

Thousands of Chinese are perishing daily, it is reported, as a result of the famine and plague that has visited their country. Here is a photograph of the king of beggars in the famine district.

MENTAL FEATS PERFORMED BY INMATES OF IOWA ASYLUM.

Dictionary, Another a Marvelous Speller and a Third Has a Ereakish Memory.

Omaha, Neb.-The lowa state institution for the feeble-minded children. located at Glenwood, has several "idiot savants." who are regarded as pear tiny larvae called leptocephali, remarkable. One inmate is used as which are transparent, jelly-like, and a calendar and date record, another is flat, having something of the contour utilized as a dictionary, another is em- of a tailless berring. It is not known ployed as a ready rapid calculator and how long the eggs take to develop the

Dr. A. R. Schier, assistant superindiar elvers, which are about two inches rendent of the institution, has just made his report, as required by the lowa law. The most astonishing case he reports is that of John S., taken into the institution when he was 12 greats of age, and who has been there "" "ears. He is the mental bookkeeper of the home.

When the date of any occurrence join in the vessel's wake. about the institution is desired as infor discharge of any inmate.

If he has seen a visitor at the home ponds and ditches. he can recall the exact date of the wish the condition of the weather at that time and some of the incidents rennected therewith, even though it Mother Tells Governor Remarkable meetired years before any question is sacked him concerning it. If given the day of the month, the month and years rerlies that he does not know

Inmate about 16 years of age. He can vears.

his multiplication feats, but his addi- Cohen was the real offender. tion, subtraction and division are not]

education, is able to mold the forms ble caused him by his resemblance hof animals with almost miraculous pertertion. Other figures he cannot make He was found one day mixing saliva with dust and molding the figures of -animals, which from his first attempt were perfect in almost every detail.

Divorce Prize at Card Party. of crushed stone, a monkey-wrench, jurists of Mississippi, horsewhipped % ton of coal, a meal ticket and the H. T. Jenkins, a traveling man, in the free services of a blacksmith to shoe Grand Avenue hotel lobby in the destaker, but it was declined. John on, Charles Kirk won the load of crushed Jenkins.

🚣 America Has 54,794,000 Hogs. Mastue at \$417,471,000.

Proted to civic improvements

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FIND WHERE EELS COME FROM.

Danish Investigators Establish That They Spawn 550 Fathoms Deep.

London - The public just learns it does not know where eels are bred, but it seems the problem long has puzzled biologists. Danish marine in-One Feeble-Minded Boy is Walking vestigators have completed researches proving that so far as the European eel population is concerned the creatures spawn at a depth of 550 fathoms in the Atlantic ocean, contiguous to the British isles and south-

west of Europe. From innumerable eggs there applainable traits of the "learned idiots." six months in transition to the famil-

The elvers then migrate in countless swarms to the shores of western Europe, traveling in columns sometimes several yards wide and miles long Nothing stops their progress. If they encounter a ship they separate to the right and the left, and re-

They invade every river and waterformation John S. gives it. He recalls way along the coasts, ascending without error the date of the employ- steadily landward. They even ascend small falls, penetrate streams, and ment of any new hand or the entrance wriggle over swampy grounds into

IMPRISONED FOR HIS DOUBLE.

Story of Close Resemblance.

Annapolis, Md -Claiming that her of any occurrence as far back as 35 son was wrongly convicted because means John S. will, without hesitation, of his close resemblance to a clever mell upon what day of the week the sneak thief, the mother of Joseph Educe fell. Asked how he does it he! Leury has appealed to Gov. Warfield to release him from the state peni-Marvelous ability is shown by a boy tentiary, where he has served four

reither read nor write, yet he can The woman said her son was so neadily spell any word given him, and nearly a counterpart of a thief named Dr. Schier says: "He has been Cohen that even she could hardly tried with uncommon words time and distinguish them apart. She charged time again and never fails to spell that Cohen's crimes had repeatedly them correctly. He is constantly got her boy into trouble. Records in called upon to settle spelling disputes. Philadelphia and Baltimore were and is as reliable as a dictionary." looked up and indicated that Leury had been arrested 26 times on two G. F. H., aged 18 years, of Danish charges alone, but had generally been descent, can multiply three figures by acquitted or the prosecution had been Three figures as rapidly as they can abandoned. Mrs. Leury claimed it be written down. He never fails in was proven in several instances that

Leury formerly lived in Philadelphia, but moved to Baltimore, his A 17-year-old boy, R. G. L., without mother, said, on account of the trouto Cohen; but the latter followed him.

JUDGE WIELDS HORSEWHIP.

Beverely Thrashes Man Who Accuses Him of Drunkenness.

Meridan Miss.-Judge Robert F. Findlay O. A free divorce, a load Cochran, one of the most prominent a horse, were the prizes awarded at a presence of a crowd, many of whom card party given here by the City Fed. were women. U. R. L. Murray, a relation of Women's clubs. A free fun-ifriend of the judge, held Jenkins up eral was offered as a prize by an un with a pistol while the whip was laid

Bhaffer, a business man, won the . At the outset Jenkins struck the prize offered by a lawyer, his free judge, knocking him down. Murray revices in obtaining a divorce. Mrs. then drew his pistol and threatened

Attance and Mrs. Joseph Kegg, who has Cochran and Murray were arrested horse the free horseshoeing. The and released on bond. No attempt proceeds of the card party will be de- was made to arrest Jenkins.

The trouble grew out of fines imposed by Judge Cochran on Jenkins for whipping a negro. Jenkins was Washington . The number of hogs preparing evidence to submit to the and pigs in the United States is estigrand jury, on which he hoped to have smated officially at 54,794,000, and their the judge indicted for public drunk PHANAR

STORY OF SOUTH SEA SHARK.

He Swallows an Alarm Clock, with Most Unusual Results.

While crossing among the South sea islants 30 odd years ago in our privale yacht, the Haute Flyer, we were much annoyed by a large Irish setter shark that persisted in following the ship, says a writer in the Minneapolis Journal. During the night the shark would often climb up on deck and tip over the garbage can. At one time Henry Williams, a sailor before the mast, was bitten on the leg by the brute. He simed a kick at the brute, who growled, showed his teeth, and sunk his fangs into Wililams' limb before leaping over the rail into the

One day the cook, annoyed at his alarm clock-which persisted in going off furiously at all hours of the night-threw the timepiece everboard. The shark always on hand for dainty tidbits from the galley, took the time of day at one gulp. For two days after that we heard the clock going in ; a muffled way from the interior of the surprised shark, who was often seen with one fin on his head and the other on the pit of his stomach, evidently trying to diagnose his clock

We were standing on the stern of the ship one evening watching the shark, who was evidently feeling pretty sick. Suddenly the clock went off on him and the sailors, counting the strokes, noticed that it struck 23. When the shark heard this, he turned up and died before our eyes

WAS LOVE'S LABOR LOST.

Woman's First Act of Philanthropy Decidedly a Failure.

A lady who was recently appointed a visitor to a hospital for children. fearing that poor children failed to receive the same attention bestowed on those of richer parents, paid her first visit to the institution, intending to offect a change. In a ward she found a tiny boy guite alone. He informed her that there was another boy in the wards but that he was being examined bafore a clinic. The lady looked around her for evidences of neglect on the part of the attendants. A suit of clothes lay huddled on a chair Folding them in an orderly manner. she said

"Surely, my dear, these trousers are too long for you by several inches." "Yes'm," replied the boy

"A sin and a shame," cried she and took a "companion" from her best She sat down and cut off the less of the garment and hemmed the edges.

"Now," she said, triumphantly when the task was complete. They will fit you better

The other boy's taller than me replied the child. "They belong to

Chile Welcomes, Japaness. In Chile at any rate the Japanese immigrant is made welcome. The Chilean government offers consider able inducements to agricultural and fishing immigrants. Forty acres of rich land are given outright to each settler: 20 more to each son 18 years of age or more; a yoke of oxen, a set of farm implements and \$15 a month in cash for the first year. This is regarded as an excellent inducement to the lapanese farmer to leave his little farm of something less than an acre and go to Chile. Moreover. a practical monopoly of the entire fishing industry of a country having 3,000 miles of coast abounding in splendid fish, but practically without a fishing class, holds out an additional bait to a people versed in sea fishing.

Bell Warns Florists of Danger. An electric bell tinkled sharply beside the florist's desk. "Frost'" he said and ran hatless to the green houses. "The fires had sunk." the florist explained on his return. "The watchman had tallen asleep. But for my frost bell. I'd have lost hundreds of dollars. Frost bells are now pretry generally used by florists and fruit growers," he went on "An electrical contrivance is connected with a ther mometer and when the mercury falls to a certain point-you regulate this danger point to suit yourself-a bell rings a warning in your house or office. Many a crop of winter fruit and flowers has been saved in the past years or two by the clever little frost

Rebuked His Honor. Henry W. Ely, well known Westfield (Mass.) lawyer, once defended a man who was on trial for murder. While cross-examining a witness be was interrupted by the judge, who informed him that he was unnecessarily using too much of the court's valuable time. Turning squarely around Mr. Ely realised: "Your honor, this is not a question of time, but a question of eternity." It is needless to say that Mr Ely continued the cross-examina-

Where Her Father Was. The daughter of the house had just returned from boarding-school. Her finishing branches had made her a little sensitive "Is your father out in the woodshed splitting wood?" the caller asked her "No," replied the haughty girl, "papa is at the town meeting splitting infinitives."

Immense Sum Spent for Towels. The growing use of small, individual towels instead of roller towels has brought on increase in the national expenditure. Few hotels now use roller towels, the germ theory having made such an impression on the public mind Last year about \$4,800,000 was spent for towels.

ALL BLUNDER AT TIMES

Occasional Misstep No Cause for Lifelong Regret.

Has it ever occurred to you that it may be a portion of your part on the programme of life to make mistakes and appear ridiculous in the eyes of your fellow-men!

Once in awhile, for purposes too secret for you to fathom, some sne must play the fool, in order that the procession of numbers may move off right and the climax appear as was intended by the great master of ceremonies, whose name is Destiny.

Don't mind too much, then, your failures and mistakes and foolishness-All men have known such moments of humiliation. The wisest and most notable were never wise and noble at all times.

What right have you to expect always to shine in the eyes of others -to play always a heroic and applauded prat? It is part of your relations with men that you should at times appear in a foolish and ignominious cast

Accept it all as a portion of life, and your actions will take their right place in perspective, leaving no bitterness or remorse or humiliation.

... BUYING LAND IN KOREA.

Business Transaction Into Which Tact Enters Largely.

Land buying in Korea is a process which calls for both time and patience A Japanese investigator who has been making inquiries on the subject has found that the price at which land may be produced differs greatly with the skill of the purchaser. Any hasty attempt to buy burts the feelings of the owner, and creates opposition. The best plan is to select the district on which one's fancy rests, and either settle quietly down there or send an agent to do so instead, letting it be known in a general sort of way that one is disposed to buy. Then the Koreans who class transactions in land in the same category with the sale or purchase of movable chattels -that is to say, as a mere means of procuring or spending money-will of themselves come and offer to sell. Then, by the exercise of a little ba tience a considerable tract may be very cheaply acquired in a few years

Evil of Believing in Signs. A man who saw the moon over his right shoulder and was feeling pretty safe for the month began the next day by falling over the railing of the back porch with a pan of ashes to his hand. There was just ace ensuch on the porch to throw him against the railing which was just gh emough to give him the neces mary the and the law of gravitation and the aspes did the rest. The neigh bor who saw him alight said it resembled the firing of some old Fourth of July cannon loaded with the old-fash joined smoky powder and charged with ashpan, grief and profanity. The man cussed everything from the new moon to breakfast. That's what you get for believing in signs. And yet you can not tell from the context of the story whether or not the man was trying to empty his ashes on a Friday. That might explain something --Minneapolis Journal

Nitric Acid from Air. Sir William Crookes has discovered how to get nitric acid from the air. but the discovery has long been looked for "I have before me." writes a correspondent of the London Chron icle, "a manual of chemistry in which I find a eulogy of nitrogen and its compounds, such as nitric acid and the so-called compound ammonias . Who ever, says the inspired chemist, suc ceeds in producing those bodies in abundance from the nitrogen of the atmosphere without the use of organic materials will not only amass a princely fortune but must rank as one of the greatest benefactors of the human race, inasmuch as such a discovery would open up an almost infinite supply of matter for the fertilization of the land."

Common Sense and the Play. There are many plays in which if the characters exercised a little common sense or asked an obvious question, the complications would be straightened out and the play would suddenly stop long before it reached its destined end. Edward E. Rose, the playwright, best known for his dramatizations, was discussing with a friend a play of this type "Why doesn't the heroine ask the hero such and such a question at the end of the second act?" the friend asked. "Because," Mr. Rose replied. "If she did she'd be discharged."-The Reader.

Her Premonition. "Claribel," called out the gentleman in a loud, rasping, and emphatic voice from the head of the staircase at 11:30 p m., "you tell that long-haired, sallow-faced, spider-legged feller in the parlor there to take his hat and walk off, and if ever he comes here again ['ll kick him right through his necktie' Alfred murmured the young woman, pensively, "something seems to tell me we'd better part."-Stray Stories.

Grandfather's Likeness So Natural. At a gathering of artists once sev eral of the older ones got together and began telling of the marvelous masterpieces they had produced in their days. When everything had quieted down a bit an old man ever in the corner was beard to remark: "Yes, I once painted a likeness of my grandfather, and it was so natural that I had to take it down twice a week and shave it "-Judgo's Library.

GAB AND ITS CENTERARY.

Illuminant Was First Looked Uson with Much Alarm.

Gas, as a practical illuminant, passed its century mark on January 28. On that day in 1807 there was in London "a new and singular spectacle," according to the account of a visitor, "the whole range of Pall Mall, from St. James' to Cockspur street, was lighted up by means of lamps fed with gas instead of cotton and oil, and certainly in a style of much superior brilliancy. This was the first instance of street lighting by coal gas in London or in any other city. The merit of the enterprise is due to Winson a German, company-promoting expert, who was especially interested in the question of economic fuel. His pamphlets however contained so much extravagant fansticism and quackery that they retarded rather than furthered his schemes, which met with an extraordinary amount of opposi-

tion, even from enlightened people Sir Walter Scott wrote that there was a madman proposing to light London with smoke. Awful consequences were predicted. The gas would polson the air and blow up the inhabitants: it was explosive dangerous, offensive and unmanageable, the pipes conveying it would be not and apt to produce confiagrations The lamplight ers to a man opposed the new mode of street lighting, and it is curious to notice the great hesitation as to its possibility expressed in contemporary scientific and popular literature

When a chartered company was at length formed in 1810, the shareholders were pitied as idiots, and David Pollock, for 39 years its governor, received some extraordinary answers in doggarel rhyme from otherwise super and staid individuals whom he had asked to take shares

MAN OF STRANGE CHARACTER

First Duke of Mariborough Well Called Human Enigma.

Herbert Paul, in his book on Queen Anne of England, paints a new pic ture of the great duke of Maribor

He was not truthful. He was not straightforward He was not honest. In his love of money and his capacity for hoarding it he rivaled those wretched misers who have done no more than contemplate their gains And yet such are the strange fronts in which nature indulges. This mean and selfish intreaguer was endowed with perfect courage, with an irresistible charm of manner, with a temper which even his wife failed to disturb, with a brain that no sophistry could obscure, and with a military gonius before which criticism is humbly

He was truncherous even in a treacherous age. Wholly devoid of cruelty and by nature humane, he is said never to have sacrificed an unnecessary life. He used his fellow creatures for his own purposes, and when he had no further use for, them he forgot their existence. He made his plans and carried them out with the absolute efficiency of sheer intelligence and the serene implacability of impersonal fate

. An Old-Time Playful Prisoner. The centenary has been noted rescently in London of what the Annual Register called a most unparallelled atrocity." It was only the theft of a pocket handkerchief from a pocket. but the circumstances of the deed explain the vehemence of this denunciation. Four men were on their trial for assaulting a man in his house at Ponder's End. putting him in fear and stealing from him:, and one of them relieved the tedium of the tria.. which lasted eight hours, by picking the pocket of one of the turnkrys as he stood in the dock. An official had the presence of mind to order the restoration of the handkerchief, and the prisoner obeyed, "with the most careless indifference," but the court, we read. 'were horror-struck'' Justice, however, pulled itself together sufficiently to sentence all four men to death.

He Lost His Nosc. A butcher in New Orleans coat his apprentice boy with two knives to be sharpened. After a keen edge had been placed on them, the bey started back for the shop. On the way he began tossing one of the knives in the air, the same as he had seen a indictor do. He didn't prove to be much of a juggler, however. After the third or fourth toes the knife came down and cut his nose off as slick as you please. and he was rushed to a hospital. They are going to make him a nose of wax to replace the one be lost, but he will have to be very careful how he lets other folks pull it.

Modern France.

One must go through the provinces of France to find her men and understand the source of her past power. Those we meet with daily are a fine. muniy-looking lot of fellows-bright eyes and erect, sturdy figures, nothing effeminate about them, in all ways amperior to the men of the towns, who would seem to be descended from the old men and boys, all Napoleon left in the land in his world race for self-

Information Held Back. There had been a fatal railroad acci Sent and the reporter sought informs tion. "See here," said the official testily, "you fellows must think we have accidents for your benefit." "Perhaps you wouldn't mind telling me whose benefit you do have them for?" rejoined the reporter. But even touch ing this point the official was retiPLEA WAS WITHOUT AVAIL

Lawyer's Impassioned Utterances Went All for Naught.

Odd bits of spontaneous bumor frequently serve to relieve the solemnity and atrain of trials in the courts in a trial before Judge Kersten in the criminal court the other day counsel for the defendant recognizing that be had a desperate case, made a particularly strong appeal to the jury, says the Chicago Chroniele. His plea was of the emotional order, and the crowd ed court room was hushed as the lawyer exaited his client and begged for the leniency of the jary.

In his closing oratorical flight the attorney, extending both arms toward his client, gazed fixedly at the jurors and impressively observed: "Gentlemen of the jury, in all the attributes of manhood in everything which goes to constitute good citizenship, my client is a stalwart. There he sits, a staiwart physically and mentally: s stalwart in integrity and probity

Then the lawyer sat down. In the rear of the room sat a little man who had been deeply interested in the proceedings in court. As the judge was preparing to instruct the jury and silence was supreme, the little man leaned toward the occupant of a sext near him and in a shrill voice said "I am a little hard of hearing, what kind of a wart did he say the man

on trial as?" A wave of laughter flusted over the court room his honor smiled, while the bailiff gaveled for order. The defendant was convicted.

AND THE CAT CAME BACK.

Rose Superior to Little Matters Like Chloroform and Burial.

John Burroughs, the famous nature student is never tired of ridiculing the new actuol of nature writers, the school that attributes a quite human intelligence to animais and insects

"Mr Burroughs dined with me one night said a magazine editor of New York and among my guests was a York, and among my guests was young nature writer of the new school "This young man told a wonderful

story about the intelligence of oy sters. He said he was going to put the story in his new book. Mr Burroughs gave a dry laugh and said Let me tell you about a cat. This

story is quite as authentic as the other one, and it should do for your book nicely "The student paused impressively,

then said "A Springfield couple had a cat that age had rendered belpless and they put it out of its misery by means of chioroform. They buried it in the garden, and planted a rosebush over miliar scratching took them to the front door, and there was the cat waiting to be let in, with the rosebush under its arm

The Lion's Mouth.

The use of the lion's mouth as the vent of a fountain is so common that it cannot be regarded as accidental As a matter of fact, the custom - like so many customs -not fergetting the fountain pen came from Egypt, which adopted it because the annual inundation of the Nile takes place when the suc is in the constellation Leo- the hon. The aliusion is too-obvious to need pointing out. The oldest fixed date (424) B C.; can be traced to Egyp', where the calendar was introduced in the middle of the forty-third century, and the history of modern ship-building began in Egypt, where it can be traced to about 3000 B. C. The most recent discoveries give to the land of Egypt a clean run of about 11,000 years without any admixture of foreign races. Egypt, land of hidden mysteries, great mother of science and art, what thinking mind has not dreamed of thee'"

John Brown's Safe. Lovers of the antique would rejoice in the possession of a quain! old iron safe which was discovered in an outof the way place in Springfield. Mass.. not long ago. The sale was probably used by its original owner when he raised sheep and said their wooi. It is large enough to hold all the profits that Brown might have reaped in his wool business. The discovery has been made by Col. John L. Rice. of Springfield, Mass. Instead of keeping his prize, however, Col. Rice has turned the curious old article over to the Connecticut Valley Historical society. The safe must have contained many interesting documents during its sojourn under Brown's roof, and it would be interesting to get hold of

some of them

Cross Purposes Marshall Wilder tells of an elderige lady in Cohoes, who, besides her deafness, experienced much trouble with taise teeth. Consequently, she was disposed to regard this world as a vale of tears. A neighbor, passing her house one day, seheld the lady sitting at the window, wearing an expression of more than usual gloom. Thinking to cheer the unfortunate one, the good-hearted meighbor screamed at the top of her voice "Good-morning, Mrs Blank Fine weather we're having "Yes," replied the elderly lady, "but I can't eat with 'em vet."

Chewing Gum Habit Spreads Only in America is chewing guille made. Until quite recently it was consumed principally in this country too. but now other countries are waking up For instance, a Glasgow dispatch recently stated that, whereas a few vears are Scotland was free from the chewing gum habit, now a large part of the population chews gum

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS