

CANTON--CHRISTMAS ABOARD SHIP

The Funny Things One Sees
in
Smiling Round the World
By
MARSHALL P. WILDER

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Canton, in spite of its dirt, in spite of its myriad and insistent smells, is fascinating. Beside the ordinary sights of street life that are like a kaleidoscope for change and color, there is a tall and stately pagoda to be seen, the "flow-ly" pagoda, your guide will tell you. Another, known as the five-story pagoda, built in the year 1490, stands at the point of the citadel, the culminating point of the city wall, the ramparts of which are decorated with grotesque little cannon of a bygone age, resting in worm-eaten and rotting wooden gun carriages.

Another sight of Canton is Examination hall, an institution peculiarly Chinese. Here are 7,500 cells in rows, the fronts open to the air. They are only four feet by three, and their only furniture a couple of boards, laid crossways, one for a seat and the other for a writing desk.

Here the civil service examinations take place for the whole province. Students who wish to compete enter a cell, where they remain for three days and nights, absolutely alone, and guarded by soldiers to see that they have no communication with each other, or with anyone outside.

The examination lasts nine days altogether, in groups of three, with intervals of three days in between, when the students may go outside. It is exceedingly arduous, for there is not room for comfortable sleep, and the tests are very severe.

It is, however, the ambition of every man to pass this examination if he can. Some old students have been known to go there every three years for 30 years without passing. Out of perhaps 6,000 or 7,000 never more than 300 pass, generally much less.

A man who passes is then eligible for any magisterial office in the provincial government, and if he is still more ambitious and can pass the examination at Peking, as well, he is eligible for metropolitan offices.

So that in China education is the only patent of nobility. In this respect it is one of the most democratic countries in the world, for a man may rise from the lowest rank to a high position.

Only three castes are prohibited from competing in the examinations, barbers, actors and chiropodists, who are prohibited from most things, as well as their descendants for three generations.

The good ship Prinz Eitel Friederich bore us bravely from Hong-Kong on our way to India's spicily isles, and also furnished an experience the like of which we had known neither before nor since. I refer to our Christmas dinner, which we ate amid surroundings so truly novel as to seem to us now almost as the passing of a dream.

The Eitel Friederich was not merely a good, staunch ship; she was a magnificently appointed steamer—in short, a floating palace, and the din-



The Five-Story Pagoda.

ner which we ate—each smallest component part thereof, from soup to coffee—was laid in at Bremen before the steamer sailed. The splendid tree, a big green fir, had been cut in Japan and lay strapped to the lower deck, lest some sudden cataclysm of the elements might roll it overboard and cheat us of what proved to be the most enjoyable part of our Christmas feast.

It was understood before leaving Hong-Kong that the most important part of the festivities, i. e. the presents, must be purchased there; so a pool was formed and the presents—having been selected and purchased by a member detailed for the purpose—were handed up the ship's side in packages on the end of sticks, or dangling from strings, or in small butterfly nets, so that the lottery effect was maintained and no one could know what his neighbor held. This mode of procedure provoked hearty laughter and much curiosity as to the ultimate fate of the gifts, each one being securely wrapped until the eventful day should appear.

as we should say in America, clear and cold—but "muggy" and hot. Clothing, even of the thinnest sort, seemed superfluous; exertion, even the mildest, sent little streams of moisture trickling down towards one's shirt collar. But, never mind. It was Christmas—dear old Christmas eve, and if we were 6,000 miles—more or less—away from home, we were not going to have any less pleasure and happiness out of the occasion. So we donned our bravest attire and, summoned by the bugle, made our way with the rest of the passengers, also in full dress, to the dining saloon. Here a scene of marvelous beauty burst upon our eyes; but don't ask me to describe that table. Running the whole length of the gorgeous saloon it was decorated and twined and blazoned with potted plants and vines, garlands and flags, the whole being set off by a most ingenious and beautiful arrangement of electric lights, that peeped out from every leaf and fold and dish as though some fairy wand had touched them into glittering wonder. Little Swiss chalets, set amid snows of cotton and spangled ice-fields, gleamed with lights in every tiny window; cascades ran down through little ice-gorges, lit up with fireflies; the hearts of Christmas roses sent out flashes of beauty, while at the head of the table was a snow man of life-like size and proportion, whose smile was as broad as his ample form. Truly a wonderful sight.

And the dinner—well, I have eaten many dinners, and many Christmas dinners, but this was absolutely



Absolutely Alone.

unique. The cuisine of the German steamers is world-famed, and justly so. The celebrated P. & O. line starves you to death in the most highly genteel manner. The insular exclusiveness of this ancient institution, like that of the much overrated Cunard, has wrung the stomach and bled the pocket of the wayfarer for nearly half a century, while the chilly hauteur of its officers has sent many a passenger to his berth with a frigid heart. Rudyard Kipling says that if you want a favor of one of these magistrates you must stand on your head before the chief officer and wave your feet supplicatingly in the air.

The serving of the Christmas dinner was truly gorgeous. The procession of waiters reached from the dining table to the kitchen, and each course was brought in with as much pomp as though it were a banquet to Old King Cole as we see it pictured in the children's holiday books.

The oysters, the soup, the fish, each had their separate procession, and the turkey—ah! that turkey! borne aloft on a platter, accompanied by all the "trimmings," each with a separate bearer; while the gravy—words fail me. How shall I describe the gravy-bearer? A youth with solemn brow and stately step, who bore aloft upon one hand the dish of gravy, as though it were an offering to royalty. In the matter of style he certainly was all to the gravy!

With the dessert and coffee song and merriment burst forth. Every conceivable Christmas glee and carol—not omitting the good old "Tannenbaum" of the Vaterland, which these German officers rolled forth with a volume that made the dishes dance—was sung. And then, the tree!

This gorgeous piece of upholstery reached from the floor up into the which lantern, which is the nautical name for the open dome which rises far up almost out of sight from the saloon. Every year the decorations are brought out from their storing place and hung upon the tree, and most gorgeous are they to behold, glittering with electric lights and swaying to and fro with every motion of the vessel.

The distribution of presents was a jolly ending to the evening's festivity. Some people got their own presents, that they had bought in contributing to the pool, but they enjoyed them just as much. One of ours was a handsome silver spoon, engraved with Chinese characters similar to those on the cane which was presented to me by Mr. Wei Yuk in Hong-Kong, and which mean "long life and happiness," or something to that effect.

The next day we arrived at Singapore, and it was with indescribable feelings that I stepped ashore in a glare of tropic sunlight, saying to myself, "Christmas day! It is impossible—I cannot believe it!"

But it was, and I smiled as I said to a friend: "Well, we're certainly in for a hot old time, all right, if nothing else!"

How is Julia on Splitting Wood?

Miss Julia Chapman won a set of silver knives, forks and spoons in a board-sawing contest given by a medicine show in Stelwer hall Wednesday evening. She went through her board before any of her competitors had got

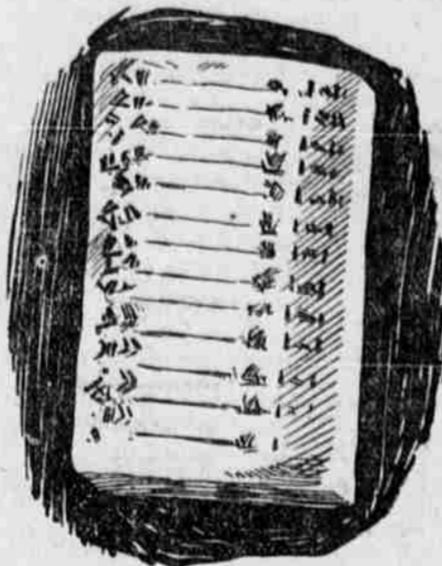
REAL ESTATE IN BABYLON.

Dickering Was Keen 5,000 Years Ago, Eugene Ware Says.

Kansas City, Mo.—That among the ancient Babylonians, 3,000 years B. C., there were lawyers of rare ability, real estate men of more than ordinary shrewdness in driving and clinching a bargain, and craftsmen with great ingenuity and pride in their work, is the opinion of Eugene F. Ware, lawyer, poet and "Kansan."

In an address before the real estate men of Kansas City some time ago, Mr. Ware made the statement that as long as 5,000 years ago men were dealing in real estate, and that those men were as energetic traders and as keen in their transactions as the real estate dealers of to-day.

Mr. Ware explained the result of his research into the history of the Babylonians which has caused him to form this opinion. While traveling in Europe several years ago he came upon a number of clay tablets at the Louvre



An Ancient Tablet of Babylonia.

in Paris. The tablets are specimens uncovered by excavators who were searching for records of the ancient Babylonians. Several thousands of them have been found in the city of Nippur, capital of the ancient Babylonian state of that name. Nippur was one of the largest cities of Babylonia, situated on the banks of a canal connecting the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. The city was famous as the seat of worship of the god Bel, chief deity of the Babylonian pantheon.

A tablet owned by Mr. Ware is a replica of one in the Louvre. It resembles nothing so much as a cake of toilet soap. In color it is pure white and is covered with letters of the cuneiform alphabet. The Babylonians used tablets similar to the one owned by Mr. Ware for all their writing, and on these recorded deeds, leases and other real estate transactions. The tablets were made of white clay very much like that used by modern sculptors. They varied in size from specimens as small as a pea to others the size of a bushel basket. They were made by men who probably occupied the same position in the Babylonian business world as our modern stenographers do. A lawyer would go to one of these scribes on the street corners, dictate his brief to him and the "stenographer in clay" would write on the tablet with a three-cornered stick. The tablet was then baked in a charcoal oven and was ready for use. The writing on the tablets was first translated by Sir Henry Rawlinson in 1854.

The tablet owned by Mr. Ware records a transaction between a jeweler and a real estate man. The real estate man purchased a gold ring with an emerald from the jeweler and the tablet records the sale and contains the jeweler's guarantee of the ring for 20 years.

PLANS A POLAR CONGRESS.

Dr. Nordenskjold Favors Meeting of International Experts.

Chicago.—Dr. Otto Nordenskjold, whose project for a polar congress un-



DR. OTTO NORDENSKJOLD

der the auspices of an international polar bureau at Brussels is designed to secure from experts a complete statement of all existing knowledge of the polar regions and has awakened keen interest among the scientists of Europe, spent two years in the antarctic polar regions, 1901 to 1903, and has explored Greenland and South America. He is professor of geography in the University of Upsala, Sweden. A nephew of the famous arctic explorer, Baron Adolf E. Nordenskjold, he was made familiar with polar conditions at an early age, and began his South American explorations in 1895, a year after his graduation from the University of Upsala, where he was known as a brilliant student.

FOUND THE CAUSE.

After Six Years of Misery and Wrong Treatment.

John A. Enders, of Robertson Avenue, Pen Argyl, Pa., suffered for six years with stinging pain in the back, violent headaches and dizzy spells, and was assured by a specialist that his kidneys were all right, though the secretions showed a reddish, brick-dust sediment. Not satisfied, Mr. Enders started using Doan's Kidney Pills. "The kidneys began to act more regularly," he says, "and in a short time I passed a few gravel stones. I felt better right away and since then have had no kidney trouble."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

WENT HIM MANY BETTER.

Mr. Newrich's Visiting Card Left Friend in the Shade.

Mr. Newrich, the dust contractor, having made a fortune, part of which he had invested in house property in the east of London, wished to rise, like a Phoenix, from his ashes into some sort of society. His golden key, applied to the coffers of an impecunious aristocrat, opened the way.

His new friend, among other things, advised him that visiting cards were a necessity, and, as a guide to drawing one up ready for the printer, handed him one of his own, which read, "Harold De Vere, Iona House, Portsmouth Square, W."

Two days later, as De Vere was sitting in his dressing room at breakfast, a servant brought in on a salver a visiting card bearing the following: "Ephraim Newrich, I Own 23 Houses, London, E."

SEVERE HEMORRHOIDS

Sores, and Itching Eczema—Doctor Thought an Operation Necessary—Cuticura's Efficacy Proven.

"I am now 80 years old, and three years ago I was taken with an attack of piles (hemorrhoids), bleeding and protruding. The doctor said the only help for me was to go to a hospital and be operated on. I tried several remedies for months but did not get much help. During this time sores appeared which changed to a terrible itching eczema. Then I began to use Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Pills, injecting a quantity of Cuticura Ointment with a Cuticura Suppository Syringe. It took a month of this treatment to get me in a fairly healthy state and then I treated myself once a day for three months and, after that, once or twice a week. The treatments I tried took a lot of money, and it is fortunate that I used Cuticura. J. H. Henderson, Hopkinton, N. Y., Apr. 26, 1907."

In the Free Vaccination Ward.

A Lithuanian woman was getting her fifth baby vaccinated the other day.

"I am glad," said the young surgeon, "that you recognize the importance of vaccination."

"Oh, yes," she added pensively, "what it's done for, though. It's to show you're a free citizen, the same as naturalization papers, ain't it?"

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it Bears the Signature of *W. C. Little*

In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Immense Pig Iron Production.

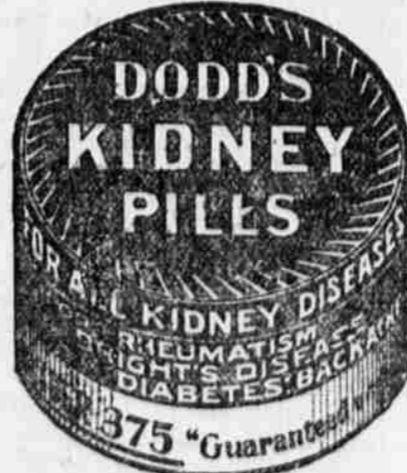
In the last eight years the three great iron countries have produced 10,300,000 tons of pig iron, of which over half has come out of the United States.

To prevent that tired feeling on ironing day—Use Defiance Starch—saves time—saves labor—saves annoyance, will not stick to the iron. The big 16 oz. package for 10c, at your grocer's.

Every human being is intended to have a character of his own, to be what no other is, to do what no other can.—Channing.

Lewis' Single Binder—the famous straight razor, always best quality. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

The butcher should be careful how he steaks his reputation.



NOTARIES and JUSTICES HANDLING PENSION vouchers should write for each one to T. A. H. & W. H. W. S. Co., Washington, D. C. (Over 25 years' experience.)

PUTNAM FADELESS DYES

Color more goods brighter and faster colors than any other dye. One 10c package colors all fibers. They do in cold water better than any other dye. You can dye any garment without ripping apart. Write for free booklet—How to Dye, Bleach and Mix Colors. MONROE DRUG CO., Quincy, Illinois.

HOUSE WORK



Thousands of American women in our homes are daily sacrificing their lives to duty.

In order to keep the home neat and pretty, the children well dressed and tidy, women overdo. A female weakness or displacement is often brought on and they suffer in silence, drifting along from bad to worse, knowing well that they ought to have help to overcome the pains and aches which daily make life a burden.

It is to these faithful women that

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

comes as a boon and a blessing, as it did to Mrs. F. Ellsworth, of Mayville, N. Y., and to Mrs. W. P. Boyd, of Beaver Falls, Pa., who say:

"I was not able to do my own work, owing to the female trouble from which I suffered. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound helped me wonderfully, and I am so well that I can do as big a day's work as I ever did. I wish every sick woman would try it."

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN.

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness, or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.

Paxtine TOILET ANTISEPTIC

Keeps the breath, teeth, mouth and body antiseptically clean and free from unhealthy germ-life and disagreeable odors, which water, soap and tooth preparations alone cannot do. A germicidal, disinfecting and deodorizing toilet requisite of exceptional economy. Invaluable for inflamed eyes, throat and nasal and uterine catarrh. At drug and toilet stores, 50 cents, or by mail prepaid. Large Trial Sample



WITH "HEALTH AND BEAUTY" BOOK SENT FREE THE PAXTON TOILET CO., Boston, Mass.

\$50,000 Value Given Away THE RACYLE has 27% less pressure less strain on chain, less crank friction, hills easier than other bicycles. Is the latest and best bicycle in the world. Will last a lifetime. We make no cheap bicycles, but you can get yours AT FACTORY PRICES by securing our log and pamphlet sent free on request. Write for it. It tells about the RACYLE and how to get the \$50,000. MANUFACTURERS OF THE RACYLE, MIDDLETOWN, N. J.

WIDOWS' under NEW LAW obtained PENSIONS

DEFIANCE Cold Water Starch makes laundry work a pleasure. 16 oz. pkg. 10c. W. N. U., OMAHA, NO. 21, 1908.

WEAR SHIELD BRAND SHOES
Recess School Shoes for boys and girls. Dressy, comfortable—unequaled for real hard wear. Price, \$1.75 to \$2.50. If not at dealers ask us. ELLET-KENDALL SHOE CO. MFGS. Kansas City, Mo.

FOR PINK EYE
Cures the sick and acts as a preventive for others. Liquid given on the tongue. Safe for brood mares and all others. Best kidney remedy; 50 cents and \$1.00 a bottle; \$5.00 and \$10.00 the dozen. Sold by all druggists and horse goods houses, or sent express paid, by the manufacturers. SPOHN MEDICAL CO., Chemists, GOSHEN, INDIANA

W. L. DOUGLAS SHOES
\$3.00 SHOES AT ALL PRICES FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY. MEN, BOYS, WOMEN, MISSES AND CHILDREN. W. L. Douglas makes and sells more men's \$2.50, \$3.00 and \$3.50 shoes than any other manufacturer in the world, because they hold their shape, fit better, wear longer, and are of greater value than any other shoes in the world to-day. W. L. Douglas \$4 and \$5 Gilt Edge Shoes Cannot Be Equalled At Any Price. BE CAREFUL. W. L. Douglas name and price is stamped on bottom. Take No Substitute. Buy by the foot shoe dealers everywhere. Shoes mailed from factory to any part of the world. Illustrated Catalog free to any address. W. L. DOUGLAS, Brockton, Mass.

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Color more goods brighter and faster colors than any other dye. One 10c package colors all fibers. They do in cold water better than any other dye. You can dye any garment without ripping apart. Write for free booklet—How to Dye, Bleach and Mix Colors. MONROE DRUG CO., Quincy, Illinois.