

ty-seven are Southern, and ninety-five of the two hundred and thirty-eight from the North and West.

Ninety-seven Vassar girls take Greek. At present the study is voluntary. In 1881 Vassar will come up to college rank by requiring it in fitting. \$250 prize is offered to the young lady best fitted in 1878-79-80 in Latin, Greek, and mathematics. Scholarships looking up.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

Writers upon natural history in Europe give us the names of 523 species of birds, natives of the continent.

A Venetian has succeeded in making a violin, the box of which is porcelain, and the strings of metallic wire. Upon it are said to be produced tones of rare purity, richness, harmony and power.

The last new remedy for hydrophobia is a Chinese plant, called *Datura stramonium*, a violent poison. It is asserted that a Chinaman who drank some of the water in which a few leaves of this plant had been steeped completely recovered.

Professor Virchow, in a recent discourse at Munich on the progress of general science, said that there was good reason to believe that owing to the immense discoveries reached in the analysis of light, it would soon be possible to secure colored photographs.

Corsica sends annually from 350,000 to 400,000 blackbirds to France. These birds visit the islands in vast numbers every winter to feed on the berries of the *Myrtle* and *Arbutus*, and become very fat by December, while their flesh acquires a delicious flavor and perfume as the result of their peculiar diet.

A new and beautiful process of gilding designs on glass is described in *Dingler's Polytechnic Journal*. The glass, after being thoroughly cleaned with powdered chalk, is coated uniformly by means of a brush, with a hot solution formed by soak-

ing seventy-five grains of gelatine in one quart of water, and then boiling it; the gold leaf is next laid on very evenly, and after this coating is dry, additional layers of gold leaf are placed on it by means of the gelatine solution. When the gilding appears perfectly opaque when held up to the light, and has become quite dry, the designs, previously traced with the point of a needle, if desired, are painted, reversed, upon it with black japan. If the layer of gold is too thin, the varnish may be visible through it and mar the effect. When the varnish is thoroughly dry, the excess of gilding is softened with water, and washed off, while the designs protected by it remain, and exhibit a fine luster.

RENUNCIATION.

This thing hap'd unto me but yesterday,
I, laughing with my friends and confident,
Advanced along a well considered way,
Up to fame's house; and, drawing nigh the
gates
Thereof, demanded entrance.
Then noiselessly,
The great valves swung apart, and I with
hand
Outstretched to grasp, saw with my lifted eyes
Between me and my prize—a simple girl,
A wealth of sumptuous, darky hair—broad,
Well-filled brows—moist, full red lips, and
pure
Athenian chin— with stateliest head—
And graceful as a painter's dream of some
Tall Eastern girl, with pitcher, at a fount.
Then while I look'd, the strength of many
vows,
And all Ambition's strength, became as
threads
Of weakest gossamer to bind my will:
And I heard shut, forever, Fame's great gates,
Now, unregretting that, I crave of Life
Only some books, a cottage, and that girl.
—*Student Life.*