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ALL AROUND THE HOUSE.

New India Silk-Practical Direc

tions for Making a Small Table. The latest fancies in India silks for sash curtains, cushions and other interior decorations are described by Art Interchange as showing elaborate patterns in soft and beautiful colorings on variously tinted grounds. One of buff ground has a rich all over pattern of wild grapevine in autumn colorings, the leaves being in gold browns, duli olives, and dark reds delightfully shaded. The fruit, in the little bunches peculiar to wild grape, is shaded from dark blue to purplish black, and the stems and tendrils are in light brown. Another, with a pink ground, has a large and rather straggling design of chrys-anthemums in pinks of a darker tinge than the ground, and faintly colored foliage in olive greens. This one is particularly effec-tive. Still another notable one shows dog wood blossoms in shaded whites, with dark green leaves on a light green ground. These silks are wide. They make charming coverings for sofa pillows.

White Enamel Painting. Decorator and Furnisher tells how the beautiful white enamel, which is now so fashionable in combination with gilding, in such articles as chairs is produced: First, the wood is primed with a composition consisting of three parts turpentine and one part linseed oil, Japan size being used as a dryer. On this drying thoroughly the work is rubbed down until perfectly smooth. Next two or three coats of pure white lead are applied, mixed entirely flat. Each coat is rubbed down, time being allowed for each to dry. Equal parts of lead and zinc are used for the next coat, and three-fourths zinc and one-fourth lead for the one succeeding. After this has become thoroughly hard it is rubbed down very smooth. A thin coat of color, made of zinc and turpentine, is now rubbed on; for the next coat the same flat color is used, with the addition of about one-half the quantity of good light coach varnish. For the last coat enough zinc is used in the varnish to make it white. If the last coat of zinc is not white or solid enough, more coats are put on until it is perfectly white and solid before varnishing. If the work is to be gilded or striped, the zinc must be omitted in the last coat of varnish.

Orange Wine.

A Florida Lousekeeper gives directions for making a very superior orange wine: Squeeze, strain the juice, then make sweet enough to float an egg to show nearly an inch of sur-face; then have open and level full until the scum has all worked off; then put in round, thick bottles and tie down the stoppers, which must be tight. In six weeks the wine is made, but age improves it, also exposure to the light. Any sort of wine can be made this way. The only thing necessary is to have the juice the proper sweetness, and that can only be determined by testing, as some fruits are sweeter some seasons than others. New cane syrup is better than any sort of sugar for sweetening wine; it is quite as mild flavored and makes stronger wine. If stoneware or wooden vessels are used to put wine in they must be very strong, or else they will burst; round bottles are stronger than square ones. It will require from three to six days for the

A Useful Card or Book Table. A well made table or stand is an always desirable article of household furniture A man who has some "knack" with tools can construct a durable and useful card table or book stand, like the one shown in the cut, from some very practical directions given by an ingenious correspondent of Farm and Fireside.

The top is of pine wood, three-quarters of an inch in thickness and twenty-four inches across. As it is difficult to find a board of sufficient width, two pieces will probably have to be glued together and secured with oak dowel pins. There must be two of them, driven into the edge of each piece two and one-half inches, after the edges have been carefully squared and straightened by plan-ing. The holes must be bored with a quaring. The holes must be bored with a quar-ter inch bit, and an equal distance apart. Make the pegs of oak to fit the holes, and after dipping them in hot liquid glue drive them into one piece; then glue the edges, and before it has cooled insert the pegs in the opposite piece and drive them tight

together.
The lower round or shelf of the table will probably have to be made in the same way. It measures twenty inches across. Set them away to dry till next day; meantime select three hard wood, straight grained broom-sticks of equal thickness, and saw them twenty-seven inches long. Prepare them by scraping off the paint and varnish, and sand scraping off the paint and varnish, and sand paper them down smooth. The following day the work may be continued. Smoothly plane both sides of the boarda. If you have not a large pair of compasses the circles may be described with pencil, string and tack in the way that every school boy knows. Saw along the line carefully with a compass saw, holding it vertically. Through the smaller circle bore three holes through which the legs may pass, each one inch from the edge, equidistant from each other.



A CONVENIENT TABLE,

Lay the shelf on the under side of the top and mark the places for the upper ends of the legs. The broomsticks should fit tightly in the holes, and the shelf secured in place, thirteen inches from the floor, with one and one-half inch finish nails. The upper ends of legs must be placed on the marks, and the top secured with one and one-half inch screws, the heads of which are sunken in the wood and the holes filled with putty. After wood and the holes filled with putty. After it has been smoothly finished with sand paper it may be painted a shiny black, with paint into which has been turned a half cupful of Japan varnish, and when thoroughly dry fin-ished with a fringe of macreme or crochet of gray twine around the border, secured with brass head furniture tacks.

To remove white spots from furniture rub with spirits of camphor.

A smoky ceiling can be cleaned with soda and water.

Old table cloths worn thin make excellent Black shopping bags are made to renew the freshness of their youth, by a dressing of any good shoe polish.

Balt sprinkled plentifully on key doorsteps will have a better and cleaner effect than

dette knife to scrape pots and

SCIENCE AND PROGRESS.

BERNARDOS' PROCESS OF WELDING METALS BY ELECTRICITY.

The Relation Between Deafness and Muteness Not a Necessary One-Deafness Compared With Blindness-A Simple Way of Producing a Mercurial Shower.

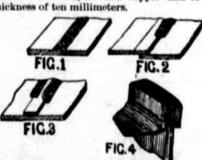
A very simple way of producing a mercurial shower was recently illustrated and ex-plained in Scientific American, and is here reproduced for the benefit of our readers.



In the neck of an Argand chimney (see cut) is inserted a plug of Malacca wood, which is sealed around the periphery with wax or paraffine. In the top of the chimney is inserted a stopper, through which projects a short glass tube, having its upper end bent over, or capped with a small test tube. To the outer end of the glass tube is applied a rubber tube. When the chimney is in an inverted position, as shown in the engraving, a quantity of mercury is placed in the larger part of the chimney, and the air is partly ex-hausted by applying the mouth to the rubber tube and sucking. The mercury readily passes through the porous wood and falls in a shower. By employing an air pump for producing the partial vacuum, the mercury may be drawn through a plug of pine. These experiments show in a striking manner the porosity in a longitudinal direction of these ces of wood.

Soldering Metals by Electricity. The process described by M. Von Bernardos,

of St. Petersburg, of welding or soldering metals by electricity, appears to be a success. American Artisan, in a report on the subject, scribes how a carbon rod is used, one pole of which is in connection with a dynamo electric current and the other connected with the piece to be soldered. The manipulation is not only simple, but metals can be perfectly soldered which hitherto were quite obdurate. Bernardos not only welded wrought iron with wrought iron, but wrought iron with cast iron and with steel; iron was soldered to copper and brass, etc., and wrought iron coated with lead, tin and copper and to a thickness of ten millimeters.



WELDING SHEET IRON BY ELECTRICITY. Fig. 1 shows two pieces of sheet iron that are to be welded or soldered together. If the soldering seam is to be specially strong it is better to lay the two sheets with their edge somewhat over another and join these last with the sheet as shown in Fig. 2. A stronger junction is shown in Fig 3. These joinings are especially useful for kitchen utensils and generally reckoned that a good riveted seam is only seven-eighths as strong as the whole iron, but welding by the electric current shows nine-tenths. Fig. 4 shows a soldering for bottoms of vessels of japanned sheetware. The sample is taken from the bottom of a petroleum vessel. Another combination has the soldering running zig-zag and the Russian technical men say that it is the best.

Interesting Facts About Deaf Mutes. The probable average ratio of deaf mute to the population at large is 1 to 1,500, and this would give about a million deaf mutes in the world; and yet (in the United States at least) the deaf form the smallest element of the defective classes, including under this term the blind, deaf, idiotic and insane. Doafness is a disease of childhood, and the number of deaf persons of school age is double that of the blind. There are about six deaf males to five deaf females, and the notion that the deaf have an immunity from other diseases of the sense organs is not borne out. Among the causes of deafness the intermarriage of near relatives is regarded as a serious one. That the intermarriage of deaf mgtes is a fertile source of the increase of deaf mutes is now generally admitted, and some regard one-third of all cases as due to this origin. A very large number of deaf mutes are deaf from their birth; and of those who become deaf a very large percentage lose their hearing in the first, second or third year of life. After this the liability to deafness rapidly decreases. There are about 35,000 deaf mutes in the United states. The relation between deafness and mute-

ness is not a necessary one; it is because the ear educates the vocal mechanism that deaf persons become mute, not because their vocal organs are not correctly formed. This fact makes it possible to teach the deaf to vocalize; and the system by which they are taught to read the sounds on the lips of the speaker, while they answer by speaking as well as they can, is already the most widely adopted, and seems destined to supersede the finger alphabet for general purposes. The unsym-pathetic nature of the deaf as contrasted with the cheerfulness of the blind, as well as the fact that eminent blind persons are much more numerous than eminent deaf ones, speak for blindness as the less serious loss

American Dentistry in London

Among the new companies lately formed in London is one entitled the American Dental Institute. Capital £1,000, in shares of one shilling each. Object, to promote the adoption of advanced American and other scientific methods of dental surgery; to pro-tect the interests of dentists and the profession of dentistry; to consider all questions connected therewith; to promote or oppos legislative and other measures affecting the profession; to collect and circulate statistics and information in regard thereto; to act as and to appoint arbitrators for the settlement of any disputes in connection with dentistry.

The Chrotograph.

The chrotograph is a pencil manufactured in Germany for writing on the skin. It is made in various colors, and affords legible writing, which can be easily removed without the use of water. It is designed for the use of physicians, to make memoranda upon their

THE CURIOSITY SHOP.

Some Information About Queen Victoria's Name New to Most Renders. Now comes one who throws discredit on all previous stories as to the queen's family

Queen Victoria has no other name than that given her in baptism. Her name is not Guelph. That was the baptismal name of an To say that her name is Guelph because she is a descendant of Guelph of Bavaria, or a member of the house of Guelph, is as ridiculous as to say that the name of a descendant of or member of the house of William the Conqueror is Williams. Nor is her name Wettin. That supposition is more ridiculous still than the "Guelph" superstition. She married a descendant of the counts of Wettin, but no descendant of the king of Bulgaria will ever be Mr. Bulgaria, and no de-scendant of the counts of Wettin ever be Mr. Wettin. It has not been necessary for all people to assume surnames, and very few royal or princely families have taken them, Louis XVI was indicted as Louis Capet, but he informed the court that it was mistaken, as he had no surname, and on his authority it may safely be assumed that neither the bouse of Orleans nor the house of Bourbon enjoys that distinction. Charles Stuart of England came from the Stuart family and had a family name (changed to Stuart from Fitzalan), and so did Henry VII, grandson of Owen Tudor. The duke of Modena has none, and the duke of Bedford is Mr. Russell; the duke of Birkenhead has none, and the duke of Montrose is Mr. Graham. The Beginning of Printing.

It is probable that the earliest impressions were taken by a mallet and planer (a smooth faced block of wood used for leveling the type before printing), as proof slips now often are, or by a brush, in the Chinese manner; but presses were soon invented for the purpose. There are engravings representing the press as it existed about 1520. It was large enough to print two folio pages, and for this two pulls were required. The force was applied by a simple screw and lever. About 1620 Blacuw, of Amsterdam, produced a greatly improved press, which, with little al-teration, continued in use for more than a century and a half. The press upon which Benjamin Franklin worked in London, in 1725, is preserved in the patent office at Washington. It is a clumsy structure, almost entirely of wood, known as the Ramage press, of which many were still in use more than a century later. Iron was subsequently used for some of the parts until the beginning of the present century. Printing ma-chinery, now brought to such a high degree of perfection, was not much ahead of Frank-'s time fifty years ago.

The First American Abolitionist. Samuel Sewall, chief justice of Massachusetts from 1718 to 1728, when he resigned on secount of age and infirmities, seems to have been the first outspoken abolitionist in our country, having written a tract against slavery, in which he gave it as his opinion that there would be "no progress in gospel-ing" until slavery should be abolished. Judge Sewall was born at Bishopsgate, England, March 28, 1652, graduated at Harvard university in 1671, and died January, 1730. He studied divinity, preached awhile, came into the possession of wealth by marriage, by marrying the daughter of a Boston goldsmith, and was annually chosen a member of the council from 1600 until 1725. He was judge from 1712 until 1718, when he became chief justice. Judge Sewall shared in the general belief of witches and witcheraft, concurring in the condemnation of many of the accused, but he afterwards publicly acknowledged his

Cremation.

The first furnace for the cremation in America of bodies of the dead was erected at Washington, Pa., in 1876, by Dr. F. J. Le Moine, at a cost of \$1,600. The first cremation (that of Baron de Palm) took place Dec. 6 of the same year. The process occupied about two hours, and was very successful in its results. The ashes were placed in an urn. The process seemed objectionable to many, and some excitement was caused throughout the country. Since then crematories have been erected in several large cities, and the process of cremation is not regarded with much curiosity.

A Suggestion for Independence. After the proclamation of King George III, in 1775, Joseph Hawley, one of the stanch patriots of New England, wrote from Watertown to Samuel Adams, in congress: "The eyes of all the continent are on your body to see whether you act with firmness and intrepidity, with the spirit and dispatch which our situation calls for. It is time for your body to fix on periodical annual elections. nay, to form into a parliament of two houses." This was the first proposition for the establishment of an independent national government for the colonies

Cost of the Great Eastern The cost of building and launching the Great Eastern was \$3,650,000. That broke the original company before she was launched. A new company having been organized, the sum of \$600,000 was spent in fitting and finishing her. When this company failed another with a capital of \$500,-000 took hold of her, cleaned 300 tons of mus-

sels off her bottom, and at the close of 1880 had sunk \$280,000 in her, making a total outlay for construction and maintenance of over \$4,500,000. Velocity of Electricity. Electricity has no assignable velocity. This varies with the current and the conductor. Wheatstone, in 1833, seemed to show a transmission velocity of 288,000 miles a second through copper wire, but in late experiments signals were sent over ordinary telegraph wires on poles, and had a rate of

only 14,000 to 16,000 miles. With wires near the earth the velocity was 12,000 miles, but reached 24,000 on very high wires. The Sucz Canal.

The Suez canal was opened in 1869. It is not yet fully completed, or rather is unperfected, and has a depth of twenty-six feet. Forty hours are required for the passage of a vessel. The tolls average \$4,300 per vessel, and it is estimated that the saving to commerce, after deducting fees, will be \$10,000,-000 annually. The British government pur-chased one-fifth of the number of shares from the khedive of Egypt in 1876.

The Bible as the Law.

A convention of the settlers near Quidi-piac, Conn., was held April 13, 1638, in a barn at that place. After some discussion the Bible was adopted as the constitution of the new colony and a settlement was established which was named New Haven. The Bible remained the constitution for several

Varieties of Postage Stamps. Between 8,000 and 10,000 different postage stamps have been issued by the 300 governments of the world using them. A complete collection would probably number 10,000.

The Webster-Ashburton treaty of 1842 defined the boundary between the United States and the British American possessions CALIFORNIAS

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