

CHINA'S AGED STATESMAN

Oscar King Davis Draws a Pen Picture of Li Hung Chang.

DETAIL OF A SHANGHAI INTERVIEW

Surprising frankness of the diplomat—Boxers Fettered by the Emperor—Reform of China Must Come from Within.

(Copyright, 1900, by Oscar King Davis.) The note from the consul said that Li Hung Chang would be glad to see us at his house the next morning at 10 o'clock. An interpreter was not necessary, as among the retainers of the viceroy there were always some who were well versed in English. The consul would send his own man to attend to such preliminary ceremonies as were essential.

Earl Li Hung Chang was at the house of a friend down the Bubbling Well road. It happened that there was stopping at the hotel at the time a gentleman had been in the diplomatic service for several years and who had just come to Shanghai from a term of service as acting consul in Canton, where Li had been viceroy for some time. The diplomat professed such a familiarity with almost flawless accent that we were all ashamed of our ignorance and inexperience and listened eagerly to his advice.

"You can't spread it on too thick," said this wise man of experience. "The baldest flattery will please him. Hand it out to him on any kind of a plate and he will smile. Ring all the changes on his being the greatest man in all the world and you will win him right at the start."

We accepted the advice meekly and set out to find how it would succeed. At the "friend's house," a fine brick structure, the external appearance of which showed no trace of Chinese architecture, we went in our cards and four or five Chinese in long flowing robes of blue, or white, or lavender silk, came to the doorway and eyed us curiously. Presently we were taken into a pleasant room on the side of a court, where there came to us a smooth young man in a long coat of gorgeous blue, who spoke English with almost flawless accent.

How Earl Li Receives Visitors. We were led through a long dark hall to a sparsely furnished room at one side of which stood the viceroy waiting for us. He seemed very old. Two sturdy servants supported him, each with one arm across his back. The old man advanced slowly to greet us and the stout attendants supported him. He put a trembling hand out a few inches toward each of us, and as his hands were soft and flabby and cold, He smiled ever so little and bowed slightly. The interpreter said his excellency was very glad indeed to see us.

There was a small marble-topped table in the center of the room. Four chairs were placed about it and Li moved toward one of them to sit down. His two men of muscle caught him by the arms at the shoulders and lowered him gently to his seat. Then the viceroy beamed, and the first question an attendant asked and poured out champagne instead of tea, the drinking of which by the viceroy would be the signal that the interview was ended.

Perfection of Service. He did not take the trouble to translate the remarks of the Washingtonian, who thereupon withdrew into an ante-chamber and closed the door. All this time a crowd of half a dozen or more servants hung in the doorway or stood in the hall and occasionally peeked into the room. Not the slightest motion or sign of their master escaped them. Their movements were most certainly and were absolutely noiseless. A little wave of the hand brought them to him. He seemed never to speak to them. They divided his will, got what he desired and withdrew to the doorway again. Occasionally he smoked a cigarette, but his favorite was a long Chinese pipe. One of his men would fill it and stand with lighted taper holding the end of the long stem to the viceroy's lips, waiting for him to take the puff or two that would exhaust the contents of the little bowl. When, after nearly two

hours of talk, the viceroy lifted his glass of champagne to his lips the two husky men stepped quickly to his chair, one at each side, and deftly and gently raised him to his feet, supported him while he shook hands all around again and helped him out of the room. It was the perfection of service.

While our government is nominally an absolute monarchy it is the fact that the monarch is surrounded by advisers whose suggestions usually are accepted. In this case she was badly advised. At first she was told that the Boxers were invulnerable and it would be able to make it rather hot for the foreigners, so she supported them. But afterward she found out that she had been misinformed and then she changed her opinion and her attitude.

From the political point of view the most important thing the chief press commissioner said was his frank admission that China could not go on in the course it has pursued for so many years. Reform of the government is essential to its life, he said. The great object of himself and the other Chinese of influence and position was to secure reform from within and at the hands of Chinese, without the intervention of foreigners. What they feared most was partition.

One of the closest friends of Li Hung Chang in Shanghai and one of the most influential Chinese in China, he is a very different person in China from the Li who "gilded" his interviewers when in America. The nearest he came to a personality was when he inquired, with a grin, after he had been talking about the looting of Tien Tsin and Peking, whether, by chance, any of the correspondents got any goldens.

Sheng Talks of Reform. It was a very long talk. He gave us the news of the court, which the cable immediately made public, and then he told us the story of the origin and growth of the Boxer movement and how it came to have its hold upon the masses and the princes of the imperial clan. When we asked him how many Boxers there were he replied: "When the emperor is a Boxer, there are just as many Boxers as there are Chinese, but when she really ceases to be one there will be no others left."

PRATTLE OF THE YOUNGSTERS. "Tommy, Tommy, remember. Sanny comes only to good boys." "Yes, ma; but boys 'at you think is awful bad Sanny thinks is tailable good."

His Mamma—Willie, I don't like that cough of yours at all. Willie—I ain't stuck on it, either, mamma. "Ma, I bought you some candy down town." "That was kind, Tommy, where is it?" "Well, ma, I was so long comin' home on the cars that it didn't last till I got here."

"Now, children," said the pretty Sunday school teacher, "what do you suppose Lot said when his wife turned and looked back?" "In a chorus came the answer of the class: 'Rubber!'" "Oh, you precious little wolloppin'" cried the emotional matron. "Slowly the Boston child disengaged himself from her embrace. 'Is that word in the dictionary?' he asked.

TABLE AND KITCHEN. Practical Suggestions About Food and the Preparations of It.

Daily Menus. MONDAY, BREAKFAST: Cereal, Cream, Mirrored Eggs, Hashed Potatoes, Corn Bread, Coffee. LUNCH: Vegetable Soup, Tomato Sauce, Stewed Fruit, Wafers. DINNER: Cream of Celery Soup, Meat Pie, String Beans, Macaroni, Stewed Pigs, Coffee.

Hints for Entertainments. If the inventive faculty displays by the modern hostess in devising new and novel methods for the entertainment of her guests could be given a more practical application in the household economy it would, no doubt, be the means of overcoming many of the difficulties of housekeeping.

The housewife in moderate circumstances often hesitates to attend to the discharge of any social duties, for her means will not allow her to incur the expense she deems necessary in carrying out the requirements of good form demands. Let her console herself with the knowledge that good taste, refinement and a very little expense, coupled with the indefinable atmosphere of unassuming hospitality, that "entente cordiale," will be far more pleasing and in much better form than those perfunctory affairs which many have excused her envy or made her feel the utter uselessness of allowing her mind to dwell upon hospitable thoughts.

At each corner, instead of a guest card, place a tiny wooden pin-board with a little rolling-pin and potato-masher tied to it with pink ribbons. Have the guest's name written on the rolling-pin and the hostess's on the pin-board, with dates of her wedding and anniversary and also name of guest of honor. If possible to obtain, use carved, wooden, candlesticks, otherwise wrought-iron, but not china, silver or glass. Arrange these near the centerpiece. Use pink candles and shades. At each corner place a tiny wooden bowl with a tiny lace doily in it and filled with fine pink and white minis. On each bread and butter plate place a rasped roll and the spreader. Serve the following menu. The salad should be passed around, allowing each guest to help themselves, and it makes a very pretty dish when served in the shell.

- Oysters on the Shell, Sautéed Potatoes, Pim Olas, Consommé with Sherry, Mushroom and Sweetbread Patties, Peas, Fried Chicken, (Served in Shell on Bed of Lettuce), Montrose Pudding, Chestnut Sauce, Fancy Cakes, Coffee.

Recipes. Christmas Ham—Choose a fresh ham weighing eight to ten pounds—one round and eight with firm white fat and clear, ruddy lean of the grain. Score flesh side deeply in half a dozen places, crowd in thin slices of garlic, skew up the scores and rub the ham well with a handful of salt, a teaspoonful of sugar and half a teaspoonful of red and black pepper.



THE RESTAURANT RUSH!

"SACRIFICED to the American passion for hurry." That was the verdict given by a writer in Leslie's Weekly on the many victims of the ferry accident at Mount Desert. There was plenty of room on the boat, plenty of time to reach it. But the hurrying crowd jostled and struggled and crushed till they broke down the landing stage and produced a horror of death and destruction which shocked the entire country.

"Sacrificed to the American passion for hurry," is the epitaph which might be legitimately carved on the tombstones of thousands who have passed away as victims of liver disease, heart disease, lung disease, or the disease of some other vital organ, but who were in reality victims of stomach disease, induced by the American habit of hurry at meals. Look into any favorite restaurant in any city at the lunch hour. Men are crowded about the tables and eating as if for a wager. Behind them and around them other men wait for their seats, wondering impatiently why people are such slow eaters. These are the people who sacrifice themselves to the passion for hurry. They eat heartily, rapidly, indifferent to everything but a speedy return to business, and the result is that the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition become diseased.

The natural result which follows the use of "Golden Medical Discovery" is a gain of flesh. This is especially marked in what are termed wasting diseases, where the emaciation is pronounced. This gain of flesh is a real gain—not a surface gain of flabby fat which is a burden to carry around, but a gain of firm flesh which counts for health and happiness.

There is no alcohol in the "Discovery," and it contains no opium, cocaine or other narcotic.

"I RAPIDLY RECOVERED." "DOCTORS GAVE NO RELIEF." "FEELS YOUNG AGAIN." "For seven years I had been troubled with what the doctors called bronchitis," writes Mr. Arthur Maule (general merchant), of Nilestown, Middlesex Co., Ontario. "A year ago, after I had been taken sick with a severe attack, I began taking 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I rapidly recovered from the attack, and felt no more of it that fall. This season I began taking the 'Discovery' in August, and have so far been perfectly well. I can go out in all kinds of weather and not feel the bronchial trouble at all. Let me say to all who are suffering from such complaints to give Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery a fair trial, and I am convinced that good results will be obtained."

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