



Current Topics

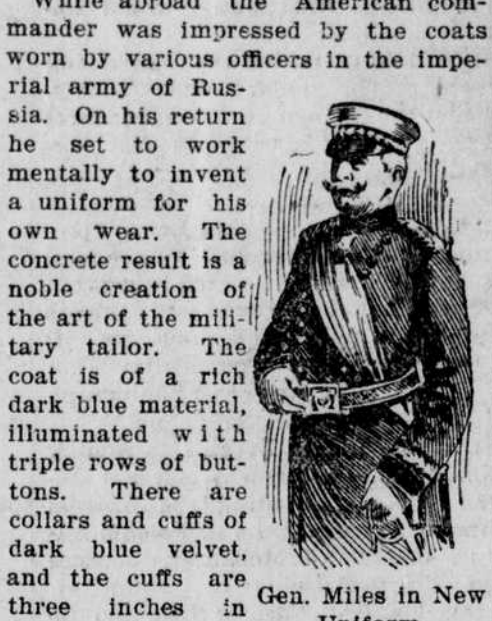
The Weekly Panorama.

A Chinese Minister.
Sir Chi Chen Lo Feng Luh, the Chinese minister to London, has been the most prominent figure among the Chinese diplomats in the West since the trouble began at Peking. It is believed that Lo Feng has been used as a kind of clearing house by the Chinese government in dealing with its ministers abroad. Messages and decrees have

Gen. Miles' Uniform.
The new uniform of lieutenant-general, which has been built after designs made by Gen. Miles himself, promises to create a reform in Europe which will bring the old-style military dress of high rank up-to-date. Gen. Miles' new regimentals are something to shame the antique styles of the continent and Great Britain.



SIR CHI CHEN LO FENG LUH. Sent to the other ministers through the London legation.



Gen. Miles in New Uniform.

Lord Russell R. Ires.
Lord Russell of Killowen, the chief justice of England, whom illness has temporarily retired from the bench, is not only the most famous but probably the most popular man in the legal profession in England. As a barrister he was long without rivalry in the law courts. He was a first-class jury orator and at the same time a deep and sagacious lawyer—a combination rarely found united in one person. Numerous stories are told of the chief justice when, as plain Charles, or later as Sir Charles Russell, he played hob with distinguished witnesses in his terrible cross-examinations, or cast confusion upon his professional opponents by his biting satire or his sudden springing of a new point in law.



LORD RUSSELL. His wit was like a Damocles sword and was feared as much. Sir Charles appeared in some of the most famous cases at the British bar.

A New Duke.
Duke Charles Edward of Albany, now the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, is the son of the late Prince Leopold, youngest son of Queen Victoria. Leopold died in 1884, three months before the birth of his son. The mother before her marriage to Prince Leopold was the Princess Helen of Waldeck-Pyrmont, sister of the Queen of Waldeck-Holland. Young Duke of Albany, Prince Leopold was far removed from the throne of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha until the death last year of the crown prince of the realm and the solemn abdication of all his rights by the Duke of Connaught, Victoria's third son. The new ruler is 16 years old, and during his minority the regency will be held by Prince Ernest of Hohenlohe-Langenberg, a son-in-law of the late Prince Alfred.

Hart's Sense of Humor.
Sir Robert Hart, chief of the Chinese maritime customs, was a penniless Irish lad, yet by perseverance and honesty he rose to the highest European position in China. He has a keen, though often unsuspected, sense of humor. Once when on a visit to the home land Sir Robert was accompanied by a Chinaman who acted in the double capacity of companion and spy. So closely did he dog the customs official's steps as to become a general nuisance. At last one fine morning the Oriental woke up to find that a substantial part of his pigtail was missing. Unwilling to appear before the public in this disgraced condition, he insisted on remaining in his room, and Sir Robert spent the remainder of his visit in peace.



Major Von Madai. In command of the first German marine battalion. It was to him that Emperor William addressed his famous "no quarter" speech.

Famous Socialist Dead.
William Liebknecht, the noted leader of socialism in Germany, member of the reichstag and editor of the socialist organ, Vorwaerts, died last week. He was one of the "old guard" of socialists who bore the brunt of the opposition to this new political philosophy, which rose in Germany with Ferdinand Lassalle, Karl Marx, and other "young Hegelians" as its foremost expounders. At 16, or in 1842, Liebknecht entered the University of Giessen, and was soon immersed in philosophy. He soon was assimilated with the burning minds of the youthful socialists and revolutionists of his country, and a few years later he took part in the disturbances in France Herr Liebknecht, and Poland. For his activity in the latter country he was driven out of Austria and was afterward arrested in Germany and spent nine months in jail. His almost violent advocacy of trades unionism in Switzerland caused the authorities of that country to push him over the border into France. The French police sent him to England, in which land he lived twelve years in company with Friedrich Engels and Marx, and vented his socialist principles ad libitum. On his return to Germany he was again arrested as a socialist and was banished from Prussia. With the retirement of Bismarck and the growth of the socialist party in Germany Herr Liebknecht became comparatively free from governmental interference and had of late years discussed his favorite theories of socialism in terms which pleased his own desires.

Improvement Is Needed.
Although we lead the world in aggregate wheat production, in yield per acre we are far behind the most enlightened countries of Europe, and stand next in order, and but little above, the average attained by the miserable ryot of India or the but lately emancipated serf of Russia. Although we make millions of pounds of the best butter and cheese in the world we still expend time and energy in producing tons of stuff hardly worthy the name of butter. We still have to build up our reputation in many markets where it has suffered by the unscrupulousness of some of our farmers and shippers. — International Monthly.

A Deep Mystery.
What has happened to James Boothby Burke-Roche, member of the British parliament for Kerry? Is he fighting the Boxers in China, is he prospecting in the Klondike, or has he been foully dealt with or killed by accident? None of Mr. Roche's friends in New York or Washington can answer these questions, and the M. P.'s baggage has been stored away by the proprietor of Holland House, New York, pending the clearing up of the mystery. Mr. Roche registered at the Holland House in April from London. He left there about May 15, saying he would soon return, and leaving orders that his room be not disturbed. Since then he has never been heard from.

Colonel Daggett.
With the American army now operating in China.

She Snubbed Astor.
The Duchess of Buccleuch, who was the first of the English aristocracy to administer the irrevocable cut to William Waldorf Astor, was the lady who first befriended the former American in his efforts to edge himself into the royal set in London. She is the dear friend of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and is the arbitress of fashion for all London. The duchess, it is said, was liberally paid by Mr. Astor



DUCHESS OF BUCCLEUCH. for her patronage, and there is no question but that she gave quid pro quo. The outrageous insult to Sir Berkeley Milne, however, wiped out the money obligation, and she joined heartily with royalty when royalty pronounced the doom of the snob from New York. The duchess before her marriage in 1884 was the Lady Jane Hamilton, third daughter of the first Duke of Amercorn. She is mistress of robes to Queen Victoria.

Go Bad for the Boy.
In endeavoring to abolish the time-honored title of "brakeman" on passenger trains, railroad officials are striking a blow at one of the small boy's first heroic ideals in life. The defense of the railroad man is that brakemen have ceased to be brakemen, since nowadays, owing to air brakes, they have nothing to do with "braking" in a legitimate sense. It is true that the brakeman maintains his established right of calling the names of stations in his own perplexing way, but otherwise his duties are very different from what they were twenty years ago. It is, therefore, proposed to call the brakeman "assistant conductor."—Ex.

Poor Morocco.
Budget Meekin, the historian of the Moorish Empire, is in America with his bride, a Chicago lady. France will eventually gobble all of Morocco, he says, and adds:
"Morocco in a small way is in pretty much the same way that China is. She is doing all in her power to keep the other nations out. The Moors want to preserve their government and their traditions, and they will not allow any railroads or telegraphs in the country. They believe their country is safer without railroads and telegraph lines, and fear that the former would be used to transport the troops of their enemies."

So License Gambling.
Kansas City is to license gambling, and this without any state law or local ordinance. The newspapers of that city announce that the mayor and chief of police have decided that it is impossible to prevent the playing of draw and stud poker in rooms adjoining hotels. They have decided therefore to permit the violations of the law to continue, although they will draw the line at faro and crap shooting. The licensing is to be done by a system of fines. Once a month the keepers of all poker rooms will be arrested and brought before the police justices and fined \$50 each. No attempt will be made to seize the paraphernalia of the gambling rooms, as is required by the law. The gamblers are naturally well content with the system, inasmuch as it will, as they say, "keep out

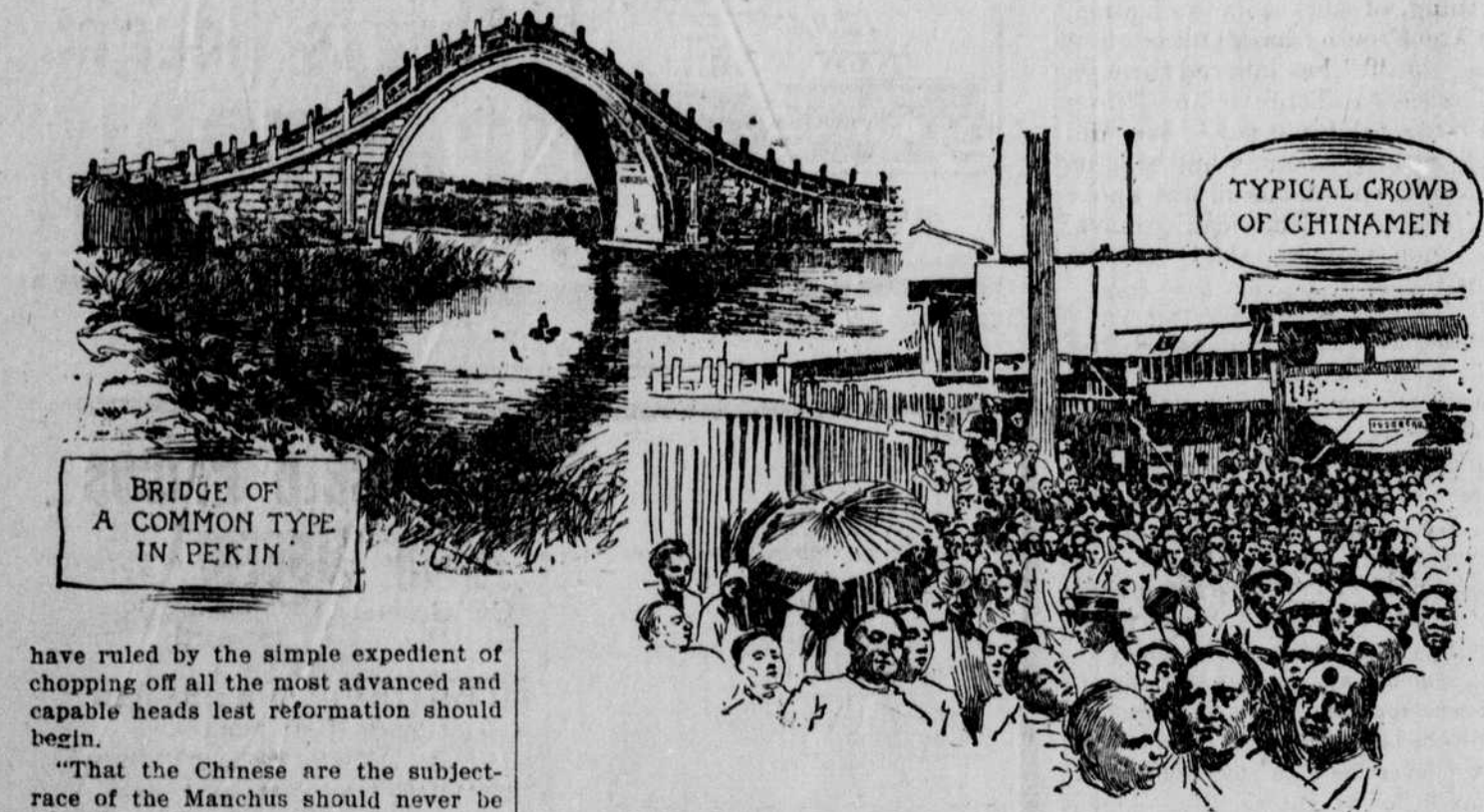
Those to whom the term "The Yellow Peril" has become familiar look upon it as a bugbear arising from the present situation, the idea that the despised Oriental might even in the course of a century become a dominating world power being considered not worth a second thought. Neither the phrase nor the idea, however, is by any means new. The words of Lord Wolseley, which are today taken almost as a text by students of international affairs, and upon which the novelists are busily building fanciful tales, were spoken nearly a dozen years ago, but in view of recent developments are more interesting than ever.

"Then the Chinese armies will march westward. They will overrun India, sweeping the British into the sea. Asia will belong to them, and then, at last, English, Americans, Australians will have to rally for a last desperate conflict. So certain do I regard this that I think one fixed point of English policy should be to strain every nerve and make every sacrifice to keep on good terms with China. China is the coming power."

The German emperor considers this "yellow danger" a real and a great one, and his cartoon of a few years ago representing Europe at bay against the yellow race represents his opinions today as expressed in his recent speech before the Reichstag. "Chinese" Goddon, who perhaps knew the Chinese more intimately than any American or European, held them in high esteem, while admitting their defects. The latent possibilities of the 400,000,000 of Chinese he declared to be illimitable.

There is only one railroad and that is controlled by Russia and could be destroyed more rapidly than an army could move. The way is across a country of wild mountains and frozen plains that are almost unsettled, and that could not furnish food, shelter or provisions for an army, while the difficulties of transport would make it impossible to carry supplies.

"Russia is protected by the Ural mountains, the Caspian sea, Caucasus mountains and the Black sea. A few thousand men could defend the fords of the Ural river from hosts. To reach Europe through Constantinople would require vessels, which the Chinese would not have, and even if they had, the fleets of the nations assembled at the Bosphorus, and artillery in the forts at Constantinople could sink them as fast as they were loaded with troops. The possibility of the Chinese pouring down into India is to be dismissed. The entire boundary of India is defended by the Himalaya mountains and again by the vast rich table land of Tibet with another range of mountains to the north of



have ruled by the simple expedient of chopping off all the most advanced and capable heads lest reformation should begin.
"That the Chinese are the subject-race of the Manchus should never be forgotten. The day of the Tartar tyranny must reach its tether. A Chinese Mohammed or Napoleon, a great lawgiver or general, will arise, rouse the Chinese hundreds of millions from their three centuries' slumber, and lead them forward and onward. They will take to the profession of arms, and then will hurl themselves upon the Russian empire. Before the Chinese armies—as they possess every military virtue, are stolidly indifferent to death, and capable of inexhaustible endurance—the Russians will go down or will join forces with them in the capacity of leaders.

In contrast to these views is the opinion of Capt. Herman Hauptman, of Germany, who has made several trips to China and has had excellent opportunities to study the question from every point of view:
"The idea that the Chinese could overrun Europe," he says, "is rank nonsense. It might perhaps be a possibility, but there are several reasons why it could not occur—especially without the help of Russia.
"It is 4,000 miles from Peking to the Russian frontier, a distance greater than the breadth of the United States.

that. There would be only a few mountain passes, at most, to defend.
"The only way in which the Chinese could ever overrun Europe is by the slow process of migration, and that could come only by the decay of the white races. In other words, the Chinese must first overtake us in point of civilization and become mentally and practically our superiors, before ever they could crowd us out and rule in our places. But if Russia should become allied with China and Japan? Ah, that is another question. That day will never come."

Head of League of American Mothers.

Mrs. Lida H. Hardy, who is to lead the League of American Mothers as its president for the coming year, is well fitted for the position. Not only has she three sturdy youngsters of her own, but for several years past she has been deeply interested in the wom-

men's work connected with the church of Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, at Topeka, Kan.

The Peril of Electricity.
This has been called the electric age. The praises of the mysterious fluid which now does so much work for man have been sounded by orators and poets. Civilization, it is declared, has been advanced a hundred years by harnessing the forces of the lightning. Now come calmer minded men to point the other side of the picture. For if electricity has done much to relieve man of labor and to make life easier, it is also responsible for much destruction both of life and property. Every new electric invention adds one more danger to the many which now beset the residents in crowded cities, where such inventions are chiefly used. Statistics on the subject, recently gathered, are fairly startling.

Falcon Island Reappears.
Falcon island, in the Pacific ocean, which originally emerged from the sea after the eruption of a submarine volcano near Truga, and remained above the surface for precisely thirteen years before vanishing two years ago, is reported by the British cruiser Porpoise to be reappearing and to be a serious menace to navigation. It was nine feet out of water at the end of May and may be a mountain now, for all anybody knows.

Peck's Son in Trouble.
Ferdinand W. Peck, Jr., son of the United States commissioner general to the Paris Exposition, got into a fistic altercation with an army officer in a cafe chantant the other night, and has ever since been trying to recollect the details of the dispute, says a Paris cablegram. In conjunction with Arthur Brackett, son of Major Brackett, also of Chicago, young Peck has been doing his best to show Parisians how to have a real "hot time." Down the brilliant boulevards the jolly pair has marched as "Lords of Creation," flinging money to the four winds in

true western fashion. Tip seekers marked the young men as "easy." In a cafe Ferdinand was exceedingly demonstrative and by all possible gestures sought to attract the glances of the prettiest woman in the crowded place. Her escort, a dapper young sol-



F. W. PECK, JR. died, wearied of the pantomime, at last rushed over to the gay young man and ejected a choice vocabulary of French profanity. Then there was a fight. Glasses, plates, knives and forks flew like a hailstorm, and the Americans landed on the sidewalk with a half dozen waiters on top. They were arrested and when their identity was discovered the police politely released them.

The fifth centenary of the death of Chaucer occurs on Oct. 25, and an attempt is being made in London to induce the Court of Common Council to erect a statue to the poet in the Guild Hall. Chaucer was born in London, but no suitable memorial has ever been erected there.
The Prince of Wales has been presented by a British officer with the sword which General Cronje wore during the early part of the Boer war.



MRS. HARDY.

en's work connected with the church of Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, at Topeka, Kan.