RURAL AFFAIRS,
ECONOMICAL RECIPES, USEFUL INFORMATION, &c.

A SIMPLE (but effectual) REMEDY FOR THE CURE OF CANCERS.*

Take the sheep sorrel, shake out the grit (should any be in it) then bruise or beat it well on a clean piece of plank; extract the juice from it into a pewter vessel; put in the sun and take care that no water gets in it; it will then evaporate into a substance thick enough to spread as a plaster; apply it to the part affected, and let it remain on the sore or ulcer until disposed to come off of itself, say about two days; then repeat it with a fresh plaster of the same salve until it may be discovered to have the desired effect; then wash the ulcer (or sore) with castor oil and dress it with a salve of healing plaster; but should it be discovered that the first trial could not affect a cure, pursue the same course with the salve made as above with the sorrel.

BOOKER'S RECEPT TO CURE CANCER WARTS.

(Vouched for by a Gentleman near Richmond.)

To make a Caustic Power, burn a lump of bluestone, then powder it fine with the same quantity of Verdigris, to be used as hereafter directed.

To make the dressing, burn 12 penny weight of album and 12 grains of bluestone together, then pound it in a mortar with 3 penny-weight of Myrrh, three dito of Aloes, and 12 grains of red precipitate, put it in a Vial with a gilt and a half of Rum or French Brandy, shake it well together to be used as follows:

Cut off the Wart, then dress it with the Caustic powder by laying it pretty thick over it once a day and a half till the Wart is destroyed or comes out, then dress it twice a day with the dressing by bathing it with a feather and laying a pledge of fine tow dip in the dressing; dress it in this manner till it is well, never wash it in water but when foul, wash with Rum or Brandy.

RECEIT FOR BURNS AND SCALDS.

Take an equal weight of brown Sugar and good sized Onion shred and beat them together in a mortar to a pulp, and lay on the part affected. In violent cases it will be necessary to repeat the above posset daily.

*The publisher heretofore has seen the effects of the above remedy on a lady in Richmond, when the Physicians said the cancer must be cut out, but on the application of the above remedy she was cured.
CURE FOR DEAFNESS.

Fill a clean stone bottle about the size of a blacking bottle with hot water, lay the ear on the bottle as hot as it can be borne, so that the steam may ascend into it, every night when going to bed for five or ten times.

Or—Put a tablespoon full of salt into nearly half a pint of cold spring water, and after it is steeped therein for twenty-four hours (now and then shaking the phial) cause a small tea spoon full to be poured in the ear most affected every night when in bed for seven or eight nights successively.

PRESERVATION OF APPLES.

The following observations contained in a letter from Nath Webster, esq have been published in the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository.

It is the practice with some persons to pick apples in October, and first spread them on the floor of an upper room. This practice is said to render apples more durable by drying them. But I am inclined to think this is a mistake. Apples after remaining as long on the trees as safety from the frost will admit, should be taken directly from the trees, to close casks, and kept as dry as possible. If suffered to lie on the floor four weeks, they wither and lose their flavour, without acquiring any additional durability. The best mode for preserving apples for spring use, I have found to be, the putting them into dry sand as soon as picked. For this purpose I dry sand in the heat of the summer; and late in October, put down the apples in layers, with a covering of sand upon each layer.

The several advantages of this mode of treatment are these: 1st. The sand keeps the apples from the air, which is essential to their preservation. 2nd. The sand checks the evaporation from the apples, and thus preserves their full flavour; at the same time any moisture yielded from the apples, (and some there will be) is absorbed by the sand, so that the apples are kept dry, and all as fresh as when first picked; even the ends of the stem look as if just separated from the twig.

In case of danger arising from having drank cold water when

Take a half a draught of Camphor in a pill of Brandy properly dissolved, at intervals of three minutes.

THE BEST WAY OF TAKING CASTOR OIL.

Take the yolk of an egg, beat it well up with a little white sugar, then pour in the Oil and thin the mixture by adding boiling water.

RECEIPT FOR A COUGH.

Take of mucilage of Gum Arabic, 2 oz. Simple Syrup ½ oz. Peppermint water ½ oz. mix the above together.

CURE FOR DROPSY.

The practice of Smoking Tobacco has been found to be an effectual remedy in very stubborn and long continued cases of Dropsy.

INVISIBLE CEMENT.

Isinglass boiled in Spirits of Wine will produce a fine transparent cement, which will unite broken glass so as to render the puncture almost impenetrable.

CHIMNEYS ON FIRE.

The mephitic vapour produced by throwing a handful of flour of Sulphur on the burning coals where a chimney is on fire will immediately extinguish the flames on the same principle as it would suffocate any living creature.

GOUT.—Wear Oil Silk Stockings over fine worsted ones day and night which infallibly cures it.

FOR RHUMATIC PAINS IN THE FACE OR TEETH.—Take two tea spoonful of flour add the same quantity of grated ginger incorporate them well together, and add spirits sufficient to make it into a thin paste, spread this upon a linen rag, and apply it when going to bed to the part affected, wrapping a piece of flannel over all, and it will effect a cure.

WARTS.—The bark of the Willow-tree, burnt to ashes, and mixed with strong vinegar, forms a lixivium, which effectually eradicates, by repeated applications, warts, corns, and all cutaneous excrescencies.

[Another way to get rid of them ]—Take an apple, cut it, and rub it for a few minutes over the warts; the juice of the apple will loosen the wart, which will, in a few days, drop off.

HOUSE FLIES.—These troublesome little insects may be effectually destroyed without the use of poison. Take half a tea-spoonful of black pepper in powder, one tea spoonful of brown sugar, and one table spoonful of cream; mix them well together, and place them in a room on a plate where the flies are troublesome, and they will soon disappear.
Variety.
THE YEAR 1828.
The 1828th year of Christ.
5777th year after the creation of the world, according to
Scalliger's computation, but
5832nd year of the creation according to Ussher. It is the
6541st year of the Julian period
2604th year of the Olympiad
2381st year after the building of Rome
5559th year of the Jewish computation, which begins with
the 14th of September
1244th year after the Hegira, which commences on the 11th
of April
7356th year according to the modern Greek Calendar
311th year since the reformation of Luther
114th year since the accession of the house of Brunswick
9th year of the reign of George the 4th, king of England.
And 32nd year of American Independence, till the 4th of July.

THE BIBLE.
The following is an account of the number of books, chapters, verses, words & letters, contained in the Old and New Testament:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OLD TESTAMENT</th>
<th>NEW TESTAMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Books</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapters</td>
<td>929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verses</td>
<td>23,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Words</td>
<td>592,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters</td>
<td>2,748,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The middle book is Proverbs.
The middle chapter is Job, xxvi.
The middle verse would be II Chronicles 29, if there were a verse more, and verse 28, if there were a verse less.
The word and occurs 35,343, and Jehovah 6,883 times.
The shortest verse is I Chronicles 1, 25.
The 21st verse of the 7th chapter of Ezra contains all the letters of the alphabet.
The 19th chapter of II Kings, and the 37th chapter of Isaiah, are alike.

The following is a list of the book, chapters, words, and letters, contained in the Old and New Testament:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OLD TESTAMENT</th>
<th>NEW TESTAMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Books</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapters</td>
<td>1,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verses</td>
<td>31,173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Words</td>
<td>773,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters</td>
<td>3,366,480</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The middle chapter, and the least in the Bible, is Psalms cxvii.
The middle verse is Psalm cxviii, 8.
The calculator is said to have had three years of his life occupied in forming this table!

Anecdote of General Washington.
Reuben Rouzy, of Virginia, was indebted to General Washington about one thousand pounds. While he was President of the United States, one of his agents brought an action for the money, judgment was obtained, and execution issued against the body of the defendant, who was taken to jail. He had a considerable landed estate, but this kind of property cannot be sold in Virginia for debts, unless at the discretion of the proprietor. He had a large family, and for the sake of his children, preferred lying in jail to selling his land. A friend wrote to him, that perhaps General Washington did not know anything of the proceeding, and that it might be well to send him a petition, with a statement of his circumstances. He did so, and the very next post from Philadelphia (after the arrival of his petition in that city) brought him an order for his immediate release, together with a full discharge, and a severe reprimand to the agent for having acted in such a manner. Poor Rouzy was in consequence restored to his family, who never laid down their heads at night without presenting prayers to Heaven for their "beloved Washington." Providence smiled upon the labors of the grateful agent, and in a few years Rouzy enjoyed the exquisite pleasure of being able to lay the one thousand pounds with the interest, at the feet of this truly great man. Washington reminded him that the debt was discharged. Rouzy replied, the debt of his family to the father of their country, and the preserver of their peace, could never be discharged; and the General to avoid the pleasing importunity of the grateful Virginian, who would not be denied, accepted the money—only, however, to divide it among Rouzy's children, which he did immediately.

Sir Walter Raleigh, when on the scaffold desired to see the axe, and feeling its edge said to the sheriff, "This is a sharp medicine but a sure remedy for all evils." Being asked which way he chose to place himself on the block, he replied, "So the heart is right, it is no matter which way the body lies," and giving the signal he received the stroke with the most perfect composure. Such was the end of this most illustrious man, in the 66th year of his age.

Doctor Pitcairn's Way of Asking for Snuff.—Madam, permit me to emerge the summits of my digits in your pulviformous utensil, to excite a grateful titillation in my olfactory nerves.

Raising Rent.—A farmer in the neighborhood of Doncaster, was thus accosted by his landlord, "John, I am going to raise your rent," John replied, "Sir, I am very much obliged to you, for I cannot raise it myself."
The inveterate punster, coming into a coffee shop one evening, said he never saw such a wind; "Saw nothing," replied a friend; "what was it like?" "Like," answered Charles, "to have blown my hat off."

A physician seeing Charles Bannister about to drink a glass of brandy, told him it was the worst enemy he had. "I know that," replied Charles; "but you know we are commanded by Scripture to love our enemies."

Recipe for a Lady's Dress.—The following recipe for a lady's dress occurs where one would least expect it, in the works of Tertullian: "Let simplicity be your white, chastity your vermilion; dress your eyebrows with modesty, and your lips with reservedness. Let instruction be your ear-rings, and a ruby cross the front pin of your head. Submission to your husband, is your best ornament. Employ your hands in housewife; and keep your feet within your own doors. Let your garments be made with the silk of probity, the fine linen of sanctity, and the purple of chastity."

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