

Preparations, Inventions, etc.**HAGEMANN'S UNIVERSAL COCOA.**

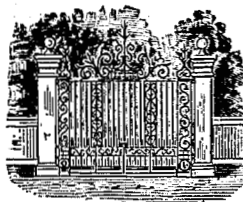
WE have had samples of the various Cocos and Chocolates prepared by Hagemann and Co., Ltd., submitted to us, and have carefully tried them. The Cocoa is not only excellent in itself, but in its form presents features which will commend it to nurses. It requires neither milk nor sugar, but merely the addition of boiling water to the prepared powder, to produce a delicious cup of cocoa. The powder is guaranteed to contain not only the finest cocoa, but dry extracts of fresh pure milk, milk sugar and cane sugar. It is very easily soluble, has a delicious flavour, and, as we have proved, is taken with pleasure both by invalids and children. It is easily digested and evidently most nutritious. The Universal Chocolate, prepared by the same firm, delicately flavoured with vanilla, etc., and in various forms, in creams, or solid bars, either as a sweetmeat or a most nutritious article of diet, deserves the highest commendation. The Chocolate, like the Cocoa, contains the extracts of milk sugar and cane sugar, in combination with the finest cocoa powder.

Any of these preparations can be obtained through any grocer, or direct from the manufacturers, Hagemann and Co., Ltd., York.

PIRLE.

WHAT is more annoying than to have a new dress spoilt by a shower of rain? Yet it is not at all an uncommon accident. There is, however, not the least occasion for such a vexatious occurrence in these days, and it will never be experienced by those who are wise enough to insist that the materials of which their gowns are made are always Pirle finished. By adopting this simple precaution, the durability of one's clothes is greatly increased, and one has the comfort of knowing that a material treated in this way, which would ordinarily cockle in a shower of rain, emerges quite unharmed. It neither shrinks, cockles, nor spots, and even if it has been soaked with rain and splashed by London mud, is as fresh looking as ever when dry and shaken out. At the same time, the material, although to a certain extent rain-resisting, is not waterproofed, and remains perfectly porous, so that it is absolutely hygienic.

Pirle finished goods may be obtained from all the leading houses, and the increasing recognition of their value is evinced in the fact that, while in 1896 Messrs. Edward Ripley and Son, Ltd., who have evolved this process, treated about 5,000 yards a week, in 1899 they were treating no less than 84,000 yards per week.

Outside the Gates.**THE ROYAL ACADEMY, 1900.**

KALEIDOSCOPIC—chaotic—is the first effect, but that is always the first impression of all picture exhibitions, the succeeding one—in this particular case is that the general color, the 'note' of the show, is less heavy than has been the fashion of late.

When we have made the tour of the rooms we find that 'subjects' are few and far between, that imagination is almost extinct in our painters, and that realism, having overpassed the permission, is paying the penalty in enforced servitude to the commonplace.

The place of honour at the head of the Great Gallery is naturally taken by Orchardson's large canvas, "Windsor Castle, 1899: Portraits." Our venerable monarch Victoria R. and I. is seated, and coming to present her with a birthday bouquet is her small great-grandson of York, urged on by his father, while the Prince of Wales stands beaming by. Mr. Orchardson has treated a difficult subject very dexterously and made a pleasing picture as well as admirable likenesses.

Wander on round this room before you are compelled to draw up before Sargent's great work—because after that all the rest are done, for they at once sink into their places as pictures, while this is LIFE!—and the charm of it grows and keeps growing the longer you look. Its merits are endless, and it seems to possess every quality conceivable, colour, drawing, delicacy, strength, and a most supreme elegance and distinction. So lovely are these ladies, and yet so utterly unaffected, these are portraits to touch the hearts of generations to come.

The next notable work is of a different genre, yet very fine is it, and strangely delicate in its appreciation of character. "The Trial of Queen Katherine," by E. Abbey. Very pathetic yet dignified is the queen, who has slid from her chair, and, half kneeling, addresses herself direct to her unworthy husband, ignoring the brutal cardinals and officials who would insult her—as much as they dared. Alas! poor Katherine, she forgets the years of deterioration that separate the man, as she remembers him, and the sodden thing on the throne as he is. There is a grand treatment of reds on this canvas, the carpeting and the cardinals, robes make a splendid glow—if somewhat suggestive of the lurid flames of the nether world—which, however, suits the essentially fiendish subject, and the faces of the cardinals are sufficiently diabolic too.

The delightfully fresh picture of Miss Lucy Kemp-Welch, "Horses Bathing in the Sea," is quite a tonic after the "Abbey." The splash and foam of the opal-coloured waves and the freedom and rough unthinking strength of the animals and riders bring one in touch again with the healthy world. There is no doubt the new Rosa Bonheur has dawned on a grateful world.

G. Boughton, R.A., sends rather a fascinating sketch, "By the Waters of Forgetfulness." It is what the Yankees would call "kinder" interesting, though you can't tell why. No. 351, "The Waterplash," by H. La Thangue. A delightfully sun-dappled flock of geese coming down a country road. No. 328 "The fall of

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)