A Chinese Tea Plantation.

We take the following account of a visit to a Chinese tea plantation from an article in St. Nicholas Magazine: Breakfast over, we jumped ashore again, and, desiring to conduct our sight-seeing systematically started for the follow. We take the following account of a systematically, started for the fields. The day before the hanging of Bergin First we walked to the foot of a hill a the governor was sitting in his office, little distance off, where some men in short cotton trousers and jackets were laying out a new plantation. The ground was accurately marked off, and in one place the little plants, only an inch or two in height, were just showing above the ground. In another, the seeds—little round balls they looked like —were being planted in the rows. Passing eartheat field the second state of the second st inch or two in height, were just showing above the ground. In another, the seeds—little round balls they looked like -were being planted in the rows, Passing another field, where some mer were at work with their hoes in true

Chinese style, stopping every few moments to smoke their pipes, we came at last to where the plants had attained some size and the actual picking was some size and the actual possing were hold out-must come right square going on. The plants themselves were hold out-must come right square from two to six feet high, according to from two to six feet high, according to just the opportunity I've been and accept the truth. It's twigs. Many of them were covered with little white flowers, somewhat sim-ilar to the jasmine, and seeds inclosed in a casing not unlike that of the hazelnut, but thinner and full of oil. Charley thought they looked like little laurel bushes; to me, those that had been well picked were not unlike huckleberry bushes, only the leaves were, of course, a much darker green. The first pick-ing, usually in April, is when the leaves are very young and tender, commanding a much higher price than those subsequently plucked. The second is a month later, when they have attained maturity; and as unpropitious weather would be likely to ruin them, great ex-pedition is used in getting in the crop the entire population turning out to assist. A third, and even a fourth, follows; but the quality rapidly deteri-orates, and but a small proportion of these last pickings is prepared for ex-

port. The plantations were filled with a merry crowd, composed principally of women and children, all engaged in stripping the bushes as rapidly as pos-sible, yet with great care and dexterity, so as not to bruise the leaves. They looked up from their work and screamed to each other in their harsh guttural tones, casting glances of astonishment at the barbarians. Following some of groans and sighs and watery eyes, the the coolies, who with filled bags were trudging off to the curing-house, we saw the most interesting operation of all. Here, at least thirty young girls were engaged in assorting the leaves, picking out all the dead and yellow ones, and preparing them for the hands of the rollers and firers. Our entrance excited quite a commotion among the damsels, as we were probably the first barbarians they had seen, and we had the reputation of living entirely on fat babies. A word from Akong, who had joined us. re-assured them, and in a few minutes Charley was airing his little stock of Chinese, more, I thought, to their amusement than their edification. Leaving this room we went into another where the curing was in progress. On one side extended a long furnace built of bricks, with large iron pans placed at equal distances, and heated by charcoal fires below. Into these pans leaves by the basketful were poured, stirred rapidly for a few minutes, and then removed to large bamboo frames, where they were rolled and kneaded until all the green juice was freed. They were then scattered loosely in large, flat baskets, and placed in the sun to dry. Subsequently, the leaves were again carried to the furnaces and exposed to a you all. Some of the finer kinds often prepared for exportation are rolled over by hand before being fired. The great from breaking; hence, in the commoner kinds and those intended for home con-sumption, which do not receive the sentence. The sentence is the sentence of the sentence gentle heat, until they curled and twisted themselves into the shapes so familiar to you all. Some of the finer kinds often working for the good of the cause. I

Too Much Pressure.

"Tom, I've come up here to martyr.'

"How so?" inquired the governor. "I assume the entire pressure," re-turned "J. N." "Throw it all onto me.

Let Bergin go, and have me shot in his place. That'll fetch 'em—they can't hold out—must come right square searching for all these years, and I can't let her slip. Bergin is a com-mou man-I ain't-let him go, and take my blood for atonement. I want to martyr-you catch the idea-that's enough. Here I am."

"Nothing would give me more pleas-use," said the governor; "but are you in earnest ? Do you really mean it ?" " Do I mean it? You know me well enough, Tom Young, to know that I'm always in earnest. Call in your menials and have me bound at once. Bring on your chains, and send word to the reporters. Pile the pressure all onto me -every bit of it-I assume it all." "All right," said the governor, with an impressive voice, "you shall be ac-

commodated. Get ready to die to-morrow at twelve o'clock." A messenger was sent out to bring in

the judge to prepare the necessary papers for making the desired change in the proceedings. In a few minutes a justice of the peace, who had been posted, was brought in and introduced as the "judge." He expostalated with "J. N.," and endeavored, with well simulated emotion, to persuade him from his rash purpose. The "immor-tal" wouldn't budge a peg from his firm resolve. He had come to martyr, and he'd do it if it killed him ; that's the groans and sighs and watery eyes, the "judge" went ahead and filled out the documents. Everything was now ready, and the formalities all completed except the signature of "J. N." to the paper. By this time the old fellow was pretty thoroughly convinced that the proceedings meant business in earnest, and he became visibly nervous and ill at ease. "Sign your name," said the officer, sternly, " and then you can go at once

to your quarters in the dungeon, and a clergyman will be sent to you." "I want it distinctly understood,"

remarked the martyr, rising, "I don't want to be hung-I want to be shot." "You shall be," said the governor, "to-morrow, at noon." "Hold on, now, governor," said the now thoroughly frightened philosopher,

with blanched cheek, "that's hurrying the cattle a little too much-I didn't think you'd be that brash. Before I sign that paper I want a respite for thirty days, to wash up and get ready." "You can't get it. The time set for the obsequies can not be postponed,"

said the governor. "Then I'll be blamed if I'll martyr at all, and Bergin can fill his own appointment. I won't be snapped off in that way, without any time to get my hat way, without any time to get my last words ready, and write out a few inter-

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

Tow Human Beings Are Inwardly Burne Cases of human beings who have sud-denly died from the effects of internal combustion are very singular. The folto Death. lowing case is a very remarkable one. It is that of Grace Pitt, the wife of a fishmonger in the parish of St. Clement, Ipswich. She was aged about sixty, and had contracted a habit of coming

down from her bedroom every night, half dressed, to smoke a pipe. On the might of the 9th of April, 1744, she got up from bed as usual, and her daughter, who slept with her, did not notice her absence until next morning, when on going down into the kitchen, she found her stretched out on her right side, with her head toward the grate; the body extended on the hearth, with the legs on the floor, which was of deal, and it had the appearance of a log of wood which had been consumed by a fire without apparent flame. The girl, on noticing her mother's body, ran and got a coupl of vessels of water which she poured upon the body, and immediately a foction odor and smoke was given off which very nearly smothered the neighbors who had come to the girl's assistance. The trunk was in some measure incinerated and resembled a heap of coals covered with white ashes. The head, the arms, and lower portions of the body had also been partially burned. The woman it was said had drank a large

quantity of spiritaous liquor the night before in consequence of being overjoyed at hearing of the return of one of her daughters from Gibralter. There was no fire in the grate from which the cot-ton gown she wore could have been ig-nited and the candle had been burned entirely out in the socket, while near the consumed body were found several articles of clothing and a paper screen, which had sustained no injury by the fire

And still another case is found in that of Madam Millet, who kept a lodging house at Rheims, France, and who got intoxicated very nearly every day. This woman was found consumed at a distance of a foot and a half from her hearth, on the morning of the 20th of February, 1725. Only a part of the head, a little of the extremities and three or four vertebræ were left of the body. The flooring under the body was consumed, but articles of clothing and wood near the body were still intact. Jean Millet, the husband of the deceased, stated that his wife had been unable to sleep the preceding night, and had gone into the kitchen to warm herself; at about two o'clock in the morning he was awakened by a strong and infectious odor, and having rup to the place found the remains of his wife in the condition described. Inquiry into the cause of Madam Millet's death was prosecuted with the most untiring diligence. It was unfortunate for M. Millet that he had a handsome servant girl in the es-

tablishment, for he was charged by his prosecutors with having concerted with the girl to put Madam Millet out of the way, and had studiously arranged the above details to avert suspicion from the real cause of his lady's death. He was convicted, but a superior court, to which he appealed, declared the combustion to have been the result of natural causes,

and to have been spontaneous, so that the male Millet came off victorious. have it my family will want for food be-It is a notable fact that in nearly all cases of spontaneous combustion men as victims are conspicuous by their absence; fore Saturday night. "Shoo! I guess not! You let me have the money, and if you get out of provisions I'll take you to a grocery

What He Wanted.

How Bancroft Writes History.

A Washington letter gives the follow ing : Mr. Bancroft's method of writing his history, the result of the experience of long years, is peculiar and interest-ing, and he thinks it gives him a grasp on those conflicting conditions in literary work-comprehensiveness and compactness. He has two secretaries, a "reference" secretary and a "writing " secre-tary. They do the work, while he does the thinking and dictation. When he begins a new volume he lays out a plan for it as minute and detailed as an architect makes the plan of a house. First, he decides upon the time which it shall he decides upon the time which it shan cover, then the epochs of important events which it shall include. A large volume of blank paper is then taken, ruled, and dated like a diary, and under each date are entered, with the precision of an accountant, all the occurrences of of an accountant, all the occurrences of that day in every corner of the globe which relate in any way, near or remote, to the American republic. This duty is performed by the "reference secre-tary," and for a single volume requires the labor of years. With each record are references to the authority upon which the record is based, and the cir-cumstances in detail under which the information is obtained. Every existing work, document, and paper is consult-

ed; every history of tradition of any re-liability is carefully gleaned. This diary being completed, Mr. Bancroft takes what he calls a "topic book "—a large blank book, like a banker's ledger, which is classified under different heads; which is classified under different heads; for instance, during the Revolutionary war, a page would be assigned to every military or official character, and such heads as "Army," "Finance," "For-eign Affairs," "Campaigns," "Legisla-tion," are scattered through the book. Under these heads is compiled all the information contained in the "diary,"

relating to each particular topic; so when Mr. Bancroft wishes to write a chapter, for instance, shout the "military campaigns," of the period to which the volume is devoted, he has all the facts

the examination of the archives of the

state department in anticipation of his next volume, which will comprise the

history of the first twenty years after

the organization of the government, and brings his record up to the war of 1812.

Would Vouch for Him.

A hilarious sort of a man who does business on Griswold street, says the

Detroit Free Press, entered the office of an acquaintance the other day, and

asked for the loan of twenty-five dol-

that can be gained from every possible source, condensed and classified in their chronological order. When the work is completed Mr. Bancroft familiarizes nimself with the contents of the "topic book," marking passages of importance,

making cross-references and comments for his own guidance, and indexing the events in the order in which he intends to treat them. Then he dictates to his writing secretary" afull and complete narrative of those events, which is laid

away to "season,"-sometimes for years. This description of his method will give the reader an idea of the vast amount of study, investigation, and thought each volume of "Bancroft's History of the United States" repre-sents. Mr. Bancroft is now engaged in Barley Malt

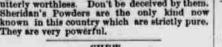
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of this latter sort is very simple : a mere drying in the sun, after which it presents a drv, broken appearance, like antumn leaves.

Mining Fish Out of the Ice.

The Carson (Nev.) Appeal has the following: In the general freeze which has converted the lake into a sea of ice, Emerald bay has been frozen solid. It is one vast ledge of ice from the surface of its transparent waters to the bottom. More than ever is that beautiful bay a "gem of purest ray serene," crystalized as it is and firm set within its rockbound shores. From some cause best known to themselves, the fish, especially the trout, have fairly swarmed there. When the great and sudden freezing came it imprisoned them by hundreds of competition was indulged in some one would sing out, "Go in there; don't let the East get away with the West," and other pleasantries of a similar nature. The relative value of the anitons all over the bay. There they are fixed, like a bee in a drop of amber. Of course the fishermen of the Rubicon and its neighborhood are reaping a rich and novel harvest. The present abundmals seemed to have no effect upon the ance of fish in the Carson market is due prices offered. An African eland was sold for \$205 to Mr. Burr Robbins, to this remarkable occurrence. Monk says that the bay presents a wonderful who bought a white deer for \$20, a leopard for \$25, four spotted hyenas for \$84, three kangaroos for \$246, a hippoappearance. He says in all truthfulness that Sailor Jack and some associates have actually sunk a winze in the ice bepotamus for \$190, an Esquimaux wolf for \$100, a striped hyena for \$37.50, a zebu or sacred cow for \$32. Mr. W. W. tween the boat landing and Captain Dick's island, and that by dint of tunnel-ing and sinking in the solid ice they are Cole bought a zebra for \$230, an African actually mining out the imprisoned trout by the cart-load. Hank says he lion and lioness. performing animals, three years old, for \$200, a wild boar for has an interest in one of these extra-ordinary "claims," and that he has \$500, twelve cockatoos for \$156, two monkeys for \$62, an emu for \$100 and an elephant for \$1,500. Messrs. Sells Brothers bought a wild gazelle with every reason to expect prompt and nu-merous dividends. This class of phenomena occurs only at rare intervals. In 1845, Back Cove, an arm of Casco bay, was a scene of such freezing as this. All royal Bengal tiger for \$600, a two horned rhinoceros for \$3,600 and six sorts of salt water fish, such as frequent the more shallow bays and estuaries, smelt, tom-cod, eels and flounders were frozen in and captured by the million. The tom-cod, when thus frozen, may be thawed out in cool water and restored to life. For this reason this small member of the finny tribe is known as the "frost-fish."

Hard to Digest. At a certain boarding house in this city be greater. is a young man whose occupation is the

Eucalyptus as a Cure for Rheumatism. "art preservative," and whose labors cocupy him during those hours when the majority of mankind is asleep. Of course he gets hungry, and is accus-tomed to get a lunch when he starts out for his nightly toil. This lunch is done ed to nearly twice their natural size, for his nightly toil. This lunch is done np in a paper and placed on a table in the hall of the boarding house, from which the young man takes it when he goes out. One evening this week as he went out, he saw two bundles lying upon the table and unthinkingly took paration bound them on in good quan-tity, renewing every hour and a half or two hours, as the fever rendered them the one nearest and carried it away. About midnight that unfailing monitor, an empty stomach, warned him that lunch time had arrived, and with high hopes and a keen appetite he took out his bundle and opened it, but was struck all aback to find instead of his coveted diversion of the back of the structure of the back of the back of the structure of the back of the structure of the back of the structure of the back of the back of the structure of the back of the structure of the back of the b food a small package of neatly folded handkerchiefs, which had been placed upon the table by the laundryman for one of the other boarders. Language fails to do justice to the denouement, and been afflicted with the same disease. A physician from San Francisco at this time informed Mr. Goodspeed that knowing the excellent medicinal qualities of these leaves, he had already pre-pared half a ton for shipment East for so we draw the curtain.-New Bedford Evening Standard. medicinal purposes,

sumption, which do not receive the same care, the leaves are found to be very much broken. In fact, the preparation of this latter sort is vore simple. In fact, the preparation than he had ever done before—*Cincin*- and Mrs. Throcton heard him roaming ming doors, pulling out drawers and

A Menagerie at Auction.

kicking furniture around. She went to the head of the stairs, and called down : "Richard, do you want anything?" "Yes, I do !" he yelled back. The paraphernalia and animals composing Montgomery Queen's circus and menagerie were knocked down piecewant to know where that corkscrew is ?' "Corkserew, Richard?" meal to the highest bidder in New York "Yes, corkscrew! I've looked the recently. The World says : The sale was occasioned by the financial embarouse over and can't find it !"

"Why, we never had one, Richard." rassments of Mr. Queen during the last "Didn't, eh? We've had a dozen of 'em in the last two years, and I bought one not four weeks ago. It's always the season, resulting in a total wreck of his establishment and a handsome fortune. The affair drew together a large crowd way when I want anything."

of spectators, as well as quite a number of showmen from abroad. It was not "But you must be out of your head," she said as she descended the stairs. until the animals were reached that the "We've kept house seven years and I general interest became intense. The never remember seeing you bring a corkbidding was slow at first, but afterwards screw home." became quite spirited, and when a little

"Oh, yes, I'm out of my head, I am !" he grumbled, as he pulled out the sewing machine drawer and turned over the contents. "Perhaps I'd better go to

the lunatic asylum right away !" "Well, Richard, I know that I have never seen a corkscrew in this house." "Then you are as blind as an owl in

daylight, for I've bought five or six. The house is always upside down, anyhow, and I never can find anything !"

"The house is kept as well as any of your folks can keep one!" she retorted, growing red in the face. "I'd like my mother here to show you a few things," he said, as he stretched his neck to look on the high shelf in the

pantry. "Perhaps she'll boil her spectacles with the potatoes again !" answered the

wife "Do you know who you are talking silvery feet for \$25, a gnu for \$675, a to?" he yelled, as he jumped down.

"Yes, I do !"

"Well, you'll be going for York State, if you don't look out !" camels and two dromedaries at an average of \$102.50 each. The St. Louis I'd like to see myself ! When I go Geological Garden bought a pair of

this house goes !" gazelles at \$50, one pair of tiger cats at \$60, and one pair of California lions at " Look out, Nancy !" "I'm afraid of no man that lives," "I'll leave you !"

\$300. Altogether the sale was an exceedingly interesting one, and while the "And I'll laugh to see you go !" prices realized were not one-fifth of

Going close up to her, he extended his finger, shook it to emphasize his words, and slowly said : "Nancy Throcton, I'll apply for a di-vorce to-morrow! I'll tell the judge the actual value, yet, under the circum-stances, it could hardly be expected to

that I kindly and lovingly asked you where the gimlet was, and you said we'd never had one in the house, which is a bold falsehood, as I can prove !' "Gimlet ?" she exclaimed.

"Yes, gimlet !" "Why, I know where there are three

up. "Oh, Richard !" she chokingly And that household is so quietly hap-py that a canary bird would sing its head off if hung up in the hall .- Worcester Gazette.

"Oh, mamma !" said a little one, "I eat so much it spoils my appetite."

my barn," continued the other, "and if worst comes to worst, I'll be hanged if I don't give you the pile ! I wont see a man starve after he's done me a favor!" It was like pulling teeth, but he got the money.

Mothers! Mothers!! Mothers!!! Don't fail to procure Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for all diseases incident to the period of teeth-ing in children. It relieves the child from pain, cures wind colic, regulates the bowels, and, by giving relief and health to the child, gives rest to the mother. It is an old and well-tried remedy. 14.7

Abandoned at Sea. At all times ships of one kind or another are floating about at sea, abandoned by officers and crew, in what seems a hopeless condition. Some are dismantiled and mere hulks, some are swimming keel upwards, some are water-log-ged, but being laden with timber will not sink, but are driven hither and thither as the wind and waves may direct. So people afflicted with catarrh, bronchitis, and consumption are aband-doned by physicians and friends as incurable, yet thousands of such are annutally restored to perfect health by the use of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy and Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Dis-covery. The Catarrh Remedy is unequaled as a soothing and healing local application, while the Discovery purifies and enriches the blood and imparts tone and vigor to the whole sys-tem. **Invalid Pensions Increased**

tem. VIDOLIA, La., April 17th, 1877. DR. PIERCE : Dear Nir-I suffered for twelve years with that most offensive and loathsome of all diseasee-catarrh. My taste and smell were completely destroyed. I procured a sup-ply of Dr. Sage's Cafarrh Bemedy, and your Golden Medical Discovery, which I used ac-cording to directions, and a complete and per-manent cure was speedily effected. I take pleasure in recommending them to all afflicted. Ever thankfully yours.

Ever thankfully yours, CLARA E. HUNT. WADING RIVER, Burlington Co., N J., Feb.

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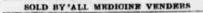
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