#### A NOVEL SCHOOL.

Agricultural Department Forms Classes in Washington in Forestry and Soil Culture.

Secretary Wilson and his corps of assistants are now carrying on a work of education which has been overlooked by the educational institutions of the country. His classes are now sheginning to gather at Washington and in a short time will be instructed on matters of vital interest to the country. While the colleges and uniwersities of the country teach geology, soology and physiology, they do not teach anything about the relation of the soil to the plaint, and the plant to the animal. Neither do they deal with the questions of forestry or soil-that is, from an agricultural standpoint.

Secretary Wilson said he could not understand why these important questions were not dealt with by American educational institutions. To supply the deficiency the department has formed classes in which these subjects will be taught. A corps of young men will be trained in matters relating to these subjects and they will be sent throughout the country to educate

In carrying out this plan the agriemltural interests of the country will be advanced materially. It is said at the department the ignorance of the masses of the people on these subjects to deplorable, and with more enlightenment the people, as well as the farmers, will be greatly benefited.

#### HAS A FIVE-HOUR DAY.

Enteresting Study Afforded Astronomers at This Time by the Little Planet Bros.

A special to the New York Times from Boston says: Eros, the little planet that has been watched so close-Ly by astronomers lately on account of its nearness to the earth, has recently taken an additional interest. Until within a short time Eros has been observed simply on account of its position, by means of which it is hoped to determine more closely the distance between the earth and the son. This spring the planet has shown marked changes in light, and is the first of the asteroids in which variation of light has been firmly established.

It has been found by the Harvard observers that the intensity of the light changes sometimes two or three times in as many hours. This is accounted for in two ways: Some astronomers think that one side of the planet is dark and the other light, and that as it revolves first the light and then the dark side is presented to the watchers on earth; other observers, and especially those in Europe. believe that the planet is double and that the two spheres so revolving around one another first present their combined light and then only the light of one. The planet is believed to revolve in five hours.

## KING MAY GET GREAT OPAL.

Commonwealth of Queensland May Buy the Famous Gem for Him.

The "imperial opal," which a wealthy Australian is anxious to prement to the king, but which the latter is unable to accept owing to the royal etiquette forbidding the sovereign to receive a present from a subject, has quite a romantic history.

The miner who discovered the gem Shad only a miner's proverbial brief possession. It fell into the hands of a siren, a camp follower, who appears to have recognized its value, as she obtained \$5,000 from the next purchaser. Upon the death of the latter, his affairs were badly tangled, inwolving considerable litigation, where-.upon the gem was transferred to one of the attorneys for costs. Thence "It passed into the ownership of the man who has brought it to England, offering it to the king.

To overcome the difficulty, negotiations are now afoot to get the commonwealth of Queensland to accept the gem, then present it to the king in the name of the people.

The lewel is, from all accounts, of exceptional color and size. A London firm of jewelers is said to have valued It at £25,000 (\$125,000), while the owner declares he would not sell it for double that amount.

## A NEW TITLE.

Prince of Great Britain Is Suggested for the Meir Apparent, Buke of York,

The duke of York will have new titles soon, but the nature of them is

undecided. The king rather holds off conferring the title of the prince of Wales. It is reported the title which meets his approval is prince of Great Britain, as a commemoration of the duke's tour of the colonies, which may have a tendericy to unite Australia. Canada and the other British possessions more closely to the

The king has given Balmoral, the queen's favorite Scotish residence, to the duke of York for a country house, and will keep Sandringham, his favorite palace, for himself. The king has no Micing for the Scottish Selimate and the seclusion of Balmoral, miles from anywhere.

Sharers in Dividends. About 12,000,000 persons share in the \$175,000,000 dividends recently disseibuted in New York, and half of the number are depositors in savings

Kanas Hitterney, The percentage of illiteracy in Kanmus is less than it is in any other state in this union or in any country on the globe save Belgium.

A STATE OF THE STA

## MANY LEPERS FOUND

Consul Reports Disease Almost Epidemic in Canary Islands.

Three Distinct Classes of Leprosy on Tenerific Island, One of the Group-Eating Putrid Fish and Uncleanness the Cause.

The existence of about 200 lepers on the island of Teneriffe, Canary islands, has been officially reported at Washington by United States Comsul Berliner, at Teneriffe. He says there are three distinct classes of leprosy on Teneriffe island, namely, lepra arabum, lepra elephantiasis and lepra tuberculosis. The disease diverges into two main varieties, the spotted and the nodular. The report is based on personal investigation and assistance of physicians and

"Leprosy is somewhat endemic among people here, on account of their eating a good deal of fish, often putrid, and their general uncleanli-

"As to being contagious, it is generally discredited here, but in my opinion it is very infectious. In former years Spain had established a colony at Grand Canary for lepers. They were housed there, but had perfect liberty to wander about, with the restriction that they must sleep at the houses built for them. In course of time this law became a dead letter, and gradually they spread over the different islands.

"At Santa Cruz de Teneriffe, the capital, there are (from personal knowledge) 22 lepers, 15 of whom are men, and there also are some children of these unfortunates. They are given a place about 15 minutes from the city hall, where they live, which is called Barranco Santo. There are also living at the same place about 200 people besides, nearly all beggars. You meet them at all times of the day in town or road, asking alms and exposing their limbs. Many have no fingers or toes, and they hobble along, and a more pitiable sight is hard to imagine. "Officially it is not recognized that

leprosy exists on these islands. "The provincial government at Teneriffe has lately built a large building about two miles out of town. The building has two separate wings, one for insane patients and the other

for lepers." United States Consular Agent Swanston, on Grand Canary island, in an accompanying report, says that leprosy there is decidedly decreasing. There are 50 patients in the lepers' hospital at Las Palmas. A few families infected with the disease live in their own homes.

# IMMIGRANTS AT HAVANA.

During Last Half of Year 1900 14,578, Mostly Spanish, Arrived at

A statement setting forth the origin and extent of immigration at the port of Havana, Cuba, for the last half of the calendar year of 1900 was made public by the division of insular affairs of the war department the other day. The total number of immigrants arriving at that port during the period named was 14,578.

The Chinese immigrants numbered 226; 17 from the United States, 18 from the United ingdom, 106 from China, 16 from British North America, 62 from Mexico, and seven from South America. The Filipino contribution numbered seven, three from the United States and four from Spain. Six Japanese and three Coreans arrived in from the United States. The most extensive immigration was Spanish, the total number of Spanish immigrants being 12,935, of whom 12,094 were from Spain, 396 from Mexico, and 346 from the United States. The immigration from other of the principal nations was as follows: English, 148; French, 195; Italian, 304; Mexican, 225, and

## CITY MOVED SIX INCHES.

German, 99.

Geological Disturbance Shifts Butte. Mont., by Gradual Move-

\*A portion of Butte, Mont., believed to embrace the larger part of the big hill upon which some of the Anaconda mines are located, has made a very perceptible movement southwestward during the past few days. At the foot of the Anaconda hill the slide pushed the tracks of the street railway line about six inches for a distance of about 300 feet along the road. As there are no large buildings in that part of the city no damage was done except to the railroad tracks, and but for their displacement the slide would not have been noticed. Geologists and scientific men claim that the entire range of mountains about Butte is constantly moving and that the sliding process has been going on for ages.

Doesn't Go Far Enough. Dr. Nagusha, the Japanese scientist, says rats cause all the world's plagues, and favors their extirpation. Now if the doctor will go on and explain how the extirpating may be done, says the Chicago Record-Herald, he will have the world still further in debt to him.

France's Water Boundaries. The water boundaries of France are as follows: Mediterranean ses coast, 395 miles; North sea, Straits of Dover and English channel, 572 miles; Atlantic ocean, 584 miles.

Absentees from School A London journal declares that of the 700,000 children of school age in the London school board area, 100,000 are

#### **ROW FISHES GO UP STAIRS.**

As They Do in Part of Their Journey from Narragansett Bay to the Nemasket River.

It is not an uncommon thing to see on pleasant days, when the fish are running at East Taunton, hundreds ofmen, women and children clustered around the fishway watching the fish struggling up against the strong current, and trying to get into the smoother waters above the dam, where they may shoot off at their leisure to the spawning place in the Nemasket, says the Boston Herald.

The fishway is so constructed that it is impossible for the fish to make a clear swim from top to bottom or vice versa. They must work up the river in the eddies, for the tide is also very strong near the dam, and until they reach the lower part of the fishway. Thence they struggle and wriggle into the lower entrance of the fishway, thus making sure of at least a chance to rub up against the boards and rest before they begin their wearisome fight for the top and smooth water.

It is in the fishway that the interest of the average spectator is centered, since here the fish can be seen plainly in bunches almost thick enough for one to walk across on their backs, and where one may casily reach down and pull them out of the water. They are generally packed in so thick that they cannot escape the quick-moving hand of man or boy.

From right to left and from left to right, steadily, slowly, they keep on in the effort to get out of the fishway, and it is one of the prettiest sights imaginable to watch the little fellows, plucky and game to the last, as they almost imperceptibly work out of one passageway into another and crowd each other around the corner. No matter how many people are close to them, so close that they could be touched with the hand or cane, they appear to pay no attention to their interested audience, but

keep right on about their business. A watchman is on duty at the fishway all of the time to see that no one disturbs them, but when his attention is taken up by questions that are asked frequently, those who like fish right out of the water smuggle them out and are away before they are apprehended. It is understood that there are thousands of these herring stolen in this way and other ways before they get to the clear water, but there doesn't seem to be any help for it.

## WHITE INDIANS DISCOVERED.

Strikingly Handsome Natives of the Amason Country of Peru and Brasil.

A white Indian is indeed a rara avis, and great therefore was the surprise of M. van Montanaeken, the wellknown Belgian traveler, when he suddealy found himself face to face with a colony of such Indians as he was making his way through the heart of Peru during his recent exploration of that country and Brazil. He conversed with them for some time, and took photographs of two of their chiefs, which on his return to Europe he intended to put in a book that he was about to publish. Unfortunately he died before the book was ready, and his widow has now presented the photographs to the Royal Geographical society of Anvers, says the New York Herald.

This tribe, according to Montanacken, is known as that of the Lorenzo Indians, and its home is in what is known as the Amazon country, part of which lies in Peru and part in Brazil. Unlike almost all others of their race, these Indians have a clear white skin, and, furthermore, the strange but common custom of tattooing and painting their bodies does not prevail among them. Strikingly handsome, too, many of them are, with frank and pleasant countenances that are by no means of

the ordinary Indian type. A nomad life they live, wandering in small bands over the vast solitary plains and apparently making no effort to better their condition. To this lack of energy, as well as to the numerous wars which have been waged against them by adjacent Indian tribes, must be ascribed the fact that they are not to-day nearly as numerous as they were a quarter of a century ago, and, if their number continues to decrease at the present rate. the outlook is that the tribe will soon

become extinct. These picturesque Indians do not encumber themselves with clothing. The women wear merely a strip of cotton or other stuff around their loins, and the men consider themselves in gala costume when they have hung over their shoulders two narrow bands of network, one of which remains as a sort of belt over their arms while the other falls down from the left shoulder and terminates at the right

Maundy, or Shere, Thursday. Some doubt seems to still exist about the derivation of the word "Maundy," which gives its name to the day before Good Friday. Maund was the word used in allusion to the basket which at one time formed a feature of the English ceremonial. But the word is certainly derived from the first word of the antiphon sung at the mass in Roman churches to-day-"Mandatum norvum," the "new commandment." Shere Thursday was the other name by which the day was known, for on that day "people would shear their hair, and clip their beards, and cleanse their bodies, and so make them honest against Easter day."-London Chronicle.

Three Vowels. I. O. U. are vowels that have caused many a man's downfall.-Chicago Daily News.

### IN FASHION'S MIRROR.

Some of the Pretty Fancies in Feminine Finery That Are Reflected.

Bands of emroidered velvet, cloth, silk or satin are used to edge boleros, walking jackets, skirt hems and openfronted princess dresses, and these strappings in nun's veiling, cashmere, foulard silk, French batiste, organdie, linen lawn, etc., will be seen on summer gowns; the bands being cut from the edges of the plain fabrics which they border. Gold and silver designs finish some of the more expensive weaves in silk and wool, the metal borders being notably effective on French challis, veiling or similar goods in pale old rose, Chartreuse green, amethyst and forget-me-not blue shades. Other elegant band trimmings are those of lace with a picot edge, dotted with gold or jet beads, the design outlined with gold or fine chenille threads, says the

Boston Budget. The latest Parisian fancy is a black stock of mousseline de soie, decorated with slanting lines of Roman pearl and fastened at the left side in a fluffy butterfly bow. This is worn with evening dress, and is re-

garded as tremendously chic. Small bishop sleeves, plain in style or laid in horizontal or vertical tucks, are more generally used with the new spring and summer shirt waists than sleeves of any other description.

The most charming dotted swisses are now shown in all the shops. They come in pastel gray with white lozenge-shaped dots, in bonbon green with white dots and scrpentine stripes, in maize yellow with black lacy stripes that look like insertion, in violet, black and white, coral and a variety of lovely shades and tasteful

designs. The princess skirt shaped with a corselet top is one of the popular styles of the season. A graceful model issued from a noted designing house of this city is fitted to the form by means of curved front seams and two darts on each side. Suspenders go up over the shoulders from the top of the corselet, disappearing beneath the skirt's girdle point, which arches up at the back. The open fronts are shaped with pointed ends and fitted by extra-deep single darts. A revival of a pretty fashion is the black velvet ribbon bracelet, which is being worn now by Parisian women. It is simply finished, and held together by a dull gold slide, sometimes jeweled. Egyptian armlets, too, are popular, although their chief beauty seems to lie in their barbaric

effects. Youthful black evening gowns are in great demand this season, all because young women find that they can acquire more distinction in a black gown than in any other. Something pretty is a black point d'esprit made over white taffeta silk and trimmed with wreaths of tiny pink roses. Gold braid made into something which resembles a rose is another form of trimming for this style of gown, and for the decollete bolice there is a narrow voke and belt of the gold cloth embroidered with blue

silk and turquoises. New handkerchiefs for both women and men are delicately lined in color plaids, and some of the newest are of linen, with a silk finish. Others, again, have corded effects in the borders. There are special bargains in fine linen handkerchiefs, with hems of solid color and corner initials embroidered in the same color as the hem. These are to be had at 25 cents each, and are especially suitable to carry with wash gowns for summer wear.

The variety in embroidered silk hosiery is beyond detailed description, but one of the special novelties shows an eagle embroidered in yellow silk, while another is dotted over the front with single violets.

Makes Cloth New Again. Take about 20 laurel leaves, preferably young, and having carefully washed them place them in an earthenware dish. Pour a pint of boiling water over them and let them steep for two or three hours, and you will have an excellent solution for cleaning cloth or serge. It will be found to remove all stains without the least injury to the fabric. Brush the garment well on both sides and remove all linings and trimmings in bad condition. Spread on a table and sponge carefully with the solution. wring and dry. It will then look like new. Black silk can be cleaned in this way, but greater care is necessary. If the silk is in breadths it must be very lightly sponged, then tightly rolled in a linen cloth around a roller and allowed thus to dry .-

#### Washington Star. Asparagus Salad.

Moisten cold cooked asparagus tips with a simple French dressing, and let stand where it will keep very cold for an hour or more. When ready to serve arrange in lettuce cups and put a little mayonnaise on top of each. This salad is also very nice served in young beet or delicate young turnip cups boiled until tender and hollowed into shape. If turnips are used sprinkle the cups with oil and lemon juice and let stand until very cold. Beets should stand in vinegar for several hours, then drain and serve.-Home Maga-

Spinach. Wash well, blanch in boiling water, put into fresh water and cook tender. Drain off every bit of water and set in the oven to dry for ten minutes. Cut fine, but do not chop, sprinkle with salt, pepper and dry mustard, then add drop by drop alternately a teaspoonful of vinegar and a tablespoonful of oil for each pint. Stir in well, keeping the spinach very hot. Dish on toast and lay poached egrs over the top .-- Washington Star-

#### MODELED FRIGATE OF BONE,

Sailor in Debtor's Prison Reproduced Old Ensex After Twenty Years' Work.

Unique among the countless boat models is that of the United States frigate Essek, now at the United States naval home. It is constructed entirely of bones, excepting the hulk, and represents 20 years' work of a sailor convict in the old Walnut street debtors' prison.

The name of the constructor is not known, but it has an interesting history. A sailor who had proved himself valiant in many naval battles was reduced to penury. Unable to pay his debts he was thrown into prison. Though incarcerated in body, his spirit longed for the freedom of the sea again. Then he conceived the idea of constructing a model of the old frigate on which he had served with so much distinction and which was associated with his dearest memories.

No materials were at hand to make the model except the bones which he might save from his meat and soup, says the Philadelphia Press. With these he set to work and with the most painstaking care fashioned in the model every detail of the boat he knew so well. Masts, crosstrees, yards, gaffs and lift blocks, all had to be whittled, carved and polished to their proportionate size and arranged in true shipshape. Even the chain plates, pulleys, dead eyes and minutest parts of the boat's paraphernalia were made by him out of common beef or fish bones. The hatchways and steering gear were also constructed with great ingenuity.

The vessel has two gun decks. Each of her broadside batteries has 32 guns, making a total of 64. These are models of the Dahlgren guns, which were

nine-inch and smooth bores. Models of two dispatch boats were also made by the old sailor and these have always accompanied the frigate. When the naval veteran died the hoat model was bought at auction by Sampson Perot, who lived at 59 South Seventh street. Perot died December 20. 1840, and his effects were sold. Washington Keith purchased the boat. In 1843 Robert Adams heard its history and with much persuasion and money obtained possession of it. In 1843 he presented it to the naval home, where It has since remained. It is preserved in a glass case in the chapel and is guarded with jealous care by the old sailors. The bone model of the Essex will probably never be duplicated and its historic associations make it many times more valuable than its intrinsic

## IDENTIFYING PHOTOGRAPHS.

A Habit Common to Tourists That Makes Business for an All-Around Artist.

Each season's exodus to Europe means an increase in my business, in the fall," said the all-around artist, according to the New York Sun. "Scores of tourists come back with a trunkful of photographs that are not marked of whose originals they have no more idea than a cat.

"It seems queer that a person could visit the most famous spots in Europe and not be able to identify one of the photographs, but I find that this is frequently the case. There are several causes for this ignorance. For one thing, they rush through so hurriedly that they haven't the time to do more than look sideways at things they pass by, and they buy the pictures just to remind them that they were in that cathedral and climbed that staircase and drank from such a fountain.

"Then again, many people return with photographs of places that they didn't pretend to visit while abroad. The pretense begins when they get home, and they have brought the photographs along to back them up in their assertion.

"These pictures have all been bought by the wholesale, and are jumbled together without the slightest regard for the unities, and the first thing necessary is to turn the chaos into some kind of order. I have one girl in my employ who does nothing but sort, arrange and catalogue pictures. Her task is not always a light one. Of course, there are regulation pictures of regulation sights that are recognizable at a glance, but tourists have a habit of falling into out-of-the-way places and picking upout-of-the-way pictures, and we are often led quite a chase before we can place all of them.

"Our most difficult task is to straighten out the work of amateur photographers, many of whom cannot name their own pictures. A large percentage of these photographs are very crude, and the point of observation is so unusual that the most experienced globe trotter would not recognize the scene. By tireless investigation we have always been able to get these luckless todrists right, however, and have thus added to their happiness and our own income." Cordite a Trouble to Great Britain.

Ever since cordite came into use as an explosive in the British service there has been more or less complaint about it. One of the earliest troubles reported was the deterioration of the powder in a hot climate like that of India. This difficulty was partly remedied by changing the variety of guncotton employed in making the compound. Then there were grave questions as to the soundness of the cordite patents, which covered a process so nearly like one of Nobel's that lawsuits resulted. Again, it has been observed that the gases produced by the combustion of the British smokeless powder have a highly destructive effect on the lining of guns. And this phiection forms the chief basis of a fresh campaign now being waged against cordite.-N. Y. Tribune.

### MAKING UP IN THE CAB.

the Queer Experience of an American Who Gave a Stranger a Ride in London.

"I was never in London but once," said a young clubman, chatting about foreign travel the other day, relates the New Orleans Times-Democrat, "and that visit is chiefly impressed on my memory by a very curious adventure I had in a cab. It happened in this way:

"A good friend had mapped out an itinerary that kept me continually on the jump, and one evening, after dinner at a swell restaurant, he stuck me in a cab and started me off to meet some fellow Americans at a club two or three miles away. He was coming himself a little later and had taken the precaution to write the exact address on one of my cards, in case the cabby got muddled. Well, the cabby did get muddled, and presently he pulled up in front of a very large, brilliantly lighted building to make some inquiries. While he was talking to a policeman, a man wrapped in a heavy ulster and wearing a silk hat pulled low over his forehead appeared suddenly at the cab door. 'Beg your pardon,' he said in an agitated voice, 'but I have a most important engagement to keep in ten minuets, and there isn't a cab within a mile. I have just overheard your man getting his directions, and you pass directly by my place. Will you allow me to ride that far with you-I assure you it is most inportant.

"Naturally I hesitated, but the man was so carnest in his plea that I yielded to a second impulse and told him to jump in. He did so with alacrity, and the driver immediately whipped up his horses. The cab was a four-wheeler, so there was plenty of room, and my passenger, who, by the way carried a small hand satchel, silently ensconced himself in the corner of the front seat, with his shoulder to the window. That put him in the shadow, and, as he left his ulster collar turned up and his hat pulled down, I could get no idea of his face, except that he seemed to be very swarthy. Of course this evident desire not to be seen was suspicious, taken in connection with his agitation, and I began to recall all the horrible stories I had ever heard of murderers in hansom cabs, chloroformers, sandbaggers and homicidal lunatics until in a few moments ! was in such a frame of mind that, 'pon my word, I believe pride is the only thing that prevented me from stopping the vehicle and calling help.

"Meanwhile we had been traversing a very busy section of the city and got eaught in one or two slight blockades. At each stop my companion's nervousness increased, and he was continually consulting a watch that he whipped out of his big ulster. 'Good heavens!' he exclaimed, finally, 'I'll be late sure unless I fix up here! Will you allow me?' Without waiting for an answer he snatched off his hat, and I was startled half out of my with at the sight of a face painted seal with a green nose and pink circles around the eyes and mouth. 'I'm Bartoni, the man monkey, he said, noticing my amazement-the contortionist, you know. I'm performing in four different halls every night,' he went on, rummaging in his satchel, 'and I need to make quick connection from one to the other. I need a little change of make-up for my next turn, and if you don't object I'll fix it up here, so as to be all ready when we get there.' I' told him to go ahead, and, as well as I remember he painted his nose blue. His ulster came open in the process, and I saw he wore a full suit of fur

"A few moments later we reached the theater, and, thanking me warmly, he sprang out and disappeared, leaving me somewhat dazed. I heard afterward that it was a common thing for vaudeville stars to play several houses at once in London. Some of themmake all of their changes in cabs."

## Rogulah Ravens.

The raven of southern Europe is a: bold fellow-not unlike his cousin, the crow. Some notices of the bird, given by an English traveler in Corsica, offer, amusing proof of this. He says: "A youth whom I employed to carry my camera could never look on ravens with any equanimity, for he had suffered much from their thievish impudence when sent to the bush to gather firewood. On one occasion he lost his dinner, a loaf of bread wrapped in a. napkin, although he was working close to the spot where he had laid it, and, had turned his back for only a minnte. But the most unpardonable insult he had ever received happened on a day when he was out gathering wood. As he was stooping down tobind a bundle of fagots, a raven suddenly swooped from behind, lifted the cap from his head, and flew away with it to a lofty orag, from which she uttered croaks of triumph. The capwas subsequently seen lined with straw and serving for a nest."-Youth's Companion.

"Harry is so well posted in this South African war," said young Mrs. Kidder, "and he just loves to discuss it with me, because, he says, I have such an intelligent conception of it."

"Is that so?" said her friend. "Yes, and last night he explained in detail how the Swiss navy, in command of Gen. de Billoty, was going to help the Boers."-Philadelphia.

Servants in England. There are several, designations of servants in England which would mean nothing to the housewife of America. A "single-handed butler." for instance, "will take a place where, boy is kept, in town," and an "as between maid, well recommended; and aged 14, will take a position to learn housework."-N. Y. Times.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS