

Miscellaneous

My Visit to the Birthplace of the Siamese Twins

Just before leaving the United States for our Oriental tour, my husband and I sought out these famous twins, and learned from them where they were born and the place where their parents were still living.

It was about thirty miles south-west of Bangkok, the capital of Siam, in a little fishing village called Makong, that these twins were born.

The little cot was built of teak boards and roofed with thatch leaves; and contained, besides the little veranda overlooking the river, four pleasant rooms, of which the front was a shop as well as sitting-room.

One day, while sitting in front of their cabin, they were observed by Mr. Robert Hunter, a Scotch merchant who resided in Bangkok.

At first the parents would not hear of being deprived of their wonderful children, even for a time; but the ladies themselves became interested in the glowing accounts they heard of the "outside world."

Finally, when in the year 1829 an American vessel, commanded by Captain Connally, arrived at Bangkok, such offers were made as induced the parents to part with their twin boys "for a few years."

I met Mr. Hunter frequently during my stay in Siam, and from him learned of his finding and sending of the twins. He said they were quiet, well-behaved boys, never seemed sorry that they had set out on so long a journey.

The "Siamese Twins," as we call them, were not Siamese, after all, but the sons of a Chinese father, who spoke the Thai-Chin dialect, and a mother, who spoke Chinese, and the other Siamese.

When the boys were born the ligament that united them was so short as to compel the little ones always to lie face to face; and when they became tired of lying on their side they had to be taken entirely up out of bed and turned over.

exercised the hand lengthened, or became more elastic, until they could readily stand side by side, or even back to back, and could turn themselves in bed by rolling one over the other.

In answer to my questions, the mother said that during their early childhood, Chang and Eng used to talk to each other quite as often as to those about them; but as they grew older they seemed to understand that, as they were always together, and saw and heard the same things, there was little need of conversation between a Siamese.

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Unless the surface of the ground is muddled around young trees over an area of six to ten feet diameter, the ground should be kept clean and mowed. Every farmer knows that a hill of corn or potatoes will not prosper to much unless cultivated, and yet there are many who neglect to give the same care to a tree which is worth a hundred hills of either of the former.

When the evening lamps are lighted, says an exchange, the children now gather with school books around the table to do the morning's lessons.

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A took agent recently met with a serious accident in the suburbs of LaCrosse. He was walking along the railroad when a freight train came along.

"No, no," replied the canvasser, "there is nothing but this." "What! what!" ejaculated the captain, "what is it?"

If you are gaining little by little, every day, be content. Are you expending less than your income, or do you have a little more than you are expending?

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FRUIT

What is needed, Boston, Feb. 18, 1871. Dear Sir—About one year since I turned myself to a fruit grower, and have since been engaged in the business.

When the evening lamps are lighted, says an exchange, the children now gather with school books around the table to do the morning's lessons.

Vegetine is sold by all druggists.

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For Diseases of the Throat and Lungs, such as Coughs, Colds, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, and Consumption.

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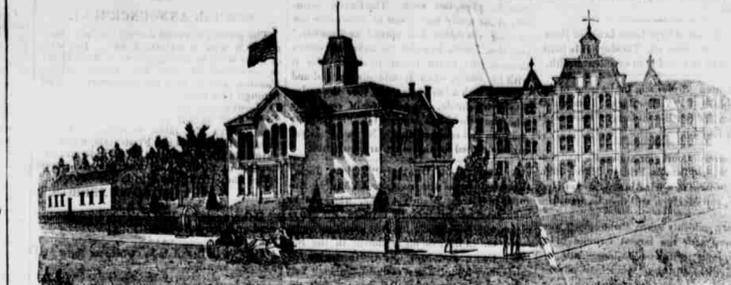
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RAIL ROAD TIME TABLES

PHILADELPHIA AND READING ROAD. ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS. July 14, 1876.

NORTHERN CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY. On and after November 10th, 1876, trains will leave as follows:

PENNSYLVANIA RAIL ROAD. WINTER TIME TABLE. On and after SUNDAY, NOV. 26, 1876

DAY EXPRESS. Leaves Reading 6:00 a.m. Leaves Philadelphia 7:00 a.m. Arrives Harrisburg 11:00 a.m.

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