QUEER ASTRONOMY.

THAT OF THE CHINESE, FOR IT IS AS YET MERELY ASTROLOGY.

There Is No Telescope In the Peking Observatory, but Many Elaborate Instruments of No Apparent Use—Wonderful Bell In the Observatory Tower.

Astronomy in China is in a very primitive condition. The observatory at Peking is the only one belonging to China which is of any importance. It is situated upon a terrace which runs along the fortifications of the city and could, if necessary, be used as a fortress.

The instruments which it contains are remarkable for their beautiful workmanship and artistic beauty rather than for their scientific value. Perhaps the most interesting of these is the large bronze quadrant cast by Louis XIV to the Chinese Emperor Kang Hi in the seventeenth century. It is still in good order and is consequently the most accurate instrument in the whole collection. The chief piece of the observatory is an extremely ornate bronze instrument which was constructed by the chief astronomer of the Emperor Kang Hsi Kuan in the fourteenth century. The form of the instrument somewhat resembles a modern sextant, but its use is problematical. This astronomer, whose name was Kou Shou Kung, may be called the father of Chinese astronomy, for he was the first to construct instruments of any practical value, and the observatory owes to him nearly all its astronomical appliances. The gigantic celestial sphere is another object of interest. Though it has a diameter and weighing more than a ton, yet it can be easily rotated by a child, so carefully is it balanced.

The instruments are all of very common construction. Dillon was a very cursory consideration to appearance, and the native workmen who constructed them were far more concerned about the dragons with flames issuing from their mouths and the tortuous figures adorning the instruments than they were about the accuracy of the divisions.

The number of men employed by the Celestial government to manage the observatory is very large. Including all the officials and salaried students, there are 300. There is a chief officer at the head, and after him are directors, subdirectors and assistant subdirectors without number.

A post in the Peking observatory, though honorary, is considered to be a very important position, and the present chancellor is an uncle of the emperor.

His subordinates are also men of rank, the two directors having a right to the button of precious stone and a peacock's image of the sun varnish, which is worn on the hat. Their offices are hereditary rather than only men in China which are, because they alone have the calculation tables which the Jesuits introduced in the seventeenth century, and they keep them carefully hidden away.

One of the principal features in a modern observatory is a telescope. In the Peking observatory there is not a single telescope, and there never has been one, or at least there is no record of it. This is not astonishing in view of the fee which the Chinese make of astrology. The only real value it has for them is to determine their luck days and the dates of Buddhist feasts which the emperor periodically holds at the various temples when he executes the sacrifices and performs the rites laid down in the sacred books.

The astronomy of the Chinese was in fact and is yet merely astrology. The duty of fixing these dates falls upon the officials of the observatory, and the council of the board also meets on the last day of every year, and at midnight the chief officer ascends to ascertain the direction of the wind and inform the board. They then draw their conclusions, and the result is circulated far and wide.

The most favorable direction of the wind is from the southeast, and happy is the year in which every sort of happiness may be expected during the coming year. The Chinese year begins Feb. 14. On that date, 1894, the wind was from the southeast.

The clocks used in the observatory are all water clocks, like the ancient clepsydra of the Romans, and an important part of the duties of the observatory officials is to ring the changes of the nightly watches on the great bell of Peking, which hangs in the bell tower and weighs 120,000 pounds, is 14 feet high, 34 feet in circumference and is made of bronze 9 inches thick. It is struck by a wooden beam, so that the tones made by it is not proportionate to its size.

In the drum tower are kept the incense sticks, which are continually kept burning and which mark the passage of time in conjunction with the water clocks. Such are the principal features which the Chinese possess for learning associated with astronomical subjects and though the history of Chinese astronomy begins with that of the empire, yet the fact remains that the earth is the unimportant center of the world.—New York World.

Knocked by the Innocents.

An old clerk who met Beaudoin yesterday recounted the story with a touch of life he said: "There's just the fellow! and he: "Why, this is the old man who lies and politely to the world except from children." A friend of sympathy in the world's pity, and he was so sorry he had not all of his old money out of it.—Florida Times-Union.

RESIGNATION OF BAKER.

Some Needs Spread Several Times—Which Leads the Line of Goods to Repudiation.

It does generally seem to us perhaps that never made and performance but once lately, but several times, if the process is interrupted. How often for various men and in dealing with what pertaining is material, check up manage and many the work when favorable conditions are reduced but not lost the subject of very unwelcome investigation. Professor Gill, when connected with the Cape Observatory appointment thirteen years ago, and Professor Kiepert, of the Michigan Agricultural college also investigated the subject to some extent in the early eighties. More extensive work has been done by the University of Wisconsin.

The various tests have made it appear that there is a great difference in the power of different kinds of seeds to germinate. Which leads the 700 in the experiments reported from the Wisconsin station and in attempts to the number of times it will pick up seeds, it having germinated no less than 14 times, with 100 days' drying in the intervals between these several germinations. One germinated six times with 25 days' drying, nineteen five times with 50 days' drying, twenty-six times germinated twice, getting a very small percentage the second time, while sixty and ninety and twenty germinated but once, and three had but a very small percentage if germinated after the first one. The practical bearing of these facts is that they account for the frequent failures urged a "trouble" of grass or clover in a dry season. If either timothy or clover starts to germinate and the germination is arrested from any cause, it will not be renewed, even though the next favorable conditions should follow. It is otherwise with wheat, and even with corn, though with a less extent than the wheat.

The methods which the growth is renewed is dwarfing of noting. In case of grass and corn, the dwarfing and usually dies, while the sprouting corn becomes growth, throwing out roots from the joint. With barley, wheat, rye, and with all the grains such tendency dwarfing arts relates its vitality and resumes growth, although the extreme end of the culms is generally killed by the drying. The upper part usually begins, the culms usually at at the lower and are finally developed number of culms. In the case of the oats and barley, and corn, culms often dwarf up, when the dwarfing arts has been entirely destroyed, from the base of the embryos or seed leaves.

What to Do For Bugs.

There is no disease more dreaded or more fatal among fowls than the roup. Here are the opinions of several well known poultry men on the subject as expressed in letters to Rural New Yorker. James Hankin says: Bugs in the advanced stage is very contagious, so effectual means of totally smoking from the nostrils and coughing with the drinking water. I would advise isolating the affected birds and treating their drinking water with Bendar solution. I would use ginger in their soft food and feed a little cayenne pepper mixed with boneless, using a feeding. This treatment will almost always effect a cure.

James H. Kelly says: If the trouble is merely a cold which is likely to find in roup, use nothing but the drinking water and throw a small quantity of permanganate of potash in the pan and drink. But if a bad case, and it has settled down into roup, the best and safe advisement is the kennel, for it manages and and nine-tenths of poultry will so the time little and in the times worse. Affected birds must make healthy home.

J. H. Jacobs believes in destroying every sick, lame, disordered, the bugs and pigeons and adding a teaspoonful of Boyal carbolic acid to a gallon of drinking water for the well birds.

On the first appearance of a cold E. Williams advises feeding one a day soft food with ginger in it and distributing the bugs and nostrils of the sick. Kling with carbolic acid. Separate the sick birds from the flock and burn all that have swelled heads and starting growth with compounds all and burn it in the stove.

PIONEER MONUMENT.

Contributions from Far Away Tuba Ward in Arizona.

SAN JUAN ADDS ITS MITE.

Gunnison Also Honors the Pioneers and the List Is Growing Daily.

CARD FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY.

Salt Lake City, Jan. 15, 1895.

Notice is hereby given that contributions to the monument to be erected in Salt Lake City in memory of Brigham Young and the pioneers with hereafter, and until further notice, to be acknowledged through the columns of the DESERET NEWS. It is expected that agents for the collection of funds for this worthy purpose will be established in each ward in all the Stakes, and that and funds, with the list, names of the contributors, will be forwarded as frequently as convenient to Heber M. Wells, secretary of the Brigham Young Memorial Association, Salt Lake City, who will see that the same are properly acknowledged in the manner stated. We earnestly hope that the people will respond generously and promptly to this call so that if possible the monument may be completed, dedicated and unveiled in the jubilee by the 24th day of next October.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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Fifth Tuba ward, Snowflake Stake, Arizona, Bishop L. by W. W. Mitchell (Eq.):

Thomas Pulsipher	$1 00
Moses H. Tanner	1 00
Joseph W. Lee	1 00
Hyrum S. Lee	1 00
Ira Lee	1 00
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Joseph Robinson	1 00
Jesse Lee	1 00
Jesse Lee	1 00
Jesse Lee