

town has not yet recovered from the effects of the Boer war, and business is quiet. Father Cooney visited some of the Catholic churches of the city, and also the new Nazareth House, a fine stone building quite recently completed, and the spacious hall of the recently formed branch of the Hibernian Society. Nineteen days later he was at Hobart, Tasmania, where a pleasant time was spent visiting various places of interest, notably the convent and Magdalen Asylum of the Order of the Good Shepherd, a beautiful place overlooking a charming bay. Four days later he was back in 'God's Own Country,' so often spoken of in older countries as the land of daring experiments.

PUBLICATIONS

Uncanny Country. By B. E. Baughan. Whitcombe and Tombs, Christchurch.

This is a full, true, and particular account of all the interesting features of the Hot Lakes District; and both those who have, and those who have not, seen the marvels of the North Island Wonderland owe a debt of gratitude to the author of this fascinating booklet. All is pleasant about it: the paper is good, the letterpress clear and easy to read, and the illustrations very fine. But above all we have the work of a skilful and sympathetic pen. The gifted writer comes as near to making us see the marvels of the strange region as is possible to human faculties. We can almost hear the thud and grumble underground, fear the tremble, hear the hissing and splashing, carry a wondering eye up, up the white columns of the geyser fountains: and if we are conscious of failing to realise all the colors, it is doubtless due to their singularity, their weird unlikeness to aught we ever saw. The region has found a word-painter worthy of his subject, and alike to the traveller and the stay-at-home we cordially commend the volume. Price 1s.

With the assistance of the latest machines a piece of leather can be transformed into a pair of boots in thirty-four minutes, in which time it passes through the hands of sixty-three people, and through fifteen machines.

How to move with a minimum of worry and anxiety is a problem easily solved. Get the New Zealand Express Company to shift your furniture. They supply clean, capacious vans and experienced and capable hands. The result is that your moving is done quickly at a reasonable cost, while your furniture is taken as much care of as if you did the handling yourself. Write or call for a price. Offices in all towns....

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Domestic

By MAUREEN.

To Keep Food Free from Flies.

It is a good plan to cover the food on the larder shelves in the following simple way:—Buy a few yards of butter muslin, cut it to fit the shelves, and lay it over food. This prevents the flies settling, also dust. Milk and butter must be kept in a cool cellar, or on a stone slab, and the milk should always be covered, otherwise it will become a fruitful source of contamination. If fresh meat is to be hung (in a bag) a day or two, brush it over with vinegar.

To Make Stewed Fruit Firm.

Some fruits, such as apples, peaches, tomatoes, plums, etc., are likely to become soft in the cooking; strew sugar over them and allow them to stand a few hours. Another method to make them retain their original hardness is to remove them from the syrup when it has boiled for a few minutes, and then allow them to stand in the sun for an hour or so. Just before use pour the syrup over them.

Button-Hole Hint.

When making button-holes in the back of a lace dress or yoke, it is hard to get them firm enough. Even when they do not fray, they pull and stretch in an ugly way. Try sewing fine net or chiffon as well as the facing inside of the hem where button-holes are to be worked. This makes three thicknesses to be worked through, and, if carefully inserted, the inner lining will not show. Another way is to cut a double strip of fine lawn the size of lace, hem, and fasten firmly in face. Cut the button-holes through it, work closely, and then cut away close to the work.

Uses for Ammonia.

Two tablespoonfuls of ammonia in a pailful of water will clean windows better than soap. Nickel-silver objects can be kept bright by rubbing them with a woollen cloth saturated with spirits of ammonia. A teaspoonful of ammonia in a quart of water will remove all grease and dirt from brushes and combs. Rinse, shake, and dry in the sun or at the fire. Flannels and blankets are made white and clean, and do not shrink, by soaking them in a pailful of water containing a tablespoonful of ammonia and some suds. Rub as little as possible, and they will be white and clean.

Household Helps.

When ironing with gas, place two irons side by side; then put one more on top of each, this will heat four irons on one burner.

In using the rind of a lemon for flavoring, remember that it is only the outer or yellow part of the rind that holds the essential oil.

If a pancake griddle must be kept hot for late-comers, slip it into the oven, close the door, and when the griddle is needed again it is hot.

Orange peel burned in a room will remove any close, foul, odor, and is especially refreshing in a sick room. Place the peel in a shallow pan, and burn for several minutes.

Tennis flannel makes excellent broom bags. If dipped in kerosene oil and dried, they will remove all lint and dirt from the floors, and leave a gloss that can be obtained in no other way.

Maureen

Those unfortunates who suffer such torture and misery with Blind, Bleeding, or External Piles, should use Baxter's Pile Ointment, which is an invaluable remedy for the speedy and effectual cure of this distressing complaint. One application gives relief. Price, 2/6, post free, from Baxter's Pharmacy, Stafford street, Timaru....