Sunday School.

INTERNATIONAI LESSON NO. X. DECEMBER 6, 1903.

Solomon's Wise Choice.—I Kings 3; 4-15.

Commentary.—I. The Festival at Gibeon (vs. 1-4). 4. Went to Gibeon. —The first work of Solomon was to hold a national festival at Gibeon. This was the "great high place" till the temple was built. The chronicler informs us that Solomon assembled a great congregation about him, and that the brazen altar made in the days of Moses by Bezaleel and the old "tabernacle of the congregation" were still existing at that place. See 2nd Chron. i. 1-6.

II. Solomon's request (vs. 5-9.) 5. The Lord appeared—At the close of this season of worship when his mind was uplifted to God. In a dream —God frequently appeared to men in dreams in Bible times. Ask, etc.—As there is no limit fixed, an absolutely unlimited range of choice is here placed before Solomon. This would reveal what it was that was really uppermost in his desires.—Green.

6. Solomon said—"Solomon, before deciding what to choose, carefully considered his circumstances and needs, thus showing that well-balanced mind on which it was possible to bestow the gift of wisdom." Shewed . . . . mercy—Four considerations moved Solomon to make the choice he did. Truth . . Righteousness . . Uprightness — Truth here contains all duties to God; righteousness the duties to men; and uprightness the right manner of performing both.

7. Thy servant king. The second consideration was because he was king. Although Solomon recognized the fact that God and not man had placed him upon the throne, yet he needed divine assistance in his work. A little child. The third consideration was his youth and lack of experience. His exact age at this time is unknown, but it was probably nineteen or twenty.

8. In the midst. That is, Solomon is set over them as king. The fourth consideration was the greatness of the work to be done. All eyes are turned upon him, and he is expected to rule and guide the people. Thou hast chosen. It was not only a great nations, but the nation chosen to represent God before the world, and carry out his kingdom, and teach the world his truths. Cannot be numbered. There seems to be a reference in these words to the promises made by God to Abraham, more especially to Genesis, 13, 16. From the number of men given in 2 Sam., 24, 9 and 1 Chron., 21, 5, 6, it is inferred that the population was about 6,000,000. —Ibid.

9. Give therefore. Because of these considerations. An understanding heart. His request accorded with the exhortations David had given him. His petition was that the Lord would enlarge and strengthen his intellectual powers; give him a ready discernment in spiritual things, and a corresponding disposition. To judge. Absolom wished to be a judge; Solomon trembled at the undertaking. Solomon asked nothing merely for himself, but everything was directed toward the good of the people His choice was unselfish, noble and divine.

III God's answer (vs. 10-15). 10, 11. Pleased the lord. Although this conversation is represented as having taken place in a dream, yet it expressed Solomon's real desire during his waking moments. Solomon had prayed the day before with great fervency, and desired of God the gift of wisdom. "It was Solomon's waking prayers that God heard, but the acceptance was signified in this vision." —J., F. & B. First not asked. The greatness of Solomon's request is estimated by what he did not ask. He was unselfish. A weaker man would have desired either (1) long life; or (2) riches; or (3) the life of his enemies, that is, that God would take the life of his enemies, or put it in his power to destroy them.

12, 13. According to thy words—Those are accepted of God who prefer spiritual blessings to temporal, and are more desirous to be found in the way of duty than preferment. Solomon's prayer was a prevailing prayer.

14, 15. If thou wilt, etc.—"There is a moral hinge on which every blessing of God swings. Divine favors and promises release no man from the obligations of righteousness." Solomon never met these conditions fully. Came to Jerusalem—had made his prayer at Gideon, and there God graciously met him; but he returned to the capital again, where he might in holy adoration present himself before the sacred ark of the covenant, which was there in the city of David. Offered .....Offerings—Solemnly to praise God for all His mercies, and especially for giving him quiet possession of the kingdom, and for the glorious appearance to him in the dream, and for the promise made to him.

IV. Solomon's wisdom—Chap. iv. 29-31. In Chap. iv. 25-28 we have an account of Solomon's wealth and worldly greatness, and in verses 29-34 of his wisdom. "His wisdom took many directions. He was wise as a judge, as an architect, as a statesman, in literature, in science. He had a comprehensive, powerful mind, capable of grasping the knowledge of many and difficult subjects."

PRACTICAL SURVEY.

The power of choice. Man's destiny depends largely upon his power of personal choice. Two young men of equal talent and training may enter active life with the same possibilities and opportunities before them, but a divergence of aim and choice may develop in them characters startlingly in contrast, both as to their appreciation of this present life, and as to their expectations in the world to come. By deliberate choice the one may array himself on the side of civic purity, and become an earnest exponent of every reform movement, the other may join himself to the corrupting forces of society and be found among those to whom personal gain is more than purity or honor. The one may finally inherit life eternal, the other may go away to everlasting punishment. How important, then, that the right choice be made.

The choice of Solomon. God did not compel Solomon to choose as he did. He gave him the privilege of deciding for himself, and of expressing his own preference. Solomon was young and inexperienced. As he was scarcely twenty years of age, it was hardly to be expected that he would make so perfect and excellent a choice. There were a thousand other things that most men would have chosen before wisdom. 1. Solomon might have chosen the gift of an extensive empire. 2. Or greater wealth than man ever possessed. 3. Or a life of luxurious ease, long extended beyond that of his fellow men. He knew that the one gift he most needed was not in the power of princes or millionaires to grant. God alone could grant it, and now when the door of opportunity was fully opened to him he entered at once and besought the invaluable gift of wisdom and of an understanding heart.;

The excellence of heavenly wisdom. 1. Its character: It is pure, peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy, full of good fruits, without partiality, without hypocrisy. 2. Its value: It is an ornament of grace to the head; the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver; the gain thereof is better than fine gold; it is more precious than rubies; all the things that can be desired are not to be compared unto it, 3. The inestimable benefits that attend its possession: It gives subtlety to the simple; it enables a man to attain unto wise counsels; it gives discretion to the inexperienced; it adds length of days and long life and peace; it leads to favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

The understanding heart. Such a heart was given Solomon. The expression, "largeness of heart," as used in chap. iv. 29, seems to imply that he had conferred upon him a breadth of view, of feeling and of sympathy adapted to the circumstances in which he was placed. It was that type of mind which was also in Christ Jesus. Such a heart will be (1) well furnished, (2) magnanimous, (3) enterprising.

Blessings attendant upon wisdom. 1. Riches (I Kings iii. 13). Wealth is a possession that most of men keenly desire. To Solomon no doubt it was a most agreeable gift, as it placed within his reach resources with which to carry out his magnificent plans for the worship of Jehovah. Wealth in judicious hands is one of the most potent factors in the progress of civilization. This is a gift that is greatly enjoyed when worthily bestowed, but it not otherwise to be sought after. 1. Honor indicates worth on the part of the one possessing it. 2. Honor opens up the way to the enjoyment of the rarest pleasures of life. 3. Honor imposes many responsibilities upon the possessor thereof. 4. Honor, worthily obtained and judiciously enjoyed, has given a noble reputation to many prominent historical characters. 5. Earthly honor is of small import when compared with the everlasting honor which will crown all God's faithful ones in the world to come.

Albert H. Stilwell.

Talking Through a the 'Phone.

To be a good telephone talker, says the Amerian Telephone Journal, is something of an art, but in these days it should, by all means, be cultivated as much as any of the methods of polite conversation. The first requisite is the proper pose.

In all cases the transmitter should be as nearly vertical as possible, with the voice funnel so adjusted that it is on a level with the lips when the head is in the ordinary arched position of conversation. Then the lips should be held about an inch away from the funnel and directly opposite its centre. The speaker should talk in a tone slightly above the ordinary conversational pitch, about in the same way as if he were speaking to a person across the room.

But, more than all, care should be taken to talk slowly and to articulate with thhe greatest distinctness; to be deliberate on what one says and to make ample pause at the end of each sentence.

Nothing can be more erroneous in the use of a solid back than to stand at a distance from the instrument and endeavor to affect it by shouting at the top of one's lungs.

Clock Made of Bread.

A clock made entirely of bread has been exhibited in Milan. The works are comparatively large, and for several years kept good time. The maker was a native of Milan, who devoted three years of his time to the task. He was very poor, and, being without means to purchase the necessary metal for making a clock, he set apart regularly each day a part of his bread, eating the crusts and saving the soft part. To solidify this he made use of a certain kind of salt, and when the various pieces became dry they were perfectly hard and insoluble in water.

Another strange clock exhibited some years ago in London was constructed of pins, buttons and all sorts of odds and ends by a pauper named Mercer. The back and front of the clock were made of iron bed laths, while the barrel was part of a large brass fender, the ends being brass buttons hammered out. The barrel arbor had been originally the blade of a shoemaker's awl: the main and several other wheels were nothing more or less than suspender buttons from his own trousers, while the cog teeth were portions of bygone knitting needles. The teeth of the centre wheels had once been rivets. In the dial there were one hundred separate pieces.

Sorting the Feathers.

Details of the private lives of the truly great, or of the greatly daring and notorious are always of supreme interest. It is, therefore, absolutely thrilling to learn that Madame Humbert, the executive head of the family of famous French swindlers, is kept at work sorting feathers all day long in prison. Hitherto her favorite occupation has been plucking her victims. Now she has to sort their feathers.

In the Paper.

Detroit Times.

She—I saw something perfectly splendid in the newspaper this morning.

He—Another scandal, I suppose.

She—Mercy, no! My new hat came home done up in one.

Most women take too much medicine and some men don't take enough.

POSITIVELY AND UNDENIABLY

the purest GREEN tea grown

"SALADA"

CEYLON NATURAL GREEN tea is as far ahead of Japan tea as "Salada" Black is ahead of all other Black teas.

Sold only in sealed lead packets. By all grocers.

CHOOSING YOUR NECKIE.

The One Touch That Makes or Mar a Man's Dress.

Fashions for men turn chiefly on the dressing of the neck. Taste or thoughtlessness shows immediately in cravat and collar. When a man makes an error in his dress it is usually in his cravat. Observations on the streets will show that the average man buys cravats thoughtlessly. Some have little natural taste. Others lack color sense. Few have ever studied their own features or figure with a view to choosing becoming cravats.

The factors to be considered are four: color, design, shape, material. Sins of color and design are usually most pronounced because men do not understand color as thoroughly as women and because there is a greater range for error than with shapes or materials. The latter are not so diversified.

Some men are color blind. The unfortunates wear violent scarlet effects under the impression that they have a dark green. "Any color so it's real," is the maxim of another class, who really love this color, but have no taste in selecting beautiful shades.

Red is the sign of danger in cravats, as in railroad signals, and the man who is partial to it would better learn to discriminate between the offensive scarlet, vermilion, cherry and rose and the beautiful cardinal and terra cotta effects. These are warm and rich. Light shades of blue should be avoided.

The true test of what is at once pronounced and unoffensive in color is depth. Scarlet has no depth or richness, but ruby is deep and satisfying to look upon, as well as a true color. Artists discriminate between real colors and false colors—"baby" shades, such as salmon pink and robin's egg blue. Yellow is most dangerous of all, and if worn should form merely a part of the design against a dark background. Even then it is risky. There are beautiful reds, blues and greens, but hardly any beautiful yellow. Light shades, also, should be avoided—lemon, lavender, ecru, heliotrope, fawn and similar weak hues. For the man who likes light cravats there is a satisfactory range of grays and the silvery blends of black and white. But dark shades are less likely to be wrong than light ones.

As the man of violent color sense is likely to err, so there is danger that the man afraid of colors will select effects that are neutral, meaningless and timid. Those who dress with most intelligence make much of the cravat, and have ability to use pronounced colors without error. Neutral shade causse the wearer to miss the happy touch that sets off his garb and draws attention to the face. Dark men can wear colors more pronounced than men of the tawny, vokorg type.

Men who have an excess of healthy color in their faces should endeavor to make their cravats a background, using quiet tones—and this rule applies most of all to men who have an excess of color in their hair or beard, particularly if that color be auburn. Where cravats of solid color are worn the wearer, with his clothing, must form the background. Where vivid colors are introduced onto dark materials as patterns, however, even so unmanageable a color as orange or lemon yellow may be worn, as the dark material forms a background and the flaming specks of color give a fine effect without bringing the face or clothing into unfavorable contrast.

After color, design plays the most important part in selection. Parallel stripes, plaid stripes, checks and all such designs should be selected with caution. Small unit figures, such as crescents, are preferable to squares and polka dots being less hackneyed and prettier in shape.

As for materia, there is little room for error, but it is well to sound a note of warning against satin cravats, which being with highly polished collars, and against all materials that are merely freakish or faddish.

When the shades of the cravat suitabel to different types of men is considered, one must also consider the style of collar. Both depends on the face and figure of the wearer. By dressing the neck intelligently it is possible to tone done defects of nature. Violet colors call attention to broad faces. Stout men will do well to wear four-in-hands tied snugly, as they give a perpendicular line from the chin which materially lengthens the face. If the cravat have a pronounce stripe this effect is hightened.

Stout men naturally favor low collars, which give a horizontal effect, broadening the face. High collars should be worn. The high band collar is preferable, and next come pointed standing collars that meet or have small wings. If these fit snugly under the chin they will give little discomfort. Stout men accustomed to a low turn-down collar will be surprised to learn how a high collar may be worn with comfort if it fits snugly.

Men are inclined to wear collars too loose. Sizes one-quarter larger than the shirt band are best. Those the same size as the shirt band may be buttoned comfortably.—From the Haberdasher.

"One Foot in the Grave."—If the thousands of people who rush to so worthy a remedy as South America Nervine as a last resort would get it as a first resort, how much misery and suffering would be spared. If you have any nerve disorder you needn't suffer a minute longer. A thousand testimonies to prove it.—36

What Mary Had.

Chicago News.

Mary had a little lamb,
Likewise an oyster stew,
Salad, cake, a piece of pie,
And a bottle of pale brew—
Then a few hours later
She had a doctor, too.

—Chicago News.

NEGLECTED COUGHS often mean consumption. Allen's Lung Balsam is especially intended to break up long standing Coughs and many seemingly hopeless cases have been saved by its use.

The Way to Wake Up and Get Up.

Don't jump up the first thing your eyes are open. Remember that while you sleep the vital organs are at rest. The vitality is lowered and the circulation not so strong. A sudden spring out of bed is a shock to these organs, especially to the heart, as it starts to pumping the blood suddenly.

Take your time in getting up. Yawn and stretch. Wake up slowly. Give the vital organs a chance to resume their work gradually.

Notice how a baby wakes up. It stretches its arms and legs, rubs its eyes and yawns and wakes up slowly. Watch a kitten wake up. First it stretches out one leg, then another, rubs its face, rolls over and stretches the whole body. The birds do not wake up and fly as soon as their eyes are open, they shake out their wings and stretch their legs, waking up slowly. This is the natural way to wake up. Don't jump up suddenly; don't be in such a hurry, but stretch and yawn, and yawn and stretch. Stretch the arms and the legs; stretch the whole body. A good yawn and stretch is better even than a cold bath. It will get you thoroughly awake, and then you will enjoy the bath all the more.

Exhibit for Sportsmen's Show.

The Grand Trunk Railway system have shipped their extensive exhibit that will be installed in the International Sportsmen's Show, which is to be held in the Coliseum, at Chicago, Nov. 7 to 28. The exhibit will comprise, in addition to a series of the best pictures depicting scenes along their lines in Canada, including the many districts in the "Highlands of Ontario," one of the most comprehensive and complete collections of fish native to Canadian waters. In this will be some of the best specimens that have ever been taken of the maskinonge, small-mouthed bass, wall-eyed pike, brook trout, ouananiche, land-locked salmon, etc. This fish exhibit is one that the Grand Trunk has been collecting for the past three or four years, and it is, without doubt, the finest in America, not only as to the sizes and varieties of fishes, but in their unique way of having them mounted. Many anglers have seen this exhibit and speak in the highest terms of the collection.

The space that the Grand Trunk secured at the coming show is 1,550 square feet, which will give the company a good opportunity of making a very attractive showing.

Caught.

"Arthur," she said, suddenly and anxiously turning toward him—they had just finished their honeymoon—"if you were the Sultan of Turkey, would you have a hundred wives?" "Gracious, no,' he replied, with a yawn. "I don't know of more than fifteen or twenty women I'd be willing to support even if—Oh, say now, Juliet, I—come, I—didn't understand—I was only joking, honest I was!"

But at last she knew the base wretch for what he was, and it cost him the price of a hat and four pounds of candy to square himself.—Chicago Record.,

Life is the laboratory of religion. There should be no such word as can't to the man who is in the canning business.

Do your Feet Swell!

One of the most common symptoms of Kidney trouble is swollen feet. It is frequently one of natures very first warnings that medicine is required.

Gin Pills for the Kidneys.

They banish at once and for all time every trace of Kidney trouble.

From all druggists 50 cts. per box, 6 boxes for $2.50, or direct from

The Bole Drug Co., - Winnipeg, Man.

"Your money back if Gin Pills do not cure."

The Markets.

Toronto Farmers' Market.

The receipts of grain were fair today, with increased offerings of barley and oats. Wheat is steady, 300 bushels of white selling at 80 to 80 1-2c, 300 bushels of red winter at 80 1-2c, and 600 bushels of goose at 72 to 73c. Barley weaker, 3,000 bushels selling at 43 to 49c. Oats are steady, with sales of 1,500 bushels at 31 to 32c.

There was a good demand for butter and eggs, with moderate supplies, and prices firm. Choice dairy butter, 20 to 23c, and eggs, new laid, 35 to 40c per dozen.

Hay is unchanged, with sales of 20 loads at $10 to $11 a ton for timothy, and at $7 to $9 for mixed. Straw unchanged, four loads selling at $10 to $11 a ton.

Dressed hogs are steady, with sales at $6.52 to $6.75.

Wheat, white, bush., 80 to 80½c; do., goose, bushel, 72 to 73c; do. red, bush., 80½; do. spring, bush., 75 to 80c. Peas, bush., 65c. Oats, bush., 31 to 32c. Barley, bush., 43 to 49c. Hay, timothy, per ton, $10 to $11; do. clover, $7 to $9. Straw, per ton, $10 to $11. Seeds, alsike, bush., $4 to $5.75; do. red clover, $5.25 to $6; do. timothy, $1 to $1.50. Apples, per bush., $1 to $2. Dressed hogs, $6.25 to $6.75. Eggs, new laid, per doz., 35 to 40c. Butter, dairy, 20 to 23c; do creamery, 22 to 26c. Chickens, per lb., 9 to 10c. Ducks, per lb., 10 to 12c. Geese, per lb., 8½ to 10c. Turkeys, per lb., 13 to 14c. Potatoes, per bag, 65 to 70c. Cabbage, per doz., 40 to 50c. Cauliflower, per dozen, $1. Celery, per doz., 35 to 45c. Beef, forequarters, $6 to $8; do., medium, carcase, $5.50 to $6; do. choice, carcase, $6.50 to $7. Lamb, yearling, $6 to $7. Mutton, per cwt., $5.50 to $6.50. Veal, per cwt., $6 to $9.

The Cheese Markets.

Watertown, Nov. 28.—Cheese sales were 500 at 9 3-4c, for large Octobers, 9 3-8c for large Novembers, 9 5-8c for twins, Novembers.

Canton, Nov. 28.—There were offered 920 boxes twin cheese, 817 tubs creamery butter; cheese sold at 9 1-2c, butter at 21c. Board closed to-day for the season.

London, Ont., Nov. 28.—The last cheese market of the season was held this afternoon; 3,190 cheese offered; 395 sold at 9 7-8c.

Liverpool Apple Markets

Messrs. Woodall and Co., of Liverpool, cabled Eben James:—47,000 bbls. sold. Market unchanedg, but rather a little weaker.

Leading Wheat Markets.

Following are the closing quotations at important wheat centres to-day:

	Cash.	May
New York	——	84 1-4
Chicago	——	80 1-4
Toledo	86 7-8	86 1-4
Duluth No. 1	——	80 1-8

Bradstreet's on Trade.

Trade in winter goods at Montreal this week has been more brisk. The holiday purchases and the orders for the spring are satisfactory, being generally fully equal to last year at this date. Prices of staple goods are still very firmly held and there is some talk of further advances.

Cold winter weather at Toronto this week stimulated the demand in wholesale trade circles. The volume of business booked for the spring so far is about equal to last season at this time.

Business at Quebec during the past week shows little signs of improvement over that of the preceding one.

At the coast, according to advices to Bradstreet's, business has been quite active in seasonable goods. The outlook for business at Victoria, Vancouver and other Pacific points is excellent.

The cold weather has not checked the trade movement at Winnipeg much this week. The deliveries of grain are larger at some points and a big general increase in the movement is looked for next month which will improve business conditions.

There has been a very good movement in wholesale trade at Hamilton this week. The conditions of trade, as reported to Bradstreet's, are sound, and the general prospects for trade for the balance of the year are bright. The colder weather has increased the inquiry for heavy winter goods, and the holiday trade is showing increased activity.

In London the demand for seasonable goods has improved this week.

There has been a good increase in the sales of certain lines in wholesale trade at Ottawa this week.

The Bath a la Japanese.

In fact, the Japanese women, after the Chinese women, are the most awkward walkers in the world. They are pigeon-toed, and tilt along on their little clogs in a clumsy sort of fashion, which seems to me the most ungainly gait. The kimono above the waist line is a thing of beauty in line and form. The Japanese are veritable salamanders, heat has no terror for them, and they usually bathe in water about 126 Fahrenheit. A Japanese bath room is always open to as many as it can accommodate. As for privacy, lock or key they are rarely found in a real Japanese inn or house. The bath is taken after this fashion: Every one proceeds, as Taffy said, to make himself clean by a thorough rub down of soap and water, then a dash of hot water to remove all soap, then a soak of from five to eight minutes in the tank of boiling water. This same water answers for all, and is kept hot by a charcoal fire beneath the tub. It is all very strange to a westerner, and the Japs themselves look rather parboiled when they come out of the hot bath. Bathing is a continuous process in Japan, therefore, one never notices a malodorous crowd, as in other parts of the globe.—Cor. Springfield Republican.

The German army has swimming schools for troops where everyone must learn to swim. The best swimmers are to cross a stream of several hundreds yards' width, even when carrying their clothes, rifle and ammunition.

CURIOUS SENSES OF REPTILES

Their Surprising Power to Divine the Presence of Far Distant Water.

Prof. Werner, of Vienna, a naturalist of note, has reported the results of observations he has been making for some time on the senses of inferior vertebrates, and he has reached some curious and surprising ocnclusions.

The professor took all possible precautions not to let the creatures know that they were watched. One general fact is very evident, that reptiles and amphibians are strongly attracted by water. They go straight toward it, even when they are at distances so great that they could not divine its presence by any of the senses known to us. It seems really that a sense of which we have no knowledge informs them of the direction in which water may be found. There seems to be a sort of chemical attraction, says M. Werner. But how does this act, and on what part of the creature? That remains a mystery. Reptiles also seek the light, but independently of heat. They often leave comfortable and warm retreats to seek the sunlight. Sight is generally good with them. It is probably the finest sense that they possess, but it would still appear to be very limited. The caymans and the crocodiles cannot distinguish a man at a distance of more than six times their length, according to Werner. In the water fishes see only at very close range—about half their own length. This will seem perhaps unlikely to anglers, although some of them can cite instances showing that fish cannot see far. Snakes seem to have a very mediocre sense of sight. The boa, for example, does not see at more than a quarter or a third of its own length. Different species are limited to one-fifth or one-eighth of their length. Frogs are better of. They see at fifteen to twenty times their length. Frog catchers know this from experience. Hearing is much poorer than sight, if possible. Most reptiles are noticeably deaf, except caymans and crocodiles. The boa appears to be absolutly so.

THE ASPHALTUM SUPPLY.

American Capital Trying to Secure European Deposits.

It was recently reported from Rome that American representatives were making strenuous efforts to buy the famous asphaltum mines, situated in the neighborhood of San Valentino, in the Maiella mountains.

These deposits of natural bitumen are said to be the largest of this kind in the world. Some ten years ago the mines were bought up by a German syndicate, which since has installed modern machinery and also connected the various mines by means of a narrow-guage railway with the station of San Valentino, on the trunk line Rome-Castellamare Adriatico.

At present, six mines in the Maiella mountains are being exploited; the asphaltum appears in the form of rock asphaltum, and the quality is said to be of the best known. The annual output of the mines, in which some 500 hands are employed, averages 50,000 tons, the bulk of which is shipped to various countries of Europe, to the United States and to South Africa.

At the station of San Valentino a plant of large capacity, installed with up-to-date machinery, has been erected, where the asphaltum rock is ground into powder or pressed into blocks. The magnitude of the deposits may be gathered from the fact that the mines in two districts alone, namely, in Santo Spirito and Piano del Monaci, are said to contain at least 2,000,000 tons of the valuable material.

Thus far, the world's chief supply of asphaltum has been drawn from the Island of Trinidad, from Sicily and Switzerland. During the last few years artificial asphaltum has also been manufactured from crude oil in various districts of California. The total exports of asphaltum from Trinidad amounted last year to about 140,000 tons, of which seven-eights was dug from Pitch Lake. The removal of 1,885,000 long tons of asphalt during the past 35 years from this lake has apparently made but little impresssion on the deposit. The asphaltum is found in the lake, on its bottom, and is mined or dipped from the basin, which is constantly renewed from below. Its source is probably from petroleum, which finds its way to the surface, and undergoes a constant supply in the basin. These deposits are easily worked, and it is not expensive to manufacture refined asphaltum from such a product.

Deposits of asphaltum are also known on the Island of Cuba, where they occur chiefly in the Provinces of Havana, Puerto Principe and Matanzas.

To some extent deposits of rock asphaltum also occur in Kentucky, the Indian Territory and in Texas.

One of the most interesting deposits of asphaltum is that on the Dead Sea, in Syria. Sometimes masses of from 2,000 to 4,000 pounds of pure asphaltum are seen swimming on the surface of the sea, whence they are removed and sold for the Sultan's civil list. In Syria asphaltum has been known for centuries, and in former years it was extensively used for the purpose of embalming the bodies of the deceased. There are also bituminous springs at Nebi Musa, which contain from 30 to 40 per cent. of asphaltum. The mineral is of great purity, and is used chiefly in the manufacture of varnishes and aniline dyes.

The Obedient Egg.

Take a raw egg and empty it by means of pinholes. As soon as the inside of it is dry fill it quarter full of fine sand, and then, with a little way, seal up the holes. It now looks like an ordinary eggs.

The next time you have boiled eggs for breakfast, take your prepared egg and substitute it for the one that is given you.

Then you may safely announce that your egg is ready to obey your commands.

You can place it at will in any position you desire. It will stand on the edge of a knife or on the rim of a glass, no matter whether you put it endways or sideways.

In the last case you will cause more astonishment, because it will seem to trespass against the laws of gravity. The only precaution you need observe is to tap the egg gently, so as to cause the sand it contains to settle each time at the bottom, and thus it will assume any position you wish.

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