SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

—There are 100 Protestant churches in Denver.

—Gen. Booth has recently closed a series of Salvation Army meetings in Scotland.

—The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal church, has appropriated $7,000 more for work than last year.

—A home for soldiers and sailors is about to be opened in Hong Kong by the Salvation Army, and an experienced naval officer placed in charge.

—At the Gowa station of the Scottish Baptist industrial mission in Central Africa, 50 acres of land have been planted in coffee, which will bear fruit in 1898.

—In 1896 there were 1,267 Protestant Missionary societies in the world, the income of which exceeded $15,000,000, an increase of $1,000,000 over the previous year.

—The centenary of Methodism in Wales is to be celebrated by raising by 1900 a large sum of money for the clearing of debts and the erection of new chapels.

—It is said that many parents in Japan prefer to send their children to mission schools, because of the proverbially bad morals of most of government school teachers.

—The local board of Sandown, Isle of Wight, has been upheld by judgment in the court of appeal and has prevented the sale of Sunday newspapers on the esplanade.

GREAT INDIAN TRUST.

Tribal Territories Governed by a Few Scheming Redskins.

The Indian territory as at present governed is the most successful trust in the United States. About 45,000 Indians control the territory, which includes among its inhabitants anywhere from 200,000 to 250,000 white people. These white people have no voice in making laws under which they live and cannot acquire title to the houses they build or the lands they till. If the 45,000 Indians were 45,000 people whose individual land holdings made up the aggregate area of the territory the situation would be peculiar, but as a matter of fact there are no such things there as individual titles. The land of each tribe is in theory held by the tribe as a whole, and leases are given of tracts which carry with them any improvements placed thereon. In practice the land of each tribe is controlled by a little knot or "ring" of chiefs or leading men. The bulk of each tribe outside this charmed circle are mere squatters. Readers who have never been in the Indian territory may fancy that the Indian chiefs are crested warriors of the forest. A brief stay in the territory will put an end to any such impression. An Indian chief in "the territory" looks a good deal like a white man, dresses like one and makes money like one. Not infrequently he is either the actual head or secret backer of a big enterprise, or he may have been bred to the law. In any event he is a shrewd speculator who usually sees all the advantages of keeping up a system which gives him all the advantages and few of the burdens of a great land owner. The rank and file of the Indians get nothing out of the territory but the right to squat on such obscure corners of the land as the chiefs have no present use for. Allotments in severalty which the Dawes commission is seeking to bring about would be for the interest of the majority of the Indians as well as for that of the whites. The tribal system has broken down completely as a safeguard for the tribes, and has only benefited the "trust" formed by the chiefs.—Boston Transcript.

HIS POROUS PLASTER ROOF.

This Saving West Virginian Shingled His House with Odd Material.

Pompey was a soldier in the confederate army and was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg. After the war he settled down on a little farm near Mooresfield, W. Va., and has lived there ever since. The farm is small and Pompey is not prosperous. The only thing that has flourished with him of late years has been the pains caused by his old wounds, and for those nothing afforded relief except porous plasters.

He had a contract with the village druggist to supply him with porous plasters by the gross, and the tax on his resources became so great on account of being addicted to the porous plaster habit that he became penurious, and demanded that old tin cans and broken forks and every other odd and end should be saved. And especially he charged his wife to save the old porous plasters. The plasters had stuck to him and he would stick to the plasters. He was as proud of his cabinet of old plasters as a man given to the bric-abrac and curio habit is of his collections, and declared that sometime they would come in mightily handy.

Now there were three buildings on Pompey's farm—his house, his barn and a dilapidated building where he kept his farming tools and his collection of old tomato cans and his porous plasters. One night the house burned down, and the family moved into the toolhouse. It was good enough except that the sun and the stars shone through thereof. Then came the triumph of the porous plasters.

Pompey got out his collection and shingled the whole blessed roof with old plasters, and as they were thick with burgundy pitch they served well the purpose and made the roof water tight. Now people come miles to see the house shingled with porous plasters, and Pompey says they draw better than they did when they were on his back.—N. Y. Press.

Is to Taking Things.

"The easiest way to get along in this world is to take things as you find them."

"That's all right until you get caught."—Chicago Journal.

Easily Done.

Of course he thought he knew it all. A man always does.

"When it comes to the art of managing servants," he began.

"It is very easily done," she interrupted.

"Oh, you admit it, do you?" he asked.

"I do," she said. "It's like managing children. All that is necessary is to let them have their own way."

Of course he readily saw that she had mastered the subject.—Chicago Post.

Enjoyment.

"Do you think that this sensational news really pleases anybody?" inquired Mr. Blykins' friend.

"Yes; I must say I think it does."

"You read it, then?"

"No. But I have a friend who seems to get a great deal of enjoyment out of perusing all of it and in telling me how shocking and reprehensible it is."—Washington Star.

A Definition.

"What is a snob?" asked Cadley, at the club.

"I must confess I really never knew."

"What is a snob?" quoth Cynicus. "Why, Cad,

To put it very briefly, you."

—Harlem Life.

SAW HIS DANGER.

"Great Scott! In another minute I'd have walked right into that hole!"—N. Y. Journal.

Wisdom of Man.

The man who choice language commands
May talk on all subjects at will;
But his wisdom excels if he understands
Just when and where to keep still.
—Chicago Daily News.

Up to All the Tricks.

"The man who runs the clubhouse next to the skating pond used to be proprietor of a summer-resort hotel."

"How do you know?"

"By his methods. I was skating there yesterday, and I fell through the ice."

"What has that to do with it?"

"He tried to charge me for a bath."—Chicago Post.

Comforting Information.

New Customer (in barber shop)—What caused all that screaming that I heard just before I came in the room? Is there a dentist's office in the building?

Barber (affably)—No; it was that last man I shaved. He didn't have no grit at all!—Puck.

Family Likeness.

Mrs. De Firm—I tremble to think of our daughter marrying that young man. Why, he orders his mother and sister around as if they were slaves.

Mr. De Firm—Don't worry, my dear. He won't order our daughter around, more than once. She takes after you.—N. Y. Weekly.

Success in Argument.

"I understand she is very successful in argument."

"Well, I should say so. Why, at our debating club last week she was still talking when everyone of those opposing her was completely tired out."—Chicago Post.

Why He Still Lived.

Mrs. Newlyspliced (with evident surprise)—Aren't you the very man I gave some cake to only two days ago?

Perambulating Pete (in explanation)—Yes'm. Y'see, I didn't eat it.—Brooklyn Eagle.

An Analogous Name.

Trivvet—Some persons call an airship a sky-cycle.

Dicer—Well?

Trivvet—If that is a correct term, why shouldn't an ice-wagon be called an icycle?—Judge.

GROWING CELERY

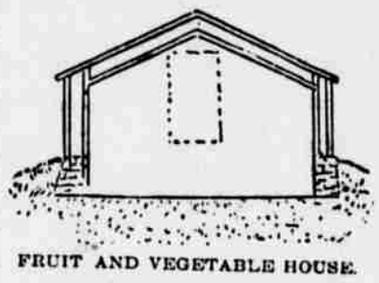
A Method That Has Been Practiced with Great Success.

The following is my plan for growing celery: Instead of sowing the seed in a hot bed or cold frame, as practiced in Europe, it is sown in the open ground, as soon as it is fit to work, in April, and kept carefully clear of weeds until the time of planting, in June and July. In our warmer climate, if raised in hot beds, as in England, a majority of the plants would run to seed. The tops are shorn off once or twice before planting, so as to insure "stocky" plants, which suffer less on being transplanted. After the ground has been nicely prepared, lines are struck out on the level surface three feet apart, and the plants set six inches apart in rows. If the weather is dry at the time of planting great care should be taken that the roots are properly "firmed." Our custom is to turn back on the row and press by the side of each plant gently with the foot. This compacts the soil and partially excludes the air from the roots until new rootlets are formed, which will usually be in 48 hours, after which all danger is over. This practice of pressing the soil closely around the roots is essential in planting of all kinds, and millions of plants are annually destroyed by its omission. After the planting of the celery is completed nothing further is to be done for six or seven weeks, except running between the rows with the cultivator or hoe, and freeing the plants of weeds until they get strong enough to crowd them down. This will bring us to about the middle of August, by which time we have usually that moist and cold atmosphere essential to the growth of celery. Then we begin the "earthing up" necessary for the blanching and whitening of that which is wanted for use during the months of September, October and November. The first operation is that of handling, as we term it; that is, after all the soil has been drawn up against the plant with the hoe it is further drawn close around each plant by the hand firm enough to keep the leaves in an upright position and prevent them from spreading. This being done more soil is drawn against the row (either by the plow or hoe, as circumstances require), so as to keep the plant in this upright position. The blanching process must, however, be finished by the spade, which is done by digging the soil from between the rows and banking it up clear to the top on each side of the row of celery. Three feet is ample distance between the dwarf varieties, but when larger sorts are used the width of the rows should be four or five feet.—J. E. Dillon, in Agricultural Epitomist.

FOR THE FRUIT FARM.

How to Build a Practical Fruit and Vegetable House.

A fruit and vegetable house is a necessity where any considerable quantity of these products is to be housed. The requirements are accessibility and the possibility of maintaining a low—but not freezing—temperature during the months of winter. A cross section of a house meeting these requirements is shown herewith. A sandy or gravelly knoll, if conveniently located, is selected and a few feet of excavation is made, the depth depending on the character of the winter in the given locality. Two feet will be enough in some places



FRUIT AND VEGETABLE HOUSE.

—a greater depth will be required in others. The earth thrown out is to be retained to bank the walls, as shown, thus making the depth below ground greater. A stone wall retains the earth. Above this is a low structure of wood, double boarded, with building paper beneath both boardings. One set of boards is nailed to the outside of studding and rafters and the other to the inside of the same, as shown.

The ends of the building are banked up like the sides, and a door is placed in one end above the earth in the position of the dotted lines. Double doors, with glass in the upper part of each, should be used. A curtain can be placed over the glass of the inner door to keep the interior dark, if desired, to be drawn when one enters the building for any purpose. Such a building can be cheaply constructed and should prove very serviceable. A small ventilator can be carried up from near the bottom and out through the roof, if needed.—N. Y. Tribune.

Hotbeds and Cold Frames.

Hotbeds are used in winter, but cold frames are preferred in summer. To prepare a hotbed make a frame 18 inches high at the rear and ten inches at the front, three feet wide and of any preferred length. Fill it half full of clean horse manure and then with six inches of rich dirt, using glass sash for covering. Cold frames may be made in the same manner, but no glass is required. Leaf mold for hotbeds may be prepared by composting leaves with manure, but what is usually meant by leaf mold it top soil from the woods.

Culture of Licorice.

Surely, in some part of our great country, licorice would be found to thrive. And yet all attempts made to cultivate it have failed. The difficulty seems to be with the summer sun. Leaves blight and turn brown as soon as the weather becomes warm; but this would probably not be the case in submountainous regions. When it is remembered that nearly 20,000 tons of these roots come into the United States every year from the old world its culture here is surely a prize worth contending for.—Meehan's Monthly.