

A CHINAMAN DIES.

CELESTIAL MERCHANT'S DEATH IN HIS NEW YORK HOME.

The Pious Task of Cheering the Dying Man and Ministering to His Physical and Spiritual Wants—Attractive Interior of a Chinese Home.

A heathen died 12,000 miles away from home, at No. 13 Pell street, on Friday morning. Although he was so far away from his native land, he was tended in his dying hours by some of his "cousins," for in China the cousin is any member of the same family, no matter how remote the kinship, and the manner of his death was as it would have been if he had died at home. His name is Hong Toi, and he is a cousin of a wealthy Chinaman who keeps a grocery at No. 23 Mott street. He had just been taken away from Boston to die in this city. According to a certain Chinese superstition it is unlucky to allow a man to die in the same house where he lived. Consequently, as soon as the attending physician pronounced the case hopeless, a room elsewhere is hired for him to die in, as was done in this case.

Hong Toi was born in Quang-Tung-Poo in 1861 and came to America when he was 20 years of age. Like so many of his countrymen, when he arrived here he sought employment in a laundry, and set himself to make a fortune. His savings after a time were large enough to enable him to buy an interest in a grocery, and before he died he had laid up \$50,000. His hopes and plans, however, all perished with him. Four months ago he contracted an illness common among the people of his race. He became thin and lost his appetite. The American physician whom he employed at first pronounced the trouble malaria, but his treatment did the patient little good. A Chinese doctor was consulted later, and he declared the trouble to be pneumonia. This proved correct, and the disease soon proved fatal.

Within the last two weeks of his life he was never left alone. His friends and cousins relieved one another in the pious task of cheering the dying man and ministering in their leather fashion, to his spiritual as well as his physical wants. They read long passages to him from their national books, such as the works of Confucius and Mencius, the Tripitaka of Buddha and the verses of Lao Tze and other famous poets. They fed him with the most delicate dainties which the Chinese only can concoct, and talked of home when he was strong enough to listen. Then, as the end came nearer, they brought out and spread around him numerous queer looking objects, such as had been familiar to him in his childhood, evidently seeking, as they might amuse a tired child, to bring some pleasant memory or happy thought into his mind while yet life might be made a little brighter.

They spread out little squares of sugar candy, looking not unlike the "butter scotch" American children like so well. Queer cakes were laid around on tables and chairs, and even on the bed, some with fruits and some with spices in them, some with meats and some with unfamiliar ingredients to the Caucasian; very few of them were alike. Then they brought even dolls, fashioned as nearly after the babyhood of China as the pictures of their native artists are like nature—grotesque, quaint and richly garbed, odd and pretty. From the ceiling they hung kites and queer umbrellas, and some of the elegant, fantastic paper lanterns that aesthetes delight in. A smile would sometimes come over his wasted features, but for the most of the time his face was calm and grave, as is the wont of Chinamen. It is a look not unlike that of babies, very beyond their days, who look at all things with a quiet attention that seems to speak a tolerant approval.

His bed was a narrow bunk, covered with white matting, and the pillows were long, narrow boxes, covered with upholstery. They looked not unlike the foot rests in an old English church. Around the head and foot of the bed were vivid scarlet and rich embroidery tracing the hieroglyphics that stood for verses from the poets. Over the mantelpiece were religious pictures not unlike those that hang over the altars in the Chinese temples. In the center was a representation of God as the Chinese picture him, seated on a throne of barbaric magnificence, while on either hand were pictures of the beings whom the Chinese suppose to personify the powers of destruction and reparation. On the opposite wall hung the words of the Christian hymn, "Nearer, my God, to Thee." On the mantelpiece underneath the religious pictures were a dozen or more artistic photographs of ballet girls in the extreme nudeness of the modern stage.

In one corner was a bamboo table, on which were pots of coal kept constantly burning, and of tea kept always hot. Other smaller tables supported bronze vases, some of them very costly and all artistic; bronze bowls of clean white sand, in which were stuck joss sticks, to be burned from time to time in devotional exercises, and some forty or fifty volumes of the writings of Chinese poets. These were huge and cumbersome, but of rare workmanship, and must have been expensive purchases.

The sick man's costume was a simple house dress, somewhat resembling the pajamas that have grown into popular favor in America within the last few years. He wore a blouse, loose and without any approach to a fit, made of yellow muslin, and a pair of trousers of the same material, only reaching to the ankle, and on his otherwise naked feet were a pair of loose slippers. This was in his Boston home. A few days ago, his physicians having pronounced his case hopeless, he was removed to this city, as stated above.

He confronted death with all the calm courage of the true fatalist, evidently in full possession of all his mental faculties and firm in his Oriental faith. There was not the faintest evidence of any fear in his manner or his words, nor did there seem to be any longing for life or desire to supplicate for it. To an American whom he knew well, and whom he had learned to regard as a good friend, he said, as he grasped his hand the day before he died:

"Mayhap die one week, maybe one month; die alike samee. No solly myself. All light. Solly my mothee, my mothee."

To one of his Chinese friends he said, only a few hours before he breathed his last, and when he was almost unable to articulate: "I think I see the dragons." It was the last he said. Soon after he sank into what seemed a peaceful sleep and saying for his labored breathing he gave no further evidence of suffering. Slowly and more slowly he breathed, until with a long gasping sigh he gave up the struggle and rested.

There was no lamentation, nor any evidence of grief, though it was plain enough that to many of his friends his going was a real sorrow. Five or six of these friends were in the room when he passed away, and as soon as they saw that he was dead they began the preparations for his final disposal.

It has many meanings. The most common stock expression in the East is probably, "Well," used as an interjection. It may be given more meanings than any other word of a few

THE FAIR SEX.

Newspaper Gossip Concerning the Daughters of Eve—Personal Mention.

Rose Elizabeth Cleveland will go to Europe next year to pursue her literary studies. The fastest typesetter in California is said to be a young woman who is employed in a newspaper office at Santa Barbara.

Miss Daisy Hampton, Gen. Wade Hampton's daughter, is a famous pedestrian. She recently walked from her home to Charleston, a distance of 145 miles, and made in one day a record of twenty-five miles.

The Dowager Duchesse de Fitzjames sent recently to a Paris fashionable bride as her wedding present a copy of the funeral oration delivered over James II of England, recovered and preserved by the Baron de Maynard at Lisbon.

The number of tall ladies now in Washington society is noteworthy. A niece of Secretary Bayard, Miss Bayard, of Baltimore, is six feet tall; Speaker Carlisle's wife is five feet nine inches, and Gen. Greley's wife, Mrs. Wilkinson, wife of Representative Wilkinson, of New Orleans, and Miss Ginter, of Kentucky, are about the same height.

Amelie Rives' sister, about whose beauty so much is being said, is small, very slight and girlish. She has golden hair, large dark blue eyes of weird expression, and a complexion of the most dazzling pink and white. She has long lashes, a fine nose, and full red lips. She dresses with school girl simplicity.

Mme. Vincent, a French woman, has saved twelve persons from drowning. A short time ago she jumped into the waves entirely dressed and rescued the twelfth, a 6-year-old boy. She has seven children of her own, the youngest a baby.

Now that the queen and the Princess of Wales have set the fashion of wearing opals, it will be very widely followed, in spite of the reputation for ill luck which clouds the beauty of these prismatic gems.

Miss Frances Wetmore has been appointed government physician for the island of Hilo. "Dr. Fanny," as she is called, has a large practice, and is very popular among all classes. She makes her visits on horseback, and is ready to answer any call, night or day, in fair weather or foul.

Mrs. Ritchie, the daughter of Thackeray, seems to write her stories by a similar method to that which Emerson pursued in the preparation of his essays. When anything strikes Mrs. Ritchie she writes it down at the moment, and then patches the little scraps together. It appears that before the publication of Mr. Louis Stevenson's "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," the very same story had been thought out by Mrs. Ritchie. It had come to her with a flash—the very best, most delightful story she had ever thought of; and bitter was her disappointment when she picked up Mr. Louis Stevenson's little book and found her idea had been anticipated.

Col. Ingersoll's daughters are brilliant girls. Not in the sense that society terms its girls brilliant; for they are not shallow, and frivolity does not babble when they speak. They are brainy. They have read and studied deeply. They have a fine scientific knowledge, and they talk thoughtfully on all topics of the time. Still, these two young ladies have by no means neglected themselves in the lighter accomplishments. They are fine musicians, and they possess in a remarkable degree the gift of entertainment. One of them, Miss Maud, is the possessor of a remarkable memory. She has stored up in her mind a vast amount of knowledge which she recalls in the most minute manner and with the greatest apparent ease. Without the slightest hesitation she can tell, for instance, the date of birth or death of any important composer, and can recall any event of moment in his career. This quite unusual gift she carries into other fields, and her information is so widespread and so accurate that but for her singularly winsome manner ordinary folks would be quite afraid to talk to her.

Getting Rid of Rats. A farmer living near Greensboro, Ga., was much troubled by rats, and their depredations on his corn crop increased to an alarming extent. He finally thought of a method by which he could rid himself of them. He secured a three gallon jar and half filled it with water. On the top of the water he placed a thick layer of cotton seed. The seed, so he argued, would attract the rats as a pleasant place to play, and of course the moment they touched the seed down they would go. The trap worked like a charm. The rats came; they attempted the frolic act on the seed with the deceptive foundation, and to use Mr. Kilgore's own words, he "caught a gallon and a half of rats the first night," running the water to the top.—Chicago Herald.

Southwestern China's Railroads. Great interest is taken in the east in the railway between Siam and southwestern China, which will be about a thousand miles long. It has been surveyed, but more surveyors are going out from England. It is expected that this railway will postpone for a long time the construction of a line between Tonquin and China. The China Railway company have, by the way, completed their line as far as Tang-ku, and in April the trains began to run from that point to Tongsan. The remaining section of the line, between Tang-ku and Tien-Tsin, will be pushed on with unremitting energy, and in a few months' time the "flying wheels" will be making their revolutions to the delight and amazement of the people of Tien-Tsin.—Home Journal.

Prices Paid for Novels. There seems to have been a great excitement over the \$10,000 paid to Mr. Stevenson for his "Outlaws of Tunstall Forest" by an American syndicate. As a price it pales into insignificance before the \$40,000 paid by Smith, Elder & Co. to George Eliot for "Romola," and the \$50,000 paid by the Longmans for Lord Beaconsfield's "Lothair." Anthony Trollope and Charles Reade often received \$20,000 for a single work, and Harrison Ainsworth, at the height of his popularity, is known to have made \$100,000 a year.—Belford's Magazine.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

A LAND OF PLENTY—ITS PEOPLE AND TRADE.

A Buenos Ayres Banker Talks About Business in the South American Province—Business, Schools, Climate and Railroads—The Newspapers—Prosperity.

"The people of the United States," said Mr. Charles H. Sanford, a partner of the firm of Samuel B. Hale & Co., bankers, of Buenos Ayres, "do not know what an El Dorado the Argentine Republic is. Not in gold and silver, though we mine even these precious metals there, but in productiveness. I think that today Buenos Ayres offers a greater field for the employment of capital with safety than the city of any other country in the world."

"What is Buenos Ayres like?" "Comparing it with a city of the United States, I should say Philadelphia. Its streets are laid out in regular squares or blocks of 200 feet each, and it covers a great deal of ground. It is built upon a slight elevation, rising from the La Plata river. It has a front of two miles on the river, and extends back between two and three miles. The number of inhabitants is 500,000. It is to all intents and purposes a seaport, though 120 miles from the ocean, as it has direct connection by steamer with Europe. The banking interests of the city is very large. There is one bank building that cost \$300,000, another that cost \$50,000 and others the cost of which varies from \$30,000 to \$40,000. The National bank is just about to begin the construction of a building which, with the land, will cost \$1,500,000. These structures are of brick and stucco, handsome in design, and compare favorably with those of any city. Of the residences the city has many handsome ones that cost from \$30,000 to \$50,000 each. The cost of others is from \$20,000 to \$30,000. Spanish is the language generally spoken, but English is much cultivated among the natives, and the larger number of foreigners being Italians, their language largely prevails."

"What is the government like?" "The government of the Argentine Republic is similar to ours, and its constitution is almost ours, with the exception that the president is elected for a term of six years instead of four. The present president is Mr. M. Jurez Colman. He is a very able man to occupy such a position, being over 50 years of age. He is a very energetic and enterprising ruler, and I have no doubt that his years will be of prosperity to the country. Military rule and dictatorship have long since been a thing of the past in the Argentine Republic, although many people think that this is still the rule of the country."

"What are some of your wealthiest men worth?" "I have one man who is worth from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000, several whose wealth is placed at \$20,000,000 each and many who are each worth over \$5,000,000. The general social life is the same as here in New York or in London. Buenos Ayres has a finer opera than any city on this continent. It is Italian opera, and boxes for forty nights cost from \$2,000 to \$3,000. Our opera house seats 3,000 people, and we have a leading tenor the great Tamagno. Patti is now there. She has had a most brilliant success and has received from the Argentines the highest rate of remuneration ever paid to any operatic performer on any stage. The city has large parks, and these are frequented by carriages, the style and elegance of which are equal to those of any city in the world. Palermo is the principal park, and includes many acres. No city is so well supplied with tramways or horse car lines as Buenos Ayres. It has at least 250 miles of them. The service is of the best kind and the cars are of the finest. Arrangements are now being made to light the city by electricity."

"What about schools?" "Every state of the province has a normal school for boys and another for girls. At the head of the latter, with but few exceptions, there are American girls. In Buenos Ayres the public school buildings are handsomer than those of New York. Last year the total number of schools in the country was 3,028. They were served by 6,241 teachers, and their attendance numbered 237,450."

"How is the climate?" "Very temperate and delightful. The mercury rarely goes above 90 degrees in summer or below 60 degrees in winter. The greatest extreme is 40 degrees. It is not a tropical country, but is dry and healthful, about the temperature of Georgia, except that it does not have the extreme cold that state sometimes experiences. Rarely does ice freeze thicker than a pane of glass. This makes the Argentine Republic the best cattle raising country in the world. It is never necessary to house the cattle. The number of sheep now being raised there is 100,000,000, and of cattle 30,000,000. A new industry has taken a great hold of the people of late. It is the raising of horses. It is prophesied that in a few years the Argentine Republic will have as fine stocks of horses, if not finer, than any country in the world. One of the latest horses imported for breeding purposes cost \$5,000."

"What about railroads?" "The number of miles of railroads in the country is 4,430. They cost \$167,000,000. Their gross earnings are \$25,000,000 and net earnings of \$13,000,000. They pay dividends of from 10 to 12 per cent. One company has 1,000 miles, another 800, and one is now building to be 1,300 miles long. The government has ordered the building of a road about 1,300 miles long. Another now being constructed is to reach from Buenos Ayres to Chili. The line will be done in two years. It will connect Buenos Ayres via Mendoza with Valparaiso, and will make Buenos Ayres the great metropolis of South America, as all west coast passengers, mails and light freight, etc., for Europe will save ten days by using this railway."

"I haven't asked you about newspapers." "We have some very bright daily papers and a number of them, and they compare favorably with those of this city for enterprise and appearance. They contain daily dispatches from New York, London, Liverpool, Rome, Berlin and other principal points. Two of the dailies are printed in English and the rest in Spanish. Of the latter the leading ones are La Nacion and La Prensa. The one of the former is \$75,000 worth, and that of the latter is scarcely anything less. The leading English paper is The Standard, one of the proprietors of which is the great statistician, M. G. Mulhall. "The prosperity of the people is remarkable. Failures are almost unknown, and none of importance have taken place in the last eight years. An Argentine's word is his bond. A note was never given there for a debt before 1870, and today the largest transactions of the country are done on simple verbal promises or agreements to pay. I have done millions of dollars of business without ever having a document pass until the business was fully completed. The people I have always found hospitable and amiable. I have known few worthy Americans who did not succeed there."—New York Mail and Express.

WONDERFUL ARAB DOCTORS.

Ex-United States Minister Marsh's Account of a Couple of Wonderful Cures.

Ex-United States Minister George P. Marsh's recent book chronicles a curious experience at Cairo. After returning from their journey to Upper Egypt, Mr. Marsh and another member of his party, a Miss Paine, found themselves completely disabled by severe sprains which the surgical skill of the Frank doctors proved powerless to remedy. They were assured by their dragoman that an Arab miracle worker of his acquaintance could cure the sprains at once, and they finally determined to call on the inventor of the secrets of the Pharaohs. So the dragoman presented himself, "bringing with him the most extraordinary looking creature that can well be imagined. He was scarce five feet in height, and was clad in a single garment of cotton fastened about the waist with a leather belt. His old withered face was lighted up by one eye only, and that seemed but half open, while nothing about his person would have led one to believe that the waters of the broad Nile were within reach. There was an unmistakable look of mortification on the part of those who had consented to summon the Aesculapian, but there was no hope for it now."

"At this moment a visitor was announced to Mr. Marsh, and the lady, therefore, was the first to prove the will man's skill. He examined the injured foot, placed it in warm water, dipped his own fingers in olive oil and rubbed and pressed the foot very gently for about twenty minutes. He then carefully dried it and bade his patient walk. She hesitated, having suffered so much and so long from every effort of that kind, but an imperative 'Imshah, Imshah!' decided her. She placed her foot firmly on the floor and took a step—another, and another, and still no pain. In a few minutes she was on the street, and after strolling some hours among the bazars of the city returned without the least feeling of discomfort. The cure was perfect and permanent."

Meanwhile, Mr. Marsh received equally convincing proof of the powers of the Arabian physician. "His foot and ankle, which were both badly swollen and discolored, were very sensitive to the manipulation, and especially to the energetic pulling, which in his case was a part of the treatment, and at the end of three-quarters of an hour he was well nigh exhausted by pain. But then, on looking at his foot, he was surprised to find that the swelling had disappeared, the color was almost entirely natural, and the shoe and stocking which had been laid aside almost two weeks were put on with perfect ease. He was then directed to walk, which to his amazement he found he could do without the least pain, and the only unpleasant sensation experienced afterward was a slight stiffness, for the first day or two, which, however, did not in the least interfere with walking."—Detroit Free Press.

Bathing and Swimming Suits.

A preferred style in bathing suits affects the blouse waist with a yoke, which conceals the figure and has a pleasing effect. Short sleeves are now generally liked, as they leave the arms of the swimmer free; the drawers loose at the knees are preferred to the closed Turkish drawers, and they must be secured permanently to the belt of the blouse, or else very securely buttoned there. The drawers are made long enough to fall just below the knees, and the skirt should be sufficiently long to conceal the drawers. The blouse is completed by a sailor collar, or else the deep collar is round in the back, though pointed in front in sailor fashion. Striped skirts are much used with the blouses, and have also a striped collar. Albatross flannel of the best grades yet not closely woven is chosen for bathing suits; it should be well shrunken before the garments are put out. Elastic jersey wool bathing suits are in great favor, and are in dark colors, such as plain navy blue, or blue with white cross stripes, also garnet or gray, and are very pretty in white wool, with red or blue stripes. These have the yoke waist and drawers cut together in precisely the same fashion as a skirt, belted over the blouse; there are other jersey suits, with the blouse and skirt in one piece. Helix braid and the open woven wool, grades trim flannel and serge suits. Inconspicuous suits of dark green flannel have either black or blue braid for trimming. A fisherman's cap with tasseled crown is made of jersey wool for bathers. Other bathing caps of oil rubber have a puff crown drawn up, with a narrow fringe in front to cover the bang, and a deeper fringe behind to protect the back of the neck. Hats of gossamer or of oiled silk have a large full crown, and a brim with wire in the edge that can be drawn down over the ears, while the head goes in the crown. Silk handkerchiefs of navy blue or of bandanna red are worn around the head to protect the hair, and are knotted about the neck in sailor fashion.—Harper's Bazar.

Earth Worms Causing Trichinae.

It is a not uncommon occurrence that a parasite inhabits different animals at different stages of its growth. This is the case with the small thread worm, Syn gamus trachealis, which infests the windpipe of the pleasant, peacock, turkey, duck and other fowls, and often occasions considerable damage. Mr. Walker, of Franklinville, N. Y., has recently made some investigations on this subject. He finds that the intermediate host of the embryo syn gamus is the common earth worm, which in places visited by birds has been found to be beset with these parasites. They are swallowed by the birds along with the worms, and perforating the esophagus, find their way into the respiratory organs. During, or immediately after, this migration the syn gamus attains sexual maturity and attaches itself to the trachea. This happens in six or seven days after it has been swallowed. In seven days more its eggs are produced, which are coughed up by the bird and reach the ground, where the embryo emerges in about three weeks. It is swallowed by a worm and remains in its intestinal canal until devoured by a bird. The best method to check this disease is to moisten the soil with brine, which kills both the worms and the embryo syn gami which they contain. Birds which have died of this disease should be destroyed by fire.—New York Star.

A Word About Gloves.

The fit of a glove depends greatly on the manner in which the glove is put on for the first time. The wrist portion should be turned over one inch below the opening before being drawn on the hand, and the fingers put on straight, and then carefully, with patient pressure of the thumbs and fingers of the right hand, each must be well pressed down to the very points. Twisted fingers ruin gloves. The specialty called Beaver Nantwich are drawn into the wrist, and flow out into a gauntlet over the sleeve. They are delightful to touch and comfortable to wear. There are several varieties of driving and riding gloves; chambray gloves for seaside wear, and a better and more reliable kind than the usual make. Fine suede gloves for evening wear, twenty button length, in all the lovely cool tan and biscuit shades, are beautiful and reasonable. Mousquetaire styles prevail when undressed kid is the material, and either buttoned or loose wrists when dressed kid is preferred.

The Plattsmouth Herald

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