

man who has bought and lives in a baronial estate in Wantage, England? Li Hung Chang never made this mistake. He desired to introduce western machinery into China, but he wanted the Chinese to do it themselves. He did not want a foreign company exploiting the Chinese. And he outwitted many such attempts. This wise and great oriental wished to secure what was best in the West and make it over into Chinese life and progress. Li was a pure Chinaman in blood as well as by training, instinct, temperament and political intuitions. He was born at Hofel, a small Chinese village, in 1822, the same year in which Grant was born at Point Pleasant, Ohio. Li's father belonged to an obscure Chinese family. Poor and humble, without influence, but of pure Chinese origin, without a single drop of Manchu blood in his veins, Li was started without positive advantages, but with no disqualifying handicap.

Li's father rose to some distinction as a litterateur. In the district examinations Li took his first degree. Afterwards he won distinction among 20,000 competitors at the triennial imperial examination in Peking in 1849. This honor gained him admission to Hanlin college, which is a training school for the Chinese civil service. The scholars receive the rank of nobles. They are eligible to the highest offices in the Empire. Li was of some assistance in quelling the Taiping rebellion which lasted thirteen years. The regiment he raised was incorporated into the imperial army, and Li was made a colonel. When the rebellion was finally suppressed, Li was made viceroy of China and the Emperor presented him with the yellow jacket and the peacock's feather. For twenty-five years he was viceroy.

He made a large fortune by methods which Westerners practice but do not approve. His estate is said to be represented by 100,000,000 dollars. But for forty years he used his power to urge Chinese progress, to induce the Chinese to adopt Western machinery and Western commercial enterprise. He was a great man because he profoundly affected the conduct and morals of his people. For himself he kept the old faith and died in it. He could not have retained his influence else.

As soon as he was dead the lifesize paper horses in the court yard of his house that his friends had sent when they heard that he could not live long, were set on fire and all the Chinese who are not heretics believe that he rode into heaven on the ghosts of these steeds.

Old-fashioned as he was, he held modern ideas on the woman subject when his views are compared with those proudly recorded by a revered local paragon.

His favorite mottoes in regard to women were culled from the choicest national mottos. Thus he would say:

"Let the family of a man who has brought them comfort look up to him as up to heaven.

"The children shall not speak in boisterous tones before him, or the women cease to smile and look happy.

"He shall have a son to perpetuate the monuments of his ancestors and he shall take wives until that supreme ambition is gratified.

"Upon his walls shall be rules of decorum, and seeing him look toward them all women shall bow upon the floor in shame.

"A wife may not spend her husband's money in thought even, taking the gowns in gratitude, asking no more. If few, she shall not deport herself in languid demeanor, but shall walk with energy, as though well pleased."

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The Carter Trial

Oberlin M. Carter, who was sentenced to a term of imprisonment in the penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, and whose sentence will not expire for two years, according to Attorney General Knox is not to have a new trial for the crime of which he has been convicted. Attorney General Knox has explained to the cabinet that Captain Carter would appear before

Judge Kohlsaat of Chicago solely to determine whether the \$150,000 of property in his name which the government has attached belongs to him or the government. Incidentally the whole question of Carter's guilt or innocence will be investigated again. It does not particularly matter what the nominal reason for the new trial is. No man in prison with an estate of \$750,000 can be denied a new trial as long as the proportion of legal business retains its present relations to the army of lawyers. It is very surprising, considering the sum of money in Carter's possession, that he has been allowed to languish so long. Popular conviction of Carter's guilt is strong. Reports of the original trial were widely read, and when he was convicted, private judgment ratified the sentence of the court.

Apparently possessed only of his army pay, having no visible source of income, Carter spent the income of a millionaire. It was spending large sums and having no visible source of income that first attracted suspicion to Richard Croker. "Where did he get it?" was asked in the newspapers many times before it was answered by some busy-body fond of investigating. Where Carter got his money was a matter of discussion that occupied the leisure of his fellow officers. And they had enough, so that a really baffling question like that was a relief. His father-in-law was a rich man, but like so many American millionaire fathers-in-law, he was close and suspicious of a dilettante, fastidious son-in-law. Captain Carter was in charge of harbor improvements in Savannah. He was accused of putting in bundles of brush, called rip-rap, when the specifications called for stone, and the vouchers showed that he had paid government money for stone. His successor discovered that hidden beneath the muddy waters of Savannah harbor were bundles of underbrush instead of the piles of solid masonry the government had paid for. The discovery was immediately communicated to Washington and after more investigation into the organic nature of the foundations of the sea-walls built under the supervision of Carter, he was arrested. On account of the government money in his possession it required a long time to convict him; and after he was finally convicted it was a long time before he was put into the penitentiary where the jury said he belonged. If the prosecuting attorney had not been able to demonstrate his guilt without the shadow of a doubt, he would not have been convicted. It was said that he had the strongest pull at Washington of any young officer. It is certain that President McKinley was badgered by all degrees of officials and influentials to pardon him. But the mere suspicion that such an attempt was being made provoked such a newspaper storm that Carter's attorneys, who thought the people had forgotten about him, were discouraged. And in course of time, as soon as a rich man may decently be interred, Carter was placed in the United States prison at Leavenworth, Kansas.

The people cling to the old Mosaic law: "An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth," when the object of their hatred is a man who has been placed by them, or by the government representing them, in a position of trust, in charge of monies reserved for harbor improvements or for safe keeping.

Oberlin M. Carter was accused of stealing two million dollars from the United States. Doubtless the bundles of brush are still in the mud of Savannah harbor, placed there by his connivance and certified to as stone above his own signature. Seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars may be able to obscure those bushes, but the people of the country are yet to be convinced.

Attorney General Prout says that with the \$150,000 expected from the results of this trial, the government will have recovered more than one half million dollars.

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Free Text Books

Judge Neeley of Illinois has recently decided that the free text book law is illegal. The Chicago board of education relied upon a general constitution-

al injunction for the establishment of "an efficient system of free schools whereby all children may receive a good common school education." The judge said if it was meant that the city should provide free text-books for all children, rich and poor, the legislature should have added specific provisions to that effect.

Buying books for the children of parents who are able to buy books for their children is contrary to the spirit of American institutions. It has a tendency to pauperize the children and their parents, too. The children have no respect for the books thus loaned them by the school board. They use them as missiles and such insolence is not easily eradicated in after years. All the stored treasure of the ages that is not contained in sculpture, architecture, painting or ceramic art, is found in books. One of the most important lessons an individual can learn is to appreciate the value of records and of the creative genius of men stored in books. Many a man comes to the end of a comparatively unprofitable life thinking a book a thing of paste-board, paper and printer's ink. Because it is printed, a saying may still not be so; and too much reverence for printed words is almost as bad as having none at all, but a book or writings which have lasted through the changing tastes and standards of three or four generations of humanity should be handled and considered with reverence. The school children of Nebraska are being taught by the act of the legislature empowering boards to loan them books that a book is a cheap article provided by a designing set of men, and that it contains lessons which if they learn not, they will be "kept in" or otherwise disciplined. If the book were purchased by the pupil's parents and came into his hands fresh with all the freshness and daintiness of a new book, for a while, at least, he would treasure it. And finally, if he soiled it, he would not have the nameless repugnance for the stain we have for dirt of unknown, hence of loathsome, origin. There are other reasons why the free text-book law is bad. There is a certain amount raised by taxation for school purposes. Under the present system a large annual sum must be spent for books. The budget is small enough without this burden upon it. The salaries of teachers are disproportioned to the work they do and the preparation necessary to the proper performance of a teacher's duties. If the free text-book law were repealed, the difference might be distributed among the grade teachers and it would inevitably raise the standard of effectiveness. If teachers universally (universal so far as Nebraska is concerned) disapproved of the free text-book law, it is likely that they could get it repealed unless the school-book publishing houses should object.

At any rate the subject is a fertile one for discussion at educational conventions.

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Considerate Candidates

In spite of cavil, Massachusetts offers from time to time convincing proof of her advanced culture and final accomplishment of the suppression of animal instincts. During the campaign which preceded the election of a fortnight ago, the conduct of the two candidates for governor was an example to the whole world.

Governor W. Murray Crane, the republican candidate for a second term as governor, was opposed to Josiah Quincy, democrat, for the same place. In making their campaign speeches the two candidates invariably began their advocacy of the opposing policies which each represented by explaining to their audiences what a fine, honorable, reliable gentleman the other candidate was. The legitimate issues of the campaign were deliberately and courteously presented. Governor Crane repeatedly referred to the high character of his opponent, and the Boston Post, a democratic paper and a supporter of Mr. Quincy, said on election morning:

"Everyone, democrat or republican, likes Governor Crane, respects him, trusts him. To treat him with other than entire courtesy, even in the heat of a political contest, would be to offend the people of Massachusetts who know him. As Mr. Josiah Quincy says in his last word to the voters of the state: The democratic campaign has been conducted in a spirit of moderation, of dignity and of frank recognition of the strong qualities of our present chief executive as a business governor.

"We may all go to the polls today with a sense of generous complacency and vote the democratic ticket without a single twinge of hard feeling towards anybody, and even with a glow of admiration for the gentleman against whose name we do not set a cross."

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Looked Her Part

She was richly but inconspicuously dressed, and would have attracted no particular attention as she stood on the corner of Tremont and Winter streets, yesterday noon, had not her face, under a white veil, been writhing in a series of remarkable contortions. Several persons paused to watch her "make faces," and then came a feminine acquaintance.

"Why!" exclaimed the newcomer, "what upon earth is the matter?"

The facial contortions ceased and were replaced by a smile.

"With me? Nothing."

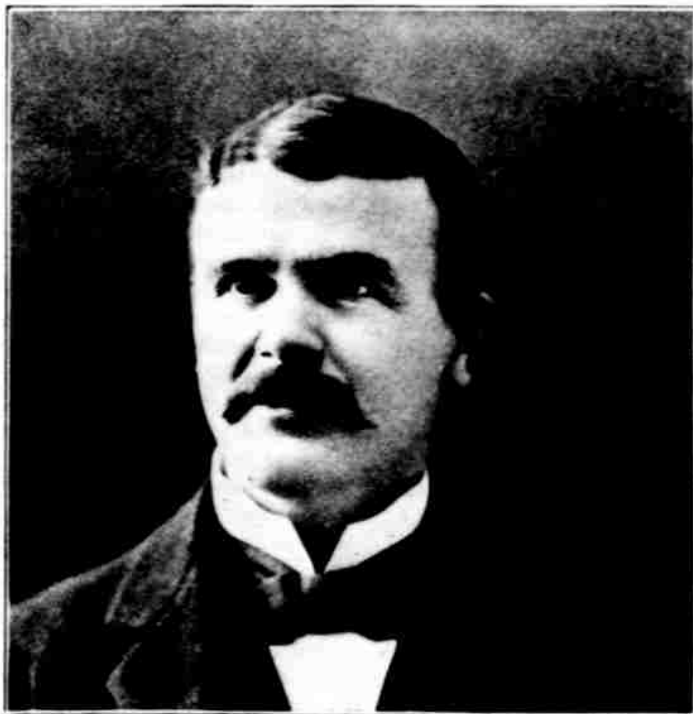
"But you looked as if you were suffering terribly."

"Never felt better."

"But your face—you were twisting it into all sorts of shapes."

The lady standing at the corner laughed and held out her hands, in each of which was a parcel.

"I was only trying," she said, "to work the edge of my veil down under my chin."—Town Topics.



CHARLES H. RUDGE

Recommended by the Union Commercial Club of Lincoln, for appointment by Governor Savage, as St. Louis Fair Commissioner for Nebraska