

**SHORT STORIES.**

The American Tract society is seventy-eight years old.

A turtle inscribed "B. F. V., 1862," has come out of a swamp at Canterbury, N. H.

At the present time pig iron is produced in the United States at the rate of nearly 21,000,000 tons a year.

The British post office department handled last year ninety-two pieces of mail matter per capita of population, while the United States post office handled 107 pieces per capita.

In the Tamarack copper mine a plumb line 4,250 feet long of piano wire was recently lowered from the shaft mouth. It took thirty minutes to drop and is probably the longest plumb line ever used.

A Portsmouth (N. H.) man has a gold fish that will take food from his hand. He will hold some dainty in his fingers just above the surface of the water in the globe, and the fish will invariably come up and take it.

A letter was received at the agricultural department the other day asking for two loads of "fertilizer." The writer, having received seeds from a paternal government, was anxious to get whatever else was coming to him.

After the unveiling of the Sherman statue in Washington in October the dragon guarded studio of Rohl-Smith, the sculptor, which has stood near the site of the proposed monument for more than five years, will be torn down.

**PLAYS AND PLAYERS.**

"Monsieur Beaucaire," running at the Comedy theater in London, recently celebrated its two hundredth performance.

Frank Daniels' new opera will be written by Harry B. Smith and Clinton Crawford and is to be called "The Jockey."

Joseph Hart and Carrie de Mar are to continue in "Foxy Grandpa." The play seems unaffected by public satiety with cartoon farces.

Ida Conquest, who will next season be leading woman for William Gillette, has sailed for Europe, where she will spend the summer.

Frank Moulan, the Ki-ram in "The Sultan of Sulu," will continue in the role next season, when the musical comedy will tour the country.

At a performance lately of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by Vassar students the hit of the piece was made by Miss Jane Priscilla Sousa, daughter of the march king.

Clara Lipman is to be sent out as a star next season by Weber & Fields, who intend making Louis Mann, now under their management, a member of their own organization.

**EDITORIAL FLINGS.**

Because of an error of the enrolling clerk Arkansas is to lose the benefit of about a hundred new laws. Arkansas ought to pension that enrolling clerk. —Logansport Journal.

Newspaper reports state that the first sea serpent of 1863 left a stifling odor in its wake. This looks as if the up-to-date monster had acquired the works of the gasoline automobile. —New York World.

A life convict at Sing Sing who edits the prison paper has asked Mr. Danile's for a pass to New York. Lots of those hardened old criminals still figure on going to New York after they die. —Washington Post.

Peter, the new king of Serbia, is quoted as saying that he is "profoundly touched" by the confidence shown him. He is probably also aware that he will be violently touched if that confidence should ever wane. —Kansas City Star.

We read with emotion in the esteemed New York Times that "the representative set are beginning to return from Europe." How ever have we been able to get along without them? And, by the way, how long have they been gone? —Hartford Courant.

**GERMAN GLEANINGS.**

The amount of German capital invested abroad is said to be over \$8,000,000,000.

During the last seven years Germany has laid 7,375 miles of cable, at a cost of \$7,000,000.

German cities are still growing so fast that the sawmills can hardly keep up with their orders.

Telegraph wires in Berlin are being placed under ground so as to avoid accidents from storms.

Berlin has now a "bachelors' club" divided into small flats, with smoking and dining rooms in common, where single men can live at moderate rates.

The German empire is divided into 145 chambers of commerce districts. These chambers exert a powerful influence on legislation in the empire, especially in tariff matters.

**ORCHARD AND GARDEN.**

Moist earth and a cloudy day for transplanting.

Cherry culture is the simplest of all fruit culture. Get a good tree, plant it carefully and let it alone.

Powdered hellebore dusted on the leaves while the dew is on is the best remedy for the currant worm.

To make the most out of the garden, keep it well manured, and as fast as one crop matures put in another.

In preparing medicinal or aromatic herbs for home use, cut when in full bloom, dry in the shade and never allow them to get wet.

While salt will kill weeds to a certain extent and is also a remedy for some kinds of grubs, it will kill other plants as well, so that care must be taken in its use.

**A Title For Poole, the Tailor.**

Poole, the London tailor, is about to receive the accolade. Why not? Has he not done more to make Edward VII. presentable than all other artists in the United Kingdom put together? Clothes make the king as well as the man. Poole makes the clothes, ergo Poole makes the king. When Edward was simply Prince of Wales he owed Poole at times as much as \$100,000 and even suffered the tailor to address him in public places without fear of the Tower. There are several distinguished Pooles in England, but none so famous as Tailor Poole.

One day at Ascot Poole, hovering near the prince's person and seeking to be agreeable, remarked, sweeping his hand over the assemblage, "Your royal highness, the crowd today appears to be rather mixed." The prince, who always hated a snob, looked amusedly at Poole and replied, "Well, Poole, we can't all be tailors."

Speaking of Poole, one of his customers says: "His accounts are rendered once a year, just around Christmas. If not paid he waits twelve months and sends a second bill. Such as do not pay on receipt of the second statement are dropped from his books, and never again are they allowed to give an order in his establishment." —New York Press.

**Force of Habit.**

The force of habit was forcibly illustrated by a recent incident at the pumping station of the waterworks at Enid. A tank stand just outside the building is kept full of water for the accommodation of passers by and the neighborhood stock. A cow accustomed to drink at this tank came for her morning drink. The valley was covered with water and stood within two or three inches of the top of the tank, but the cow went over the waste of waters to the tank. Twice she stuck in the mud and appeared to be in danger of drowning, but by perseverance she finally reached the objective point. After drinking long and copiously she turned about and slowly made her way to land, apparently satisfied that she had done the only available thing to find water. —Enid (Okla.) Eagle.

Judge Jonathan Dixon of the supreme court of New Jersey has eight handsome daughters and one son more or less so. Mrs. Dixon will not let the girls marry out of their regular turn. The first, second and third in the order of birth have found worthy husbands, and the stern old jurist gives to each a government bond of \$10,000 as a marriage portion. The judge has never been interviewed by a newspaper man.

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