

# China Boy in the South Pacific Seas

**S**YDNEY, Australia, Aug. 18.—(Correspondence of The Bee.)—Far down in southern Pacific seas lies the largest island continent in the world. From east to west it measures 2,600 miles and north to south 1,300 miles, or as large almost as the United States. Surrounded by sunny seas, delightful surf beaches, capacious harbors and so favorable a climate it has been well said the whole might be turned into a garden of flowers and tropical foliage. Geologically it is one of the oldest portions of this old earth of ours; historically it has scarcely begun. But when Australia shall take its proper place among the world nations, and its history comes to be written, it will tell of another new world as large as that found by Columbus, a vast empire, indeed, won without the petty strife and horrible bloodshed that has usually accompanied the discovery and winning of new countries. Toward this wonderful country beneath the Southern Cross the course of our good ship the Ventura was directed. The twenty-first day of the hour of expectation came when the Australian coast should loom up. But the shades of night fell and found the anxious eyes of many peering out through the misty gloom for some light, the welcome sign of land. Eight bells tolled the midnight hour, the deep hoarse voice of the lookout forlorn had cried "all a whale" when again his deep, solemn voice sang out "Light ahead!" It was the famous Hornby bay on Sydney Heads, visible at sea for nearly fifty miles. The news spread quickly and from their cabins men and women came out in the biting cold of that winter morning to look upon a light flashing out through the darkness, high above the rocks of a coast where many a ship has met swift disaster. "A light!" so sang the lookout, his words drifting away in the dark night, to be caught up by the winds and borne far out across the Tasmanian sea. Those words were a happy ending to a long voyage, full of fearful hours and pleasant pastimes, but also surrounded by the dangers which do accompany all those who go down to the sea in ships.

**Noted Features of Sydney.**  
Sydney, our port of arrival, capital of New South Wales and largest city in Australia, has a population of about 50,000. The things that impress one most favorably about Sydney are its beautiful harbor, a fine beach at Manly, a world-famed botanical garden and the charming Parramatta river. The botanical gardens are worthy of some passing mention. Situated in the center of the city they are classed among the finest in the world. These gardens comprise about fifty acres and are laid out in terraces leading down to the shore of the bay. Plants and trees are found here from every part of the world. Though it was July and midwinter, yet I found roses, pansies, fuchsias, tulips, lilies and geraniums clothed in a wealth of gorgeous coloring and growing in the open air. There were also some specimens of the giant fern tree, which grow to the height of fifteen feet or more, while exactly resembling the small common fern. The principal buildings of note in Sydney are the city hall, postoffice, art gallery, free public library, a university and two cathedrals. St. Mary's Catholic cathedral and St. Andrew's Episcopal are two fine examples of Gothic architecture. The university, also of Gothic design, overlooks the city from high elevated grounds. This institution gives a liberal course of education to all without creed distinction.

**Walking through the streets of Sydney, or in fact any city in the commonwealth, one meets no sign of being in a strange, foreign country. On the contrary, everything seems to have an air of the old world about it, serving to remind one of England. The people are English in their habits and customs. The public buildings are English in style and many of them out of date in architecture. Barrooms and other regrettable English importation, however, are to be found meeting one everywhere. Such an occupation for women places her at once outside her proper sphere. Though well aware of many evils at home, we in America have too much respect for our women to allow them to be come servers of beer or dippers of whisky. On the streets one also sees a great deal of the rags and remnants of former respectability, who, shameless, unshaven and dirty, parade the streets with soles flapping from shoes and with no remarkable adornment save a red nose. These professional boozers**

**Time in Australia is the same as elsewhere. But the people are slow. They take life easy without hurry or bustle. Business begins at 9 a. m. and punctuality is rare. That age of progressiveness has not yet arrived when railroad guides are to be found free of access to all in the reading room of every hotel. Stamps bought in one Australian state are of no use in another state.**  
**There are a thousand and one opportunities for greater progress and improvement on all sides, but the people have not yet awakened to the fact that there is crying need for a more strenuous every-day life in their midst.**  
**Country at a Standstill.**  
Australia is world-famous on account of its gold mines, coal fields and its sheep grazing. Gold, silver, iron and copper are found in the mountains incalculable in quantity and rich in quality. The principal coal mines are found in New South Wales and Queensland, between Brisbane and Sydney. The New-castle mines are of such vast proportions that at all times a fleet of steaming ships are employed in carrying away the enormous and daily output of coal.  
Sheep grazing is carried on extensively, the land being well adapted for the purpose. The sheep runs, as they are called, immense numbers of sheep are kept grazing. It is not uncommon for one man to own 20,000 to 30,000. In a season of drought great numbers of these animals perish, the owners suffering frequently financial ruin. The natural conditions of the country are, however, otherwise so favorable that at present over 8,000,000 head of cattle, 1,500,000 horses and 55,000,000 sheep are amply fed by the Australian grazing fields, while in the vegetable world oats, rye and wheat, besides the choicest tropical fruit such as the orange, the olive and the grape find easy growth and cultivation.  
Notwithstanding conditions so favorable, men are to be found idle all over the country. Many, indeed, are willing to work without wages in order to obtain food to eat. Every ship leaving Sydney for America brings large numbers of Australian young men, who, discouraged with life at home, have resolved to try a land where so many have gone before them and succeeded. Among them are machinists, carpenters, tailors, engineers, clerks and various other occupations. They are men of bone and muscle, the very life blood of the country they are leaving.  
The obstacles that seem to lie in the way of Australia's development are want of population, dry seasons and bad government. Yet in spite of these drawbacks some measure of praise must be given to the people who have so far helped to build up the country. Industrious and hard working, they surround the coast on every side, railroads connect the inland towns with the coast cities, and the telegraph and telephone have invaded some of the wildest solitudes of the Australian bush.  
VICTOR T. NOONAN.

**Dawn on the Australian Coast.**  
When the first soft streaks of dawn were coloring the Australian skies the Ventura passed between two bold, lofty headlands into one of the finest and most capacious harbors in the world, the harbor of Sydney. Gradually the morning brightened and revealed the headlands, hills and bays in all their refreshing loveliness, while the sky above became tinted with the most delicate and exquisite coloring. Here it must be confessed was the most beautiful sunrise I have ever seen. Guarding the harbor mouth were two giant frowning walls of rock, over which the golden beams of the early morning sun were just stealing. The anchors dropped, the voyage of a few hours was now a matter of a few minutes, and the strange contradictions, where eagles are black and swans white, where kangaroos have four legs, but run upon two only. A land strange indeed where Christmas comes in midsummer, where warm winds blow from the

**which ever way he might the moose would be losing ground.**  
**In the course of due time the canoe was alongside and the occupants were stroking the shaggy back of the tired and frightened animal with their fly rods, as he surged on, snorting and grunting furiously. After a time the moose was driven ashore half a mile down the lake.**  
**Comforting, Very.**  
A young Virginia woman, who was very ill, was approached by her colored servant, who said: "Miss May, mah mothah dun had a cousin what had de same ailments what you dun got."  
"Is that so, Cora?" replied the woman.  
"Yesum," responded Cora, encouraged, "but mah mothah's cousin she died, 'deed she did."  
"Well, Cora," said her mistress, angry that she should tell her such a tale at such an inopportune time, "if that's all you have to say to me you can leave the room and don't come in again. I don't want to hear such stories."  
Cora, who was thoroughly frightened at what she had done and wished to ameliorate her ill-chosen story, so she thought for a moment and, turning to go, said:  
"Well, Miss May, mah mothah tole me she died mighty easy."

**Counted for Him.**  
Ex-Representative James Hamilton Lewis, who was recently made corporation counsel of Chicago, told at a recent political gathering there a story of the late General Fitzhugh Lee. "It was when he was a candidate for governor against General Mahone, the day following the election, which left the count in uncertainty. He came down by the way of the University of Virginia and ran amuck of our old janitor. He said, 'Zebe, did you vote for me yesterday?' Zebe replied, 'Yes, Massa Fitz, I voted yesterday.' 'I know, but did you vote for me? Now, honor bright, Zebe, tell me the truth.' To which Zebe said: 'Well, boss, the truth is, I'm a member of de church; I can't tell no lie. No, I didn't vote for you, Massa Fitz, but they count it for you, jes' the same.'"—New York Tribune.

**Freaks of Royalty and Others with Money to Burn**  
**T**HE sultan presents his compliments to the engineer in charge and wishes him to open the bridge in course of erection, in order to let a ship from the dockyard pass through at once.  
When this message was delivered into the hands of the contractor responsible for the construction of the bridge he was thunderstruck. He had been working on the bridge day and night, and when the orders for its opening came from the Sultan it was not half finished.  
He approached the ministers of marine and finance and said it was impossible to obey his majesty's command, as he would have to pull everything down, and it would take months to replace the scaffolding and pile driving machines.  
"It cannot be helped," replied the ministers. "If the sultan said the bridge must be opened, it must be opened, or we shall lose our places, if not our heads."  
So the bridge was opened, and the ship came out of the dockyard at a cost of over \$200,000. It afterward transpired that the sultan had found his infant son crying bitterly in the nursery because he could not see the flag hoisted on this particular ship from the nursery windows.  
To humor the child's caprice the sultan ordered the bridge to be opened at once and a large iron shaft to be brought out of the dockyard and mounted in front of Dolma Bagtcheh. This no doubt pleased the boy, but it caused enormous inconveniences to the people of Constantinople, to say nothing of the waste of money which had indirectly come out of their pockets.  
The state of Massachusetts lost \$100,000 because a man living in Boston left his window open over night. He was a silk grower, and in the hope of producing a new kind of silk he experimented with some gipsy moths that had been sent to him from France.  
He left the moths under a glass shade by an open window one night, and next morning they had all disappeared. The shade had been overturned and the draft blew the moths into the street.  
Eighteen months later Massachusetts was swarming with gipsy moths and they ate the leaves of every tree and bush for miles around. The damage done in two years by the insects totaled \$3,000,000, and the state authorities spent another \$250,000 trying to exterminate the pests.  
One of the worst famines ever known in lower Egypt was caused by a couple of John Bull's gunboats. The vessels went

# Some Quant Features of Current Life

**Eccentric to the Finish.**  
**T**HE most remarkable burial on record in Illinois was that of W. B. McClelland of Peoria county, which occurred recently in a cemetery near Elwood. No hearse conveyed the body to the last resting place; no minister of the gospel stood over the bier; no relatives were present and no mourners assisted in the final rites. The interment, however, was exactly in conformity with the dying request of the decedent and of the wishes frequently expressed by him during the remaining years of his life.  
For fifteen years McClelland was engaged in business at Nokomis, Ill. Recently he became ill and was informed that his days were numbered. He betrayed no emotion over the information, but sent for two residents of Nokomis, John Thorp and R. C. Hanlon, to whom he imparted his last wishes. He swore them to compliance by a solemn oath and they regarded his last requests, strange and unaccountable as they appeared, as sacred. The instructions were as follows:  
First—That no undertaker should embalm his body or have anything to do with it.  
Second—That no car wheels should turn under his coffin.  
Third—That he should have a metallic casket, which should be placed in a specially constructed vault.  
Fourth—That his remains should be interred in the cemetery at Elwood, Peoria county.  
Fifth—That no preacher should be around when he was laid to rest.  
Sixth—That no hearse should be used.  
Seventh—That none of his relatives should be notified of his death until one day after his burial.  
Hanlon and Thorp carried out these instructions to the letter.

**Charge on Miss Kimonos.**  
To be chased by a bull in a department store was the thrilling and novel experience of a number of women and children at Norristown, Pa.  
The animal escaped from a herd being driven down Main street, when at De Kalb it made a dash for the store door. Saleswomen screamed in alarm to the shoppers, and there was a scramble for the tops of counters and showcases, while a number of the salesgirls sought refuge by climbing up the shelving.  
A counter heaped with kimonos, many of them fiery red, proved especially attractive for his bovine highness, and he charged upon them and was throwing them helter skelter when the "why" took a hand and drove him into the street.  
Several of the women had fainted meanwhile.  
**Stopped in the Middle.**  
A curious incident is reported from Colchester, England. Owing to various delays a wedding did not start until some time after the hour set for it. The officiating clergyman hastened the ceremony as much as possible, but was unable to finish it before 2 o'clock in the afternoon,

**Canoe and Bull Moose.**  
Dr. and Mrs. F. H. Jencks of Woonsocket, R. I., are the first Maine visitors to run down by canoe a bull moose within sight and sound of the hotel at Kineo, but they accomplished the unusual feat and a number witnessed the chase.  
The moose was first sighted by Mrs. Jencks while on the way by canoe to the fishing grounds. On rounding the northerly point of Kineo cove she noticed an object in the water near the shore, which she at first took to be a log. Closer examination showed that it was moving rapidly out into the lake. She called the attention of the guide to the object.  
"It's a moose. Reel in your lines," he whispered. For a while the guide held the canoe in the shadows near the shore, allowing the moose to put sufficient water between him and the shore so that retreat would be impossible, and then the race began. With a good start a moose can lead the best of canoeists, but in this case the guide had matters his own way, for he

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# BECOMING A MOTHER

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