

FOREIGN NOTES.

Over 2,000 children are in the American Methodist Sunday schools in Sweden.

Over 14,000 English Church clergymen have petitioned the Bishops of the House of Lords to favor a bill legalizing marriages with the sisters of deceased wives.

M. Boussingault recently mentioned the fact that a number of samples of soup, meats, etc., which had been kept since 1865 in closed vessels at a temperature of 20 deg., retained all of their original qualities. The author also mentioned that the fact was true of the juice of the sugar cane kept in a similar manner.

English oyster-eaters are enraptured. A Liverpool newspaper announces the discovery of a new bed of the bivalves between Fleetwood and Whitehaven of almost inexhaustible dimensions, being calculated to cover 800 square miles with the oysters (of fine quality) two or three feet deep. It's a very pretty shell-fish-story.

A correspondent says he overheard a prayer at Notre Dame. "Oh, beloved Joseph," murmured a rosy little laundress, on her knees before a flaming taper she had just lighted in his honor, "grant to me a good husband, plenty of ironing to do, shirt collars without starch, and charcoal without smoke; and to my dear old aunt an easy death. All these blessings as speedily as possible."

The doom of bronze, as a material for rifled guns, says the London Daily News, has been sealed. The manufacture of seven-pounders in that metal for mountain and boat service has now been given up, and orders have been issued for the construction of steel seven-pounders instead. The failure of bronze has been a great disappointment to its advocates, who only a few years ago were full of confidence in the perfection of their favorite material.

It has long been a desideratum to secure a match which could be readily ignited without the production of the unpleasant fumes of sulphur, or the dangerous explosive spark due to nitrate of potash. And it is now reported that a Frenchman, named Escach, has patented such a match, which can be ignited by rubbing on any rough surface, and which does not become damp when exposed to the air for a long time. The splints are first soaked in the hot solution of some fatty body and then dipped in a paste of which the following are the constituents: phosphorus, 7 parts; gum, 7 do; nitrate of lead, 40; powdered glass, 5; water, 10.

An interesting illustration of the achievements rendered possible by the arts and processes of modern mechanism is furnished in the statement that, at a recent meeting of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Sheffield, England, an eminent manufacturing firm of that city exhibited a number of very minute watch springs, with specimens of the steel wire from which the springs are produced. According to the representations made by the exhibitors, a pound weight of the wire will produce about five thousand gross of springs, which are generally sold at fifty shillings per gross, the amount of cash thus realized from the product of one pound of such wire being more than \$60,000. The springs are only the one thousandth part of an inch in diameter, and one pound weight of them would extend about nine miles.

A correspondent of the the Dundee Advertiser says that scandals in the upper circles of London society are growing to be quite a caution. "There never was such a season of them. The last is a marriage which quite eclipses the wedding between a certain M. P. and a West-end barmaid two or three months ago. The third son of a Peer of the United Kingdom—a mere stripling, who only left college last summer—has secretly married one of his father's housemaids, and in spite of the most rigid scrutiny by lawyers and others, no ground can be discovered for annulling the contract. The thing is kept very quiet, and the young folks are, I hear, to be sent off to New Zealand to engage in sheep farming. The girl, though a housemaid, is well educated, and was at one time a pupil in one of the Edinburgh Normal schools.

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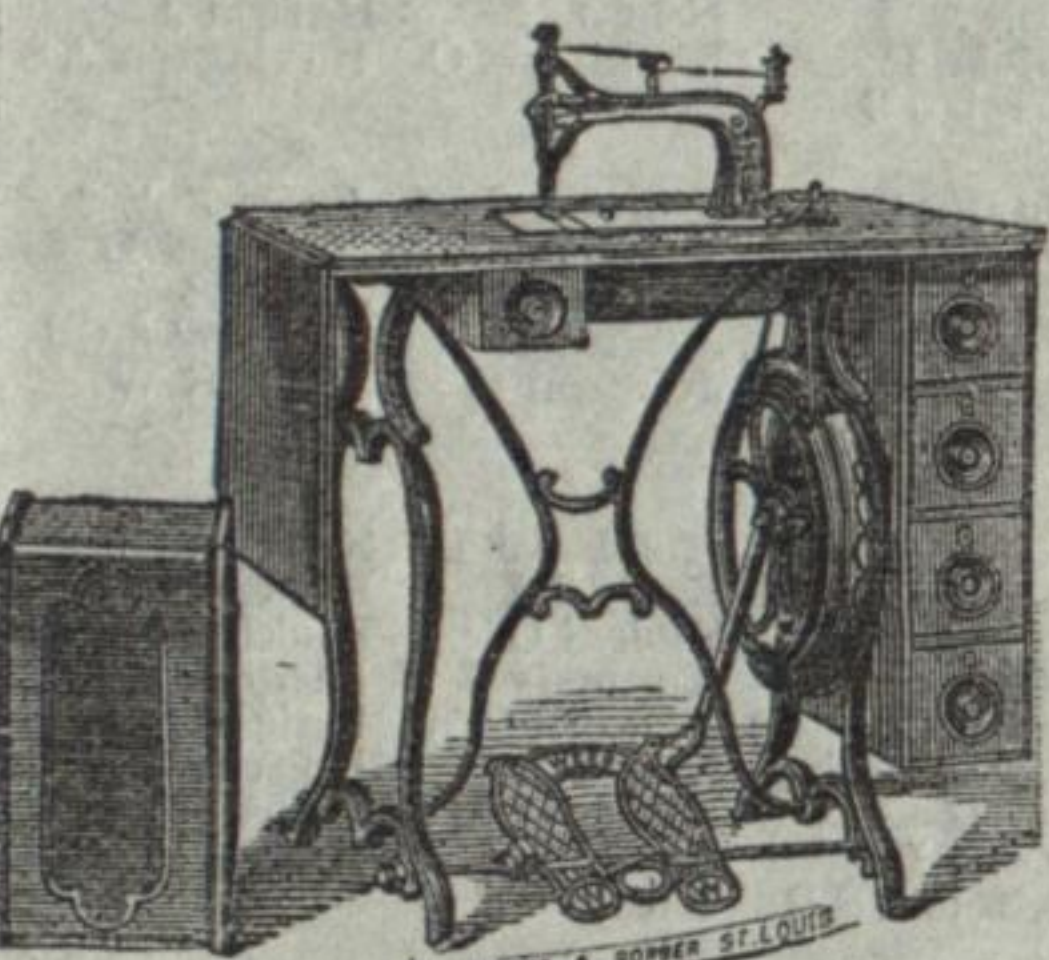
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