The most valuable incense sticks in China and those which seldom, if ever, re imported into this country are ose in the manufacture of which Tibetan incense is used. These sticks are tide. For preference it likes a bed of made almost exclusively for the imperial court, which requires them for bed it attaches itself by the ligature Il its ceremonies.

are never allowed to be wholly conly extinguished when about three inchfriends or foreign visitors. The cheapest variety of the Tibetan incense stick omes in thin sticks of great length and costs from 21/2 to 5 cents a stick. The larger and more costly sticks range in value from \$1 to \$2. The Chinese have a tradition or a theory that the smoke from one of these costy Tibetan sticks, if the genuine Tibean incense has been used, will rise to great height without being affected by the wind, no matter how strongly t may be blowing .- New York Herald.

Africa's Gold Coast.

The Gold Coast is a British colony on the west coast of Africa. Its climate is notoriously unhealthy, the heat and moisture being excessive; the coast is lined with unhealthy swamps and shallow lakes, while the peculiar rock of the country is said to give off. under the influence of the air and moisture, large quantities of hydrogen gas. The native towns are crowded and dirty, intermittent fevers and other diseases being always present. These are peculiarly fatal to Europeans, though the natives do not suffer so much. The whole region is more or less a gold producing country, but at present the value of the territory is chiefly due to the profusion of vegetable products supplied by the rich Cocoanut and palm oil, bread fruit, Indian corn, yams, sweet potatoes, limes and oranges are only some out of many other valuable productions of this territory. The principal exports are gold dust and palm oil.

Some Mysteries of Dress.

We have wondered at the popularity of the fez in the east in spite of its apparent unsuitability to eastern suns. Sir Charles Eliot has some observations which are in point. "Dress in the east is a matter determined by rank or race and is not affected by such trifles as climate or temperature. Some people think it proper to go about almost naked, others bury themselves under a mountain of clothes, but all would scorn the idea of putting on an overcoat because it was cold or leaving off a fur lined robe because the thermometer was at 90 degrees in the shade." These remarks are made in connection with the Bulgarian women's gala costume-white linen gown with woolen embroidery on skirt and sleeve, various sleeveless garments over this and above all a thick quilted jacket and voluminous sash. In all this they will perform the national dance throughout a blazing afternoon. -Pall Mall Gazette.

Changed His Mind.

office one morning when a middle aged | ed with an atomizer with a thin solu woman entered, bringing with her a tion of artists' shellac, and then, should wild gleam in her eye. "Can you lend me \$20?" she asked,

calling the senator by name.

"but I'm afraid I can't this morning. I'm pretty hard up."

which she had taken without invita- dome shaped webs may be preserved continued. "In fact, I've just escaped them with shellac and then allowing from a lunatic asylum." The gleam in them to dry before removal from their her eye got wilder, and she began to supports. Many spiders' webs are very wave her hand bag in long swinging beautiful, and all are characteristic of motion before her. "I just got out the species to which they belong, so vesterday." she said.

"That being the case," concluded the permanent preservation is very desirsenator somewhat hastily, "here's the able. twenty."-Washington Star.

The Absentminded Record.

Duluth is the home of a woman who in the line of absentmindedness has the whole world beaten to a finish. She is absentminded from the time she wakes up until the moment she goes to sleep.

"Emily." a friend asked her on one occasion, "how old was your mother when she died?"

"I don't know," replied Emily sweetly. "You know she died long before I was born."-Popular Magazine.

Life's Crucible. It was said of Diderot that in his invariable optimism be was like one of the old alchemists, who always found gold in his crucible because he had first put it there. That is what the instructed soul learns to do, for life consists always of what we put into

Hard Hearted.

Poor Bickers has a very hard hearted wife," said Trivvet. 'What's the trouble now?" asked

She not only broke the broomstick over his head, but made him go to the store and buy another."

Nature.

Nature paints the best part of the picture, carves the best part of the statue, builds the best part of the house and speaks the best part of the oration.

Marine Yarn.

Filpper-And how did your boat come to be wrecked? Skipper-Well, you see, she was making so many nots the crew wasn't able to unravel

He that loses his conscience has nothing left that is worth keeping .-

The mussel's natural home is at the bottom of the sen, never in very water and yet deep enough to be mor ly always covered at any state of the sand or smooth, fine gravel. To the like growth on the shell known as the The sticks are long and thin and byssus, and thus, standing on end with its point to the bottom of the sea, sumed by the court. They are careful- it forms itself in a dense man so closely packed together that not an es remain. These remnants are either inch of the sea floor is visible. As sold or given by court officials to new ones come they do not extend the ground space occupied, but range themselves one on top of another in layers, all firmly fixed together by a tiving cord of connection. In this position they are exposed to many dangers. A heavy storm may break the mass to pieces and disperse its constituents far and wide. An alteration of the tidal current may sweep a sand avalanche upon them and bring about their end by suffocation. Even if they escape these dangers it is certain that bottom layers will be crushed out of

> The Vegetable Lamb. Ore of the most remarkable natural fetishes in the world is the Chinese kouchi, called by some people "the vegetable lamb." It is regarded by the natives of China as something supernatural. They believe it to be part vegetable and part animal. The plant certainly bears a resemblance to an animal, although it might be taken for a pig as readily as a lamb. Kouchi is composed principally of the plant known as rhizome and springs from seed. After attaining its full height roots and tendrils spring from the fiber and grow downward until they enter the earth. It is this peculiar formation which has caused it to be regarded with so much awe. The Chinese claim that after it has reached its full size it ceases to be vegetable and turns animal, feeding upon the tender shoots of plants which grow near it .- Wairarapa Times.

> A Submerged Crater. During the explosion of the volcano of Krakatoa, in the strait of Sunda, in 1883, a large part of the Island of Krakaton was blown away, and the sea took its place. Not long afterward measurements were made of the shape and depth of the cavity left covered with water at the northern end of the disrupted island. The results were published by Dr. Verbeek in 1886. Lately Dr. Von Bemmelen has remeasured the submerged basin formed by the explosion, and he finds that within the partial ring formed by the three remaining islands of the Krakatoa group there is a central basin, oval in shape and with a fairly level floor, having a depth over a considerable area of 820 feet. Comparison with the former measures indicates that there has been no change in the sea floor during the intervening years. There is no sign of volcanic activity.

Preserving Spiders' Webs. Naturalists employ an ingenious method of preserving all kinds of spi-A southern senator was alone in his ders' webs. The webs are first spraythey be of the ordinary form, they are pressed carefully against a glass plate, the supporting "I'm sorry," replied the lawmaker, strands at the same time being severed. After the sheline solution has dried the plates carrying the webs can The visitor fidgeted in the chair be stored away in a cabinet. Even "I need \$20 very badly," she in their original form by spraying that from a scientific standpoint their

> How Flying Fish Fly.
>
> The popular notion that flying fish beat their "wings" is a mistake, if we are to rely upon the results of studies of these fish made by no less an authority than Captain Barett Hamilton. It appears that the wings are not true organs of flight, but rather play the part of a parachute or an aeroplane. The whole motive power is supplied by the tail, which acts as a propeller. and the vibration or quivering of the wings in the air currents and their occasional shift of inclination are not phenomena connected with the propulsion of the fish in its aerial flight.

Deer In Scotland. The deer are probably the safest crop in Scotland. Oats may perish and never ripen by reason of too early frosts and long continued wet. Grouse may have disease and cease to count on any moor for several years. Sheep are generally voted of less value than grouse. But deer are very rarely af fected by the seasons in such a way as to touch the sport and the letting value of forests.-Illustrated Sporting

Where Now! The Family Friend-My dear, I dare say you find comfort in the thought that you made your husband happy while he lived. The Widow and retzing the double-meaning of her words) -Yes, indeed. Poor Jack was to beeren until he died .- London Sketch.

Tact.
"How shall I close this letter to Stowpay-'yours truly' or 'respectfully?" "Say 'respectfully,' but add, to prentheses, 'for the last time." gende Blatter.

Great men should think of oppor nity and not of time. Time is the cuse of feeble minded and spirits.-Disraeli.

A Paris contemporary relates an interesting story of Liszt. The great planist was living in a little German town when Diriks, the Norwegian place, thinking he would be able to man. had been installed in his new quarplanist's acquaintance. The painter had been trying his art for about two hours, and then he gave up in despair. He went outside, and at the same time Liszt came out for a breath of fresh

The painter addressed the planist, and this dialogue ensued: "Are you the planist, monsieur, whom I have heard all day?" "Yes, monsieur." "It is very irritating." "Alas, monsieur, you do not love music?" "I detest it." "It is very regrettable, but I must practice." "But you disturb me in my work. Moreover, you play atrociously." "Ah, you think so? It is the first time any one has ever told me so." "Judging from your age, there have been many opportunities," was the painter's answer. Then there was silence for a moment. Liszt, going indoors, contented himself with the observation, "My name is Liszt."

Nature's Parachutes.

Careful examination has been made of the heads of Canada thistledowns in order to determine their effectiveness as parachutes carrying the seeds the air. The results of this examination are quite remarkable. Calculafrom an elevation of twenty feet in it would be carried on the average face exposed to the air in an average number of bairlets, a little more than one-third of a square foot. Another well known and very beautiful example of nature's parachutes is furnished by the light silken threads with the aid of which the little gossamer spider makes long aerial voyages .- Scientific American.

Making Love by Telephone. Woolng is a slightly more complicated matter in Sardinia than it is bere. The marriage customs are very curious. If a father has a marriage able daughter the would be suitor ap-

plies to him for permission to see her as she goes to church, or in the event of her not wishing to be seen he communicates with her by means of a specles of telephone which has been in use since time immemorial. It is a long string with a wooden knob at each end. The father's permission having been given, the lady drops one knob out of the window and, the shut ters being closed, places the other knob to the ear, while down below her would be lover pours his protestations into the knob she has thrown into the street. Sometimes this curious form of courtship continues for two or three

Longfellow's Incomplete Library. and who came often to see him. One day the child looked earnestly at the enemies. long rows of books in the library and at length said. "Have you got 'Jack

years, the man never seeing the face

of his inamorata.

the Glant Killer?" Longfellow was obliged to confess that his library did not contain that hind him more or less fearfully. His venerated volume. The little boy look | father, deep in meditation, was not noed very sorry and presently slipped | ticing until finally a small voice said: down from his knee and went away, but early next morning Longfellow saw him coming up the walk with something tightly clasped in his little fists. The child had brought him 2 cents with which he was to buy a "Jack the Giant Killer," to be his own. -Annie Field, "Authors and Friends."

An investigator given to the collection of curious data has observed that there are at least three different tones emitted by insects-a low one during fight, a higher one when the wings | ned broadly and the officer saw, but are held in such manner that they do said naught. Such antimilitarism is not vibrate and a yet higher tone when the insect is held so that none of its limbs can be moved. This last, it is pointed out, is the "voice proper" of the insect. In some cases it is produced by the stigmata of the thorax.

Thoughtful Painter. "I see you are paying the bospital expenses of that painter who fell off

"Yes. He's too good a man to lose. As be went down he touched up two or three places which would have been very bard to reach."-Louisville Courier-Journal.

Where It Hurts. "I tell you," said Sinnick, "men are getting so deceitful these days that

you can't trust your best friends." "And, what's worse," interrupted Borroughs gloomily, "you can't get your best friends to trust you. - Catholic Standard and Times.

It Certainly Did.
"Johnny," said the Sunday school teacher, "can you tell me what caused Heraid. the flood?" "Yes, ma'am," answered the little fellow; "It rained."-Chicago News,

Wigg-That was a pretty old joke Borem cracked at dinner. Wagg-Borem didn't crack it. That joke has been cracked for years.-Philadelphia Rec

The true art of memory is the art

Teaching the Teacher.

The teacher of the first grade in the district school in the cattle country had much trouble with the six-year-old boy who was the sole member of that painter, went to reside at the same grade. The boy is the son of a cattle-After a week or so of refusal work there without interruptions. He to learn the alphabet the teacher said: "Johnny, if you do not learn your ters only one day when he made the letters you never will know anything.

"Shucks!" replied Johnny. "I know more'n you do." "Why, Johnny, what do you mean by such talk?" gasped the teacher. "I

never heard of such impudence." Johnny bolted for the blackboard and drew half a dozen cattle brandsthe Flying D. the Lazy B, the Triangle Dot, the Lazy Crutch, the Bar 7 and some others.

"What's them?" be asked. The teacher couldn't guess. "Well," said Johnny, "don't you talk to me no more about them things you call letters when you can't tell cattle

brands apart." - Saturday Evening The World's Worst Penman.

Most remarkable among execrable writers was John Bell, the barrister of whom Lord Eldon said to the prince regent that he was the ablest equity lawyer of his time, though he ould "neither read, write, walk nor talk." Bell was a cripple, and his Westmorland accent combined with his stammer to make his speech unin of the plant to great distances through telligible. The character of his writings appears from his own statement that he had three styles, one of which tion shows that a thistledown starting he could read, but his clerk could not, while the second was intelligible to his still air would require two-thirds of a clerk, but not to himself, and the third minute to reach the ground. With a haffled both of them. Something simwind blowing twenty miles an hour tlar is told of Henry Ward Beecher, whose daughter, acting as his copyist, about a fifth of a mile. The total sur- had three chief rules-that no dotted letter of his was meant for an "i," thistledown is, on account of the great that no crossed letter stood for a "t" and that no capital letter ever began a sentence.-London Chronicle.

Drunkenness In China.

As regards the sobriety of the Chinese there seems to be a difference of opinion, and it is a question upon which writers disagree, but it seems to be the general opinion that very few intoxicated men or women are seen upon the streets. What drinking is done-and from all accounts there must be considerable-is carried on within doors. Habitual drunkenness is punished by banishment and servitude. but occasional intoxication is only a matter of comment, and the result is the notifying a person on the street in which he lives that so and so is drunk, and if the subject is not boisterous the affair is let drop. But, on the other hand, if he is noisy and shows a disposition to quarrel and fight be is at once taken to his rooms and compelled to remain there until the effect of the liquor has worn away .- New York Sun.

Concerning Freshmen.

James, aged five, and Sarab, aged seven, were the children of a profess or and took a great interest at the beginning of the college year in the class collisions which they daily witnessed on the campus. They discussed the of whom Longfellow was very fond James usually preferred the freshmen. while Sarah always sided with their

One afternoon James was trotting across the campus, holding tightly to his father's band. His little face was quite serious, and he kept looking be-

"Father, they wouldn't mistake a little boy for a freshman, would they?"-Woman's Home Companion.

Antimilitarism In Germany. At Strassburg I saw a general leave barracks. The sentries stood at attention, then when he had passed on they both at the same instant mimicked his guit, which was peculiar, behind his back-sentries, mind you! I have also seen street boys in Germany mock the paradeschritt of troopers when an officer passed by, and the troopers grinunthinkable in France.-London Globe.

He Made the Sale "Yes, the property is cheap enough Why do you want to sell it?" "You won't give me away?"

"Well, sir, it's because I'm the only man in this neighborhood that doesn't move in high society, and I'm lonesome."-Chicago Tribune.

Naval Salutes.

Originally a town or a warship fired off its guns on the approach of friendly strangers to show that they had such faith in the visitors' peaceful intentions they didn't think it necessary to keep their guns loaded. Hence the naval salute.

Old Fashioned. "What's the trouble with you and your flance? Is be jealous?" Well, he isn't exactly jealous, but he's what you might call old fashloned. He doesn't want me to be en-

waged to anybody eise."- Washington

Marked Resemblance. "Grace, is that sweetheart of yours an auctioneer?" "No, father. Why?" Because he keeps on saying he's gohig-going-going, but he hasn't gone

Good Sense. Good sense is as different from genius as perception is from invention; yet, though distinct qualities, they quently subsist together.

and the committee of the ward and the period

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