There are 30,000 children in England who receive no education, owing to the wandering habits of their parents.

The story is now being told at Paris that when Gounod's country house was threatened during the Franco-Prussian war, Gounod trusted to his fame for defense and put up the following inscription: "The house of Charles Gounod, the composer of 'Faust.'" But the maurading Germans burnt it to the ground all the same.

A company has raised $1,500,000 to lay a cable from San Francisco to Honolulu, since our business with the Sandwich Islands has grown so greatly that a submarine telegraph is required by the legitimate demands of trade. Americans are in practical control of the Sandwich Islands, as all their financial and commercial affairs are in our hands.

A murder trial of more than usual sensational interest has just been brought to a conclusion in Paris. A man by the name of Hoyos has been condemned to death for killing a certain Baron, who bore a faint resemblance to him, and who was to be substituted in his stead in order that a considerable sum might be collected from different life insurance companies.

Says the Drovers' *Journal*: English capitalists have heretofore been content to invest in American railway securities. They have had their fingers so badly burned that they are trying their luck in other directions. Breweries suit them. Several English syndicates are buying up timber tracts, mostly in the Southern States, because land is cheap. One party has just bought 350,000 acres in Alabama, and will build several saw mills.

The Washington *Star* announces that the latest discovery by the redoubtable Professor Wiggins is that the earth is moving away from the sun, and the seas are drying up so steadily that "the time will come when it will be necessary to carve up the continents by canals, as we see on Mars." It is safe to predict that long before we have begun to carve up the continents, the surgeons will have carved up Professor Wiggins, to discover whether the disorder of his brain extended all through his nervous system.

There are but four persons in the United States, other than those holding public office, who are allowed to receive and send mail matter free of postage. These four persons are the widows of the late Presidents Polk, Tyler, Garfield and Grant. An act of Congress is required to grant this privilege to any one, and it has been so granted to the widows of Presidents since 1836, when the first act was passed conferring the distinction upon Mrs. Dolly P. Madison. According to the United States Postal Laws and Regulations, which is a compilation of the rules published for the information and guidance of Postmasters and other officials, Mrs. Tyler is not entitled to the benefits of franking mail matter, and it is true that no law has ever been passed in her case. She is, in a sense, a victim of one of those peculiar oversights of Congress which are of frequent occurrence. The Post Office Department, however, appreciating the fact that Mrs. Tyler is in equity entitled to the same privilege which has by law been granted to Mrs. Polk, Mrs. Garfield and Mrs. Grant, accepts her frank in lieu of postage and collects nothing upon matter mailed to her address.

An eminent electrician in New York was recently interviewed on the proposed execution of criminals by electricity. "Do I believe in killing a man by electricity?" he exclaimed when asked what he thought of executing a man in that way. "No, I do not. I don't believe the profession knows enough about electricity yet to warrant them attempting to kill a man with it. All electricians know that different men are differently affected by electricity. Some can stand a little, others more and some can take an enormous charge without fatal result. This must be borne in mind in giving a man a charge, and it is especially important in the case of executing a murderer. Suppose they don't give him enough and he recovers, as I did, what torture must he suffer! And why shouldn't he recover and feel the electricians? If he's a naturally strong man, has no heart trouble and is well preserved the chances are that he will pull through if they give him the opportunity. Or again, if he has been a laborer, accustomed to manual labor or exposure to the sun for a long time, his flesh must necessarily have become more or less hardened, that is, insulated, and the electricity would have less effect upon him."

A Dog With a Head and a Half.

A strange freak of nature in the form of a dog with a fully formed head, and, grown out from one side of the neck, a completely formed half head, with the mouth and eyes closed, can be seen at the Vosburg House in Waupaca, Wis. His dogship is a black and tan terrier. To look at the animal from the left side, only the jaws are visible in a sort of a preliberance. On the right side the shape is complete, but the closed eye and mouth, with but a slight connection with the vertebra, render the "additional" head of not much value except as a freak. He is regarded as one of the best watch dogs in town.

FARM AND GARDEN.

A CHEAP PLANT PROTECTOR.

To keep bugs away from melons, frost from tender plants, the sun from cauliflower, etc., cut barrel hoops into pieces 16 inches long, crossing them in the center and fastening together with a small wire nail. Then cover this frame with light muslin, leaving an inch at the end of each stick exposed, so they may be pushed into the ground, thus drawing the cloth close to the ground at the edges. This frame, being flexible, can be adjusted to a greater or less spread, as desired.—*American Agriculturist.*

RAISING TURKEYS

An unknown writer advises those who are going to raise turkeys this season to remember that it will cost no more to raise such as at maturity will weigh twelve or fourteen pounds that such as bring down the scales at the six pound notch only. You will have to chase the young turks just about so much anyhow, and might as well make the trouble as profitable as possible. Plymouth Rock hens make good foster mothers for young turkeys and ducks, as they are too lazy to go far from the back door. They will also cover a great number of eggs, are good natured and not easily disturbed, and are excellent sitters when once broody—hence not apt to leave their nests before the hatching is accomplished. Nine turkey eggs are enough to set under one hen.

ART IN BEE KEEPING.

At a convention of apiarists in Indiana, a paper was read on "The Artistic Side of Bee-keeping," in which the essayist said a great many articles are judged mainly by their appearance, and honey is one of these articles. There are a few simple primary rules for preparing honey for the market which it may be well to note. First, extracted honey should be carefully strained through two thicknesses of some kind of thin cloth before bottling or putting away in any shape. Second, clear flint glass jars should be used for packages, as common glass makes the clear, golden yellow of the honey look a muddy, greenish yellow. Third, plain, neat labels, with the name of the producer, kind of honey, etc. It would be well for honey producers to heed these suggestions.

EXPERIMENTS WITH CABBAGE PLANTS.

I have come to the conclusion this season that cabbage plants may be set in the open ground, to advantage, much earlier than is customary. In the latter part of March, the ground being in fine condition and pleasant weather prevailing for some time, I took a few plants from a cold frame and set them out. In a few days a hard freeze came, the mercury going down to twenty-four degrees Fahrenheit. My plants silvered and looked blue, but revived with the warmer weather and now are decidedly ahead of those set later from the same frame. Possibly the later set plants would have done quite as well, but unprecedentedly dry weather, for the season, followed their planting. The earliest ones had the benefit of all the moisture that departing winter left in the soil. In my first regular planting of early cabbage this season, I tested carefully the question of value of small and large plants. Under equal conditions as to soil, moisture, time of planting, etc., I put out a quantity of fine, stocky plants averaging six inches in height. Beside them I set an equal quantity of small plants, none more than three inches high. At this writing all are flourishing, but if there is any choice between them it is certainly in favor of the piece set with the smaller plants.—*American Agriculturist.*

HOG CHOLERA.

The more important facts about hog cholera, which have been definitely determined by the investigations of Dr. D. E. Salmon, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, have been summed up in the valuable work just published by the United States Department of Agriculture, and may be stated as follows: 1. The disease is a contagious and infectious one, and may be contracted by a healthy hog from a diseased one, or from infected premises, and the contagion may be carried from farm to farm in various ways. 2. It is a bacterial disease, the germ having been first accurately figured and described in 1885, and studied almost constantly since that time. 3. The germ is readily cultivated in various media, is transmissible to other animals than hogs, from which it may be retransmitted to swine and produce a fatal form of the disease. 4. A fatal disease similar to hog cholera, which has been named "swine plague" to distinguish it from the disease first met with, was discovered during the progress of these investigations. It is also a germ disease, widely distributed and fatal, and may exist as a complication in outbreaks of hog cholera. 5. The disease may generally be prevented by isolation of the animals and by cleanliness combined with simple measures of disinfection. 6. Outbreaks of hog cholera are to be checked by separating the well from the diseased animals and practising disinfection. 7. Infected premises may be made safe for the admission of a new herd by disinfecting with lime or other disinfectants and allowing three to six months to elapse after the disease has disappeared. 8. Medicines have not been found to greatly influence the course of the disease. 9. Inoculation has been tested in almost every form as a preventative without satisfactory results. 10. Hog cholera is apparently identical with a disease which has recently been described in various parts of Europe.—*American Agriculturist.*

WHY COWS SHOULD BE SALTED.

We have always maintained that cows should be given a stated allowance of salt at regular intervals, if they were not salted by that better plan—having salt placed where they could have free access to it at all times. This has been urged in order that the cows might have what they wanted and not take enough at one time to disarrange their digestive organs. Any one who has given attention to the matter of salting dairy cows, knows that they are better for having salt, and having it regularly. Now the *American Dairyman* tells us why we salt them:

As soon as the food enters the stomach the natural tendency is for fermentation to begin, and there arises a contest between this tendency and the digestive powers. And if these powers are vigorous and the process of fermentation is checked or intercepted, then no bad results will follow; the food will be digested and salt will not be needed, though at any time this will assist in the process of digestion. Salt keeps food from decaying until it can be digested and assimilated, and prolongs the time to allow the digestive organs to complete their work. And if food is taken in excess, as often happens when stock is in pasture, salt given frequently will be of much advantage. And further, salt is a preventative of worms. When a fermentation sets in the conditions prevailed are favorable to the condition of the worms in the intestinal canals, and may possibly be engendered by the process. Consequently it should be a rule with the stockman to keep salt before their cattle, or within easy reach when they need it, and the cattle will obey the demands of nature, and supply the want as needed.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

If corn is planted or sown to be cut green during the latter part of the summer, good care should be taken to have the soil rich and well prepared.

One good attendant upon a long succession of rainy days in summer is in the opportunity it brings for farmers to rest without neglecting their work.

Rain every day may be good in the end, but it is a little embarrassing to farmers, who have their work retarded and find themselves unable to execute plans based on ordinary weather conditions.

More sheep die in the spring from indigestion than from any other cause whatever, and this is due generally to innutritious food as straw, poor hay, etc., which they are compelled to eat to sustain life.

An agricultural and mechanical fair dependent for its success on balloon ascensions, wrestling matches and other diversions of like character, may as well fall early for failure will come sometime as a penalty for fraud.

Vagaries of Etiquette.

In Sweden, if you address the poorest person on the street, you must lift your hat. The same courtesy is insisted upon if you pass a lady on the stairway. To place your hand on the arm of a lady, in Italy, is a grave and objectionable familiarity.

In Holland a lady is expected to retire precipitately if she should enter a store or restaurant where men are congregated. She waits until they have transacted their business and departed.

Ladies seldom rise in Spain to receive a male visitor, and they rarely accompany him to the door. A gentleman does not offer to shake a Spanish lady's hand. For him to give a lady (even his wife) his arm while out walking, is looked upon as a decided violation of propriety. If a Spaniard says, when you retire after a visit, "This house is entirely at your disposal whenever you may please to favor it," he wishes you to know that he regards you as one of the family—one de nostros (one of us) as they express it. If the words are not spoken, you can conclude that you are not welcome to call again.

In Persia, among the aristocracy, a visitor sends notice an hour or two before calling, and gives a day's notice if the visit is one of great importance. He is met by servants before he reaches the house, and other considerations are shown him according to relative rank. The left, and not the right, is considered the position of honor.

No Turk will enter a sitting-room with dirty shoes. The upper classes wear tight fitting shoes, with goloshes over them. The latter, which receive all the dirt and dust are left outside the door. The Turk never washes in dirty water. Water is poured over his hands, so that when polluted it runs away.

In Syria the people never take off their caps or turbans when entering the house or visiting a friend, but they always leave their shoes at the door. There are no mats or scrapers outside and the floors inside are covered with expensive rugs, kept very clean in Moslem houses and used to kneel on while saying prayers.

In China grief is associated with a white dress, in Ethiopia with brown, in Turkey with violet, in Egypt with yellow.

HUMAN GIFTS.

How Some African Tribes Testify Their Esteem for Explorers.

Little Savages Who Have Come Into the Hands of White Men.

Now and then when an explorer visits a savage tribe they insist upon presenting him with a girl or boy as a token of their esteem. These presents, being inconvenient to carry around, are generally declined with thanks, but a few of them have reached Europe. Among the Akka dwarfs who have been taken to Europe are two who were presented to white men. One of them, now a young man, is living in the palace of Count Mmoscchi at Verona, and the other, a bright eyed little girl, who was presented to the explorer Gessi, is a servant in the family of his widow at Trieste.

A while ago, when Mr. Lumholtz was traveling among the cannibals of Queensland, Australia, some villagers wished to give him a young girl whom they regarded as the beauty of the village by way of recognizing his valuable services in scaring away a lion-like bond with a few shots of his revolver, so Lumholtz told them to send her to his camp.

There was to be a dance that night, and Kelaumi, a slim, good looking girl, about 15 years old, was in full dress. She did not fancy the white man, and at the request of Lumholtz, a lusty young chap in the village whom she did fancy was sent along with her. She trembled like a leaf as Lumholtz bade her sit down by the fire. The white man tried to win her confidence by giving her bread and meat, but she could not be induced to say a word nor to look at her new master, and the eatables lay untouched beside her. Lumholtz said it pained him to witness the anguish of the timid little thing, and soon, to the great astonishment of the blacks who were looking on, he told Kelaumi she might go home. She bounded away, another creature entirely, as soon as she found she no longer belonged to the strange looking man.

In the household of young Arnot, the missionary, whose travels have made him famous, are several little girls whom he found in slave caravans marching to the coast. They were nearly dead with fatigue, and as they were likely to be left to perish by their cruel Arab masters, he bought them for a few yards of cloth. The youngest of them, who was about 3 years old, peculiarly interested him, because, after she had been nursed back to health, she was very bright and happy. About six months after this little girl, Maopo, became a member of his family, Arnot went one morning to take breakfast with King Mata, who is now the chief potentate in the Congo basin. While they were together a little girl entered the yard, threw herself at the King's feet and did obeisance by rubbing dust on her arms and forehead. The King asked her what she wanted, and she said, as she wept, that she was a little slave girl whom the King's soldiers had taken from her home in Lulu. She said her mistress kept beating her and she had run away to beg the King's protection.

As Arnot arose to leave the lady old King told the little girl to follow the white man, if she wished a home where she would not be beaten any more. Arnot saw her coming after him, and so he took her hand and led her to his cottage. What was his astonishment when little Maopo and the newcomer flew into each other's arms weeping as though their hearts would break. He says that for several days he was scarcely able to do anything with them, so continually did they hang on each other's neck.

Three years before these freedom children of Lulu were playing in the water near the home of their parents, when their childish glee was turned to terror by slave stealers, who tore them from their homes and from each other. After many months of unmixed sorrow and hardship a better fate had reunited them, and they were free once more, in the home of a kind white friend, who had come thousands of miles to brighten the pathway of unfortunates like themselves.—*New York Sun.*

Watches Spoiled by Electricity.

If you are going out on the electric railway you had better leave your $600 chronometer at home and carry a Waterbury, for there is so much electricity around that it is apt to magnetize your watch. Several people complain that their valuable watches have been rendered useless by riding on the Eclington Line. This is something that can hardly be remedied. Electricity will escape. It isn't like a building, which can be chained up and fenced. Invisible and imponderable, it makes its way from the wires which conduct it into the very air itself and the delicately constructed steel wheels of a watch catch it up. Then the cogs and pinions are held back by its subtle force until the value of the watch attracted "as a time keeper" is destroyed. There are some non-magnetic watches made now which seem proof against such dangers, and non-magnetic cases are also put out, which prove equally serviceable. But it is well to observe the precaution not only on electric railroads, but when near the dynamos of an electric light plant.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

A rifle ball travels at the rate of 1,275 feet per second.

The houses of the Chinese are for the most part only one story high.

When marriage is childless the number of suicides is doubled in men and trebled in women.

There are twenty-two states in the union that cast a smaller vote than New York city.

Miss Jennie Pettys of Pomona, Cal., has sued George Ormsby for $1500 for kissing her at the gate.

Richard E. King, the first colored lawyer of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, has been admitted to the bar of that tribunal.

In the Paris circus a trained lion is at present being exhibited who rides on horseback, jumps through hoops and over bars, fires off pistols and performs a number of similar tricks.

During the last century there have been 27 cases of insanity in the Bavarian royal family. The present king is a lunatic, and several of his relatives have been attacked by the same disease.

Woolwich arsenal, England, contains an anvil weighing sixty tons. Six hundred and sixty tons of iron were used in the anvil, block and foundation. It required six months to cool before the immense hammer could be used.

An extraordinary phenomenon is reported from Lulach. On a spot in the woods surrounding the town the ground suddenly opened, forming a natural pit as deep as the Eiffel tower is high, namely 300 metres, and 240 metres in circumference at its mouth.

Plums are the most important product of Bosnia, and the fruit in a dried state is the chief article of export. The poorest peasant has a few plum trees by his hovel, wealthy landowners never think of planting any other kind of tree by their country houses, and in consequence the well being of the agricultural population depends on plums more than on anything else. In a good season about forty thousand tons of the dried fruit, valued at more than one million dollars, are exported.

A Large Frog.

Mr. R. W. Champion has just returned from fishing in Line Creek district. He was very much disappointed as regards fishing, but says that he enjoyed the trip very much, as he killed frogs enough to treat a few of his friends to a delightful supper, at which this French delicacy predominated. He relates a most wonderful occurrence which took place and the result of which enabled him to bring to town a bull frog weighing three and a half pounds, the hind legs making a meal for two persons. As he says, "the like has never been told." The party with whom he went were busy seining the wet weather lakes that were caused by the overflow of the river, but were not having much success, so he took his gun and began to look for frogs. Not finding very many he walked up to a field near by where a man was cutting wheat, for the purpose of getting information as regard the best fishing grounds. While engaged in conversation he noticed the uncut grain moving as if a rabbit was running through it. He cocked his gun and waited for its approach, but his surprise was great when a large bullfrog appeared, closely followed by an enormous coach whip snake. He watched them until they neared the river when he fired two shots, one killing the frog, the other the snake. The frog weighed three and a half pounds as before stated, and the snake was nearly fourteen feet long, and was evidently the grandfather of them all. His skin will be stuffed and preserved by Mr. Champion and be placed on exhibition at his place of business.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

Pigs and Rattlesnakes.

"Pigs don't seem to mind the bite of rattlesnakes as much as I do a mosquito bite, so far as I ever observed," said Simon Kent, the "Rattlesnake King," of Clinton Co., Kan. "They rather enjoy getting in among rattlers. I had an old sow once, and she was a regular terror after rattlesnakes. She could find the trail of one as surely as the hound can find the deer's track, and she'd follow that trail until she came up with the snake that made it, and then the rattler was her meat. She didn't seem to care for any other kind of snakes, but she'd hunt rattlesnakes from the beginning of the season until the end. If I could have taught that pig to retrieve she'd have been worth a good deal to me, for the number of snakes she'd have brought in during a season would have been immense, and rattlesnake skins are worth anywhere from 50 cents to $2 apiece, and the oil always sells a fellow in at least $1 an ounce. But she wasn't on the retrieve. She was hunting for her own accommodation, and ate every snake she caught, leaving only the head. I used to find so many heads on my tours through the woods that it began to dawn on me that my old sow was working dead against me by destroying the snake crop, and I was forced to kill her for my own protection.

"The only thing that I ever knew a rattlesnake to be really afraid of is a bat. If you want to scare a rattlesnake into fits so that he will curl up in a corner and cover up his head, and actually tremble, just put a bat in his cage. But a bat is enough to give anybody fits."

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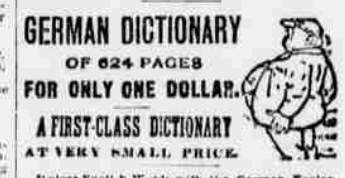

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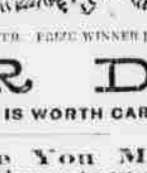

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