

The article headed "An Experiment in Education," in the January *Popular Science Monthly*, is well worth the perusal of all.

King Oscar of Sweden and Norway, has a collection of autographs of poets, each signature being in a volume of the author's verse.

The manuscript of Robert Burns' famous poem, "Tam O' Shanter," is the property of Robert Graham, who resides in Cape Town, South Africa.

Ex-Chief Justice Charles S. Daly has given his collection of books, relating to the study of geography—over 700 volumes—to the American Geographical society.

The number of newspapers published in all countries is estimated at 41,000, of which about 24,000 appear in Europe. The United States has 13,900, an amount equal in number to those published in England, France, Germany, and Russia combined.

In Max O'Rell's late book on America is to be found a description of the "village" of Fremont and of a dance given there. Among the dancers was a hotel waitress who seemed to be quite a belle. Since then he has not been able to praise America's liberal ideas.

D. Appleton & Co. expect to publish Maspero's famous book, entitled "Life in Ancient Egypt and Assyria." In this fascinating work, the author gives a vivid picture of actual life in its various phases, among the two most civilized nations which flourished before the Greeks.

The New York *Sun* writes that the leading German authors have petitioned the reichstag to afford them the protection in the United States which is enjoyed by the authors of France, England, Belgium, and Switzerland. The petitioners urge the government to make at once the declaration, required by our copyright law. We hope the reichstag will act favorably upon their petition.

The students of the University of Michigan were so anxious to see Alexander Salvini in "Don Caesar de Bazan" that an engagement was arranged for him, and the prices placed at \$1.50 and \$2. a seat. Alexander Salvini is probably the only actor now before the public who was born in a palace. He first saw the light of day in Florence at the Palace Capeanica, which has since been renamed the Palace del Grillo, and which was also the home of another famous professional, the great Rittori. Young Salvini's mother was a beautiful actress, Clementina Cazzalo, who was one of the leading artists of the Italian stage. She died when but thirty years old.

EXCHANGE.

Her hands were full, her veil not tied,
Her cheeks were rosy as the dawn.
"May I not hold your gloves?" he cried,
She answered, "When I have them on."—*Ex.*

He who courts and goes away
May live to court another day;
But he who weds and courts girls still
May go to court against his will.—*Middlebaum.*

The *Laurentian* is out in a new cover, which is very becoming and tasty.

Noah was the first pitcher on record. He pitched the ark within and without. The game was called on account of rain.—*Ex.*

The state university, Iowa City, has withdrawn from the State Oratorical association and became a part of the Northern Oratorical league.—*Ex.*

Freshman.—I don't think much of girls; however, I'd rather be a girl than a goose.

Sophomore.—Probably, but I think it impossible for you to accomplish the transformation act.—*Ex.*

Great excitement has been occasioned at Wesleyan college by an attempt on the part of the faculty to suppress a college paper. Students are forbidden to contribute to the local papers without submitting manuscript for inspection. Thus civilization progresses—backward.—*Ex.* When we read of such doings we can hardly realize that we are in free America but we are compelled think we are in Russia, where one may hardly think his own thoughts.

The following extracts are from the *University Argus* of the Missouri State university: "The beloved main building of our school is burned. The building caught fire from an electric wire in the library floor on January 9. The loss has been roughly estimated at \$500,000, nearly one-half of which is covered by insurance. An extra session of the legislature has been called. An appropriation of at least \$500,000 is asked for." The greatest loss outside of the buildings was the books of the library and the professor's special libraries. We can never feel secure as long as our library is unfinished. But we hope it will quickly completed as soon as the weather will permit. We would like to say that the *Argus* is well worth the reading. The local column is one of the best among our exchanges, although it seems that the assistant editor has done all the work.

The following appeared in the *University Weekly Courier* of the University of Kansas: "The class in English literature next term will depart from the beaten track, and instead of criticizing the old and time-worn plays of Shakespeare, Marlowe, Beaumont, and Fletcher, will enter upon a scheme which has been a pet hobby of Professor Dunlap. The professor believes that there is a distinctly American literature of sufficient merit to warrant his course, and instead of having the class read Hamlet and other dry, uninteresting plays, take up the study of Hoyt's 'Texas Steer,' 'A Hole in the Ground,' and 'A Tin Soldier.'" It may be very well to try to study distinctively American plays and to try to find some merit in them; but when Hamlet is thrown away in order that "A Hole in the Ground" may be studied, it looks as if something is wrong. Either the honorable professor does not get at the true worth of the greatest of tragedies, or he is wrongly led by a foolish patriotism to think that there is more in a "Texas Steer" than there is in a "Hamlet" or an "Othello." In these days, perhaps, a Texas steer would bring more on the market than Hamlet would. But before anyone undertakes to say "Texas Steer" has more merit in it than "Hamlet" has, he had better take his tin soldier and his rag baby and crawl in a hole in the ground.—*Ex.*

On the 14th of January last delegates from Harvard and Yale met at Cambridge. Here they discussed in joint debate the question: "Resolved, That a young man casting his first ballot should vote the Democratic ticket. Yale was on the affirmative of the question, while Harvard manfully upheld the negative. On the 16th the delegates from these colleges met to arrange a second debate. It will be held in New Haven on the 25th of March. The question is: "Resolved, That a college education unfits a man for business." Harvard has the affirmative. There will be three speakers on each side, each of whom is entitled to fifteen minutes. For several years all we have heard from Yale and Harvard are great feats in the athletic line. Hence, we do not wonder when the press of the country comes out with the startling news that the colleges of America are but training schools attended by athletes. The western schools have their own