

wrist. From the shoulder to the elbow is covered with mousse cashmere, which hangs distinct. The green hat has a red feather. The other child wears a hat which more closely resembles a bonnet, save that there are no strings, the one treads so closely on the heels of the other nowadays.

French workpeople are busy now who devote themselves to women's paraphernalia—I use the term advisedly, for it is derived from a Greek word, *pherne*, signifying “dower,” and *para*, “in addition to,” meaning the goods which a wife brings her husband besides her dower, though as time has rolled on it has attained wider significance. Their labours are chiefly devoted to the finer kinds of gimps, and gimp ornaments, crochet trimmings, and raised silk work mixed with gems and tinsel. Steel, judging from what one sees, promises to be most fashionable, especially mixed with gold.

For dinner and evening gowns generally, low bodices are worn, with full folds and plastrons of velvet. For example, with a black velvet bodice, full red velvet trimmings; this is eminently becoming to most skins. Red and black is a combination much favoured; red

velvet bonnets, mantles, and fronts of gowns worked in jet are of pure French origin; now newer than these are mousse velvet and jet, with a suspicion of pink in many linings.

Frenchwomen are not foolish enough to abjure the use of jewellery as so many Englishwomen do. It may be all very well for young girls and matrons with fair skins and plump necks to forego necklaces, but sallow skins and added years make their abjuration a fatal mistake. So with regard to bracelets, it is permissible on some occasions to go without them, but when the gloves are removed for dinner the arms need them. The last fashion in bracelets worn in Paris is the V-shape, which shows off the form of the arm well. Ruffs are almost universally worn with high dresses, standing up well at the back *à la* Henri Deux, for we fall back now for our fashions on this reign and the Incroyable period in preference to all others.

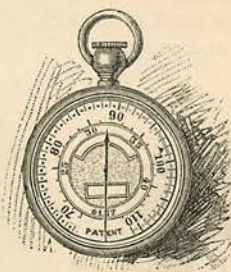
Feather boas of uncurled ostrich-plumes are found to be so light and warm that they have created a perfect furore this early spring, and are being worn in salons with low gowns when the air is chilly, as well as for transit to and fro, and for the daytime.

THE GATHERER :

AN ILLUSTRATED RECORD OF INVENTION, DISCOVERY, LITERATURE, AND SCIENCE.

Correspondents are requested, when applying to the Editor for the names and addresses of the persons from whom further particulars respecting the articles in the GATHERER may be obtained, to forward a stamped and addressed envelope for reply, and in the case of inventors submitting specimens for notice, to prepay the carriage. The Editor cannot in any case guarantee absolute certainty of information, nor can he pledge himself to notice every article or work submitted.

A Watch Thermometer.



The figure illustrates an ingenious little pocket thermometer in the form of a watch. Its principle consists in the movement of a volute metal tube filled with an expansive liquid. The volute opens or contracts as the temperature rises or falls, and this sympathetic movement is communicated to a pointer moving on the face of a dial as shown. The button at the handle enables the pointer to be fixed at a reading and released again. A flexible handle can also be applied to the instrument, which has the size of our figure.

An Electrical Dragon.

In a recent Chinese procession at San Francisco there was a great dragon in effigy which was manipulated by electricity. On pressing a button, the current caused the huge jaws of the monster to fly open, displaying frightful fangs and forked tongues darting fire. Another series of wires produced frightful contortions, and emitted sheets of fire from the nostrils. Our account is taken from the *Electrical Review* of

New York, the leading organ of electrical science in America.

Warming Houses.

Mr. A. E. Fletcher, H.M. Chief Inspector for Scotland under the Alkali, &c., Works Regulation Act, has recently published a plan used by him successfully for warming his house with the avoidance of cold draughts. A large stove is placed in the basement of the house within a brick chamber specially made for it; and a supply of air is brought to the chamber and allowed to circulate through the passages of the stove, then conveyed by pipes to the hall and rooms on the ground floor. The fresh air is first filtered by passing through a thick woollen cloth. The warm air naturally rises throughout the house above and warms it. The stove adopted is of the American model, coke being fed at the top, but the fire limited to a layer about six inches thick at the bottom; and the rate of combustion is determined by the amount of air admitted. The stove contains enough coke to last twenty-four hours, and only needs attention once a day. Mr. Fletcher says that fuel to the value of £3 will warm a large house all the winter. The plan ventilates the house with selected air, properly filtered and warmed. For open grates Mr. Fletcher employs asbestos gas fires; a gas cooking stove replaces the old kitchen range; and in the

sitting-rooms gas stoves are sometimes lighted in addition to the general warming. The result is that only coke and gas are burnt; smoke in the ordinary sense is avoided; work is economised; comfort is enhanced, and there is less suffering from "colds and passing ailments." The adoption, however, of so expensive a contrivance must obviously confine its benefits to the few.

A New Electric Table-Lamp.



FIG. 1.

M. Schanschieff has brought out a one-liquid voltaic battery, which lends itself admirably to electric lighting. The plates of the battery are of zinc and carbon: the liquid a solution of basic sulphate of mercury specially prepared. It is a clear liquid which gives off no noxious fumes when the battery is at work, and metallic mercury is deposited from it at the bottom of the cell. The battery is well adapted for portable lamps and

household purposes, such as driving a punkah or sewing-machine. Our Fig. 1 represents a table-lamp fed by several small cells enclosed in the base. It is said to give a ten-candle light for six or seven hours. The price of such table-lamps is from £3 3s. to £5 5s. According to reports of Sir William Thomson and Mr. Preece, the well-known electricians, a small miner's lamp of a similar sort yields a light of one-candle power for eight hours at the cost of a penny. A miner's lamp costs £1 10s. Schanschieff's battery is also used for more powerful lights; but for small detached lamps its value is more distinct. Fig. 2 shows a Schanschieff miner's hand-lamp, which is also suitable for watchmen and others. Fig. 3 illustrates a battery intended for use in offices or carriages. It feeds four ten-candle lamps for eight hours, without re-charging with fresh solution. Its price is £6.



FIG. 2.

Artificial Illumination and the Eye.

In these days artificial illumination has undoubtedly been brought to a wonderful degree of perfection; but it is well to bear in mind that the reckless employment of very bright lights of any kind is attended with considerable danger to the human eye. At the general meeting of the American Gaslight Association, held at the close of last year, Dr. Morton, the well-known physicist, sounded a useful note of warning in con-

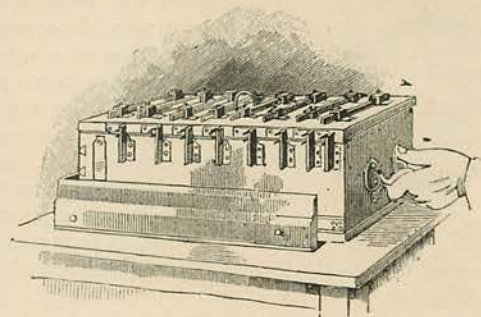
nection with the use of electric and incandescent gas lights. "There is no doubt," he said, "that the present generation are risking their eyesight by the use of so many brilliant lights." He pointed out that the eye requires a *thoroughly diffused light*; and alluded to the paralysing effect and ultimate injury to the organs of vision produced by frequent exposures to unshielded electric and powerful gas lights. Where it is found convenient or necessary to employ very powerful lamps, they should be placed well above the ordinary visual range, and shaded so as to produce a diffused and equable light.

Birds and Electric Wires.

Mr. R. D. Smillie, an electrical engineer of Dumbarton, has observed that small birds when they alight on a certain bare conductor carrying an electric current of twenty amperes drop off dead. It has been noticed that small birds are sometimes found lying dead under telegraph wires; but it has been believed that the fatal effect is due to collision with the wire in flying at night. Mr. Smillie's observation would seem to point to an electric shock as the cause of death in the particular cases noticed by him.

Iodine Candles.

It has been found that iodine when combined with salicylic acid can be readily incorporated with fat, wax, or paraffin, and that from lighted candles made in this way iodine and phenol are shed in a gaseous form; the phenol coming from the decomposition of the salicylic acid. When combustion is rapid the phenol is destroyed; but not so the iodine, which can be detected by its peculiar odour. It is stated that in cases of "hay" catarrh, asthma, and spasmodic cough relief has been obtained from the iodine vapour thus dispersed. As a deodoriser it is said to be most marked in its action, destroying the smell of tobacco-smoke, the stuffy odour of closets, and so on.



A NEW ELECTRIC TABLE-LAMP—FIG. 3.

The Matrix of the Diamond.

Professor Carvill Lewis has pointed out that our information goes to show that the matrix of the diamond is serpentine in the form of a decomposed eruptive peridotite. In Borneo, New South Wales, the Urals, and America diamonds and serpentine are found to go together. Chromic and titaniferous iron ore are also found in diamond-bearing sand, and these minerals are constituents of serpentine.

The Temple of Bubastis.

M. Naville has discovered the ruins of the ancient temple of Bubastis in Egypt, which is described by Herodotus, but which was believed to be hopelessly lost sight of. All the back part of the temple appears to be still intact, and much remains to be uncovered; but many interesting palm and lotus columns and inscriptions have already been found. Cartouches of Ozorkon II. and Rameses II. have also been discovered at Tel Basta, the site of the ruins. M. Naville has also made excavations at Tel-el-Yahoodieh, and found many relics identifying this place with the city built by Onias, the Jewish High Priest, who took refuge in Egypt at the time of the conquest of Judæa, as recorded by Josephus.

A New Dotting Pen.

The figure illustrates a new pen for drawing dotted lines. It has an inner nib which just touches the



rowel or toothed wheel, which marks the line. By this plan a uniform supply of ink is given to the rowel, which is able to work for a long time.

A Bottle-making Machine.

A new glass-blowing apparatus has been brought out, which is said to solve the difficult problem of blowing a bottle by machinery in a manner likely to abolish the time-honoured practice of blowing by the mouth. The machine is not the first which has been designed for the purpose, but it appears to be the most successful. In a former GATHERER we described a kind of lathe by which the bulk of electric lamps were made, the air being admitted under pressure through stop-cocks to effect the blowing. Other machines of the kind have also been devised; but that in question is pronounced to be very effective.

A New Fibre.

A new vegetable fibre, called "gamootie," is being imported from Celebes into Holland. It is, however, chiefly used for stuffing furniture and saddlery at present, attempts to manufacture it into cordage not having been successful.

Pumping by Electricity.

An interesting application of electrical power has recently been made at St. John's Colliery, Normanton, where some nine pumps have been worked by a dynamo driven by a steam-engine. The current from the dynamo was conveyed by copper conductors to an electric motor in the usual way. This motor actuated the pumps, which delivered 39 gallons of water per minute through a "head" of 530 feet. The system has proved so successful that the owners of the colliery have given the makers of the electric apparatus an order for plant to deliver 120 gallons per minute through a head of 900 feet. It is stated that whilst

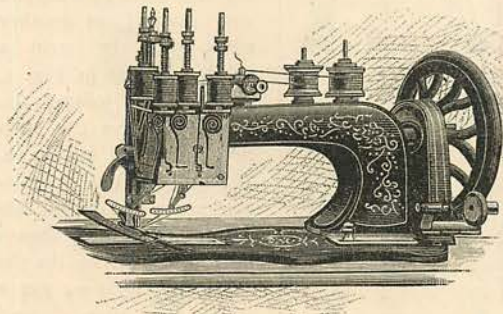
the electric system is initially cheaper than the pneumatic system of pumping, the hydraulic is cheaper than either of these; but the electric is cheapest of all in point of maintenance. It requires an engine, a dynamo, a motor, and the copper connecting wires.

The Sensitiveness of Taste.

Dr. Venables, of the University of North Carolina, U.S., has made some interesting tests on the sensitiveness of the sense of taste in human beings. The flavoured matter used was dissolved in a solvent, and diluted with water; two persons being employed to taste the dilution. The limit of taste was taken as the point of dilution at which the characteristic taste of the substance was not perceptible. In each case one cubic centimetre of solution was tasted. The results are—for sugar $\frac{3}{10,000}$ of a gramme barely tasted; for salt (chloride of sodium) $\frac{1}{10,000}$ of a gramme barely tasted; for tannin $\frac{2}{10,000}$ of a gramme barely tasted; for hydrochloric acid $\frac{1}{10,000}$ of a gramme barely tasted; for strychnine $\frac{5}{10,000,000}$ of a gramme barely tasted; for saccharine, the new sweet stuff, $\frac{5}{1,000,000}$ of a gramme barely tasted.

The Dynamograph.

"Dynamograph" is the name of a new type-writer, actuated by electricity, which has been invented in America. The type-writer resembles those already in use, but is worked by the electric current, and it can, it is stated, be utilised as a sending and receiving telegraph instrument. It is proposed to use it in place of the telephone since it gives a printed message which can be received although no one is present at the time to take it down. The despatches are printed in the form of a letter, and not on the moving tape used in Exchange and Hughes' printing telegraphs. We may add that electricity has also been very recently applied to work an automatic supply box of the kind so common in London. We may also add that Mr. F. Higgins, engineer to the Exchange Telegraph Company, has also invented an electrical type-writer, which can be utilised as a telegraph instrument.



An Embroidering Machine.

The engraving shows a useful little embroidery machine introduced under the name of "Utility" Embroiderer. It has two needles, and the threads are passed through eyes to a pair of reciprocating guides

which move to and fro in front of the needles. As the threads are thus carried backwards and forwards, the needles intercept and fix them, and they are sewn down on the cloth whilst the seam is made. The machine automatically makes the braid and sews it on. A great variety of patterns can be worked; and the principle can be applied to most types of sewing-machines.

Pyrodene.

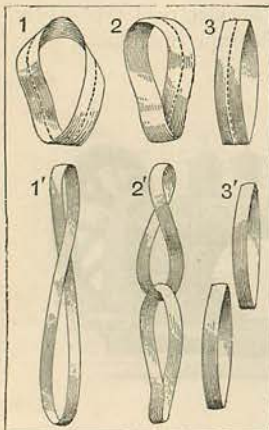
This name has been given to a new liquid which renders wood, textile fabrics, paper, and such inflammable materials fire-proof. The liquid is made of all colours so as to be used as a substitute for paint; and it is said to render houses and other buildings fire-proof. It was used for fire-proofing the wood-work of the recent Jubilee Exhibition at Manchester. Washable water-paints called "aqual" are also produced by the same inventor, Mr. T. Griffiths, F.C.S., and they can be applied direct to metal-work. They contain no oil, and may be washed with water, while on the other hand they do not blister in the heat of the sun. The paint is stated to be not more expensive than ordinary paint.

Freezing Mixture for Microscopic Specimens.

M. Raoul Pictet has invented a new disinfectant, which is said to answer admirably as a freezing mixture for hardening microscopic specimens. Sulphur dioxide and carbon dioxide are mixed, cooled and compressed until they liquefy, the liquid being then stored in syphons. On liberation the mixture rapidly evaporates, with great reduction of temperature. With this agent mercury may be frozen, and animal or vegetable tissues can be rendered solid in a few seconds. The odour is the principal objection to the mixture, which is said to be as easily managed and as effective as ether.

Tricks with Paper Rings.

Take three bands of paper 2 inches wide and from 2 to 5 feet long, and with one form a ring as shown in Fig. 3. Before pasting the ends of a second ring made from another strip, give the strip a single twist as in Fig. 1, and before joining the third ring give the strip two twists as in Fig. 2. If ring 3 is cut by scissors along the dotted line we get two rings, shown in Fig. 3'. If we do the same to Fig. 1 we get a single long ring, 1'; and if we do so with Fig. 2 we get two rings linked as in Fig. 2'.



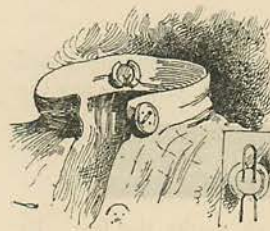
A New Sewing-machine.

A new sewing-machine, the "Köhler," has been introduced, which will sew with all kinds of thread

from jute, or hemp twine, to fine silk thread, and at a speed of 2,000 to 2,500 stitches per minute. The stitch can be varied by the operator to any desired length from 40 to 3 stitches per inch. Machines of the kind are constructed for sack-making, and make stitches from an inch long to 25 to the inch. Such a machine can be driven by a gas-engine, and will turn out 4,500 sacks a day. The Köhler machine is based on a new method of forming the stitch, which enables it to be varied in size by a simple mechanism.

A New Button Fastener.

The woodcut shows a convenient method of attaching buttons without the use of needle or thread. It



consists of a staple, which is thrust through the holes in the button to be fixed, and held behind as shown. A little plate of vulcanite underneath secures the staple on the under-side of the cloth or leather; our figure shows both front and back view

of the plate. The fastener is especially useful for those doing rough work, and it will go through a wringer uninjured.

A Cure for Damp in Libraries.

The latest remedy to save books from the ill effects of damp is quicklime. A small pan of the lime should be placed near the bookcase, the contents being changed every two or three days.

A New Fire Helmet.

A helmet has been introduced into the Berlin Fire Service, which protects the firemen from smoke and also from poisonous vapours. It is the invention of the Berlin Director of Fires, Herr Stude, and Herr Runge, of Bremen. A light mask of copper leaves the eyes, ears, nose, and mouth free, so that the wearer can be heard when he speaks. A constant stream of pure air is supplied to his face through an india-rubber tube, and escapes from the mask by an opening opposite the eyes, thus keeping out the vitiated air. The helmet is fastened by straps to the head, and is otherwise smoke-proof.

A Test for Butter.

Mr. T. T. P. B. Warren, F.C.S., has found a chemical test for butter which seems to detect any adulterant. Ten grammes of the butter are put into a tarred filter-tube plugged with asbestos, and about 100 cubic centimetres of carbon disulphide are poured gradually over the butter. It filters through, and more disulphide is added until all fatty matter is removed. The filtrate is received in a tarred porcelain basin, and is evaporated over hot water. When every trace of the solvent is removed, it is cooled and weighed. The difference between this and the original weight is due to salt, caseine, water, extractive colouring matter, and other added matters insoluble in disulphide of carbon. The residual fatty matter is then dissolved

in about its own volume of disulphide of carbon, and the same volume of yellow chloride of sulphur diluted with an equal measure of disulphide of carbon added with constant stirring. The disulphide is completely evaporated over hot water. The thickened mass resulting should yield a clear solution with disulphide of carbon. An insoluble residue indicates vegetable oil such as is used in making oleomargarine or butterine. Mr. Warren finds that large amounts of caseine are present in many samples of "good" country butter.

Photographing Projectiles.

An Austrian physicist, Herr Mach of Prague, has succeeded in photographing projectiles, even rifle-bullets, while in motion. He does so by illuminating the bullet with electric light. Projectiles from M. Wernal's and M. Jurde's guns, having an initial velocity of 438 and 530 metres a second, have been photographed in this way, and the result has shown that there is almost a temporary vacuum behind the bullet in its progress. The motion of a body through air appears from these photographs to bear a great resemblance to the motion of a body through water.

A Magnetic Oil Filter.

Oil which has been used for lubricating machines is now cleaned in America, for repeated use, by a special filter. This consists of a vessel narrowed at one part and surrounded there by a coil of insulated wire, through which a current of electricity can be passed. The vessel contains iron filings inside where the coil encircles it, and these becoming magnetised when the electric current circulates in the coil, attract the iron or other magnetic metal particles from the dirty oil. Further filters of felt and sawdust complete the clarification of the oil, which can be used over again for the same purpose.

The "New" Star.

The "new" star, which has been visible for some time past in the south-east, before dawn, and which has been supposed by many to be the "Star of Bethlehem" returned, is in reality our old friend the planet Venus, visible as a morning instead of an evening star. Venus is now travelling away from the earth, and will on July 11th next be behind the sun,

instead of in front of it as now. She will emerge from his rays on the east of him, and become again an evening star. In February and March, 1889, she will be a striking object after sunset. About Lady-day of 1889, she will, it is believed, be visible to the eye in daylight. As to the "Star of Bethlehem," some suppose it was a comet, others argue that it may have been Venus, seen as we see her now, that is, as a morning star.

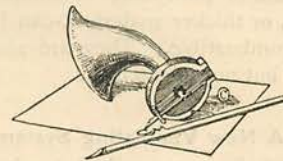


THE GRAMOPHONE.—FIG. 1.

the cost of from £800 to £1,500 for 100 and 200 yards respectively. Volunteers would by their use obtain practice with the rifle without the expense and trouble of going out of town.

The Gramophone.

A permanent record of speech is, it is stated, obtained by the Gramophone, a device of Mr. Emile Berliner of Washington, United States. The vibrations of the speech are first traced on a glass disc coated

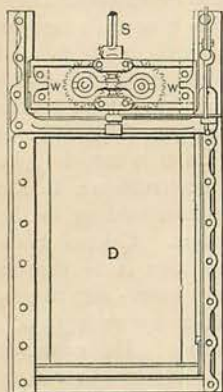


THE GRAMOPHONE.—FIG. 2.

with lamp-black. The smoke-trace is then fixed by varnish and copied in metal by a photographic process. The metal reproduction is next inserted in the phonograph recorder where the glass disc was formerly placed, and the original sounds are imitated as in the case of Edison's phonograph. The undulations of the sound-trace in the metal, as it is moved past the

point of the tracing stylus, cause the latter to vibrate, and as the stylus is fixed to a diaphragm, the diaphragm vibrates in sympathy with it, thus giving out an imitation of the original sounds. In our illustration, A is the glass disc; B is a speaking-tube fitted at its remote end under the disc with a diaphragm and stylus as shown at C, C. An electric motor D, fed by a battery E, under the table, drives the glass disc round, and at the same time gives it a motion of translation, so that as the disc turns the point of the stylus describes a spiral line upon it. When the under-side of the disc is coated with the lamp-black, the trace of the stylus is represented by a line cleared of the black; and when the vibrations of the voice affect the stylus, this line is irregular and wavy. The trace having been thus obtained is fixed and copied in metal as mentioned above, and serves by mechanical action to give out an imitation of the original sounds.

A New Water-Tight Door.



A water-tight door for use in steamers and war vessels has been designed by Mr. McElroy. It is illustrated in our figure. The door, D, moves up and down vertically in guides by means of a vertical screw spindle, S, which gears with two worm-wheels W, W, one on each side of it, and so arranged that the door is moved by turning the spindle. By a "brake" arrangement, which we need not particularly describe, the door can be opened or closed slowly as

desired. The inventor holds that the door is always ready for action and does not stick, as those doors controlled by pistons and cylinders, or chains and weights, are sometimes apt to do.

Fireproof Clothing.

Dr. Doremus finds that articles of clothing and other tissues can be rendered non-inflammable by dipping them in solutions of tungstate of soda, borax, and, above all, of phosphate of ammonia, in water. Ladies' veils, or thicker materials, can in this way be rendered incombustible. They are said to blacken under flame, but not to catch fire.

A New Ventilating System.

A new ventilating system which has been introduced into the Royal Courts of Justice, and a number of first-class steamships, is the invention of Mr. D. C. Green, of New York. An air-compressor, driven by a small gas or other engine, supplies air at from 3 lbs. to 5 lbs. pressure on the square inch. This air is conveyed by gas-pipes to nozzles in any part of the building where fresh air is required. The nozzles open into conduits in which a constant air current is induced. The system is such that foul air can also be

drawn out of any apartment and ejected. It is to be understood that the primary current in the pipes moves a much larger body of air than itself. The ventilation of any building is thus controlled from one central point.

The Clamond Gas-Light.

The figure shows the latest form of Clamond's incandescent gas-light. The gas mingled with hot air is burnt under a "hood" or net-work of refractory material. The whole is enclosed in a glass shade as shown, and a very brilliant light is the result. It will be seen that the light is similar in kind to that of Dr. von Welsbach, formerly described in the GATHERER.



Corroding Boilers.

Mr. R. W. E. Macivor was recently deputed to examine the water used in the locomotive boilers of the new railway lines of Victoria, Australia. He found them highly charged with salts—for instance, chloride of sodium and chloride of magnesium. The most destructive waters came from the Tung-Tung and other creeks. The boilers of the Colac line, being supplied from a lake, did not suffer so much. The creek-waters in summer do not contain much salt as compared with the quantity in winter, hence the corrosive action on the boilers is insignificant during one part of the year, and rapid in another. Mr. Macivor recommended the addition of soda-ash to the reservoirs in which the waters are stored; and so far, he states, the results have not been unsatisfactory.

Some Novelties for Ladies.

Jet bracelets in which the pieces of jet are strung on elastic have a very bad habit of wearing loose, in which case the pieces of jet are very frequently lost. Some new bracelets have, however, recently been introduced in which the pieces of jet are mounted on metal bands. These bands are hinged like those of gold bracelets, and are fitted with an ingenious little attachment that guards against their being opened too far. When fastened these bracelets are secured by a sunk snap that is very unlikely to be opened accidentally. Ladies find dress-suspenders very necessary in the bad weather which so frequently falls to our lot in this part of the world, but, as a rule, these articles can hardly be called ornamental, and are not always so efficacious as could be desired. A patent has lately been taken out for a new suspender, which seems likely to work satisfactorily. The suspender is hung to a leather waist-belt, and

fitted with a circular buckle of ingenious construction, in which lies the novelty of the invention. To one side of this buckle is chained a neat pin which is just long enough to reach across it. The pin is thrust through the material of the dress, and its point is then secured in a socket at the opposite side of the buckle, while the ring at the other end of the pin is hung on a frog which projects below the chain. The weight of the dress holds this pin in position, and the socket prevents the point from becoming dangerous.

A Self-Extinguishing Candle.

A candle has recently been brought out which extinguishes itself after it has burnt for an hour. This it does by means of a tiny extinguisher of tin which is fastened in the wax by wires, and which effectually performs its task. It is only necessary to remove this diminutive extinguisher when its work is done, and the candle is again ready to burn another hour. The use of such a candle, in schools and nurseries particularly, could hardly fail to prove beneficial.

Liquid Water Colours.

Liquid water colours, that may always be relied upon to produce the same tint, should be useful to architects and engineers in the colouring of their plans. Some new colours of this description, called by their inventor "Photo-stains," have recently been brought out. The colours require no mixing, are permanent and transparent, and may be applied to the colouring of photographs and to illuminating, as well as to maps and plans.

Two Inventions for the Nursery.

All nurses know the importance of giving infants their food of the proper temperature, and the great danger of giving it too hot or too cold. A feeding bottle has been brought out recently, fitted with a thermometer (which is embedded in the glass of the bottle), by means of which the actual temperature of the food may be seen at a glance. All danger from over or under-heating may thus be avoided. Another novelty for use in the nursery consists of a new safety pin, which is provided with a little metal cap that bears against the point when the pin is in use, and so makes it absolutely safe.

Who were the Chaldees?

Chaldæa played an important part in ancient history, and it is only fitting, therefore, that in "The Story of the Nations" series (T. Fisher Unwin), Mr. Z. A. Ragozin should treat its story as an introduction to the study of ancient history. He rebuilds for us the temples and palaces of this old, old world, explains its mythology, and pictures for us its art and literature in a manner that cannot fail both to interest and instruct.

"Sense and Sensibility."

Jane Austen's stories are not so much read now as they deserve to be, and we are glad to see that "Sense and Sensibility" is included in Cassell's "Red Library." It is nearly eighty years since this work

was first issued, but it has lost none of its charm, and the girls of to-day will find this story as interesting as did their great-grandmothers in the second decade of the century. In the same series, too, are issued a collection of Bret Harte's inimitable "Tales and Sketches," and Longfellow's interesting "Prose Works." Hood's "Poems, Comic and Serious," also form an attractive volume of this same series.

The Dreams of the Blind.

Some interesting and valuable observations on this subject have recently been published by an American, who records the result of many careful inquiries in the *New Princeton Review*. It appears that those whose blindness is not congenital, but whose sight has been lost after the seventh year, retain with more or less vividness the sensation of vision in their dreams. Those who have lost their sight at an earlier age seem to be unable to retain the impression of vision in after-years. Most interesting are the dream experiences of Laura Bridgman, the blind deaf-mute. We note that the *New Princeton Review* is now published in England by Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton. As a high-class intellectual monthly, it would be difficult to find its superior.

Some Useful Recipes.

The oyster may be proverbially dumb, but, as Mrs. de Salis says, that is no reason why its lovers should be so. And dumb Mrs. de Salis certainly is not in her little work, "Oysters à la Mode" (Longmans), as to methods of cooking and serving these favourite molluscs. It is a moot point whether an oyster should ever be served apart from its own shell, but those who are of opinion that it may, will find in Mrs. de Salis's book more than a hundred different ways of treating it. A companion work is "Soups and Dressed Fish à la Mode," by the same author.

For Students, Young and Old.

No one who has read it can ever forget the touching story of Mr. J. R. Green's last days, and the pathetic efforts he made to complete the last of his historical works. In this he was assisted by his wife, who gave the work to the world after her husband's death. If his life had been spared, Mr. Green always purposed to have revised his now classical "Short History of the English People," and his last charge to his wife was that she should undertake the task. Messrs. Macmillan send us a copy of the work, carefully revised by Mrs. Green in accordance with her husband's wishes, and corrected—where correction was needed—by collation with the historian's later works, which may be said to have been but the outcome of this, his earlier and best-known book. The old familiar form is not lost in this new edition, so that lovers of this work need not be afraid of seeing an altogether "new face" in their shelves when they procure it, as they certainly should. In this connection we may mention that the "Citizen Reader" (Cassell) has now reached its sixtieth thousand. It would be impossible to find a more useful companion for children who are beginning the study of English history.