

CATCH QUESTIONS.

If a goose weighs ten pounds and a half of its weight, what is the weight of the goose? Who has not been tempted to reply on the instant fifteen pounds?—the correct answer being, of course, twenty pounds. It is astonishing what a very simple query will sometimes catch a wise man napping. Even the following have been known to succeed:

How many days would it take to cut up a piece of cloth fifty yards long, one yard being cut off every day?

A snail climbing up a pole twenty feet high ascends five feet every day and slips down four feet every night. How long will the snail take to reach the top of the post?

A wise man having a window one yard high and one yard wide, requiring more light, enlarged his window to twice its former size, yet the window was still only one yard high and one yard wide. How was this done?

This is a catch question in geometry, as the preceding were catch questions in arithmetic. The window was diamond-shaped at first, and was afterwards made square.

As to the two former, perhaps it is scarcely necessary seriously to point out that the answer to the first is not fifty days, but forty-nine; and to the second not twenty days, but sixteen—since the snail who gains one foot each day for fifteen days climbs on the sixteen day to the top of the pole and there remains.

THE CRUCIFIED NEW TESTAMENT.

Mr. Isaac Lafleur, of Marlboro, Mass., in a letter in *L'Aurore* (Montreal) of July 28, states the following infamous facts:

"Twenty-six miles west of Boston, in the pretty little town of Marlboro, Mass., there is also a Golgotha on which a New Testament was crucified a short time ago.

"The reader will not be surprised to learn that M. le Cure, the leader of our French Canadian race, was the great Caiaphas on this occasion. One Felix Dubois listened to the voice of this tyrant by nailing to his doorpost a New Testament of the French Version, approved by the Roman Church in 1701, but condemned by M. le Cure in 1894.

"I have in my possession this small sacred volume—an emblem of the crucifixion of our beloved Saviour. The executioners used three large nails to nail the Son of God to the tree. In like manner, though, perhaps, without meaning it,

he who nailed the word of the Son of God to the wall did so with three large nails.

"This New Testament was crucified between the first and eighteenth of June, 1894, in Maple street, in the town of Marlboro, Mass."

THE DOCTOR'S ADVICE.—Tom met an old friend, who was formerly a prosperous young lumberman up in Northern Minnesota, but whose bad habits of drinking brought him to a pretty "hard up" condition, although he has since reformed and is doing better.

"How are you?" asked Tom.

"Pretty well, thank you, but I have just seen a doctor to have him examine my throat."

"What's the matter?"

"Well, the doctor couldn't give me any encouragement. At least, he couldn't find what I wanted to find."

"What did you expect him to find?"

"I asked him to look down my throat for the saw-mill and farm that had gone down there in drink."

"And did he see anything of them?"

"No, but he advised me if I ever got another mill to run it by water."

A YOUNG CONFESSOR.—Lor' Bennet, writing recently of some meeting he and others had been engaged in, says:—"There was one very touching incident. A little child of eight and a-half years came up after an open air meeting, and said she wanted to give her heart to Jesus." Mrs. Davidson said, "Will you tell Him so now," and without any prompting she knelt down before them all and prayed, "Lord Jesus, I want to give my heart to you and be your own little lamb forever." It was a reproof to us all. For to whom has not "the fear of man" been a snare at times?

EVEN in Belgium there is some reverence for the Sabbath. And this appears, for one way, in a particular kind of postage stamp issued by the government. If you do not wish your letter delivered on Sunday, all you have to do is to use a postal stamp with a narrow coupon attached, bearing the inscription: "Not to be delivered on Sunday."

A PROMINENT physician says that children's school lunches should not be put up in a lunch basket or tin box, as unpleasant odors always cling to a much-used receptacle. He recommends a fresh, clean napkin wrapped neatly about the food and a pasteboard box to hold it all. The box can then be thrown away after it has been used once or twice.