CHINESE NEWSPAPERS.

Printed on Rice Paper Without Wasting an Inch of Margin.

I paid a visit yesterday to the biggest Chinese newspaper in the empire to make inquiries as to the employment of a Chinese artist to do some native illustrations for me, and had a most interesting talk with the manager. The paper is called the Shun Pao, and it is the best-paying and most widely circulated of the three native newspaper dailies of Shanghai. It is an eight-page sheet of about the size and shape of Frank Leslie's newspaper or Harper's Weekly, says a letter by Frank G. Carpenter in the latter paper, printed on the thinnest of rice paper. It is so light that it does not weigh more than a man's handkerchief, and so thin that the paper can be printed on one side only. The paper goes to press in big sheets, which are so folded that the blank side is turned inward when taken in hand by the subscriber, and so that there is neither cutting nor pasting. Owing to the thinness of the paper, it has a greasy, yellow appearance, and it is printed so closely with Chinese type that not an inch of space seems to be wasted. The headline or title of the paper consists of two Chinese characters, taking up a space not wider than one of the columns of our newspapers, and not more than an inch in length. It is a one cent sheet, its price being ten cents cash, but as China is on a silver basis, this should, in our money, now be divided by two, and its price would then be only half a cent.

THE ARGENTINE GIRL.

A Pretty Picture of Beauty in Early Life—The Beauty Gone Before She Is Thirty.

A pen portrait from a foreign correspondent of a typical Argentine girl presents a very charming picture. In the bloom of youth, and maturity as well, for she is fully developed at fifteen, she is beautiful to look upon, with her erect and splendidly proportioned figure, perfect oval face, hair as dark as night, and lustrous eyes shaded with long, curling lashes. A tinge of European blood gives her cheeks the dainty pink of a damask rose. And as her full, red lips part in a smile over teeth of that pearly perfection rarely seen, she is a fascinating object of sensuous beauty. To complete the enchanting picture she must be clad in some soft, clinging material made in the latest Parisian styles, with here and there a gleam of diamonds, and a coquettish hat to frame her dainty face. A woman in the highest sense of her peculiar nature, and yet a child with all the vivacity of youth. She captivates with her beauty, but in mind and soul there is something wanting which physical perfection does not satisfy, and the charm is soon gone, for at twenty-five, when the American girl is just at her best, the Argentine girl is passee, growing corpulent and coarse very rapidly as she approaches middle age. Her habits are indolent, and she is addicted to the use of rouge and powder to such an extent that her original complexion is entirely concealed.

EVEN CHILDREN SMOKED.

A Period in English History When School Boys Carried Their Pipes.

Everyone has read that Hawkins introduced tobacco and that James inveighed against it. Elizabeth liked to sit on a low stool and watch Sir Walter Raleigh puffing away. Once she bet him that he could not tell the weight of the smoke in his pipe, but the philosopher won. In Anne's reign almost everyone smoked. In Charles II.'s reign "children were sent to school with their pipes in their satchels, and the schoolmasters called a halt in their studies while they smoked."

In 1702, says the Westminster Review, Jorevin spent an evening with his brother at Garraway's coffee house, Leeds, and writes: "I was surprised to see his sickly child of eight years old fill its pipe of tobacco and smoke it as audfarandly as a man of three score; after that, a second and third pipe without the least concern, as it is said to have done above a year ago."

There were about four hundred and seventy coffee houses in London, besides five chocolate houses, in Anne's time. Smoking was general in them, and intoxicants could be also obtained as well as coffee. Bishop Trelawney was much hurt because Bishop Barnett had accused him of getting drunk in one of them on the 30th of January—a day of grief to tories and all good churchmen.

BETTER THAN A PENSION.

A Gentleman Who Got Pretty Thoroughly Disintegrated in a Railroad Wreck.

"A month or so ago," said the drummer to a Detroit Free Press man, "I stopped over night at a small tavern in Illinois and before retiring I sat for an hour in the room used for an office talking to two or three men, one of whom, a lame man, was to occupy the double room with me. I went up to bed some time before he did, and when he came I was snugly tucked away, but not asleep.

"'By the way,' he said, 'you were talking about pensions downstairs, weren't you?'

"'Yes, I rather believe in pensions, economically administered.'

"'So do I,' he said, taking off his glasses, and with them a wax nose, which he laid on the table, somewhat to my discomfiture, 'but I don't believe in being indiscriminate'—here he fished out a glass eye and put it in a tumbler of water and then took out his teeth and put them with the eye. I couldn't say anything, and he went on:

"'I know men who are to-day getting from ten to fifty dollars a month'—he removed his wig and hung it up carefully—'who do not deserve it any more than my grandmother does, and I hate to see'—by this time he had off his coat and collar, and, removing his left arm, he placed it on the bureau—'good deserving men getting a miserable little pittance whose records are stories of bravery and daring'—at this point he sat down, kicked off his trousers and one shoe, took off a cork leg and laid it by the arm, and I was about ready to jump out of the window.

"'Good Lord, man!' I almost yelled, as I sat up in bed, 'don't you get a pension?'

"'Of course not,' he answered, with a look of surprise. 'I was in the army four years, but I got this in a railroad wreck, and the company had to put up fifty thousand dollars' damages. That beats a pension all to pieces.' Then he put out the light, hopped over to his own bed, and I had nightmare and jimjams till daylight, dressed with my eyes shut, and got out an hour before my distinguished friend did."

Not Safe to Jilt a Girl in Belgium.

Belgian judges have never admitted the principle of monetary compensation for breach of promise of marriage, but it has at last been established by a decision of the judges of the court of appeal, and there can be no doubt as to the meaning of their judgment. The test case was that of a young woman who, through her father, brought action against a young Dutchman residing in Brussels. The father obtained a verdict for five thousand nine hundred francs damages, plus eight thousand francs for what was called "moral prejudice." In their judgment the judges said that either of the two parties to an engagement might back out of it, although not at the last moment. In the case cited the wedding day had actually been fixed.

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HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

A large soft sponge, either dry or slightly dampened, makes a good duster.

One authority says that coffee boiled longer than one minute is coffee spoiled.

If you would keep your nutmegs solid always begin grating them at the stem end.

When milk is used in tumblers wash them first in cold water, afterwards rinse in hot water.

Cut a piece from the top of old kid shoes and insert it inside the iron holder you are going to make.

Never slice apples for making pies; quarter and core, and if an apple is large, cut each quarter in two pieces.

Crackers that are not perfectly fresh should be dusted free of the cracker flour and then put in a hot oven for three minutes. They will come out fresh.

To take coal oil stains out of a floor: If left alone the stain will come out itself; but if in a hurry cover with thick blotting paper and rub a hot iron over it.

If women only knew it, they deform their hands with tight gloves quite as much as their feet with tight shoes. One makes corns and the other big knuckles. Tight anything is in bad form.

A new bread grater has been brought out in London. It is cylindrical and about as large as a quart cup. The bread is placed in the receptacle by a door in the side, when it passes between the graters revolved by a crank from the top.

FUN AND FICTION.

The man who can keep his temper when he attempts to drive his neighbor's chickens out of his garden through the same hole by which they came in need have no fear of "Satan."—Boston Transcript.

"I am lucky in being sick here in New York instead of being laid up in Texas." "Ah!" said the doctor. "Yes," responded Sumpter, "for all this money I'll have to pay you I'd have to be sick in Texas for more than two months."—Texas Siftings.

Mrs. Houser—"They almost invariably speak of church strawberry suppers as 'socials,' but never in that way of a church oyster supper. I wonder why?" Houser—"Great Scott! You can't expect one oyster to be social, can you?"—Buffalo Courier.

"Old man Hyklik is one of the most hospitable men I ever saw; no matter who calls on him he always puts the best foot forward." "That's what young Duckling said," was the reply, "when he asked him for his daughter last night."—Atlanta Constitution.

HORSE SENSE.

Water is good for a horse's feet. If they get hard soak them in warm water. Never oil or varnish any part of a horse's foot.

Keep a foot hook handy and clean out the feet every day. It will prevent thrush and other diseases of the foot.

Keep the harness soft and flexible by frequent oiling. It will last much longer and beside a horse will work with much more comfort than in a hard, ill-fitting, unyielding harness.

Take the harness off the horses at noon; remove the collars so that the shoulders may become cool. Brush them thoroughly and wipe the collars clean before replacing them. It will only take a few moments and perhaps save days of idleness if the neck or shoulders should become sore. If inclined to be tender, bathe in strong alum water.

LITTLE NOTES.

Pronounce golf as though it were spelled gowf, please. The London Daily News says so.

Princess May Cantacuzene, daughter of the Russian minister, won the second medal at the Corcoran Art School recently.

Sandow, the strong man, will be married soon to Miss Brooks, daughter of a wealthy manufacturer in Bradford, England.

Julia Ward Howe received only $5 for her famous "Battle Hymn of the Republic." It was first printed in the Atlantic Monthly.

A woman in Cambridge, England, who has built up a successful business in typewriting, has obtained a machine fitted with the Greek alphabet and mathematical signs so she can utilize it for the benefit of mathematical and classical scholars.

WHAT TO READ.

Read poetry. It enriches the mind with ideals that may become real.

Read the Bible. It gives promise of the future and strengthens the soul.

Read science. It supplies information that equips for usefulness and prevents the triumph of error.

Read romance. The examples of its heroes are an exaltation, and tend to the formation of noble character.

Read history. It is the story of the the progress of human life. It teaches by example and stimulates to endeavor.

Read philosophy. It imparts wisdom to consider all things, knowledge to understand all things and fortitude to endure all things.

CABLE FLASHES.

The house in which Victor Hugo died in Paris has been sold for 210,000 francs.

The kaiser and emperor of Germany visited the tomb of Emperor Frederick, in the mausoleum at Potsdam, a few days ago.

Two British troopers who appropriated a present of $5,000 sent by King Lobengula and suppressed his message of surrender have been sentenced to fourteen years' penal servitude.

The whole family of Viceroy Lui Kan Yih, of Nanking, China, were murdered recently by Kola-Hwi society members in Humar in revenge for the viceroy's drastic measures against the conspiracy

What Pomps Are.

There is a clergyman who talks to the children of his church about the duty of giving up the vanities of this world, and as most of them belong to the class that does not own winter underclothing this advice seems a little unnecessary. Sunday afternoon he was, as usual, exhorting his hearers to sacrifice things they did not possess and to renounce the famous trio of the world, the flesh and the devil. Suddenly it occurred to him that perhaps his language was not clear to the infant mind, and with a view to finding out he said: "I've been telling you of the pomps and vanities of this life. Now I want to know who can tell me what pomps are." There was dead silence until a boy who lisped put up his hand and remarked "Pleathh, sir, poapth ith thingth to get water out of."

Married Fourteen of Her Own Sex.

The most remarkable trial on record was that of Mary Hamilton, an English woman, who was brought into court on October 7, 1746. She was one of the greatest frauds of the day, having succeeded in deluding her own sex in a most extraordinary manner, it being clearly proven at the trial that she had at different times and places married not less than fourteen other women of various ages.

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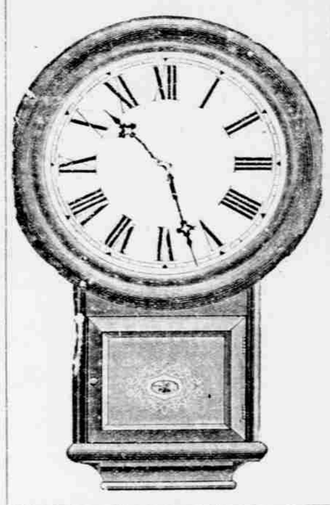

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A YANKEE'S IDEA.

How It Spurred a Band of Lazy Blacks to Action.

The value of a little Yankee push and enterprise is well illustrated in Mr. Francis B. Thurber's account of a trip from Madura to Trichinopoli, over an Indian railroad newly opened to travel. At one of the water stations the tank had given out, and a hundred or more natives were set at work with earthen water jars to fetch water from a capacious well. Says Mr. Thurber:

"After waiting an hour or more in the cars I became impatient at the delay and went out in the broiling sun to see what could be the trouble. The native conductor was trying to induce the lazy blacks to hasten their movements, but without effect.

"On consulting with the engineer I found that the engine was steaming out water faster than it was being put into the tender, and that something must be done or we should never get to our destination. There were plenty of men, but they were dawdling up and down the steps leading to the well, each filling his own jar and occupying about half an hour in carrying it from the well to the engine.

"My first step was to promise them, through the conductor, three rupees—backsheesh—if they would submit to my orders; and then, ranging them in line, I soon had a continuous stream of jars passing rapidly from hand to hand between the well and the engine. As soon as they caught the idea they entered into it with a will.

"Raising a strange, wild song, or chorus, they gradually accelerated their motion, and no line of buckets at an American fire ever circulated faster than did those earthen water-jars in southern India."

THE QUAKER CITY.

Some Curious Facts About New and Old Philadelphia.

For at least two generations in the past, and for as many probably in the future, Philadelphia must essentially be regarded as two distinct and separate towns. Politically there is but one, but from all other standpoints the two towns of which I speak might as well be grouped about the north and south poles, writes Charles B. Davis in Harper's Magazine. And yet the gulf which separates these two places is but a fairly wide throughfare—Market street it is called.

On one side lies the new town of Philadelphia, with its wide avenues, magnificent homes—generous and modern in its every outline. On the other quite peacefully rests the old town of Philadelphia, with narrow streets, old brick houses, and shrouded in the conservatism which gave the city its individuality two hundred years ago. The new town has the money and progression of a modern western city, with the boom still on. Its men are ambitious, and spend their money alike on trolleys and cables and new club houses. But old Philadelphia does not fancy rapid transit. It prefers walking, or an occasional ride on the horse car. If it has thrown aside the shad-belly coat and the wide-brimmed hat of its Quaker ancestors, it cannot altogether free itself from the blood which ran through the splendid men who once wore these quaint clothes.

A DETECTIVE'S HINT.

It May Be of Service to Owners of Valuable Jewels.

One of the big sleuths in the city had been seen by a citizen who had lost a diamond scarfpin, says the Chicago Herald.

"Where did you keep it when you were not wearing it?" he asked of the loser.

"Under the lapel of my waistcoat. Always pinned it there when I didn't wear it in my scarf."

"Ever have your waistcoat scoured at the cleaner and dyer's?"

"Yes, once a year." Then he named the place. The sleuth went to the place and found the missing spark. This in itself is of no consequence. But what the sleuth added may save some worry. "In a city like this," he said, "where so many are accustomed to sending wearing apparel to the scourer and dyer valuables are likely to be left in a pocket. I have traced a number of such articles to those places. I do not say that all valuables that go in that direction are recovered, but I suggest to people who leave their apparel at the scourer's to examine the pockets first. It may save a whole lot of trouble."

GIRLS WHO SELL THEIR HAIR.

They Sometimes Do It to Acquire a Little Pin Money.

"Do we have many girls come to sell their hair? Well, I should so, but we don't make a business of buying on account of the risk we would have to run," said a Pittsburgh hair dealer to a Dispatch representative, recently. "I have had girls come to me and offer to sell their hair as it was on their heads. No, they don't get good prices—one dollar and fifty to two dollars and fifty cents being as much as I ever gave. I know of one case, however, where a well-known society woman took a fancy to the hair of a young lady she met accidentally and she paid the highest price I have ever known for a head of hair. The young lady in question had a luxuriant growth of golden-brown hair and one day she was approached by this lady, who was compelled to use false hair, who said to her: 'Miss ——, if at any time you desire to part with your hair, you can find a customer in me.' The young lady was in need of pin money at the time and said: 'Well, I am not particular about keeping it now, as it is a little too light for my taste.' So she agreed to have her hair cut and in payment received eight dollars and a half. If girls could always get such a sum for their flowing locks there would be a great many more short-haired young ladies about the city."

A JAPANESE ODDITY.

Queer Little Bells That Are Much Sought by Collectors.

Within a few years great numbers of Japanese temple bells have come to this country and have been eagerly bought by collectors. They are not the bronze and copper bells of the shops, chased with gold and silver and hung on silken cords, but are rather rough objects that resemble old pots. It is not usual to hang them. They rest on a circular cushion that keeps them from rocking, and are struck with a stick made for the purpose and covered at the end with leather. The tone is grave, but rich and mellow, and the thin shells of metal vibrate for several minutes after being struck; while, without sounding very loud, the carrying power of their tone is remarkable. There is one bell in Japan that can be heard at a distance of over twenty miles, it is said. Some collectors get two or three bells of different notes that form a chord, and when Henry Irving was last in New York he bought what might be called a chime of them, representing every note in the scale. The metal is a dull bronze that is sometimes made from the coin, gold, silver and copper, received as donations in the temples. The little knobs, struck in repousse all over the surface, have a curious significance; it is said that the original of these bells represented the head of Buddah, covered with the snails that obligingly crawled over his scalp and cooled it when he had a headache. The little protrusions are conventionalized indications of the snails.

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Elkhart, Ind., 1888. Mrs. Elmira Hatch.
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"Ayer's Pills are highly and universally spoken of by the people about here. I make daily use of them in my practice."—Dr. I. E. Fowler, Bridgeport, Conn.
"I can recommend Ayer's Pills above all others, having long proved their value as a cathartic for myself and family."—J. T. Hess, Leithsville, Pa.
"For several years Ayer's Pills have been used in my family. We find them an
Effective Remedy
for constipation and indigestion, and are never without them in the house."—Moses Grenier, Lowell, Mass.
"I have used Ayer's Pills, for liver troubles and indigestion, during many years, and have always found them prompt and efficient in their action."—L. N. Smith, Utica, N. Y.
"I suffered from constipation which assumed such an obstinate form that I feared it would cause a stoppage of the bowels. Two boxes of Ayer's Pills effected a complete cure."—D. Burke, Saco, Me.
"I have used Ayer's Pills for the past thirty years and consider them an invaluable family medicine. I know of no better remedy for liver troubles, and have always found them a prompt cure for dyspepsia."—James Quinn, 90 Middle st., Hartford, Conn.
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SQUELCHING A PASS FIEND.

The Agent Was Willing to Pass Him Out of Town.

I called upon the general passenger agent of one of the big railroads running into the city, says a writer in the Buffalo Enquirer, and was shown into his private office. He was engaged in conversation with a gentleman when I entered, and after a few minutes of abrupt questioning took a book from his desk and began writing. An expression of intense delight spread over the visitor's face as his eye followed the agent's pen, and I immediately surmised that he was about to receive a pass. By this time two more persons came in, presumably on the same mission. They sat down in the opposite side of the office and regarded the situation as wistful glances. The fortunate man. The agent continued his writing and asked the first man where he wanted to go.

"Make it New York city this time," responded the man, who had evidently deadheaded before.

A few finishing touches were given and the pass was handed over to him. He thanked the agent very politely and assured him that he would not bother him again. He examined the ticket and started for the door. Then he noticed that it was good for only one way.

"Why, I guess you have made a mistake," he said, in a tone of surprise, "this ticket will only take me one way."

"Did you expect to return?" asked the agent, unconcernedly.

"Well, I should say I do."

"All right, hand me your ticket."

The man gave the agent the ticket and was astonished to see him tear it up. "Well, if you're coming back you can't get any ticket from me. I thought I was going to get rid of you for good this time." Without further ceremony the chronic pass seeker took leave of the other two persons, having had enough, followed in his train.

BALM IN GILEAD.

The Bereaved Wife Had an Eye to a Main Chance.

Eli Perkins tells a San Francisco reporter that this is one of Depew's stories: Chauncey Depew's best friend was about a poor Peekskill widower who was drowned in the Hudson river. He fell into the river and some boys searched for him all day and finally fished him out. Then Ben Sanders went to break the sad news to his bereaved wife.

With tears in his eyes he knocked at the widow's door and said:

"I'm afraid I bring you bad news, John——"

"What! Nothing has happened to John, has there?" cried the dear wife, broke in the widow.

"Yes, madam," said the deacon mournfully, "John is drowned, and——"

"Oh, my John! My dear husband drowned!" sobbed the widow.

"Yes, madam—he is gone."

"O, dear! have you found the body?"

"Yes, we found it."

"What state was it in?" asked the widow, between her tears.

"Bad state—very bad. Eels got into him. He was all covered with eels."

"O, my dear John covered with eels! How many were there?"

"Over two hundred eels took hold of him."

"Two hundred eels on John!" groaned the bereaved woman.

"Yes, two hundred."

"Two hundred! O, dear sakes! Will him again!"

Cattle and Rattlesnakes.

"Cattle seem to have an unconquerable dread of a rattlesnake," said a Texas ranchman the other day, and I always take every precaution to avoid the possibility where they have reason to believe one of these reptiles is concealed. I was once driving a herd of beeves through a lonely trail, when suddenly the leader of the herd, a large short-horn, shied back in terror, gave vent to a loud bellow of warning, and moving to the right or left passed on. Those immediately in the rear turned to the right or left, and their example was followed by the whole herd. On arriving at the next camping spot I dismounted, suspecting at once that a rattlesnake had been the cause of alarm. Instead of finding a snake there in a little tuft of grass stood a lonely plover, covering her nest, while her wings were kept in constant and rapid motion. Seen indistinctly through the grass, she had evidently been mistaken by the steer for a rattlesnake.

QUEER HUMAN NATURE.

What Is Food for One Man Is Said to Be Poison for Another.

Human nature continues to be "queer" as it ever was. The mayor of Portland, Me., in an address at a recent temperance meeting, says the New York Post, told of a young lawyer there who came to that city with high hopes. In order to escape the temptations of the saloons, which he would not resist, and which threatened his future, he would have boarded somewhere else and saved from earning four dollars a week the salary of twenty-five thousand a year. On the other hand, we have been told by a clergyman in another city of a young man who had been ruined there by the temptations of the "social clubs," which took the place of saloons as drinking places when the latter came to New York for salvation. He found there, because the social club had no charms for him, in the manner many of the most temperate and conservative citizens of Portland, have signed the petition for the introduction of saloons in that city under the new liquor law, because they believe that the change would lessen the terrible amount of drinking now prevailed under the prohibitory law and the club system. These instances show how differently the same thing may affect different persons and how impossible it is to find any system that will be perfect.

Just What He Wanted.

A man who was not exactly a fool and at the same time not exactly a thrifty citizen applied for a position in a certain wholesale house.

"I'm very sorry," apologized the head of the firm, "but I'm afraid we don't do nothing for you."

"Why can't you?" asked the applicant, insistently.

"Because I've got nothing for you to do."

"That's no objection at all," was the cheerful response. "That's the very kind of a job that would suit me best."

And he didn't get it; neither did he get the dime he asked for as a loan.—Detroit Free Press.

Prince Charles Rewarded.

The Cologne Gazette tells the interesting story about Prince Charles of Hohenzollern, who has just been engaged to a daughter of the Count of Flanders. Three years ago the prince, in the course of a tour in Belgium, came to Constantinople and Egypt, the object of much hospitable attention. One part of the suite of the sultan, in the company of Abdul Hamid, the prince, in passing through a corridor in the Yildiz Kiosk, hung with armor, which had somehow at the moment got detached from the wall, and threatened to fall on the Padishah's head. Quick as lightning the prince sprang to the spot and caught the buckler in his hand, which act of promptitude the commander of the faithful bestowed upon his visitor the Gold and Intraz medal, which is only given for acts of special distinction.