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res cleared, balance well timbered
d clay loam; good bearing orchard
, convenient to church, blacksmith
etc. Will take a small payment
ance on time to suit purchaser.
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AT A BARGAIN—100 acres of
lay loam land, being the south-
of the south-east quarter of Sec-
outh-west quarter of the south-
of Section one, and the north
east quarter of south-west quar-
n one, in Township 18, North
in the State of Michigan, adjoin
f Gladwin; medium house, good
Is offered cheap and on easy
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OR EXCHANGE—40 acres of
d, all cleared and clear of stumps
able buildings, good orchard
n a good road, and within one mile
of Elmer, Sanilac County, Mich.
th-east quarter of the north-west
No. 10. The above property is
and on easy terms; or will ex-
mall piece of land in good locality
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OR EXCHANGE—That beautiful
own as the Walker House, on
bot and Elm streets, in the Town
contains all modern improvements
, large garden—in fact, it is one
of the finest private residences
, and can be had for a shameful
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OR EXCHANGE—99 acres of choice
good fair buildings, situated in
ighborhood, being the north part
h Talbot-St, Township of Bayham
thodist Church on adjoining farm
n Railway Station. This is the
lay loam soil, is offered on very
A small payment required down
will be given for balance, with
per cent. Will take a small
payment. Apply to C. O. LEARN,
Broker, Brown House Block
lo.

-100 acres of choice land, in the
p of Yarmouth, being the north
in the tenth concession. The
s are in good condition. The house
not very good repair. The farm
miles from Kingsmill Station, and
m Mapleton Cheese and Butter
l be sold right, and on easy terms.
, LEARN, Real Estate Broker
Block, Aylmer, Ont

OR EXCHANGE — 50 acres of
d good fair farm buildings, one
m Orwell, being part of lot 7, in
sion of Malahide. This farm can
y easy terms. A small payment
accepted, and the balance on time
rchaser; interest 5 per cent., or
for a smaller property. For fur-
rs, apply to C. O. LEARN, Real
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RENT—100 acres, being part of lot
e 9th concession of Dereham, 80
d; a good farm. None but first-
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the Township of Malahide, good
ildings, good orchard, convenient
d church, is offered cheap and on
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On the Farm.

FILLING THE SILO.

Whether crops should be wilted or not before being put into the silo, and also the degree to which they should be wilted, will depend largely on the natural succulence in the crop and the stage at which it is cut. Corn cut at the proper stage may be put directly into the silo, but corn less mature should be wilted more or less according as it is lacking in maturity. When but a limited quantity of silage is wanted, and where labor is not easily obtained, it may sometimes be wise to store crops in the silo in the uncut form. But this method of storing them is not always practicable. In a large majority of instances it will prove more satisfactory in many ways to store food in the silo after it has first been run through a cutting box.

The lengths to which the food should be cut is yet an unsettled point. In fact, it will vary to some extent with the crops stored. All things considered, however, short lengths in the food cut are preferable to longer. They may be packed tighter and handled easier when feeding, than silage of longer lengths. Those from one-half to three-fourths of an inch, of such hard substances as corn or sorghum stalks, are in favor with many. Intermediate lengths have been objected to because of the soreness of mouth sometimes induced in cattle, from biting on the ends of the cuts rather than on the sides of the same, which they must needs do if the pieces are long.

The silo may be filled quickly and without any interruption save that which is made by taking the usual rest required by the workhands. Or, it may be filled slowly and at intervals as may be convenient. The intervals of cessation in filling should not at any time cover many days lest the exposed silage should begin to decay. Unless it is absolutely necessary to wait, after the silo has been partially filled, for some other crop to mature. In such an event more or less of the food will be spoiled than was last put into the silo. This ought to be removed before the filling of the silo is resumed. When but a short period is covered in filling the silo, although it should be filled to the brim, it will not remain full.

The silage will continue to settle several days, so that a large space will be left vacant above the silage. Where two silos are to be filled that are near at hand, the difficulty will be partially met by filling both at the same time, that is to say, by filling one in part and then the other in successive alternations until both are full. More time is thus given for the silage to settle.

The proper distribution of the food in the silo is a matter of no slight importance. When it is allowed to fall from the carriers which convey it to the silo, the mass rises up in the centre in the shape of a cone. From this cone the food rolls down toward the sides of the silo. But in doing so, the lighter portions, as for instance the leaves of corn, are forced outward by the heavier portions, as the grain and stem. The quality of the silage, therefore, on the outer edges is frequently inferior to that in and near the center of the same, especially when it contains less grain. If, therefore, the quality of the silage is to be uniform in the silo, it must be carefully distributed from the first.

But still greater harm will follow from allowing the silage thus to pile in the center. It will not settle evenly. The pressure is greatest in the center, and the tendency in settling will be to draw away the food from the walls of the silo, and air will thus be admitted, with the result that much of the mass on the outer edges will be spoiled. Loss from this source may be prevented by first distributing the food evenly during the filling of the silo, and then tramping it so that the impaction of the mass will be about equal in all parts of the silo. The amount of tramping required will be least in the center of the silo and greatest on the outer edges.

In a large silo the distribution of the food may be facilitated by the introduction of a simple device. It consists of a platform or table made of boards and suspended far upward in the silo and equally distant from its walls. The food falls from the carriers onto the center of this table. As soon as it accumulates sufficiently on the same it rolls down over the outer edges, and is in consequence distributed over a considerable proportion of the surface of the silo.

COLLAR ROT OF APPLE TREES.

For a number of years past orchardists of the province have noticed apple trees dying from what, for want of a better name, has been called "collar-rot." The trouble usually begins near the surface of the ground, on one side of the tree and enlarges year by year until finally the tree dies. Cases of this kind where the spread of the disorder is gradual are most likely to occur in older trees and the King and Fallawater varieties seem especially liable to attack. In distinction to this very gradual attack we find other instances in which trees are killed outright in a single season or at most in two or three. In cases of this kind the trouble is usually discovered in the spring and is likely to be confined to young trees. They may begin to leaf out in the spring but the growth is sickly and yellow and the bark on the trees is found to be brown and dead in patches and separates readily from the wood. In many cases the bark is thus dead for the entire distance around the tree and often from the surface of the ground to the branches. So far as I have observed these cases are most likely to occur in young and thrifty orchards and the Gravenstein suffers most.

In order to arrive at any definite conclusion in regard to the cause of this disorder it is almost imperative that data be secured from as many orchardists as possible and all whose trees have suffered from a similar disorder are requested to send their names to the writer at Wolfville, N.S., who will then send them a list of answers.

HORSE HINTS.

It is easier to make a fool of a good horse than train him to be a useful animal. And there is a wide difference between breaking a horse and teaching him obedience. The former suggests his overpowering by strength and awkwardness; the latter his quiet, gentle mastery.

Have a competent veterinarian examine the teeth of your horses every year, after they are 5 or 6 years old. Many digestive troubles are due to improper mastication of food. No horse thoroughly can grind his feed with disordered teeth or gums, or both as often is the case.

An experienced horse breeder remarks: "Horse breeding is now the best paying investment for the average farmer. The breeding of draft horses will pay best. The demand for good draft horses far exceeds the supply." A great many farmers are well aware of these points and are acting accordingly.

Yes, it is all right to breed fillies at 2 years of age. They will be nearly 3 years old when the colt comes, and at that age ought to be pretty nearly developed. Some horses do not fully develop until 5 or 6 years old, though we believe this fact cuts no important figure in the matter of breeding fillies.

If a horse could speak he would at times remonstrate against the treatment accorded him by his masters. For instance when driven to a stagnant pond or muddy creek for a drink would be one occasion for him to express his displeasure. But he cannot speak and apparently his master, in too many cases, cannot see, and the result is the faithful beast drinks water with a green skum on it, from a shallow pond teeming with all kinds of "animals," or from a milk-warm creek or branch that happens to be handy. Good water is abundant everywhere; if not on the surface it is beneath only a few feet perhaps. Dig it out from the bosom of the earth and enjoy the bounties of nature.

FLEE FROM RAIN.

One of the Peculiarities of the Chinese Race.

It is one of the peculiarities of the Chinese to carefully avoid being caught in the rain; the chief reason for this is that they have a superstition that drops of rain falling on the hair breed vermin, which, with their long hair, it is very difficult for them to get rid of. They are, however, equally careful not to wet their feet. Their care of their feet is not altogether due to the fact that the soles of their shoes are made of pasteboard and liable to be injured by soaking, but also because they believe that sore feet are brought about by getting them damp. This fear of the Chinese of rainstorms has had a peculiar effect on their mobs and armies. At the time of the massacre of 1870 at Tien-Tsin the mob, after it had burned the French Consulate, the cathedral and convent, had destroyed the orphanage of the Sisters of Charity and had murdered the Consul, all the Sisters and several priests, started toward the other settlement, determined to put all foreigners to death. The cathedral behind them was in flames, and the mob, fresh from the torture of nuns, was hungry for blood. They started down the Taku road with frenzied shouts and the beating of drums and gongs, when suddenly it began to rain. That was the end of the massacre. The crowd covered their heads and scattered.

The Kaiser forbade returned soldiers to talk about what they saw in China.

The Philippine Commission has appropriated $2,010,000 for improvements in the islands.

The Japanese at Pekin have arrested the assassin of Baron Von Ketteler, the late German Minister to China, and handed him over to the Germans. He has confessed his guilt.

A Japanese official has been appointed to succeed Mr. J. McLeary Brown, the English financial director, and commissioner of customs of Corea.

A Swiss named Walter is under arrest at San Sebastian, directions for murdering President Loubet, of France, having been found upon him.

FINE RED CROSS VESSEL.

SENT TO CHINA BY HUSTLING LITTLE JAPAN.

Ship Built Especially for Care of the Wounded—Has Staff of Volunteer Surgeons and Trained Nurses—Progressive Little Island Now Leads the World in Hospital Service for War.

The Japanese volunteer hospital ship Hakuai Maru which arrived at Taku with a staff of 70 Red Cross men and women nurses, doctors, &c., and 800 tons of fresh water is a most valuable acquisition. The vessel is well worth a visit. It is the first ever built specially for Red Cross work at the cost of any Red Cross society, entirely supported by voluntary subscriptions and independent of Government aid or control. Not an army or navy officer is on board, and her people are very proud of her.

The Red Cross Society of Japan seems to be distinctly ahead of its kind in other countries. Its standing membership is about 500,000, and it has a kind of landwehr system whereby a tremendous number of trained workers can be called out at short notice in case of need; for Japan is a land of dreadful disasters, earthquakes and tidal waves occasionally throwing half the nation into distress, requiring speedy succor from the other half.

The history of the nation has been full of the ferocities of mother nature, and few countries have been so ruthlessly chastened. Few, therefore, have done so much to prepare for emergencies, and that is probably why, while the other countries have found time to send soldiers and guns and huge engines of death and destruction, they are less prompt with the means of saving life and of healing the wounds they make.

JAPANS FORESIGHT.

All who travel in steamers know how difficult it is to handle a sick person on a stretcher in narrow gangways and cramped little cabins. A ship built for ordinary trade can be fitted for hospital work in a way; but, oh, the difference when the ship was designed for the purpose. Ordinary cabin doors are not easy for a patient on a litter to enter; ordinary ships' boats are cruel torture to wounded persons embarking. There are a hundred other differences between a merchant vessel hastily transformed for this duty and a ship designed solely for this.

The splendidly equipped vessels now doing hospital work is South African waters were not ready at the outbreak of the war. They took nearly three months to prepare and reach their post. Even England never went so far as to build ships in readiness. The United States, also, though now, well supplied with excellent hospital vessels like the Relief and Solace, cruising from port to port in the Philippines picking up the sufferers, had none ready until a month or more after the war with Spain had begun, and even then had only makeshift equipments. The Japanese have already two, and two others are nearly finished. The young nation, pupil of the West, is outstripping its teachers in this laudable work.

One gentle, smiling old man, a surgeon, who was probably a two-sworded fire-eating swashbuckler in his younger days, said:

"In a few days will come ten or twenty thousand soldiers of our army, but we could not send soldiers till we first have hospital ship. Oh, yes, we have learned much from Western countries; we are glad to learn."

Think it over. It is a beautiful little bit of satire, but he did not know. He really believes all nations have hospital ships ready in peace time and send them to war before sending the fighters. "Glad to learn," he said; and—teach.

KIND AND GENTLE NURSES

Here are a dozen little maidens but they have put away their pretty museum costumes, kimono and obi, hakama and zori, and disguised themselves in prim, severe, Quaker-like nurses' uniforms, so ugly that it requires a strong effort to remember that it is a beautiful sight after all. There is a world of kindness and gentleness in their faces, but the setting is so grotesque! There is grace in their movements, grace which the national costume would emphasize but disguised in unfamiliar dress it is startling in its incongruity. Think of Apollo in trousers! Our style of dress may suit us, but certainly not others.

These quaint little creatures are a revelation of moderness. They have all been to high-class colleges, learnt English and medicine, and practical nursing up to date. Their ambition is to be of service in case any of the European or American lady residents of Tien-tsin or Peking are sick or injured. And they bear themselves with a meekness quite unknown in the West, quite Scriptural in its humility. If a man walks past them on the deck of the ship they all rise at once and bow respectfully; and if their lady matron, a graduate of the highest colleges in Toky has occasion to go and speak to an officer of the ship, perhaps about the X-ray gear going wrong, she begins with a most profound bow, which he acknowledges with a faint nod. Not one of them dared be seasick, because it has been taught them that seasickness is mainly a matter of nerves, and nerves are mainly a matter of will, and if they are sick it counts a day off their service, and if they are very, very good indeed perhaps their names will be sent to the Emperor, just as if they were men.

NAME MEANS "SYMPATHY."

The Hakuai Maru is a fourteen-knot ship, able to do 16 when pushed. She can accommodate 300 patients, and has all kinds of elaborate arrangements for isolating infectious cases, disinfecting persons and things, a surgery, a small laboratory well fitted, and fairly big ice making plant and cold storage chambers for keeping provisions good in the hottest weather. This is a great boon in cases of sickness. The Hakuai Maru may, however, not stay here all the time, for there may be many more than 300 patients who cannot find room in the Tien-Tsin Hospital or the ordinary army hospitals of the various forces. In that case she will steam over to Japan and return. She is, however, ready now to stay three months at her post without running short of anything.

She was built on the Cylde in 1898 by Lobnitz, and is the absolute property of the Red Cross Society of Japan, and in ordinary times is chartered by the principal Japanese steamship companies for trading purposes. The charter provides that she must only go on short trips, such as to Shanghai, and must be always kept in readiness to drop work at a moment's notice and become a hospital ship again. This time she effected the transformation in the excellent time of 76 hours. The name Hakuai means sympathy. That is to say, there is no single word in English that exactly expresses the idea, but this is the nearest I can get. "Haku" is broad, all-embracing; "ai" is help in suffering. The sister ship's name is Kosei, very similar in meaning; "ko" is bosom, embace, encircle, and "sei" is support, strengthen, revive.

SLAVES ON SHIPBOARD.

Every one knows how wearisome it is to lie for any great length of time in one position, even on a well-made bed. We must needs turn over when we are awakened in the night. But the slaves were chained down naked on the planks of the decks and shelves—planks that were rough just as they came from the saw, and had cracks between them. No one could turn from side to side to rest the weary body. They must lie there on their backs for eighteen hours at a stretch, even in pleasant weather in port. Hard as that fate was, new tortures were added with the first jump of the ship over the waves. For she must roll to the pressure of the wind on the sails, so that those on the weather-side found their heels higher than their heads, and when the ship's angle increased under the weight of a smart breeze, the unfortunate sometimes sagged down to leeward, until they were stopped by the irons around ankle and wrist. They were literally suspended—crucified in their shackles.

Even that was not the worst of their sufferings that grew out of the motion of the ship, for she was rarely steady when heeled by the wind. She had to roll, and as she did so the slaves sometimes slid to and fro, with naked bodies on the rough and splintery decks. There was never a voyage even in the best of ships where the slaves did not suffer tortures from mere contact with the slave-deck.

To the sufferings due to these causes were added other torments, when the weather was stormy. For then it was neccessary to cover the hatches lest the waves that swept across the deck pour down and fill the ship. The slaves were confined in utter darkness, and the scant ventilation afforded by the hatchways was shut off. Serious as that was, still worse befell them. The negroes were made violently seasick more readily than white people even—they sometimes died in their convulsions. The heat and foul air quickly brought on more serious illness; but there the slaves were kept in their chains for days at a stretch, wholly helpless and wholly unattended.

AN INTERESTING POINT.

First Chinaman—I don't understand the difference between these Christian sects.

Second Chinaman—Neither do I. I wonder which one controls the most guns.

HE KNEW HIM.

I am a man with a history, began the visitor; and— Yes; I know. You're selling it on subscription to only the best people. Don't want it. Good day.

THE BOSTON WIDOW.

Wippler—By George! the Widow Brimmer is a stylish bit. I don't know, but I'd make up to her if I thought there was any chance.

Towlman—Don't you worry, old man. If there is any chance for you in that quarter, the widow will soon make you aware of it. She won't wait for you to ask, if she has made up her mind to take you.

PRECIOUS STONES.

Which May be Found Among Pebbles in Favored Localities.

Did you ever search for unusual pebbles? Nearly everywhere there are semi-precious stones to be found in the common gravel, but few people know how to look for them.

Jasper is red, mottled with every color of the rainbow, but not transparent; carnelian is red, of many shades, transparent; chalcedony is white or gray, transparent, and rather soft; rock crystal is white and transparent. Make your pebbles wet, hold them up to the light, and, if you can see through them, they are, according to color, carnelian, chalcedony or rock crystal. If there are no flaws, these pebbles are worth cutting for ornaments.

Now, if the pebbles are banded black-and-white and brown-and-white, with the white bands transparent, that is onyx, a valuable stone, used for cutting into cameo gems. If the pebbles are banded in red, white, gray or any other colors, they are agate. Some agates are banded of a dozen different kinds of precious stones, others are like clear glass, with beautiful moss-like or tree-like markings, and moss-agate is worth money. Jet is a soft, opaque, black stone, which was once the sap of the pitch-pine, but has turned into a fine variety of cannel coal. Fragments of fossil pine trees are always found with the jet. Hundreds of tons are used for mourning jewelry.

None of the stones are so precious as the topaz. Pebbles of topaz may be known because, they are very clear yellow. The darker kinds are known as smoky quartz. Another class of lovely gem-pebbles are the common amethysts, ranging through every possible shade of purple and violet. Garnets appear as deep-red, transparent crystals, stuck in the rock, and looking at first sight like heads of rusty nails.

SEIZED LIFE LINE

And an Intelligent Horse Was Saved From Drowning.

From San Francisco comes a story of a horse that saved its life by holding to a rope with its teeth. At the time of the incident the horse was being led across a gang plank to a boat. The tooting whistle of a tug caused the horse to shy into the water. There was no place for the unfortunate creature to get out and it looked as if it would have to drown. As a last resort a man threw a coil of rope out to the horse. The line no sooner struck the water than the intelligent animal seized it between its teeth and held on; In this way its head was kept above water until a boat came. A hawser was fastened around the horse's neck and the creature was towed ashore. The horse was valued at $1,000, and after its unexpected plunge was loaded aboard ship and went to Tacoma.

A HEARTLESS HUSBAND.

"What caused the separation between Mixer and his wife?

"Why, he was one of the census takers, and he put her real age in his report."

SAVE YOUR HAIR.

Every human being needs light and air and cleanliness for health and life itself, but they seem to forget, if they ever knew, that the hair, being a vital structure, needs like the body, light, air and cleanliness.

Civilization is especially mindful of the need of cleanliness for the hair, while apparently oblivious of its demands for air and light. But, while practicing the cleanliness to which it is addicted, it often pursues methods that are fatally injurious to the scalp and growth of the hair.

Washing the hair with strong alkali solutions—ammonia, soda and borax—is highly pernicious. They leave the hair dry and faded, produce incipient baldness and grayness of the hair.

Never wash the hair with an ordinary "cake" of soap. Not only is it incapable of cleaning the scalp thoroughly, but the hard soap is apt to remain on the hair in flakes or clogged masses, giving it a dingy appearance and eventually rotting it.

To prepare the soap for shampooing select a reliable soap—there are several on the market—shave it in atoms till you have the required amount—two or three ounces, according to the quantity of the hair—and place over the fire with enough water to cover it well and as much soda as will fit on a ten-cent piece. Let it come to a boil, and you will have a saponaceous compound that makes shampooing a luxury.

Rub thoroughly into the head with the tips of the fingers, being careful to go over every particle of the scalp and dislodge dandruff and adherent scrof skin scales. Rinse thoroughly in warm water and apply more soft soap. Continue this until the suds that comes from the hair are pure and white.

Be careful to get every particle of soap and soapy water from the head. Rinse thoroughly in one basin of water after another till there is no trace of soap.

Then begin to dry with hot towels. Do not dry your hair by a stove, register or heater; the hot air is too drying. Hot towels and a fan, if you are not susceptible to cold, are the best drying medium.

WHAT IS A "KING OF RATS?"

A Nest of Seven Joined Together Recently Found in Courtalain, a Hamlet in France.

An extraordinary nest of rats was recently discovered at the bottom of an old well in Courtalain, a hamlet in France, the peculiar feature about the animals being the fact that seven of them were joined together by their tails, in such a manner that it was impossible for them to free themselves. The tips of the seven tails were, in fact, knotted together and formed a centre from which radiated the bodies of the animals. M. Henri Lecomte obtained possession of these curious animals and presented them to the Museum at Chateaudun, and M. Henri Rieber, a lawyer of that town, made a photograph of the rats and sent a copy of it to M. Oustalet, who has written an interesting account of the phenomenon.

According to Brehm, the well known naturalist, there was for a long time a popular notion that the title "King of the Rats," belongs to animals that are united in this way. "Many persons used to believe," he says, "that the king of rats, wearing the golden crown, sits enthroned above a group of intertwined rats, and from this throne exercises sway over his entire empire. It is certain that more than once rats have been found to be united by their tails, and in every such case, since they were unable to provide for themselves, they have been fed by their companions. The cause of this curious phenomenon is unknown. The supposition is that it is some viscous substance which exudes from the tails and joins them together. A king of rats, composed of twenty-seven animals, is preserved at Altenbourg, and other specimens have been discovered at Bonn, Schnepfenthal, Frankfort, Erfurth and Lindenau, near Leipsic."

The specimen at Lindenau was discovered near a mill by a little boy on January 12, 1774, It consisted of sixteen rats of which fifteen were joined together by their tails, while the sixteenth was held fast to the group through its tail becoming entangled with the body of one of its companions. The boy noticed the nest at some height from the ground, and with a blow of his hatchet brought it down. Though the fall was considerable, not a single rat became detached from the others, and all of them lived for some time. The boy naturally looked upon the rats as his property, but a painter who happened to see them, and who apparently had some title to the mill property, also claimed them, the result being that a lawsuit was begun, which is chiefly memorable, because it elicited some interesting testimony from a physician who had been instructed by the Court to examine the rats and to make a report in regard to them. He testified that the animals were of normal structure, but of different dimensions and color, the latter varying from light gray to deep black, and that they were probably of different ages and sexes.

As to the manner in which their tails became joined together, he advanced an ingenious theory. During the recent very cold weather, he said, the animals doubtless huddled into a corner, with the object of getting all the warmth they could, and turned their head towards the spot which was the most free from cold. While in this position the tips of their tails would naturally become solid and would be exposed to the frost, the inevitable result being that they would become firmly matted together.

In support of this hypothesis it may be said that every discovery of a so-called "king of rats," has been made during cold weather. Thus two "kings" were discovered near Gotha in December, 1822, one consisting of twenty-eight and the other of fourteen animals. These forty-two rats were apparently in good health, though they seemed to suffer from hunger, and were constantly wailing. They were all of the same size and had evidently been born during the preceding spring.

"The explanations which have hitherto been given in regard to this phenomenon," says M. Oustalet, "are evidently insufficient," and in order to arrive at the truth it would be necessary to make a thorough anatomical and histological study of the rats themselves. I say this because it is certain that we are called upon to deal with a genuine monstrosity. It would also be interesting to ascertain if any other animal akin to rats, are ever joined together in this way. From the statistics on hand it seems safe to assume that the first 'kings' found in Germany were composed of ordinary or black rats."

The seven interlaced rats in the museum at Chateaudun are attracting much attention from scientists, and others, and various new theories are being advanced in explanation of their strange appearance.

A SURE THING.

He—Wasn't that you on the piazza last night?

She—No.

Then I wonder who in the world it was I kissed?

You can probably tell by going there to-night at the same time.