

Bellefonte, Pa., November 4, 1927.

Literature of China

Preserved in Memory Che Hwang-ti, emperor of China, 226-221 B. C., evidently was a man with opinions of his own plus an exaggerated reverence for "the good old times." He issued an edict that all

books on the realm were to be burned excepting those treating of medicine, divination and husbandry. This included all the writings of Confucius. It was further ordered that anyone who mentioned the Book of History or the Book of Odes (the Chinese

classics) should be put to death.

This is said to have been the most drastic and comprehensive suppression of a literature. While the destruction of books was enormous, a few copies of the most treasured volumes were preserved. According to one tradition. however, a large number of works were saved only through the marvelous memories of public reciters. Even today it is said that if the same literary tragedy should be enacted, thousands of Chinese could be found who could rewrite from memory not only the text, but commentaries of their nine classical works.

Dragon-Fly a Marvel

of the Insect World The dragon fly is not one of those beings who have eyes and see not. When this insect looks at you he see

you well-71,000 of you. This most wonderful organ of vision, though no larger than a pin's head, has facets upon the lens of the eye and these facets have been counted as high as 17,000, each one more perfect than any side of a diamond fashioned

by the hand of man. The dragon-fly usually is found near water, probably the stream whence it first emerged, says London Tit-Bits. Its wings, which are of the most exquisite and transparent gauze, move with incredible rapidity. It is the swallow among insects, and so swift is its flight, and so keen its vision, that it will recognize, follow, and

catch on the wing the tiniest prey. It can fly backwards or forwards, and ourn at a right angle at top speed. Like the swallow, too, its flight seems tireless, and it is seldom seen to

English Methweelah

Methuselah is reputed to have lived to be nine hundred and sixty-nine years old but there are no documental instances as remarkable as that. According to the parish register of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, England, the oldest man of modern times was Thomas Carn, who was born in 1381, outlived many sovereigns and died in Queen Elizabeth's reign in 1588. In 1724 Petrarch Czartan died at the reputed age of one hundred and eightyfive, while Henry Jenkins, who remembered going as a boy of twelve with a load of arrows to be used in the battle of Flodden Fleid, died in England in 1670 when he was one hundred and sixty-nine years old. Jonas Surington of Bergen, Norway, fived to be one hundred and fiftynine. Perhaps the oldest man living is Zoro Agha, a Kurd by birth, and a porter in Constantinpole since about 1800. He has been a widower four times, can cite unimpeachable records to show that he was one hundred and fifty on his last birthday anniversary.-Kansas City Times.

Poor Spelling Common

Poor handwriting and incorrect spelling are faults not confined to the poor and ill-educated, asserts Will West in Liberty. "As for styles of writing, I'd say that bad handwriting, like Chanel blue and reptile leathers, is very good this year. The better the financial circumstances of the writer, the worse, it seems, is the scrawl.

'Spelling-let's be kind," the writer continues, "but even the 'grand dame' stoops to 'payed' for 'paid.' 'Arctics' are almost invariably 'artics,' while for 'leggings' the more Chaucerian 'leggins' is usual. With 'hats' and 'shoes' and similar monosyllables most women do well, but 'sequins' become 'sequences' and 'suede' is repro-duced as 'swede.'"

She Should Know

Responding to an invitation to see the school principal and talk over the question of her boy's transfer to a school better suited to his sluggish mentality an indignant mother appeared with her unpromising offspring.

"I'm Mrs. Blank," she snapped out m icy tones; "do I look feeble-

Never pausing for a reply, she con-

"This is my son Arthur; does he took feeble-minded? They say his brain is three years behind his body. I'm his mother, and he was all born at one time!"

Vegetable Maturity

According to a publication issued by the Department of Agriculture, it requires from 60 to 80 days for beets to mature, from 70 to 100 days for carrots, 20 to 140 for radishes, 125 to 160 for parsnips, 130 to 150 for onions grown from seed and 60 to 120 for onions grown from sets, 100 to 140 for peppers, 80 to 125 for tomatoes, 60 to 90 for lettuce, 40 to 80 for peas, 100 to 120 for watermelons and 120 to 150 for celery.

Formative Years May Have "Made" Carlyle

One of the many great men of the Victorian age was Thomas Carlyle. He exerted a powerful influence over his own age and molded the thought of his times as few writers have done. He was a stimulating thinker, a bitter critic of the materialism that has been so insidious an evil to every generation

He was born December 4, 1795, in Reclefechan, Scotland. His father was exceedingly stern and Thomas childhood was, as he afterward re marked, wholesome rather than joy ous. He attended the village schools which he disliked intensely, and served as teacher. He saved about \$450, but with the frugality that life had taught him, he walked to Edin

burgh to continue his studies. He stayed there three years, at tending lectures at the university and paying his expenses by tutoring. He was not a sociable youth and he made few friends, but at Kirkcaldy, where he obtained a position as teacher, he became intimate with Edward Irving, a schoolmaster three years older than Carlyle. This friendship proved of inestimable importance to Carlyle. Irving did more to rouse him to think and to think hard than any man he had met. In these forma tive years Carlyle struggled against despair. He never was physically well and the illness that afflicted him in later years was already making him despondent, yet he persisted and became recognized as one of the great men of the age.-Kansas City Times.

Seafaring Men Long Clung to Sea Serpent

Since the days of the first seafarers who peopled the ocean with mer maids and mermen-as well as with awful monsters, the belief in sea serpents and similar marine won ders has been firmly held by many

mariners. in modern times sea serpents were reported to have been seen along the coast of the United States and Can ada in 1806, 1816, 1844 and 1846, and in the latter years similar creatures were reported to be prevalent along the Norwegian coast.

The first case which gained any cre dence among scientific men, however. was the report of Captain McQuhas of the British navy, commander of the warship Daddalus, who declared that on August 6, 1848, while en route from the Cape of Good Hope to St. Helena, he and his men saw a strange monster of great size, having many characteristics of the sea serpent of the popular imagination. After long discussion, however, the scientific world decided that the "serpent" was a species of seal inhabiting the South

Strawberry Tree

Apart from naturalists and botan ists there are probably few people who are aware of the existence of the strawberry tree, as distinct from the strawberry plant.

fet there is such a tree. It usually nears flowers about the end of September or beginning of October, and along with the flowers are found the fruits of the previous year.

The fruit is a large orange-reo perry, closely resembling the straw berry; hence the name of the tree. The strawberry tree is not a native of England, and in this country is sel dom found outside parks and gardens, but in Ireland it is frequently found growing wild, especially in the neighborhood of Killarney.

Nelson's Column

The Nelson column in Trafalgar square, London, cost the comparative ly small sum of £28,000, including the statue, but excluding Landseer's four lions, which were not added until 1868, nearly twenty-five years after the completion of the memorial itself This long delay in the delivery of the lions sorely tried the public's patience. and when they were eventually forth coming opinion was by no means unani mous concerning their artistic merit. Many cruel jests were uttered at their expense, one being that the old lion on top of Northumberland house refused to acknowledge them as breth ren.

Reason and Instinct

The amount of conscious reason that an ordinary man uses in his life compared with the great unreason or blind impulse and inborn tendency that impel him, is like his artificial light compared with the light of day -indispensable on special occasions, but a feeble matter, after all. Reason is an artificial light in the sense that it is not one with the light of nature and in the sense that men possess it in varying degrees. The lower ani mals have only a gleam of it now and then. They are wise as the plants and trees are wise, and are guided by their inborn tendencies.-John Burroughs.

Predicts Earth Will Stop

if the earth continues to slow up in its rotation, Doctor Crommelin, English astronomer, says it will cease to rotate in a "few millions of years," owing to the friction of the tides, according to Capper's Weekly. When that happens one-half of the world will be in sunshine and the other half in perpetual darkness-anything but a pleasant situation. But that needn't bother us now. Besides, there is a bare possibility the doctor may be a few million years off in his calcula

Pine Dresser Finally

Got Back to America There is no telling how much an antique piece may travel before it comes to rest in the hands of an appreciative collector or a museum. Recently a pine dresser was imported from England with some English furniture, The dresser stuck out like a sore thumb among the English pieces, and the dealer quickly spotted it. The wood, the hardware, the workmanship, the style, all proclaimed it American. A wealthy collector purchased it and then set out to find how the dresser had ever strayed from the shores of America. He discovered after lengthy correspondence, that an American family had gone to England about 1875, taking considerable furniture with them, among which were several pieces which had been handed down from generation to generation, and the pine dresser was one of those pieces. Now it has an honored place in the collection, and may finally be returned to the descendants of the original owners, who are residing in a Middle Western city.—From the Aptiquarian

Dogs Lived Eight Days

Without Food or Water The tenacity of animal life is an interesting subject if it is tested by accident and not by design; and it has had a test by accident in Wales.

Two dogs, a sheep-dog and a spaniel, which had succumbed to the temptation of rabbit hunting, were missed for nearly nine days.

Then a little girl, hearing curious sounds underground in a lonely place, brought a party of rescuers to the spot, and the dogs were dug out of a rabbit hole from which they had been unable to extricate themselves.

They must have been without food and water for eight and a half days yet they seemed little the worse. Evidently the dog has lost, if it ever had, the instinct of burrowing toward the open air, which the underground animal possesses.

Many Tomato Varieties

The ground cherry, musk tomato, strawberry tomato or winter cherry grows wild in the Mississippi valley and in other parts of the world and is a member of the tomato family. It is known as the blue tomato by truck gardeners. It grows in a small husk which if left on will preserve the tomate through the winter. Although this tiny vegetable, which is only a little larger than a small cherry, may be eaten raw, it is at its best when preserved. This is only one of the fifty-odd varieties of tomatoes. There are red tomatoes, white tomatoes, blue tomatoes and yellow tomatoes of every imaginable size and shape. Because of their shapes, there are tomatoes that are known as the pear tomato and the currant tomato.

Water Power Long in Use

The oldest water power site in America, more than 100 years old, is on the Piscatauqua river at South Berwick, Maine. It was established on the site of the present Burleigh blanket mills in 1620 by Ferdinando Gorges, who obtained a grant from the English crown giving him the right to settle and develop the territory from sea to sea lying between fortieth and forty-eighth parallels north latitude. The grant, however, required him to develop water power, and accordingly he constructed a log dam, erected a grist mill and sent the meal to England as proof that the terms of the charter were being lived up to. The water power site has been in continuous use ever since.

Had Odd Accomplishment Earl Russell has this anecdote in

his book, "My Life and Reminis-

'My grandmother, Lady John Russell, was a great favorite with Queen Victoria throughout her life. Not alone, of course, because she had the peculiar and unusual capacity of wagging her ears like a dog. But this accomplishment intrigued the queen and she suddenly called on Lady John to show it off to an ambassador. My grandmother was so taken back that she lost for a long time the power to move either ear, and only utimately regained her power to move one, which she occasionally did for my edification."

Presumptuous

A newly rich man once invited Beau Brummell, the famous fop, to dinner, and asked him to name his own party. He accepted, and chose to the number of eleven, including himself. "That," said his host, "will make

"An even number?" queried the beau. "How is that?"

just an even number."

"Your friends, ten; yourself and myself-twelve in all." "Good gad!" said Brummell, affect-

ing surprise. "You surely don't mean you are going to be one of the party!"

Hottest Spot on Earth The latest official records show that the hottest spot on earth is at Azizia in northern Africa. It is on a plain almost equivalent to a desert. The thermometer at Azizia has gone to 136.4 degrees in the shade. The average temperature during the whole year is more than 70. Previously the hottest known spot was at Greenland ranch on the edge of Death valley, Calif. The highest temperature recorded there was 134 degrees.

Pond Recalls Many

Memories of Thoreau some two years and three months Thoreau lived beside Walden pond, and "Walden" is probably the est known and most characteristic of his works. At the time the era of anobbery in nomenclature began in Massachusetts and turned so many good old ponds into "lakes," Walden pond was duly made "Lake" Walden. It

is about a mile south of Concord and

must look as Thoreau used to see it.

the New York Times tells us. The scenery of Walden is on a hum ble scale, and, although very beautiful, does not approach to grandeur, nor can it much concern one who has not long frequented it or lived by its shore; yet this pond is so remarkable for its depth and purity as to merit a particular description. It is a clear and deep green well, half a mile long and a mile and three-quarters in circumference, and contains about 611/2 acres; a perennial spring in the midst of pine and oak woods, without any visible inlet or outlet except by the clouds and evaporation. The surrounding hills rise a pruptly from the water to the height of 40 to 80 feet, though

on the southeast and east they attain

to about 150 feet respectively within

a quarter and a third of a mile. They

Bees Proved to Have

are exclusively woodland.

Keen Sense of Color flowers attract insects by both color and odor, while form, and such markings as stripes or dots, also help to guide the visitors, in the opinion of investigators for the Carnegie institute, who have conducted a series of tests at the Pike's Peak laboratory for nine years. They discovered that blue is the most popular color among bees and other insects, red the least. Even when blue flowers were turned upside down, the bees eagerly sought them. Many bumble bees were baffled by the new position and found difficulty in mastering the problem of sipping nectar from the inverted blossoms. Bees showed evidence of the best memory, recalling places, odors, shapes and colors and knowing the time of day when the nectar flows. They never touched orange lotus blossoms, seeming to realize that the nectar stopped flowing after the flower had changed from yellow to orange. Fragrance attracted insects of various kinds from a distance, but color only within a radius of about thirty feet.-Popular Mechanics Maga-

Judicial Sarcasm

One of the best bits of judicial sarcasm on record was presented by the late Judge K. M. Wanamaker of the Ohio Supreme court, who differed with his colleagues in a revolver case. He declared that if it is a crime for residents to have weapons in their homes, tomato, the peach tomato, the cherry then a large percentage of the people of the state are criminals.

"The only safe course for them to pursue," he said, "is to hang the rerolver on the wall and put below it a large placard with these words inscribed:

"The Ohio Supreme court having decided that it is a crime to carry a concealed weapon on one's person, in one's home, even in one's bed or bunk, this weapon is hung upon the wall that you may see it, and before you commit any burglary or assault, please, Mr. Burglar, hand me my gun."

Sincerity Is Invaluable

sincerity is the foundation. Without this rare but basic element, all that follows will be insecure. Emerson once said, "What you are speaks so loud, I cannot hear what you say." One of the prophets said, "The show of their countenance maketh them known." A man's real self rings out in his voice, peers out through his eyes, and stamps itself upon his face, bearing, attitude and all that he does and says. Value sincerity. You may not conform to the ideas of others, but whatever set principles you select as your invisible code, be true to them, believe in them and exemplify them.-Psychology Magazine.

Work With Hands and Feet Craftsmen who fashion trinkets with their hands and feet still thrive in and around the Great Bazar, a little, tomblike city of its own on one of the seven hills of Stamboul, Turkey. Copper and iron smiths hammer out their wares in small recesses along the miles of arcades in the great, irregular stone building that is dark, smelly and dusty with the dust of centuries. Woodworkers in booths around this building use a bare foot and one hand to hold their cutting chisel in turning objects on small lathes.

Anxious Seat *Old Lem Sawyer is in a heck of a

fix."

"How so?" "Well, he managed to marry a widder lady, and has just found out that her first husband was a gent he had helped to lynch about two months ago. He ain't discovered yet whether she don't know it or just natcherly married him out of revenge. But, either way, he is expecting something to happen any minute."-Los Angeles Times,

Good in Introspection

This world would be a paradise if every man were as good as he expects his neighbor to be. The trouble is we see the faults of others quicker than we see our own. Introspection is more profitable than inspection .-

Earth's Surface Never Quite Without Motion

No portion of the earth's surface is ever at rest, though all but the great movements of earthquakes escaped attention until recent years. The minute vibrations are followed by J. J. Shaw in Nature as an unending train of waves, waxing and waning in amplitude, that are unceasingly coursing along the earth's crust and reach to unknown depths. The wave period ranges between 4 and 8 seconds; the amplitude is between one 50,000th and one 2,000th of an inch, but with a wave length of 8 to 16 miles. The speed of the waves is believed to be about two miles per second. Such local causes as air tremors and the swaying of buildings and trees were formerly suggested, but it is now known that they are wide-spreading earth movements. Earthquakes are easily followed on the recording apparatus by the primary and secondary phases and the long waves rising to a maximum. The minor movements-microseisms-are not easily separated from one another, and there has been no means of studying their propagation. But recently certain tremors have been traced on recording instruments 60 feet apart. Continuing the investigation, the range has been extended to two miles, and it has been made practicable to pick out individual tremors on the two sets of records. One result is the showing that the travel of the microseisms is independent of wind and weather, though the source and cause of the movements are still a mystery.

Vultures Do Work of

Scavengers in India In my travels in India, writes a corespondent, I was in the vicinity of the Massacre Ghat, of evil repute in the Mutiny of 1857, and saw a vulture over the Ganges. This scavenger bird was apparently on the surface of the water, and was flapping its wings, for all the world as if a small crocodile had gripped its talons and was trying to drag it under. Then I observed a white object come to the surface momentarily and bob under again. My interest was aroused at the strange proceedings which followed. The vulture flapped its wings as the weight of the flotsam told on its strength. Again the white broke the surface and as it did so the huge bird, with fully opened wing, appeared to be using itself in the manner of a sail, and, with the help of the breeze, which was blowing, stirred its prey out of the mid-stream, flopping every now and then, till at last it ran the white object right up on a gently sloping shelf of sand on the near bank. By this time the air was thick with birds, and no sooner had the vulture in question beached his capture than a cluster of like birds swooped down, and the whole commenced an orgy of feasting and fighting. The next day a human skeleton remained.

Unique Telephone Use

Surgeons have discovered that by means of a telephone and an induction balance particles of metal lodged in human flesh can be detected instantly. Thus the surgeon knows exactly where to begin work without having to take a "picture" in many cases.

For example, if one is so unfortunate as to have a particle of iron lodged in the tip of one of his fingers and is uncertain whether it had been removed. these appliances would locate it quite easily.

First the patient is asked to place nis fingers, one after another, on the balance. The moment the injured one comes in contact with the device the telephone proclaims the presence of any metal in the finger, if by chance any metal had been left.

Yodeling Swiss Custom

for more than a century Tyrolese rodelers have been heard on the concert and vaudeville stage of Europe and America. The first Tyrolese to popularize the yodel in the theater made a fortune in England by so doing and, returning to his native land, purchased a castle and retired in wealth.

This form of vocalization was perfected at family concerts organized to while away the long winter evenings in the country. It thus became the custom for groups of brothers and sisters who were especially noted in their own valley to go together upon the concert stage in family groups.-National Geographic Society Bulletin,

Strictly Business

Masters was the meanest man that ever lived and had never been known to give anything away. He either sold it or arranged an exchange. "You've got a very bad cold," he re-

marked to a friend one day. "The worst I ever had," wheezed the

other. "Well," said Masters, "I know a thing that will cure it in three days." "I'd be very grateful if you'll tell me

what it is," cried his friend. "Grateful!" snapped Masters, and nis eyes narrowed. "I'll tell you if you know what'll drive away these warts on my left hand."

New Era

A friend asked Chauncey M. Depew what he thought of women solons. As usual, Depew was not at a loss for a diplomatic answer.

"Well," he said with a chuckle, "I suppose the day may come when all the congressmen will be ladies. And when that time comes, I expect we'll have to call it "The house of Miss Rep-

Weird and Wondertui

Biskra Girls' Dances In Biskra one hears the sound of the African tom-toms and the playing of pipes, the tapping of the drums, all night long, writes Lillian Genth, in the American Art Magazine. The street of the Ouled Nails is not only the most interesting street in Biskra but the most interesting street I have ever seen in my life. The green overhanging balconies, the many notes of color in the dresses of the girls, the gleam of the gold coins on their bodies and the clank of their anklets and bracelets as they walk down the street make a barbaric spectacle.

At night when the girls have their dances in the little coffee houses in the street of the Ouled Nails, it is a most interesting sight. Every one seems absorbed in the dance. The attendants and the audience sit around in a ring on their haunches, sipping mint tea and coffee, calling to the girls and dancers who sit on a platform before you.

Each awaits her turn to come down to her dance with the confidence of a prima donna on the opera stage. The dance is very wonderful. First the gyrations of the neck, the rest of the body held absolutely rigid. Then the quivering of the shoulders with the rest of the body rigid. The hum and the din of the little cafes become very exciting. These Ouled Nails dancers, daughters of the Nile, are often murdered for their gold.

Conceit and Timidity

Bars to Advancement Henry Ward Beecher once called conceit "the most incurable disease known to the human soul."

Conceit, however, is not to be conjused with pride, self-respect or selfconfidence. There is merit in these qualities and many a man of limited abilities has stamped and pounded his way to the seats of the mighty.

But the conceited man moves in guite a different realm. His is simply an unreasoning, unfounded opinion of his own importance. He is a giant in

a world of pygmies. Many men fail because of timidity and modesty. They secretly tell themselves that they don't amount to much, that they are mediocre and that nobody is interested in their words or deeds. They slink into the hidden recesses of obscurity of complete fail-

There is a sane middle ground upon which those who get anywhere worth while in life must ever stand. Neither conceit nor timidity will carry anyone

Honesty is the best policy even in appraising one's own talents .- Thrift Magazine.

Berlin's Many Mills

the Berliner on the whole knows little about his drinking water except that it ranks among the best and purest of any capital. Most people living there think it is taken from the many lakes surrounding Berlin. But this is not the case. With the exception of 3 per cent, writes a Christian Science Monitor correspondent, the eitire water supply of Berlin is obtained from wells, some reach as far

down into the earth as 100 meters. The consumption of water in the summer reaches 500,000 cubic meters daily, but the water works are capable of supplying even more than thatnamely, 740,000 cubic meters daily, so that an emergency can easily be met. Next year they will even be in a position to produce 800,000 cubic meters daily.

Books Must Have Air

Recent tests by the United States bureau of chemistry analyzing a large number of worn leather bookbindings, show that leather books need pure air and deteriorate when exposed to harmful sulphurous and acidic impurities. Backs of leather books deteriorate quicker than the sides because ordinarily they are more exposed to light and impure air, the tests reveal. To prolong the life of treasured leather bindings, steps should be taken to prevent their deterioration through the absorption of atmospheric impurities, the bureau advises. Certain coatings and finishes, notably neat's foot and castor oil, are stated to be excellent for the purpose.

Hard to Duplicate

a a Colorado town was a man too poor to indulge in any luxuries other than a superabundance of children. After the coming of a number of singles and doubles a loving but unreasonable wife presented him with triplets-three girls-and he sought for some family to adopt them.

A neighbor was rather inclined to take them, but his good wife thought one would perhaps be enough. They were talking it over before their little daughter, who said: "Why don't we take one of them-or don't they want to break the set?"

Inexcusable Mistake

There is a delightful old Irish woman who keeps a corner fruit stand in a Western town. One day a gentleman disposed to be facetious took up a fine melon from her stall, and said gravely: "You have pretty good apples in this state; but where I come from we have them twice that size."

The old lady looked up from her stool, surveyed the joker coolly and replied in a tone of pity: "Ah, what for should I be wastin' me breath to talk to wan that takes our gooseberries for apples!"