

Bellefonte, Pa., February 24, 1911.

A MAN OF MYSTERY.

Peculiar Life of Metastasio, the Celebrated Italian Poet.

Metastasio (1698-1782), the celebrated dramatic and operatic poet, spent fiftyfive years in Vienna with the Martines family without ever learning German or wishing to learn it.

Besides his utter indifference to all speech but Italian, Metastasio possessed many peculiarities of character. None might mention death in his presence. Those who alluded to smallpox before him he made it a point not to see again. In all his fifty-five years in Vienna he never gave away more than the equivalent of \$25 to the poor. He always occupied the same seat at church, but never paid for it. He took all his meals in the most mysterious privacy. His greatest friends had never seen him eat anything but a biscuit with some lemonade. Nothing would induce him to dine away from home. He never changed his wig or

the cut or color of his coat. Metastasio was to have been presented to the pope the day he died and raved about the intended interview in the delirium of his last moments. Mrs. Piozzi (familiar to readers of Boswell's "Life of Dr. Johnson" as Mrs. Thrale) collected these particulars from the ladies of the Martines family, with whom Metastasio was so long domesticated without speaking or understanding a word of their language from first

ETIQUETTE IN SIAM.

On Hands and Knees Before the King Was Long the Custom There.

Perhaps the most revolutionary reform carried out by the late king of Siam was the abolition of the arbitrary rule of etiquette which forbade an inferior in rank to raise his head above that of a superior or even level with it. The inferior must not even pass over a bridge while a superior was underneath it, nor must he enter a room in an upper story while a superior was occupying a room beneath it. Servants approached their masters on hands and knees. This custom is by no means obsolete today in spite of the royal edict, for many of the powerful nobles who live far away from the court still enforce it.

In 1874 the king held a large court. at which no one present presumed to appear otherwise than on hands and knees. It was at this audience that the edict forbidding the custom was read to the prostrate multitude. They there and then rose and stood like men in the presence of their sovere'gn for the first time on record. Since then there has been no prostration at the royal audiences. But if a supestops to speak to an inferior in the street the latter will still bend or lower his head in some way as a mark of respect. - London Saturday

The Change That Was Wrought. The little man was explaining to his audience the benefits of physical culture. "Three years ago," he said, "I was a miserable wreck. Now, what do you suppose brought about this great change in me?" "What change?" said a voice from the audience. There was a succession of loud smiles, and some persons thought to see him collapse But the little man was not to be put out. "Will the gentleman who asked 'What change?' kindly step up here?" he asked suavely. "I shall then be better able to explain. "That's right!" Then, grabbing the witty gentleman by the neck: "When I first took up physical culture I could not even lift a little man. Now (suiting action to word) I can throw one about like a bundle of rags." And finally he flung the interrupter half a dozen yards along the floor. "I trust, gentlemen, that you will see the force of my argument and that I have not hurt this gentleman's feelings by my explanation." There were no more interrup-

Two Collars on a Dog. Having bought a dog that he admired, a man undertook to buy a dog collar. The dog had a neck nearly as big as his head, and the dealer advised the

man to buy two collars. "What for?" said the man. "He's only got one neck, so I guess he can get along with only one collar, can't

"Maybe so," said the man, so the man went away leading the dog by his new collar and chain. In less than a

week he brought the dog back. "I'm afraid I can't keep him," he said. "He is too obstreperous. I can't keep him tied up. His neck is the biggest part of him, and he is as strong as an ox, therefore it is a cinch for

him to slip his collar off." "That was why I wanted you to take two collars," said the dealer. "Put both on and fasten the chain to the back collar, and he can tug away all night without getting loose. He may commit suicide, but he won't get

loose."-New York Sun. Collected Some Alimony Also. She—This is Maud's third husband. and they all bore the name of William. He-You don't say so! Why, the wo man is a regular Bill collector.-New York Times.

It is a great evil as well as a misfortune to be unable to utter a prompt and decided no .- Simmons

Which Was Far Worse. Williamson-Does your wife always have the last word? Henderson-Well, if she doesn't, old fellow, she looks it .. .

SIGNED IN A HURRY.

Incident That Brought the

Savages to Terms. The ambassador who would protect his country's rights must exercise tact and call into use the deepest learning. And, after all, his plans may be frustrated or unexpectedly furthered by some happening entirely beyond his control. In a biography of Sir Robert Hart, Juliet Bredon instances a treaty without parallel as a case of good

During one of those terrible storms which periodically sweep the shores of Formosa an American vessel was wrecked and the crew eaten by the aborigines. The nearest American consul thereupon journeyed inland to gels made him they put his head on the savage territory in order to make upside down." - Philadelphia Teleterms with the cannibals for future graph. emergencies.

Unfortunately the chiefs refused to listen and would have nothing to do with the agreement prepared for their

The consul was irritated by their obstinacy. He had a bad temper and a glass eye, and when he lost the first the second annoyed him. Under great stress of excitement he occasionally slipped the eye out for a moment, rubbed it violently on his coat sleeve, then as rapidly replaced it. This he did there in the council hut, utterly forgetful of his audience and before a soul could say the Formosan equivalent of "Jack Robinson."

The chiefs paled, stiffened, shuddered with fright. One with more presence of mind than his fellows called

"Yes. quick, a pen!" the word passed from mouth to mouth. No core obstinacy, no more hesitation; sel of them clamored to sign, willing, even eager, to yield to any demand that a man gifted with the supernatural power of taking out his ey, and replacing it at pleasure might make.

FORCE OF LIGHTNING.

An Ordinary Stroke Is About Equal to

Fifty Thousand Horsepower. Frequently surprise is expressed at the effect of a stroke of lightning which splinters a large tree or wrecks a tall chimney, but if the enormous power developed by an ordinary stroke of lightning is taken into consideration the wonder will be that the effect

Scientists estimate that an "ordinary" stroke of lightning is of 50,000 horsepower. That is force sufficient to drive the largest battleship ever built at top speed. The lightning stroke. miles per second. We think we see a garn boil jest where you wanted it? flash of lightning, but as a matter of Storekeeper-Yep; the one on you is fact what we see is only the memory of a flash. The electrical current has been absorbed by the earth long before we are conscious of having seen the flash. A person struck by a direct fault. That is why there are so many

flash would never see it. The average electromotive force "bolt" of lightning is about 3,500,000 volts, and the current is 14,000,000 amperes. In such a "bolt" there is energy equal to 2,450,000 volts, or 3,284,182 horsepower. Some day a wizard will arise who will capture and bind a "bolt" of lightning and with it turn all

the wheels of a great city. The time required for the discharge of a "bolt" of lightning is about one twenty-thousandth of a second.-Chicago Tribune.

Nothing to Do.

The following bit, quoted from Lord Cromer by Helen Barrett Montgomery in her "Western Women In Eastern Lands." presents a picture of the monotony and deprivation of the life of the Egyptian lady that pages of statistics might fail to convey: The seclusion of women exercises a most baneful influence on eastern society. This seclusion by confining the sphere of woman's interest to a very limited horizon cramps the intellect and withers the mental development of one-half the population of Moslem countries.

An Englishwoman once asked an Egyptian lady how she passed her

"I sit on this sofa," she replied, "and when I am tired I cross over and sit

Wit Not Appreciated.

Stubbs was feeling his way to the kitchen stove in the dark when he fell over the coal scuttle.

"Oh, John," called Mrs. Stubbs sweetly, "I know what you need. You should get what they have on battle-

"What's that?" growled Stubbs as he rubbed his shins. "Why, a range finder."

And what Stubbs said about woman's wit was plenty. - New York

A Crazy Spell. The opera was "Trovatore." Though I no more may hold thee, Yet is thy name a spell,

sang the basso to the prima donna. And it was. Her name was Sophronia Czechlinskiwicz.-Judge's Library.

Stung! "I would like to exchange this five dollar opera bag for a five dollar chaf-

"Sorry, miss, but those opera bags have been marked down to \$3.98."-Washington Herald.

The Recipe. Mrs. John-I do wish I had a good recipe for falling hair. John-Most women nowadays just pick it up again

Youngstown Telegram. If you would hit the mark you must aim a little above it. Every arrow that flies feels the attraction of the

earth.

and hang it on the back of a chair .--

Spoiled In the Making.

and make a fortune.

him?"

look at that man there."

Behold, when a man on a trolley

"Hush, dear!" returned mamma. "He

"Everything is the matter with him,"

replied the youngster. "When the an-

His Blunt Critic.

day by a mutual friend to a western

Irving Bacheller was introduced one

"Mr. Bacheller," exclaimed the

"Oh, yes," drawled the mountaineer.

"I know of him. I was locked up in

my cabin here by the snow two win-

ters ago, and I only had two books to

read the whole five months, your book,

sir," he said, turning to Mr. Bacheller,

"and the Bible, and I read them

of satisfaction wreathing his face.

"Indeed!" said the author, a smile

"Yes, sir," continued the old moun-

taineer, "and I never knew before

how interesting the Bible was."-St.

Grenada Was Bought Cheap.

The island of Grenada, in the Brit-

ish West Indies, was bought by the

French from the Caribs by a solemn

treaty in the middle of the seventeenth

century, and the price paid was two

bottles of rum. Esau's mess of pot-

tage was a good stroke of business by

comparison. The Caribs soon regret-

ted having sold their birthright and

vainly tried to get the island back by

force. It is now one of England's most

prosperous colonies in the West Indies.

So Absurd.

hired from you runs on to the pave-

ment every time he sees a motorcar.

Youth-Look here! This horse I

Horse Dealer-Well, you don't expect

a horse to run up a telegraph pole or

climb a tree, do you?-New York Jour-

It Suited Him.

exactly all right fer me, Si.-Boston

Clothing.

Silas-Say, did you ever see a gol

friend to the mountaineer, "is an au-

thor of repute in the east."

through several times."

Paul Dispatch.

Transcript.

critics.-Holmes.

will hear you. What's the matter with

car removed his hat the other day little Willie observed that he was bald-yea, Taught to Perform Tricks. very bald, for not a single hirsute rambler trailed over his shining pate. But when it came to whiskers the bald party was right there with the lilacs. He had whiskers in bundles. whiskers in stacks. In fact, he had enough whiskers to start a rat factory "Say. mamma," finally remarked Willie, turning to his mother, "just

them to their natural bent. "The seal is very easily taught. You begin with one seal, some small pieces of fish and a string. You let the seal sit on his pedestal, something he likes to do by nature; then you throw him one of the pieces of fish, and he naturally and easily catches it. Next you tle a piece of fish on the end of your string and swing it toward the seal. He catches this, too, and you keep moving away from him and swinging the fish to him from an increasing distance. Now you are ready to begin with the hat or cornucopia. You put a piece of fish in the bottom of it and toss it to the seal. The seal is dex-

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Money to Loan.

These Dexterous Animals

"The cardinal principle in training animals," says an animal trainer, "is not to attempt to make an animal do anything contrary to the nature of its particular species. To be successful a trainer must know enough about the habits of the animals he has under training to fit the tricks he would teach

Bears the Signature of

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Patents.

terous by nature, and his nose, quickly

detecting the fish in the tip of the

cone, seeks it out. The cone catches on

his snout, and he bites out the fish and

tosses the cone aside. Before long he

comes to associate the cone with fish,

and he will catch any number of sim-

"Balancing the big rubber ball is

is soaked in fishy brine and thrown to

what he is after. This results in his

balancing the ball on his nose, a feat to

which his supple neck and his natural

feeding habits are all adapted, and

then he gets his piece of fish as a

"Miss Keenly has an awfully sharp

"I should say so! She's cut most of

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makes them good.-Landor.

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fails to find what he wants.

prize."-New York World.

tongue, hasn't she?"

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Travelers Guide. SENTRAL RAILROAD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Condensed Time Table effective June 17, 1909. STATIONS No 1 No 5 No 3 3 25 Salona 8 12 4 03 8 43 3 25 Salona 8 10 4 01 8 41 3 30 MILL HALL 8 05 3 56 8 36 (N. Y. Central & Hudson River R. R.)

11 40 8 53 Jersey Shore 3 9 9 7 52 12 15 9 30 Arr. WM'PORT Lve. 2 35 17 20 6 50 (Phila & Reading Ry. 7 30 6 50 PHILADELPHIA 18 36 11 30 7 30 6 50 ... 10 10 9 00NEW YORK. (Via Phila.)

p. m. a. m. Arr. t Week Days. WALLACE H. GEPHART, General Superintendent

BELLEFONTE CENTRAL RAILROAD.
Schedule to take effect Monday. Ian. 6. 1910 STATIONS. t No2 t No4 No6 † No5 † No3 No1 P. m. a. m. a.m. Lve. — Ar. a. m. p. m. p. m. 2 00 10 15 6 30 Bellefonte... 8 50 12 50 6 00 2 07 10 20 6 35 Coleville. 8 40 12 40 5 50 2 12 10 23 6 38 Morris. 8 37 12 37 5 47 2 17 10 27 6 43 Stevens. 8 35 12 35 5 45 Lime Centre. 2 21 10 30 6 46 Hunter's Park 2 26 10 34 6 50 Fillmore. 8 28 12 28 5 35 2 35 10 40 6 55 Briarly. 8 24 12 24 5 30 2 35 10 45 7 00 Waddles. 8 20 12 20 5 25 25 30 10 57 7 12 Krumrine. 8 7 12 07 5 07 3 20 11 10 7 25 State College 7 27 Strubles. 8 40 5 20 2 30 3 20 7 21 Bloomsdorf. 7 40

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