

consequent necessary renewing that is so distressing to a patient. In cases where the invalid is in bed, the lamp can be tied to the table by the bedside, while the tubes are long enough to reach the patient. The coil is set on a rubber mat, which may then be placed where occasion requires. Both coils and mats come in various sizes and shapes, adapted for use in various diseases.

"Victoria '37" bonnets are already appearing in London, and as the duchess of Kent has adopted one, their popularity is assured. They are very quaint in appearance, but the little wreath of roses surrounding the face, makes them specially becoming to young, fresh faces; while the protection around the ears and neck and forehead, will appeal to older women, who are forced to lend with the demon neuralgia, that finds a ready vantage point in the usual insufficiently covered head.

When one is very tired, after a shopping expedition, or hard journey the quickest way of obtaining rest, according to a prominent physical culturist, is to throw one's self in a "heap" in a large cushioned chair or on the bed, with every muscle absolutely relaxed. In that most helpful book, "Power in Rest," the author advocates the floor as the best possible place for this beneficial rest, and directs the weary one to lie at full length, with every part of the body absolutely relaxed, until she wonders how the floor can support so heavy an object. It is the continued tension, the unconscious endeavor to hold an arm or head or some portion of the body rigid, that often prevents the perfect rest.

The curious, smock-like, black cambric aprons that one sees on nearly all children when playing, throughout France, might well be transplanted for the protection of our own vigorous American younglings, whose jackets, trousers and gowns unprotected lose their pristine freshness in an incredibly short time. These smocks, which can be doffed or donned in an instant, are buttoned from the neck down at the back, and are worn with or without a belt, though the little lads seem to prefer the greater freedom offered by the confining belt. All the way from Dieppe on the north to Marseilles on the south, the active, black-gowned figures skip the rope, throw the ball, and drive imaginary figures with an abandon only possible when the dictum "Keep your clothes clean," is not constantly needed.

Sterling silver medallions and corners have entirely disappeared from fashionable card cases and purses, which are now severely plain but of rich quality. The experienced traveler in England on the continent takes particular care to provide herself with three purses; a tiny one for gold, a somewhat larger one for silver, and more capacious bag of links for the necessary but unwieldy coppers, which are constantly in requisition for pour boires. Without this precaution, the luckless traveler is prone in the hurry of transit, or in the dark, to hand out a gold half-sovereign or 20-frank piece for a sixpence, or a half-crown for a two-shilling piece.

One of the most beneficent laws in France for the protection of infants is that prohibiting the giving of any form

of solid food to an infant less than a year old without a prescription from a regular physician. Another enactment of long standing, forbids the use of glass or rubber tubes on nursing bottles, a wise provision, where eternal vigilance, the only safeguard, is too often relaxed.

Delicious, as French cooking invariably is, the roast chicken which forms one course in every dinner of any pretention, is simply perfection. Tender, succulent, delicately brown, with a gravy whose "fair juices" are a revelation to those unfamiliar with the methods of a genuine cordon bleu, it daily appears with a garnish of pungent watercress, and accompanied by a generous-sized salad bowl, filled with the crispest of lettuce, cut in pieces and dressed with vinegar and oil. In serving chicken, no one is asked if they prefer white meat or dark. The carving is done outside, and so cleverly that each person is furnished with a bit of each, thus obviating the unfair apportionment too prevalent when a choice is offered.

EMMA PADDOCK TELFORD.

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

A unique phenomenon that is puzzling astronomers is afforded by the double star 44 Bootis, which was discovered by Herschel in 1781. For thirty years the stars of this system gradually increased their distance from each other at a nearly uniform rate, the position angle at the same time slowly advancing, but for nearly an equal period down to the present time the motion has been apparently arrested, and the careful records of the best star observers show only absolute rest. Even so expert an observer as Mr. S. W. Burnham confesses that this is not easily explained. On the usual dark body hypothesis, however, it is possible to conceive that one of the stars with an invisible companion, both moving in a very eccentric orbit in a plane parallel to the line of sight, may have a period and direction of motion that will explain both the motion and absence of motion shown by the observations. The return of the period of visible motion will be awaited with no small degree of interest.

A simple thermoelectric generator, capable of running a six-inch or eight inch fan motor with a third of the gas used by an ordinary burner, is the invention of Mr. H. B. Cox, and is being made in London. The elements consist of short strips of Seebeck's alloy, composed of two parts of antimony and one of zinc, the outside ends of which are joined in a star shape by copper connecting strips. The desired number of elements are set in a cement cylinder with a central opening. The opening fits over a Bunsen gas-burner, and an annular metal casing contains circulating water to cool the outer ends of the elements.

Area being considered, Greece seems to be more a land of earthquakes than Japan. Reports for 1896 appear to show a total of 529 earthquakes for the kingdom, or nearly 1½ a day, no fewer than 306 having been recorded in the island of Zante alone.

Pasteur suggested that the microbes of chicken cholera might be effective in suppressing the rabbit pest of Australia. One of the chief reasons why the remedy was not tried was the reluctance of New South Wales to introduce a new

and unknown disease, an objection that has now been removed by Mr. C. J. Pound, Government bacteriologist who has discovered chicken cholera in both Queensland and New South Wales. Tests of this method of destroying rabbits have lately been made with results so encouraging that permission to use it is likely to be granted to farmers and others. Calculations show that two gallons of broth containing microbes of chicken cholera are sufficient, when added to pollard, to destroy at least 20,000 rabbits, without considering the spread of the disease from one animal to another. As bright sunshine renders the microbe infected food harmless in three hours, it is recommended that the poison pellets be scattered over the field near sunset.

An instructive experience has been reported by the Mexican International Railroad. At the burning of their repair shop at Piedras Negras, the superintendent saw that the building could not be saved, and instructed the fire department to throw no water on it, but to allow all the men available to shovel sand and earth upon the embers covering the fine machine tools. This precaution caused the metal to cool slowly. Few of the tools were warped, nearly all being put to work satisfactorily soon after the fire, whereas most of them would have been completely ruined by drenching with water.

The general trend of weed migration is found by Mr. Lyster H. Dewey to have been westward in the States east of the Rocky Mountains, except in New England. This westward course corresponds with the progress of cultivation and the movement of the supply of field seeds; while in New England such weeds as the Canada thistle, yellow daisy and orange hawkweed have spread to the eastward, chiefly along railroads, in baled hay, grain and wool.

What is claimed to be a very satisfactory imitation of camphor is now manufactured by passing hydrochloric acid into spirits of turpentine surrounded by a freezing mixture.

The attention of a French surgeon, Professor Lannelongue, was lately drawn to blisters produced on the scalps of several children who had been playing in the shadow of a wall whose top was under bright sunlight. The idea that this might be an x-ray effect suggested itself. Experiments were then made on a number of persons, when several who were exposed unprotected to similar radiations were burned, while others who were protected by strontium glass escaped. The investigator declares that x-ray discoveries will revolutionize the treatment of sunstroke. He thinks the ancient Greeks may have been wiser than we know in covering their heads with brass helmets and their chests and backs with light metal cuirasses, and concludes that future protection from sunstroke may be sought behind strontium glass helmets.

It is probably impossible to estimate how many injured limbs have been sacrificed to the professional pride or fallible judgment of the surgeon. Dr. Reclus, at the recent French Congress of Surgery, described a substitute for the ordinary operation, or a kind of natural amputation, in which the dead tissue is embalmed and allowed to become separated from the living without violent interference. The wound is carefully shaved and cleansed with either, etc., in the