SOCIETIES.

Masonic Regular Meetings. Minden, No. 253, on Monday, May 6th at 7:30 Ancient St. John's, No 3, on Thursday, May 2nd, at 7:30 p.m. Cataraqui, No. 92, on Wednesday, May 8th,

I, O. O. F. M. U. UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MANCHESTER, ENGLAND, meet every other Friday in the Sons of England Room

Princess Street. Next meeting APRIL 25TH. W. Bushkll, Recording Secretary. Sons of England. LEICESTER LODGE, No. 33, of the Sons of England Benevolent Society, will meet in their new Lodge Room, correr Montreal and Princess Sta., over Strachan's Hardware Store, the 2nd and

4th Tuesdays of each month. Canadian Order Foresters. COURT STANLEY, No. 199, C.O.F., meets on Tuesday, May 14th, in the Prentice Hall, King street. T. T. RENTON, Rec. Sec.

Independent Order of Foresters, COURT FRONTENAC, No. 59, REGULAR MEETING. Thursday evening, May 16th J. S. R. Mc-CANN, Secretary.

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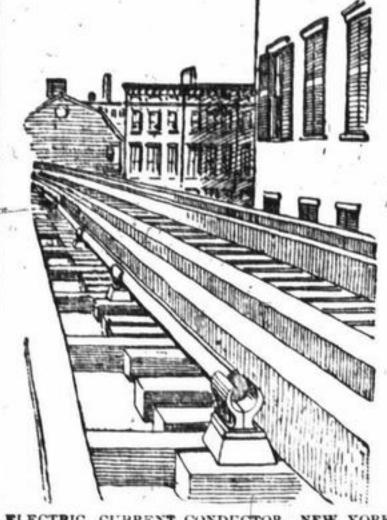
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SCIENCE AND PROGRESS.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION ABOUT ART, SCIENCE AND MECHANICS.

A New Kind of Current Conductor for Electric Railway Purposes Now on Trial on One of the New York Elevated Railroads.

A new departure in current conductors for electric railway purposes has been taken by the Daft company, who are now operating trains on a section of the Ninth Avenue Elevated road in New York city. The new kind of conductor is shown in the accompanying cut, reproduced from The Electric World.



The conductor, which is supported by heavy insulated cast iron brackets, runs along outside the outer guard rail of each track. It is of round iron, three inches in diameter, and is surmounted by, and in perfect electrical contact with, a bar of phosphor brenze three-eighths of an inch thick by one inch wide. This bar takes all the wear from the contact apparatus, and will retain a polished surface under all circumstances. The supporting bracket is made in two parts, as may be seen in the illustration, and has a grip sufficient to prevent all possibility of displacement of the conductor. The conductor is elevated a considerable distance from the ties, and the supporting brackets are well insulated, so that the chances of loss of electric energy through leakage are reduced to a minimum. The difference in cost of iron and copper admits of the greatly increased size of conductor, giving the same conductivity at much less expense.

Refilling of Old Coal Mines.

An ingenious artifice that has lately been successfully put in practice at Shenandoah by the Reading company, at the Kohmoor colliery, for refilling the excavations from which coal has been taken out, is worthy of mention, since it is desirable that it should be imitated elsewhere throughout the coal regions where similar conditions prevail. The method is both simple and effective, and prevents the caving in of the earth above, and the consequent loss of valuable property, which has not been infrequent in the mining towns of the anthracite region. Besides, the valuable pillars of pure coal, which for many years it was customary to leave in the mines to prevent falling in of the roof, can now be taken out without fear.

Already more than two acres beneath the city of Shenandoah, from which the coal had been mined, have been again solidly refilled with the coal dirt which used to be piled mountains high around the town.

The Great Artesian Well District.

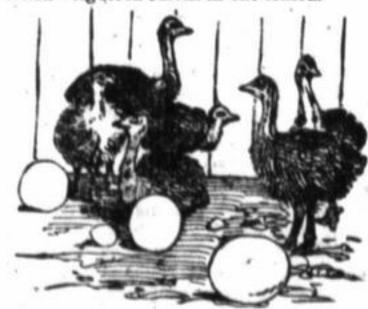
The James River valley, Dakota, is claimed to be the greatest artesian well district known. A comparison with other districts makes it appear that for pressure and area over which they are found, this valley far surpasses them all. There are some fine wells in France, but they are found only in favored localities. Some of the wells in France are of large bore, but in none does the pressure equal any one of fifty wells in the James vallev, says Scientific American. Western California, from San Diego to near the northern boundary of the state, is proving itself to be a fine artesian district, but strong pressure is found only in limited areas. Nearly every city and many of the small villages from Yankton to Jamestown have wells, and the majority of these have a very heavy pressure. The possibilities of the wells of this valley seem to be beyond estimation. With millions of gallons flowing daily, there has been no diminution of the supply.

The New Commissioner of Patents.

Mr. Charles E. Mitchell, the new commissioner of patents, is about 53 years of age and a native of Bristol, Conn. He is a graduate of Brown university. He has occupied several important public positions, among them that of state senator, but for the most part his energies have been devoted to the practice of patent law.

Ostrich Farming in California.

With a view to experiments in ostrich farming in California, in 1882 some birds were imported from Cape Town, and in 1886-87 further shipments were forwarded from Natal. The last was made by Mr. Cawston, who landed forty-two birds out of fifty-two. They were then taken to Mr. Cawston's ostrich farm in Los Angeles, Cal., where our illustration was taken. Mr. Cawston has been successful in faising a large number of young birds-those in the illustration being one and two weeks old. The climate and the country-as had been expected-appear to be admirably suited to the culture of these birds. The experiment also appears to be fairly profitable, as from one small bird and two hens he produced-principally by means of incubation-eighteen chicks in one season.



OSTRICH CHICKS.

Before they were ten weeks old he sold them for \$430, some going to Arizona, where a farm is being established, and others being purchased for exhibition purposes. In addition to this the feathers will realize \$250, making a total result of about \$680 from three birds.

Notes and News. A movement is on foot for the founding of

a textile technical school. Large textile manufacturers are the projectors of the scheme. A weekly journal, started at Fremont, O., under the name Journal of Oil and Gas, proposes to be the recognised authority on gas and oil matters.

ALL AROUND THE HOUSE.

Dr. C. V. Riley Tells How to Destroy the

Buffalo Moth at House Cleaning. One of the greatest insect pests of the household, and the despair of good housekeepers, is the so called buffalo moth, which first began to excite complaints in this country in 1874, being found about that time and soon afterward at various points in New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts. Since then it has extended as far west as Illinois and south to Washington. Remedies commonly recommended for this insect are not only bewildering in number, but many of them utterly inefficient; therefore the following advice given in Good Housekeeping by such high authority as Dr. C. V. Riley, government entomologist, is of the greatest value and interest to perplexed housewives. Dr. Riley

Where carpets are used, and only taken up once a year at "house cleaning," the conditions are very favorable for the insect's increase, particularly where the house cleaning is hurriedly and carelessly done. When a house has once become infested nothing but the most energetic measures will completely rid it of the pest, and in complete riddance is the only hope, as in a year a very few individuals will so increase as to do great damage. At house cleaning time, then, as many rooms should be bared at once as possible, and the housekeeper should to carefully over the rooms, removing all dust, and with a hand atomizer charged with benzine should puff the liquid into all the floor cracks and under the base boards until every crevice has been reached.

The carpets themselves, after thorough beating, should be lightly sprayed with the same substance, which will quickly evaporate, leaving no odor after a short time. The inflammability of benzine should be remembered, however, and no light should be brought near it. The done, before relaying the carpets it will be well to pour into the cracks a moderately thick mixture of plaster of Paris and water, which soon sets and fills them with a solid substance into which the insects will not enter. Then lay around the borders of the room a width of tarred roofing paper and afterward relay the carpets. This thorough treatment should answer in the very worst cases, and in a house so cleaned the insect will probably not regain a foothold during the ensuing year. Cloth covered furniture which may have also become infested should be steamed or also treated with benzine, and chests or drawers in which infested clothing has been stored should be thoroughly sprayed.

Another method of treatment, and one which I have frequently recommended, was indicated by me in a former communication to Good Housekeeping in rendering my decision in the competition for best remedies for household pests. It can be used to advantage whenever the work of the larva is noticed or suspected. It consists in laying a damp cloth (an old towel or a folded sheet will do) smoothly over the suspected part of the carpet and ironing it with a hot iron. The steam thus generated will pass through the carpet and kill all the insects immediately beneath. If not too laborious, an entire room could be treated to advantage in this way.

A Convenient Piece of Furniture.

An odd but useful bit of furniture, which comes within the range of the home work shop, is the new work table shown in the cut.



A NEW WORK TABLE.

The top is covered with plush and decorated with an embroidered wreath and tassel fringe. A novel feature is the introduction, on one side which is scooped out in approved work table style, of a bag pocket in antique embroidery, lined with satin, in keeping with the side bow. The legs of the table are also plush covered, and encircled with ribbon and tassels. The wicker waste basket is decorated in keeping

Baking with a Gasoline Stove.

In regard to the complaint, not unfrequently heard, that the oven of a gasoline stove does not bake well, a trade journal is authority for the statement that the trouble is quite likely to be the fault of the operator. Bread, meat or pastry is put in as soon as the burner is lighted, without waiting until the oven is thoroughly warm. It is impossible to obtain good results after this fashion. It does not take nearly as long to heat a gasoline oven as it does that of a wood or coal stove, but it is no less important that it should be well heated.

To Prevent Salt from Packing.

The tendency of table salt to pack together in cruets and containers is said to be entirely overcome by thoroughly drying the salt and intimately mingling with it a small percentage of dry corn starch or arrowroot. From 3 to 10 per cent, is amply sufficient for the most humid atmosphere (as on the sea coast), while a much less percentage of the starch is sufficient for inland points.

Taploca Cream.

For tapioca cream wash two tablespoonfuls of tapioca and soak two hours. Then mut it into a quart of boiling milk and cook or alf hour. Beat the yolks of four eggs was a little sugar, add them to the tapioca and cook three minutes. Beat the whites to a stiff froth, take the pudding from the fire and stir in flavoring and beaten whites. Serve

A Good Hash.

A fine, crusty hash is made with one cupful chopped beef, mutton or veal, half cup bread soaked in milk or cream enough to cover, one well beaten egg, enough gravy or stock to moisten, and the whole baked half an hour in a buttered dish from which it may be turned upon a platter, retaining its form. Baked Eggs and Cheese.

Lay some thin slices of cheese on a buttered flat baking dish, break as many eggs on the choese as the dish will hold in a single layer, dust them with salt and pepper, put a small bit of butter on each one, and bake them to the required degree in a hot oven. Serve them hot.

Washing Fine Embroidery.

To wash fine embroidery or lace with the least wear, make water very soapy with white soap, put the articles in so they are covered and set in the sun all day; then rinse in clear water, pull out each point with the fingers and pin upon a pillow to dry. Potatoes Sliced and Baked.

Pare them and slice quite thin and let stand for half an hour in cold water; then put them into a pudding dish, season with

salt and pepper, pour on a cup of milk and

bake an hour. On taking them out add but-

ter the size of an egg.

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HAVING BOUGHT OUT AN IMM ENSESTOCK OF ART BLINDS, UNDER REG ULAR PRICES, WILL SELL THEM ACCORDINGLY.

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