The common white petato, which is Andes dots not produce well on themp soils, and degenerates in character to as to be acarcely fit for table use when long cultivated under moist conditions. This has been the case in the Deitish Isles, and particularly in Ireland, and a me experiments have been made recently with a view to producing a polato that will flourish and give a mealy product in wet landa. A species of tubber kindred to the potate willed "sciences seguis" which was discovered by Darwin, in Chones Archipelago, growing the marshes, was planted in some low lands in England and fertilized with the pellen of the white potato. These trials, which were conducted by Mr. Arthur Sutton, have resulted in the production of a potato specially adapted to wet soils, and it is claimed by the experimenter that a good, edible potato can be grown from these tubers in wet, marshy lands. It will, of course, take many more experimen's to substantiate the unlimited practicability of the new tuber, but it is almost certain to be hailed with enthusiasm by the great middle classes of England, to whom the potato is their daily bread, and who now rarely ever see one that is not rather of a wet and diseased character than a healthy and mealy. But such a potato would also be a boon to many a farmer in this country, where low lands are by no means uncommon. The experiments alluded to have been published by Mr. Sutton, and endorsed by the "London Times."

Take Care of Farm Implements.

Some one once drew a graphic pen picture of a mortal foe to the farmer-one who labored for his destruction by night as well as by day, on Sundays, holidays, and work days alike. It was a "mortgage", that the writer of the sketch wisely regarded as one of the most active enemies to the farmer's purse and peace of mind.

There is, however, another agent for evil quite as active, to be found on every farm. It is known as rust. And although it annually distroys in the aggregate a vast amount of property, farmers too frequently neglect to take the measures necessary for protection from the ravages of this insidious foe, Hundreds of agriculturalists are buying farm machinery, which, if properly cared for, the "Forest, Forge, and Farm" suggests, ought to last at least ten years. Most of it will be worthless in one-fifth of that time for lack of a little care.

A machine that is taken apart and properly cared for when not in use will do good work years and years after its counterpart has been thrown away by the man who had the habit of leaving it story of her husband's, to beguile the broken machinery, loose bolts, and rotten or twisted frames, discovered just at the time when the loss of time means danger to the crop, more than counterbalance any time, trouble, or expense incurred in properly putting away the machine. The provident farmer will always clean and house his implements as soon as the harvest is ended. Whenever the paint on an implement shows signs of wearing depended upon is dilating at great length tools and implements are housed they should be placed just where they can readily be found when again sought for:

Mode of Curing Hams.

Virginia country cured hams, and notably the Smithfield and East Virginia hams, are cured in the following way, admitting some slight variations of course, according to the fancy or taste of the individual:

The hogs are left on the scaffold till the animal heat is well out of the carcass, and it has become a little stiff from cold, it order that it may cut smoother and better than it does when limp. Usually his letters at his mother's request. Durthe pork is not cut till the next morning ing the lesson the pupils eyes were fixed after it is killed, but if the weather is upon the sweetmeat in another child's very cold, and it is feared that it will will freeze before morning, it is cut and salted the same day.

On being cut, the meat is immediately cent), exclaiming, "Jai Radhika!" salted by hands who stand ready, and packed down in bulk, flesh side up, on Pat and the 'Polky" Belvedere the floor or a platform made for the purpose of holding the meat. On packing it down, each piece is so laid that all the blood that oczes out of the meat will flow there met a friend and fellow-countryaway from it, and not remain in contact man who was pursuing the avocation of with the flesh to taint it. This is one of butcher. The butcher acted as his guide. the nice points in our method of curing and this is a part of Pat's story of sightbacon, namely, to have the animal bleed seeing, as he told his sweetheart upon his freely when it is killed, and not allow return: the pork to stand long in the bloody water that always comes away from pork Rome was a shtone man." for a short time after it is slaughtered. Hence we never use trine, but always salt the meat dry, and break bulk and him the Polly Belvedere. As we were resalt again in a short time. Care is looking at the shtone man, says the taker to touch all the joints and bones butcher to me, says he : 'Pat, you and with plenty of salt, and to sprinkle more the Polly Belvedere are very much salt on the thick part of the pieces as aloike.' And be that we measured. they are packed down.

of four to six weeks, depending on the but his head was much larger than mine,

sugar, and four pounds of black pepper, or a peck of red in pod, are enough of

Petatoes for Lew and Wet Solls. hams The pieces are then hung up and emoked the the most way by Windling slight fire in the middle of the room, and keeping it smothered with chips from the wood-pile. But use only green hickory oak wood, as it imparts a brighter ginger-breed color to the meat, - Country Gentleman.

The English Shire Horse.

The English Shire horse is an excellent animal. It is an example of evolution through a great many years of use and breeding for a special object—working in a cart. The cart is essentially English. It is used for every purpose that's vehicle is needed for on a farm, Manure is drawn in great carts in huge loads, stacked up squarely several feet above the rack. Two, three, or four horses may be used frequently in hauling theee loads on smooth turnpike roads, such as are never seen in this country. Horses, and vehicles, and roads are each an essential part of the question of what horse is best fitted for any particular use. Now we are bringing over these horses in large numbers and putting them to an entirely different use on very rough roads and in drawing wagons, and even in the field the use we are putting them to differs from that of their native country. merely note the fact before we get wild upon this horse, as we have done heretofore upon other animals.—[Rural New

A Native Bengal Household.

The widow Kunda Nandini passed some time in Nagendra's house. One afternoon the whole household of ladies were sitting together in the older division of the house, all occupied according to their tastes in the simple employment of village wo nen. All ages were there, from the youngest girl to the grey haired woman. One was binding another's hair, the other suffering it to be bound one submitting to have her white hairs extracted. another extracting them by the aid of a grain of rice; one beauty sewing together shreds of cloth into a quilt for her boy, another suckling her child; one lovely being dressing the plaits of her hair, another beating her child, who now cried aloud, now quietly sobbed, by turns. Here one is sewing carpet-work, another leaning over it in admiring examination. There one o artistic taste, thinking of some one' marriage, is drawing a design on the wooden seats to be used by the bridal pair. One learned lady is reading Dasu Rai's poetry. An old woman is delighting the ears of her neighbors with complaints of her son; a humoros young one, in a voice half-bursting with laughter, relates in the ears of her companions pain of separation. Some are reproaching the Grihini (bouse-mistress), some the Karta (master), some the neighbors some reciting their own praises. She who may have received a gentle scolding in the morning from Surja Mukhi on account of her stupidity is bringing forward many examples of her remarkable acuteness of understanding. She in upon her proficiency in the art. She whose husband is proverbial in the village for his ignorance is astounding her companions by her praises of his superhuman learning. She whose children are dark and repulsive-looking is pluming herself on having given birth to jewels of beauty. Surja Mukhi was not of the company. She was a little proud, and did not sit much with these people; if she came amongst them ther presence was a restraint upon the enjoyment of the rest. All feared her somewhat. and were reserved towards her. Kunda Nandini associated with them; she was amongst them now, teaching a little boy hand, consequently his progress was not great. At this moment there appeared amongst them a Boisnavi (female mendi-

a the o little part of the Very Much Alike.? .

A young Irishman visited Rome, and

"The most wonderful thing I saw in

"A shtone man !" ejaculated Mary. "Yes," replied Pat, "and they called was broader than him in the fut, but he We use from a bushel to a bushel and was higher than me in the inshtep. size. Sometimes, to give a fine red color knee was larger then his, but he was betto the flesh of hams, a little saltpetre is ter than me in the thigh. My belly was rubbed on them, but very often nothing twice as large around as his, but his brist but the dry salt is applied till the meat was twice as large around as mine. Then, is ready to be smoked. At the expiration again, my neck was much larger than his.

Ideas About India.

informed of my native acquain gali demagogues, but of men holding, it may be, or who have held, high office under Government, and deservedly trusted by it) of the gradual estrangement which has come about within their revollection between themselves and the Eng lish in Indian is most instructive In the days, they say, of their youth, 80 and 40 years ago, though there were always among the company's officers men who from their abuse of power were disliked and justly feared, the general feeling of natives toward the English civilian was one of respect and even of affection. The Indian character is affectionate, enthusiastic, and inclined to hero worship; and the English in early days, from their superior knowledge and strength of character, exercised no little fascination on the native mind. Nearly all of the older men talk with reverence and esteem of certain teachers who instructed them in youth, and of certain early patrons to whom they owed their success in after life; and they willingly acknowledge the influence exercised over themselves and their generation by such individual example. The English official of that day, they affirm, had more power than now, but he exercised it with a greater sense of responsibility, and so of honor in its dircharge. He took pains to know the pecple; and, in fact, he knew them well. Except in the very highest ranks of the service he was readily accessible. He lived to a great extent among the people, and according to the customs of the people. He did not disdain to make friends with those of the better class, and occasionally he married among them, or at least contracted semi-matrimonial relations with the women of the land. This may have had ill consequences in other ways. but it broke down the hedge of caste prejudice between East and West, and gave the official a personal interest in the people, which no mere sense of duty, however elevated, could supply. The Englishman of that day looked upon India not unfrequently as his second home, and taking the evil with the good, treated it as such. England could only be reached by the Cape route. Traveling was tedious and expensive, the mails few and far between, and many a retired officer had at the end of his service become so wedded to the land of his adoption that he ended his days in it, in preference to embarking on a new expatriation. It is easy to understand from this that the Anglo Indian official of the compay's days loved India in a way no Queen's official dreams of doing now. Also that, loving it, he served it better than now, and was better loved in return.- The Fortnightly Re-

Nature's Zoo.

The country of the Upper Nile was, par excellence, the wonderland of the Roman World, as it is still the grandest out-door museum of natural curiosities. Zoologically there is no more densely populated country. All the wild beasts and birds, made homeless by the devastation of Northern Africa, seem to have taken refuge in the Nubian highlands. In the terrace land of the Nubian and Abyssinian Alps there roam herds of elephants, wild goats, wild sheep, and four teen or fifteen different species of antelopes. Further below the hippopotamus and white rhinocerous haunt the river swamps. Prof. Blanford enumerates 290 species of water birds. With these harmless settlérs less desirable guests have crowded in, the spotted byens, the jackal, the black and yellow lion, four species of smaller cats, wild dogs, and, above all, the cynocephalus, the wily and mischievous baboon. Three varieties of these Darwinian pets inhabit the rocks of Southern Nubia; the little babuin, the cynocephalus proper, and the celada, or mantle battoon, a fierce and powerful fellow, whose shaggy mane protects his body like a cloak, and enables him to brave the climate of the upper Highlands. Profs. Kuppel and Hotton agree on the fact that a troop of these brutes, in ravaging a corn-field, will not only hold their ground against all comers, but on the alightest provocation take the offensive in a way not likely to be forgotten by the unarmed native. Dogs have no chance whatever against a full-grown baboon The old males do not wait to be attacked, but charge then at once with an energy and skill of to-operation that would do credit to a troop of well-drilled soldiers. The hyrax, a queer pachyderm, allied to Thus, a sapphire which is blue by daythe European badger, coinhabits the rocks light, by gaslight appears to possess a with a hibernating marmot, and the coast variety o other tints; but a really good Jungles swarm with wild hogs that multi- stone should appear blue in both lights. ply undisturbed, for the Abyssinian natives share the pork prejudice of their Mohammadan neighbors.

Native Treatment of Disease in

are taken in. trached clear of the said weares, we were just about the same (but this is dies and 'moltane') and 'moltane' or moist browning as a tracked view in the said of the said was a substance or moist browning as a tracked view in the said of the said

ally represented by the hereditary low

note accoucheuse of each village, whose skill in shampooing is such an aid in her lonely calling—as the natives regard it as to supplant much of the useless medicine and enforced rest of more civilized countries, and save endless mischief and suffering to her sex. What skill they have is, of course, almost purely traditional. None of the science of the world or British usage has yet altered in the elightest degree either the customs of the native or his horror at the idea of male physicians for women-especially in certain ailments-and their wonder at our obtruseness and disregard of propriety on so delicate a point. To supply a vacancy so long unfilled, lady doctors have now appeared on the scene, who. it is hoped by reaching the zenanas, may reach the real source through which a higher enlightenment in India is possible. An immense field is open to them along with every encouragement, and were but some of the many young ladies at home who are atraining health for a future pittance in one or other of the spheres of teaching to turn their attention in this direction. they would find an opening of wider and greater utility before them, and a pros pect of large and rapid emolument .-- Chambers' Journal.

The Deadly Climate of Panama.

Just before Mr. Dingler left Panama for france, say, 16,000 men were at work. The wet season is now in, and today not more than 7,000 of all ranks are in white and a ruffled nightcap, bounded employed. Quite recently, owing to the into the aisle and rushed at the Kansas very sickly season, 440 of the 7,000 were City drummer with open mouth and a in the hospital, apart from nearly 160 discrepancy of teeth. As she fled she under treatment at home. This tells its | tripped, recovered herself, and plumped own story about this deadly climate. The squarely into the drummer's arms. laborers are nearly all Jamaicans. At Georgoma, a canal camp, between Saturday last and Monday noon three canal chiefs had died. We hear of the deaths | sake ! " ot chiefs—as for the men, they die on the line and are buried, and no attention is paid to the matter. Two American carpenters are in an unnamed grave near Emperador. The death rate a few months | and he slipped out on the rear platform. ago, from a careful estimate, was 109, and | The train was just starting away from a a decimal, nearly 100 per 1,000 for all | ghestly tank looming up against the rosy. ranks. Yellow fever kills the whites, hued horizon of approaching day. The malaria the natives and negroes. Many conductor entered the car from the other an able-bodied, well-built negro is cut off end. "Crack!" He dodged into the in from twenty-four to thirty-six hours smoker's apartment and peered out along after his seizure. Many are placed in the the aisle where the old lady was "sashayambulance cars of the canal company and | ing " and balancing before the curtained die en route. None but those living here | sections in a stately, single-handed minand amiliar with such painful sights can uet. Capped and undressed heads were form any idea of this country. To return | thrust without the curtains, and white. to the appearance of canal works. Lack anxious faces looked up and down the of spirit and lack of energy were every- aisle. where observable. Heavy rains interfered greatly with the work. Earthworks | shouted the drummer above the din of are swept away by the tropical downpour. | the howling Parson's woman. A few hours rain caused a small stream to rise in such a manner that a railway bridge was swept away, stopping canal work there. One may safely say that | Mars! What's this? A soda fountain? during the long rainy season, from May to the middle of December, fully half the time originally calculated on by De Lesseps is lost, owing to the rains, small floods, and the stubborn fact that. while the company claimed to have 16,000 men in its employ at the close of the dry season, only 7,000 are working. Some contractors are losing money, and a great deal of it. One firm of Americans threw up its dredging contract rather than lose men and money.

The Sapphire.

The ancients, curiously enough, called this stone male and female, according to blue, approaching white, the female. To the sapphire also have been ascribed many magical qualities-among others that it was a sure preventive of evil thoughts, that it was a remedy against fever, and that if confined in a vessel with a reptile it would cause the death of the latter. worn by all who inquired of the oracle at his shrine.

The sapphire is to all intents and purposes the same stone as the ruby, differing in name only on account of the color, which last varies from white to the deepest blue and black; but there are several varieties; the name sapphire being usually restricted to the blue varieties, while the bright red are called Oriental ruby, the amethystine Criental amethyst, and the dull, massive kinds, corundum or emery. The sapphire is next in hardness

to the diamond.

A most curious property of this stone is its difference in color in different lights. Tastes differ as to the shade or tint which

Midnight Mystery. e Commetten which Followed the Br.

trance of an Ill-Looking Stranger oz to Western Train. The last weary traveler was stoyed way for the night the last curtain was raws cross the ection, and the lov mble of the train through forest and clearing, farm and valley, was only broken by the occasional snort of a heavy sleeper. Miles and miles of the dreary solitude Missouri night scenery were left in the distance; the train went whizzing by small, unimportant stations, and now halted at some wayside tank and took in solid and liquid refreshments for the bloodless horse. But why should it now slew up in the dreariest of all the many dreary, unferbidding places along the road? What ill-looking stranger was that who had just entered the car and passed down the aisle between the slumberers with a sco vling face stamped with a sinister brand?

" Crack !" Surely a pistol shot ! "I knew 1 ? 've been looking for this sort of thing for the last six months! shouted a Kansas City drummer. diving for the aisle and getting there with both feet. " Laurrender!" "Crack!"

"Vengeance is mine, saith the Lordbesides that [haven't got a pistol," echoed a muffled voice from the sepulcher of an upper berth. " Crack !"

A rather shapeless female figure, robed

"Oh, save me from the Jim boys. Landlord, save me ! "shrieked the woman from Parsons, "save me for my darter's

"Crack !"

"Throw up your hands!" said the drummer, trying to rquirm away. The woman from Parsons complied rapidly,

"Any train robbers at your end?"

"Not any down my way," answered the conductor, stepping out in front of the old lady's berth. "Thunder and "Crack !"

"Why, for the !and's sake!" broke in the Parsons woman, "ef that ain't my yeast, six bottles of it, all for Jane, and busted, busted, busted. I was afeered all along that the rattle of the keers would get the stuff a workin'."

Formosa.

This island should prove a valuable colony to any Power that gets it. It is a large and very fertile island, and possesses some good coal mines at Keelung. The Spaniards and Dutch were the first to get a footing on the island, the Dutch driving out the Spaniards, and being themits color—the deep-colored or indigo selves at length driven out by a great sapphire being the male, and the pale Chinese p.rate chief, after which the Chinese came into possesion of several important ports. The natives of the island are savages, who regard the Chinese with a most deadly hatred; they have fought bravely against the invaders, who fear them a good deal, but they are being gradually pushed further into the interior. The gem was also sacred to Apollo, being At present the interior is still in the hands of the natives, and the Chinese hold the ports, and a good stretch of country inland, which they are steadily increasing by an insidious encreaching process. One drawback to the place is that it possesses no reallly good harbors, every port having a bar at the entrance to the harbor, which impedes navigation. Dredging would, however, no doubt do away with this drawback to a considerable extent. I i the hands of a European Power the resources of the island would certainly be vastly more developed than they are in Chinese hands, and if France does take the Island for a permanent possession, it is believed that the result will be a general increase of trade.

The Life of a Brain Cell.

The wonderful activity of the human is the most beautiful, but connoisseurs brain is in large part due to the fact that are generally agreed that a stone which it is made up of a vast, number of cells, approaches in hue to blue velvet of the each of which lives its own individual life, shade called bleu de roi is the most valu- and in so doing; contributes to the lief able, It is worthy of remark that the and activity of the whole. A German name "sapphire" is one of the very tew physiologist, who has given careful study Regarding the native treatment of that appear in most languages with but to the subject, computes that "the cerediseases, one of the most curious things I very slight change in spelling—thus we bral mass is composed of at least 300,000, ever witnessed was a half-clad native have the Hebrew sapphir, the Greek 000 nerve cells, each an independent shouting through the streets of a counsry zaffiros, the Latin sapphirus, and the body, organism, and microscopic brain, town : "Dees any one want back his Chaldaic sapirinon, and so on; but the so far as concerns its vital relations, but a half of dry salt to a thousand pounds of was larger than him around the ankle, sight?—a rupes only! as if he were ancients applied the term indiscriminately subordinated to a higher purpose in hawking fruits or sweetmeats; and to hawking fruits or aweetmeats; and, to to all stones of a blue color. relation to the function of the organ, each my astoniahment, a patient soon present- There are no sapphires of note in this living a separate life individually, though ed himself to be operated on for cataract country; but in Rurope the different socially subject to a higher law of function. There and then, standing in the bazaar, treasuries of rich gems, notably Dresden, The life term of a nerve cell he estimates the itinerant oculist took out his pen- possess; many remarkable for their size, to be about sixty days; so that 5,000,000 knife and performed the operation in a and beauty. The late Mr. Hope, whose die every day, about 200,000 every hour, of four to six weeks, depending on the size, and state of the weather, the hams but, as the butcher said, on the general are taken in, washed clean of the self-size, we were just about the same fortnight, received his fee of 1 rapse, and (but this is often emitted), and inclusive them.