

CRUELITIES IN CHINA.

Torture of Prisoners Carried to Point of Refinement.

HOME OF THE WATER DEATH.

A Worse Infliction Than That of Being Tied to a Beam by the Thumbs and Big Toes—The Bastinado and Flogging With Split Bamboo.

China is a land of contradictions and mysteries. It bristles with surprises. The phlegmatic nature of its natives is in marked contrast to their inherent cruelty.

"What a poor, weak looking baby!" you might say to a Chinaman about his offspring and he will merely shrug his shoulders in reply. Meet him in a month's time and ask him how the youngster is getting on.

"The disease was a fatal one," he will answer with another significant shrug. If the child were a girl you could safely draw your own conclusions as to its fate. John Chinaman has no use for deformed or very sickly children, particularly girls.

Torture of prisoners has been carried to a point of refinement. One of the most terrible was surely the one in which a man was placed so that his head just protruded at the top, while his toes only touched the ground sufficiently to prevent dislocation of the neck.

His hands were bound behind him so that he could not relieve himself, and he was left to be leered at by the public until hunger and exhaustion put an end to his sufferings.

The day of the bastinado, too, is by no means over. The prisoner is strung up in a reverse condition, and the naked soles of his feet are pounded with a cane with the result that the victim seldom recovers.

But the more common form of flogging is to beat the thighs with the concave side of a split bamboo, which cuts at every stroke into the flesh.

China by the way, was the home of that terrible death by water drops. The victim's head was placed on a low hard block and drops of water at short intervals were allowed to fall from a height on to his forehead a far, far worse infliction than that of being tied to a beam by the thumbs and big toes.

The canines is regarded as a comparatively mild sort of punishment. This consists of a wooden collar, about four feet square and four inches thick, which is placed over the prisoner's head, so that its full weight falls on the shoulders.

A description of the offense is also attached to the victim's body, and as he cannot feed himself he has to rely on the public for sustenance.

Conservative to a degree, it is not surprising to find that the wheelbarrow as a passenger conveyance is still in vogue, as, too, is the ferry, consisting of a light canoe, towed across the water by a number of swimmers.

Machinery for the most part is despised, and the mill, still used for winnowing the staple diet, rice, is of the simplest and most out of date description possible.

The rice is placed in a cement basin, over which is a heavy stone at the end of a long lever. This is worked up and down by two boards, in the form of a cross, attached to the axle of a huge hand turned wheel.

For simplicity of keeping a city informed of the time Canton would be hard to beat. In one of the temples are four large earthen jars on successive shelves.

Water descends by slow drops from one to the other, a brass scale on a float in the bottom one indicating as it rises the hour of the day.

At 5 o'clock every afternoon the lowest jar is emptied and the upper one refilled. On the outside walls of the city are displayed boards with the number of the hour on them, so that all may see. And this has gone on without a break since 1321.

Funerals appear almost a mockery to the visitor. If money can be freely spent a manager is appointed, and from the highways and the byways street boys and beggars are collected, dressed up in amazing costumes, supplied with dazzling umbrellas, standards and boards, which are carried over their shoulders in a long struggle.

Others carry small houses and carts made of card paper, horses, men, women, etc., indicative of the dead one's treasures, and these, with heaps of paper coins and paper money, are burned at the grave so that they may be enjoyed in the life beyond.

Hired mourners with cymbals, gongs and wind instruments keep up a continuous series of howls and noises to which is added the boodon, boodon, of an ear racking horn worked something like a garden hose.

Women are regarded as nothing in China. They are brought up in ignorance of the world outside, the one object of their life being to get married and have sons to follow the fathers. A girl is not even allowed to look upon her husband until she is actually wedded.—London Ladies Field.

Not Very Neighborlike.

Dugald—You was not a verra neighborlike thing to be doin'. Angus, when you was telling the whole town that I was drunk aal the week that I was in Glasgow. Angus—I never said no sich word out o' my lips. Dugald Mackay. Aal I said was that you was perfect sober on the Sabbath day?—London Opinion.

Though you drive Nature out with a pitchfork, she always comes back.—German Proverb.

What the Professor Wanted.

The professor steps into the barber chair and assumes an attitude of premeditation.

"Hair cut, sir?"
"Please?" The barber cuts his hair.
"Like a shampoo?"
"Um—please?" He gets the shampoo
"Shave you, sir?"
"Um—yes?" One shave.

"Massage?" He nods assent and consequently is massaged. The barber removes the towel; the professor arises and mechanically takes the proffered check.

"What's this?"
"Your check, sir."
"My check?"

"Certainly, sir—hair cut, shampoo, shave and massage."
The professor rubs his hand over face and head.

"Did I get all that?"
"Surely, sir."

"It's queer—very queer—most extraordinarily queer! A most wonderful example of philosophical phenomena!"

"What's queer?" asks the barber in dismay.
"Why, the working of the human mind. What I came in for was to get my razor honed."—Puck.

What Constitutes Baseball?

The essential apparatus of baseball is simple and inexpensive. All that is required is a field, a stick, the ball itself and police protection for the umpire. One advantage of the game as played professionally is that those sitting in the grand stand can play the game a great deal better than the eighteen men on the diamond. It is also true that any one of the spectators, even though perched on a telephone pole across the street or looking through a knothole in the fence beyond right field, can judge of the pitcher's skill or the runner's fleetness much more intelligently than the arbiter who stands behind the battery. The great merit of the game is that the people can participate in it. It is not like bridge whist. Its science is not synonymous with silence. The thing to do is to take off your coat and root as long and as loudly as you can, even if you don't know what is happening.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Taking It Out In Trade.

The proprietor of a certain Turkish bath establishment, seeing a strong looking young man working in a butcher's shop and being impressed by his magnificent muscles, told him to resign and take a rubber's position with him.

"I'll give you more than you are getting now," he said.
The young butcher, resigning in good faith, turned up the next morning at the bath house.

"Well," said the proprietor to him, "I'll put you on at once. What did you get at the butcher's?"

"Six dollars and my week's meat," returned the young man.

"What did that amount to?"

"About \$3."

"Well," said the proprietor, "I offered you more to come here, didn't I? I'll give you \$6 in money and \$4 worth of baths weekly. That is a dollar more than you got at your old place."

Dutch Engagements.

A custom among the Dutch is the exchanging of engagement rings, which are narrow bands of plain gold, with the initials of the betrothed and the day of the betrothal engraved on the inside. They are worn on the left hand before and on the right after marriage. Dutch engagements extend over a period of from two to five years. During this time the young woman gives up all amusements in which her fiance does not participate. If he is not of the dancing sort she refrains from that recreation, however much she may desire to engage in it. She never goes in company anywhere if he is not present, and when they do go together to a ball no gentleman will ever ask her to dance without formally gaining his permission.—London Scraps.

The Sure Thing.

A theatrical manager once offered a famous actress \$1,000 a week to make a tour of the world. She insisted on \$1,500. But the manager said \$1,000 was all he could give, and he reminded her of the fabulous jewels that South American millionaires, Russian grand dukes and Indian rajahs are wont to lavish on the ladies of the stage when they are touring.

"Go home," said the manager; "think the matter over and let me know your decision in the morning."

In the morning the actress sent the manager this message:
"Give me my terms and you can have the jewels."

Little Barbara's Complaint.

Four-year-old Barbara went to church with her two sisters and came home crying.

"What is the matter, dear?" inquired her mother.

"He preached a whole sermon—about—M-Mary and Martha," sobbed Barbara, "and—never said—a—w-word about me."—Lippincott's.

Work Fascinating.

There is an indescribable fascination about work. The laziest man in town will stand watching with evident enjoyment the labors of a street gang laying pavement.—Fort Worth Record.

Suits the Case.

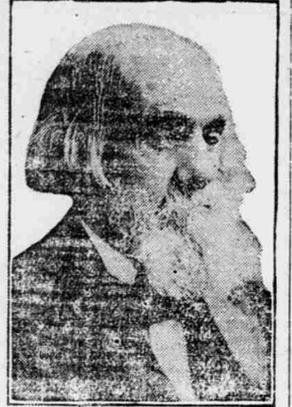
"That prisoner over yonder, warden, has rather a mischievous look."
"Do you think so?"
"Yes, quite a rogish expression."—Baltimore American.

To me the meekest flower that blows can give thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears.—Wordsworth.

A GRAND OLD MAN.

The Career and Work of the Late Dr. Edward Everett Hale.

The late Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale wrote a series of articles for the Outlook not long ago in which he described some of his travels in his own country. People who write on such subjects usually describe their travels in other countries. But Dr. Hale believed in being first of all familiar with one's own country and well informed on the men and movements and incidents of its history, and his life work in writing, lecturing and teaching in the pulpit tended toward popular education along this line and in consequence in the development of intelligent patriotism. It has been said of



REV. DR. EDWARD EVERETT HALE.

his "The Man Without a Country" that it is probably the most popular short story written in America. Certainly it has taught a deep and lasting lesson in patriotism. Dr. Hale's writings were so simple and intelligible that, while they commended themselves to adults, they especially interested the young and helped much to train them in right ways of thinking and living. Born on April 3, 1822, and therefore eighty-seven years old at the time of his death, he was active in public life and in literature to the very last and held the post of chaplain of the United States senate when his summons came. Only a few days before his demise he was present at the celebration in honor of the nineteenth birthday of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, his contemporary in many of the reform movements with which he had been identified for fifty years.

Born in Boston, Dr. Hale's career was associated largely with that city, yet his reputation was international, and his sympathies knew no bounds of state or even of nation. His grandfather, Enoch Hale, was a brother of Captain Nathan Hale, "the patriot spy," and Dr. Hale had given much study to the history of that Revolutionary hero whose tragic death no doubt had much influence over his own life in view of the family relationship. His father bore the name Nathan, and his mother was a sister of the great orator Edward Everett and a woman of much force and character. He married a niece of Henry Ward Beecher. He told the story of his childhood and his student days at the Boston Latin school and Harvard college in his "A New England Boyhood," published in 1895. Something of the fame of the incendiary who set fire to the temple of Ephesus came near to being the distinction of his college course. Two of the waters at commons had gone to sleep, shut up with a pan of charcoal. President Quincy called for men who could make oxygen, and Hale volunteered, enlisting two or three others. One man was saved, but they drove their furnace so hard that the chimney set a timber of 1720 on fire, and old Massachusetts hall was threatened with destruction. The boys could not arrest the flames, but the fire department came just in time.

Dr. Hale became a minister of the Unitarian church in 1846 and in 1858 he became pastor of the South Congregational (Unitarian) church of Boston, holding this relation thereafter till the time of his death, since 1888 having had the services of an assistant pastor. He had received many honorary degrees, and his published works number nearly fifty volumes, including such subjects as romance, theology, history, sociology and reminiscences of his contemporaries.

A FREAK OF NATURE.

Potato in the Form of a Hand Recently Exhibited.

The freaks of nature in the vegetable world are often queer and sometimes quite hard to explain. A potato in the form of a hand was recently shown at



A POTATO IN THE FORM OF A HAND, a fair in Europe. It was raised by Decio Venturini at Buja, in the Italian province of Udine. Of course it took a hand(some) prize.

THE HARDY CODFISH.

It Will Live For Hours Out of Its Natural Element.

A man who had stopped at a stand in Fulton market to buy a fresh fish pointed his finger at a fish that pleased his fancy being about two feet long and weighing about five pounds.

"That looks like a nice fish to me," he said whereupon the dealer picked the fish up to put it on the scale.

The moment he picked it up the fish began to wriggle, and the next moment it had slipped out of the dealer's grasp and fallen on the sidewalk.

As the fish went down the customer turned to the stand and picked up another which the dealer picked up and this fish stayed quiet until it had been put on the scale, but the instant it touched it began to flop vigorously and finally hopped itself out of the scale pan, to fall on the stand below.

Codfish these two lively and vigorous fish were, the cod being a fish that will live out of the water three or four hours, a good deal longer than most fish. At Fulton market live cod can almost always be found. The dealers keep their stock in fish cars in the East river, just across South street, and for retail trade bring over maybe fifty or a hundred pounds at a clip enough to last half an hour or an hour and when the crowd runs low they bring over another lot, fresh out of the fish car.

The cod, though a salt water fish, will live for hours in fresh water. An angler who goes occasionally to the fishing banks tells of carrying home a codfish caught in the afternoon and placing it in a bathtub to find it alive the next morning. New York Sun.

TOOK NO CHANCES.

Young Bessemer Was Cautious as Well as Inventive.

The most trivial incidents have often originated the fortunes of our richest men. Take, for example, the fortunes made out of Bessemer steel. This genius, young Bessemer had some idea of making steel out of iron, but a poor, newly married young man has no means of experimenting on a large scale. The story I must tell as I have heard it from an intimate friend of Bessemer and is a true tale. After Bessemer had in his small laboratory experimented with the metals and at last obtained the desired result by blowing air through melted iron he found in the bottom of the crucible a little lump of the famous steel. Now the question was how to make the discovery public. He put the lump of steel into his pocket and made his way to Nasmyth of steam hammer fame. Placing the metal on Nasmyth's desk, he told him that he had made this extraordinary discovery, which would revolutionize the whole metal world. Then came a little incident which shows what wonderful heads these Scotch financiers possess. What do you think Nasmyth said to his excited inventor?

"Eh mon! it's very risky to show your wonderful invention. The world is very dishonest."
To which the aspiring inventor replied:

"Right Mr. Nasmyth I just calculated whom I was coming to see, so with my last half crown I registered the invention on my way."—London Strand Magazine.

The Holdup Man in Mexico.

Now, as a matter of fact, life and property are as safe in Mexico as in Chicago, and one's life is a great deal safer. Mexico has her pickpockets and her sneak thieves, and burglars are not unknown, but the holdup man is an individual with whom the police are not well acquainted. This cannot be said of Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis or New York. It may be because the criminal element in Mexico lacks the bravery necessary for following the holdup's profession, or it may be because the city is extraordinarily well guarded by police. It certainly is well guarded by the police; but it matters not what the reason is, the fact is that the man who relieves you of your money in Mexico does so in the manner calculated to cause you the least inconvenience—Mexico Record.

There Was a Limit In Liking.

Little Victor had been naughty and his father had seen fit to administer a spanking. A few minutes later when his papa had left the room and the little fellow was alone with mamma, he exclaimed between his sobs, "I don't like papa." His mother, of course, told him that was very wrong and that he would have to be punished again if he talked like that. "Well," he added looking up quickly, "I like papa all right, but I don't like his acts."—Delineator.

Cause For Haste.

"Wot are you breathin' so hard for, Dusty?"
"A shoemaker run me out o' town for most a mile."
"Wot riled him?"
"He runs a quick repair shop, an' he got mad 'cause I handed him a couple of boot heels an' a shoestring an' told him I'd call for de shoes in half 'n hour."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

He Went Early That Night.

He (calling)—I'm here promptly, Miss Fannie. She—Yes, Mr. Staylate. He—I never like to keep people waiting. She (significantly)—Waiting for you to come you mean, of course.—Washington Post.

No Need of a Bargain.

Beggar Kind sir, give me a penny for my two children. Kind Sir That isn't dear, certainly, but I don't think I'll take them. I have four already at home. Stray Stories.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DAY-SERVICE

The McCook Electric Company announces the starting on July 3, 1909, and continuance of, day-service for supplying current for light, power and heating.

The public are invited to confer with us regarding electric fans, motors for industrial and domestic purposes, flat-irons, and all kinds of heating and cooking appliances.

Respectfully,
A. R. SCOTT,
Manager.

Everything in drugs. McConnell. Kodaks and kodak supplies. L. W. McCONNELL, Druggist.

Feed of all kinds, baled hay etc. at McCook Flour and Feed Store.

The managers of company "M" received their "pup" tents, Tuesday.

We have fresh lettuce and celery every Wednesday and Saturday. HUBER.

See Dr. Warrick, the Oculist, Thurs day, July 22, at the Commercial hotel.

There's a skin comb in every box of RY LO L. W. McCONNELL, Druggist.

Nothing more stylish than a dainty sailor straw hat, such as Rozell & Barger sell.

First class pasture at Corwin's ranch, 3 1/2 miles south of McCook. Reference, S. G. Wilson.

There is a chap waiting for you. McConnell's Vegetable Cold Cream is your protection. 35 cents.

Hanson's gloves—a favorite with many—tried and true—at R. z-l & Barger's, the leading clothiers.

If you want a good pickle in sweet, sour or mixed, we have them—a quart jar full for 25 cents. HUBER.

For breakfast we have buckwheat, Ralston and Advo pancake flours and maple syrup and mapleine to go with them. HUBER.

Diarrhoea, cholera morbus and cramps are speedily stopped with McConnell's Blackberry Balsam, the sure relief for bowel troubles. 25 cents.

The W. C. Bullard lumber yard at Pallasae has been purchased by C. G. Hamilton, formerly of the Barr & Hamilton Lumber Co., Benkelman.

This is the season to freshen up the furniture, make the floors glossy and the woodwork fresh and clean. Permalac will do it best. Sold by the Stansbury Lumber Co., McCook, Neb.

Do you want to sell, or exchange your business? The Omaha Bee will run an advertisement for you at one cent a word per day. There will be many out of their 40,000 readers who will answer your advertisement. Write today.

The financial report of the Carnegie library at Holdrege discloses that they spent a total of \$1,951.65, as against a total spent by the McCook Carnegie library of \$1,609.25. In point of number of books issued during the year, McCook's report is much more satisfactory than Holdrege's.

McConnell fills prescriptions. Picture framing. The Ideal Store. Mary Harrison, nurse. Phone black 286. White House Grocery for fresh vegetables. Phone 30. Of course you know Huber keeps the Wedding Breakfast Coffee. Fink overalls—the standard make—R. z-l & Barger, the leading clothiers. Learn shorthand at McCook Business College. Opens July 26th. STAYNER & WILLIAMS. Apples, Peaches, Cherries and Blackberries in gallon cans. White House Grocery. Phone 30. Patronize home industry by smoking "Commercial Club", 10 cent cigar and the "Smoke", 5 cent cigar. We are now agents for the Famous Garhart Overalls and Jackets—also for their Gloves and Caps. HUBER. We have a full line of California Canned Goods in both the Advo and J. M. brands. Nothing superior. HUBER. The missionary society of the Congregational church will meet with Mrs. G. W. Campan, next Thursday, July 22nd, at 2:30 o'clock. There will be no preaching service at the Congregational church next Sunday July 18, owing to the absence of the pastor. Sunday School as usual. A hay-rack ride and the hospitality of Mrs. E. F. Flitcraft on the ranch west of the city were enjoyed by the young ladies of the "Aw-Os" club, Monday evening. If all the houses in this town were painted with Bradley & Vrooman Pure Paint there would be no more painting for five years. Stansberry Lumber Co., McCook, Nebraska, are the agents. Dr. Warrick, the Hastings Specialist, will meet eye, ear, nose and throat patients and those that need glasses fitted at the Commercial hotel, in McCook, Thursday, July 22. Eyes tested free. Get a ham mock and take a little more comfort this summer. We have the kind that lasts—the comfortable kind, made for one, a company or a crowd—the kind you want. L. W. McCONNELL, Druggist. If you need help of any kind, tell as many people as possible. There are more than 40,000 people who subscribe for the Omaha Bee. You can tell them all for one cent a word per day. Write today.



It is coming—the small boy and the 4th of July—so is our volume of business.

Where is one of the best places to buy lumber? From the Stansberry Lumber Co., McCook, Neb.

Where is one of the best places to buy coal? From the Stansberry Lumber Co., McCook, Neb.

Where is one of the best places to buy paint? From the Stansberry Lumber Co., McCook, Neb.

Why is the Stansberry Lumber Co. a good place to trade? They make a specialty of buying the best. Quality is always first. Our best recommendation is our customers—you ask them. And the volume of business we have picked up in the past five months makes us feel that we make no mistake when we put quality first.