

TIMELY BREVITIES

China exports 11,000,000 fans a year. Most workers in Switzerland are employed about eleven hours a day.

England's shipping industry, according to report, is steadily improving. Tomatoes packed in pent and sawdust go from Toronto to London in good order.

Sailors returning from near Cape Horn report having seen a floating island several miles square.

Portugal has colonies in the West Indies, Asia and Africa with a total population of more than 9,000,000.

Last year's olive crop in Spain was so abnormally large that the trees were debilitated, the consequence being a very poor crop this year.

The Flint (Mich.) school board has secured a ninety-nine year lease of a site for a new school building at the rate of one clover blossom a year.

Already more than 1,000 elementary schools have been opened in Siam, the country enjoying an educational boom because of the interest of the king.

The army is experimenting with a new shell designed to pierce a vessel or building and then scatter scores of bullets carried behind its solid steel head.

There has been a marked decrease in Canada's merchant marine during the last thirty-five years. In 1874 the tonnage was 1,158,863; in 1909 it was 718,553.

Certain well known American products, like garters and hooks and eyes, have become household articles in France, largely because of persistent and systematic advertising.

More than one European state in

aggregating \$3,613,933. Last year Moscow's municipal abattoir did to death 239,863 cattle and 127,124 calves, sheep, hogs and goats.

Bathurst island has just been explored by a British government expedition. It is situated some fifty miles from Port Darwin, northern Australia, and has an area of 186 square miles. It is uninhabited, but it is well watered with fresh running streams and has a fertile soil capable of growing rice, rubber, cattle and tobacco.

Early settlers in South Australia were told by the blacks that "up country" there was a cave full of gold, but they did not attach much credence to the report. A half caste has just arrived in Adelaide with the news that some 400 miles north of Fowler's bay he came upon a series of caves, one of which had "pendants of gold like bunches of grapes."

There are seven London companies furnishing gas, and the charges vary from 49 cents a thousand cubic feet to 63 cents, the illuminating candle power being from 14,800 to 16,320. There is a discount allowed by most of the companies from 2½ to 5 per cent to large consumers, 10 to 20 per cent for power and 10 to 25 per cent for gas engines.

Charitable associations in Frankfurt, Germany, operate lodging houses, restaurants, eating rooms, canteens, etc., for the benefit of the poor. They are conducted on strictly business methods. Dinner—soup, meat, vegetables—is provided for a fraction more than 8 cents. Until the recent increase of prices for foodstuffs the meal was given for less than 8 cents. Lodging is provided at from 38 to 60 cents a week.

Professor William Hornaday, the zoologist who directs the work of the zoological park of New York city, was born in Indiana fifty-six years ago

but studied in Europe as well as in America. His first book, "Two Years in the Jungle," was published in 1885. Professor Hornaday is an enthusiastic hunter as well as a naturalist and practical taxidermist and is vice president of the American Sportsmen's league. He has been director of the New York park since 1896.

A Schoolboy's Story of Jonah.

A school board boy, competing for one of the Peek prizes, evolved this confusion of widely different events. He had to write a short biography of Jonah, and he produced the following: "He was the father of Lot and had two wives. One was called Ishmale and the other Hagher. He kept one at home and turned the other into the desert, when she became a pillow of salt in the daytime and a pillow of fire at night."—From Wheatley's "Literary Blunders."

Stories on Doctors.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle told several good stories of old fashioned practitioners he knew. There was one man, he said, who never used to wash out the half emptied bottles returned to him, but emptied them into one huge jar, from which he dispensed this mixture of medicines to his more obscure patients. "It is like grapeshot," he said; "one of them is sure to hit." There was another man who used to say, "When my patients are alive I don't know what is the matter with them and when they die I don't know whether they are dead." That was like the medical man who said to a lady whose husband he had been attending, "Madam, I have a very strong belief that your husband is dead, but if it is your wish I have no objection to a consultation."

She Had Courage.

A self possessed young woman who knew no French strolled into one of the larger downtown cafes. She spoke to the waiter in that decisive tone which distinguishes the initiated and glanced over the French bill of fare with the nonchalant air of a Parisienne.

"I'll have," she began firmly as she plunged into the sea of French dishes—"I'll have—let me see. Oh, yes, I'll have some bisque tortoni, a sultana roll, pommes de terre and a little of that fromage. And, garçon, you might as well bring me a cup of coffee."

The waiter gasped. He started to speak, but the young woman froze him with one of those icy stares peculiar to the thoroughly sophisticated.

And the order arrived—two kinds of leeks, boiled potatoes and a piece of cheese. But she ate it as if she had been used to that sort of diet all her life.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Straight Ahead.

Keep the past behind the curtain. Don't look back. Life's best lessons are uncertain. Much they lack. Time and place and fate were factors. Changed are scenes and changed are actors.

Don't look back. Keep the vision clear before you. Don't look back. Trample down the thorns that score you. Hold the track. Straight ahead keep boldly moving. Courage, patience, honor proving. Don't look back. —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Angel.

Wife—I am trimming up last year's hat to save the cost of a new one! Hubby—How good of you! You're a perfect little angel! Wife—Am I? Then give me \$10 to buy wings.

Three Fifth Avenue Dogs.

A dog who carries his mistress's bag and one who carries his master's newspaper or cane have been familiar sights on Fifth avenue. A dog who crosses the crowded street walking close beside his mistress with his paw in her hand has not been seen often enough to cease to attract attention.

Mistress and dog regularly cross a crowded thoroughfare in this way, paw in hand, close together. People watch them as they stand together on the curb waiting for a chance to cross. With perfect unconcern they start forth side by side when the chance comes. When the opposite curb is reached the dog drops to a quadruped once more.—New York Sun.

Long Novels of Seventeenth Century.

The longest novels of to-day are pigmies compared with those published in the seventeenth century. Mademoiselle de Scudery's "Le Grand Cyrus" ran into ten volumes, its publication being spread over five years. And when it was translated, or, to quote the title page, "Englashed by a Person of Honour," it appeared in five folio volumes of some five hundred pages apiece. Another novelist of the same period, La Calprenede, was even more diffuse, one of his works, "Cleopatre," extending over twenty-three volumes. These novels found plenty of readers, despite their enormous length. The Paris publisher of "Le Grand Cyrus" made 100,000 crowns by the first edition alone. Nearly all the works of Scudery and Calprenede were translated into English as soon as they appeared, and many of them into German as well.—London Chronicle.

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FLAGG'S CLOTHING HOUSE

863 Main St., Grambs Building Opposite D. & H. Station