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TO PRESERVE PEGGED BOOTS.—The strongest and cheapest boots and shoes worn in this country some times fail, owing to the shrinking of the wooden pegs. A very simple remedy is to rub petroleum along the line where the upper leather is joined to the sole. When the pegs are saturated with this oil they resist the action of wet and dry weather.

SARDINES.—Sprats, young pilchards, and other fish of the herring family are put up in oil and sold as sardines in England. Mr. Couch, a Cornish ichthyologist, says the sardine appears to be the only fish of this family, except the pilchard, that has the dorsal fin at the center of gravity. Cuvier found no difference in the structure of these fish; the sardine being distinguished only by its inferior size.

THE EGYPTIAN MUMMY.—Prof. Czermak of the University of Jena, while examining the stomach of a mummy, found a roll of something, which, under the microscope, proved to be the skin of the soles of the feet. Further investigation shows that this disposition of the sole was a common practice, and it is supposed to be symbolical of the eternal separation of the dead from the earth.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR DISTILLED WATER.—A correspondent of *The British Journal of Photography* says, when in the wilds of Wales or Scotland, where it is difficult to obtain distilled water for photographic purposes, he boiled the purest river or spring water he could find, and, after adding to every ounce a quarter of a grain of nitrate of silver, allowed it to stand, and, when cold, filtered. This solution met every requirement.

NEW REMEDIAL AGENTS.—Mr. Wentworth L. Scott, in a paper read before the British Pharmaceutical College at Dundee, suggests that granulated charcoal be made the carrier of gaseous bodies suited for the treatment of certain forms of disease, but which, under all ordinary methods, are either impossible or very difficult to administer. The results of experiments he had already made in this direction were very encouraging.

WHITE PASTE.—*The London Photographic News* states that a good white paste, pure in color and adhesive to all surfaces, may be made as follows: A solution of 2½ ounces of gum arabic in 2 quarts of warm water is thickened to a paste with wheat flour; to this is added a solution of alum and sugar of lead, 720 grains in each water; the mixture is heated and stirred about to boil, and is then cooled. It may be thinned, if necessary, with the gum solution.

PHOTOGRAPHING CHILDREN.—Mr. H. J. Fellows gives in *The Philadelphia Photographer* a simple and effective remedy for the difficulty of obtaining sufficient time upon children's pictures. He heats the developer. To do this he turns up the edge of a quarter metal plate so that it will hold just sufficient for one development, and then heats it over a gas flame. By this means he has frequently obtained a picture in ten seconds. It may perhaps lack softness and depth, but what can one expect from a child who *will not* sit still!

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