from the weight. The women are proud of their use of good papers, the reading of bul ornament, believing that it enhances

A compress of cotton saturated with a solution of alum, where excessive theoretical and practical instruction is hemorrhage follows the extraction of a received by lectures and actual work tooth, will be found serviceable. Its effects are powerful but entirely safe,