

## CHINESE CHEMISTRY.

Conversing a few days since with a native teacher about the "miraculous" in chemistry, he informed us that the Chinese, from time immemorial, had converted sugar, a species of glutinous rice, into candy. Such a thing we knew to be possible, but hesitating to believe the Chinese sufficiently scientific to have hit upon the process, our informant insisted that he could furnish ocular demonstration, which was willingly sought, and, following him, we came to a small shop on the *Made*, where the wonderful work is performed.

The keeper at first hesitated to disclose the secret of the process, fearing, as he said, that a rival establishment might be the result; but, having assured him that nothing of the kind was under contemplation, he volunteered all the information he could give, which was quite enough to confirm our previous doubts, and confuse no little our now credulous informant.

But nevertheless the manufactory was well worth visiting, and discovered to us, what is certainly a new and very cheap method of producing excellent syrup for conserving fruits and making candies.

The process, which is exceedingly simple, is as follows: Barley in the husk, sprouted hastily in warm water, and then ground, is mixed with soft boiled sugar, in the proportion of one of the former to four or five pounds of the latter, then subjected to pressure as in making bean curd. The expressed juice, containing the starch of the rice and the saccharine of the barley germ, is then boiled over a brisk fire until evaporated to a consistency slightly exceeding that of honey, if desired as a conserving syrup, or still further if intended for candies.

The syrup thus produced is not so sweet as that produced from sorghum or sugar cane, but is evidently cheaper, and for preserves almost if not quite as good. The Chinese have a proverb which says, "Everything has its appropriate use; even germinating barley may be made into candy."—*Shanghai News Letter*.

**SLEEP AND HABIT.**—Sleep is much modified by habit. Thus an old artilleryman often enjoys tranquil repose while the cannon are thundering around him; an engineer has been known to fall asleep within the boiler, while his followers were beating it out on the inside with their ponderous hammers, and the repose of a miller is in no wise incommoded by the noise of his mill, as sound comes to be a stimulus to such men, and what would have proved an inexpressible annoyance to others is by them altogether unheeded. It is common for carriers to sleep on horseback, and coachmen on their coaches. During the battle of the Nile some boys were so exhausted that they fell asleep on deck, amid the deafening thunder of that dreadful engagement. Nay, silence may become a stimulus, while sound ceases to be so. Thus, a miller being very ill, his mill was stopped that he might not be disturbed by its noise; but this, so far from inducing sleep, prevented it altogether; and he did not take place till the mill was set a-going. For the same reason, the manager of some vast iron works, who slept close to them, amid the incessant din of hammers, forges and furnaces, would awake if there was any cessation of the noise during the night. To carry illustrations still further, it has been noticed that a person who falls asleep near a church, the bell of which was ringing, may hear the sound during the whole of his slumber, and be nevertheless aroused by its sudden cessation. Here the sleep must have been imperfect, otherwise he would have been insensible to the sound. The noise of the bell was no stimulus; it was its cessation which, by breaking the monotony, became so, and caused the sleeper to awaken.—*Monist*.

**A HUGE FARM AND HOW IT IS WORKED.**—The Cincinnati Gazette has the following:—"What do you say to a corn-field in Benton county, Ind., of 7,000 acres, in good condition and growing splendidly? It is to be found on the farm of Adams Earl, Esq., who resides in Lafayette. Messrs. Earl & Fowler have 30,000 acres in Benton county, in one body, well watered, and with permanent improvements, having 140 miles of hedge fence and sixty-five miles of board fence, thirty dwelling houses for tenants, three blacksmith shops, etc. To cultivate the corn land 180 one and two horse ploughs were kept in daily use, and on the pasture lands 4,100 head of cattle are now feeding for the New York market, and will be shipped shortly by rail. Messrs. Earl & Fowler give their personal supervision to the farm, besides attending to their separate interests, the former a jobbing merchant, and the latter, a banker. With the late improvements of farm machinery and harvesting implements, they are enabled to keep the farm in good condition, and from present appearances the balance sheet will be on the right side, as heretofore."

**THE WOMAN'S MOVEMENT IN AMERICA.**—There is an eminent propriety in this woman's movement originating in America; not only because we are less bound than other nations by usages which have no merit except that of antiquity, nor because freedom and equality have always been our watchwords, and are now our practice, but because women's rights were first recognized here when the country was first discovered. The American Indian has always acknowledged woman's right to labor. Every career which in her narrow circle could be obtained for her was opened. No species of labor, however arduous, was denied her. The warrior, in fact, rarely entrusted upon her privilege. While she labored he slept; when he had killed the game she bore it home on her shoulders; so that life then presented a happy picture of the most advanced theories of woman's rights. Let us no longer, then, live under the reproach of being worse than savages, but let us yield gracefully to what is so evidently our manifest destiny.—*From THE COMING MAN, in the June number of Lippincott's Magazine*.

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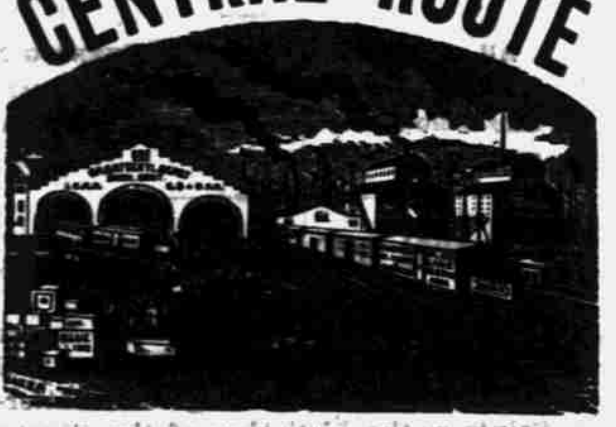
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