

# THE BULLETIN

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Northwestern Colorado is the section selected by the government as a reservoir to be built under the national irrigation law. Thirty townships along the Platte river extending from Sterling into the corner of Nebraska, have been withheld from public entry.

According to the count of an Italian botanist, P. A. Saccardo, there are 173,706 species of plants known in the world today. There are 12,178 species of animals, 39,603 varieties of fungus, 1,000 lichens, 7650 mosses and 2819 ferns. Prof. Saccardo calculates that there are six times as many unknown plants in the world as there are known varieties. He includes many forms of bacteria in his estimate of plants.

A French investigator has recently come to the conclusion that the brains of military men give out most quickly. He states that out of every 100,000 military men 199 are hopeless lunatics. Of the liberal professions, artists are the first to succumb to the brain strain, next the lawyers, followed at some distance by doctors, clergymen, literati, men and civil servants. Striking an average of this group, 177 go mad for each 100,000.

Investigation has shown that, in an average year, 60 human lives are lost in forest fires in the United States. \$25,000,000 worth of real property is destroyed, 10,274,089 acres of timber land are burned over, and young forest growth worth, at the lowest estimate, \$75,000,000, is killed. A special canvass of the country by the department of agriculture in 1891 discovered 12,000,000 acres of timber land destroyed by fire.

The New York American remarks that any little fellow can call a man a liar, but it takes a big fellow—a real man—to be able to pay no attention to what the little fellow says. It is not necessary that one should tamely submit to every insult that is offered him, but it is necessary that one should maintain his self-sovereignty and his dignity as a man. There are more ways of getting even with the man who insults you than by knocking him down. When you knock a man down, thereby playing the bully, you are insulting yourself, which is really the only kind of insult that can do you any harm.

An American who has been traveling in Japan says the Japanese have a word of salutation which sounds like Ohio. When he was in Yokohama a fellow countryman was seeing the sights from a rickshaw. The Japanese are very polite, and when even the American met them they gave him the usual word of greeting. At first he wasn't quite certain, but as party after party bowed profoundly and said "Ohio," he became convinced that they were uttering the name of his own state, and he was a badly puzzled Occidental. Finally on passing a group of a dozen or more, who were more than usually courteous, and who vociferated the word of welcome, he couldn't repress his astonishment any further. "Yes," he said. "I am from Ohio and from Jefferson county; but did you fellows get on to the fact?"

Herbert H. D. Pierce corrects in The Atlantic Monthly many false impressions regarding Russian institutions. Thus, as regards the penal system of Russia, individual instances of the abuse of power have been cited as the rule, while they are in fact, rare exceptions. There is nothing cruel either in the national character or in that of the average Russian official. The latter, it is true, says Mr. Pierce has frequently received military training, and pursues the course of his duty toward the individual entrusted to his care with that rigid exactitude which pertains to the army the world over. As to the reputation of the country for ferocity and cruelty, nothing is further from the truth. No country in the world is there an exhibition of cruelty to child or beast, on the part of prince or peasant, and under no aristocratic system is there a more generous consideration for the inferior on the part of the great.