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Why Chinese Have Been Humiliated

Superior Discipline of the Japanese Troops is Vividly Illustrated.

CHINESE MEN AND METHODS

Rev. W. W. Shaw, M. A., of Archbald, Pa., Graphically Describes Some Personal Impressions of China, from Which He Has Recently Returned.

"Out of sight, out of mind," is an old adage, and a true one. If instead of China and Japan, Canada and the United States, or even England and France, were at war, a much keener interest would be taken in the struggle. But it is hard for one to be deeply interested in that which is going on at the other side of the world, between two comparatively unknown nations, and in an unknown country. True it is, one-half of the world knows little of the other half.

The present war arose on account of Korea. China declared she had an authority, dating back many centuries, over Korean affairs; but this Japan disputed. The "Hermit nation," as Korea was called, has latterly been opening to outside influences; and Japan, amongst others, has taken advantage of this to enlarge her trade. China, however, with her stolid conservatism and overweening conceit, objected to Japan's advances, and constant friction led to open rupture. Lying between the Korean peninsula and the northern part of China is Manchuria. Under this name are comprised three provinces—Fengtien, Shing-King in the south, Kirin in the middle, and Tsitsihar in the north. For many centuries the southern province, Fengtien, has been subject to Chinese control; and since 1644, when the Manchus gained the upper hand in China, all Manchuria has come directly under the government of Peking; and any outward difference there is between it and any part of China proper is being rapidly lost.

It is a Populous Province. The population of Manchuria, according to the latest estimate, is about 23,000,000, more than half of this being in Fengtien, the southern province; while the area is over 200,000 square miles. On the east Fengtien is bounded by the river Yalu, which divides Manchuria from Korea; on the south by the Gulf of Liao-Tung; on the north by the province of Kirin, and on the west by Mongolia, except at Shan-hai-Kuan, where the Great Wall ends, and China proper begins. The capital of the province of Fengtien is Moukden, a large double-walled city, with a population of over 250,000. Next to Peking, this is in some respects the most important city in the Chinese empire, from the fact that it was the original home of the reigning dynasty. Every state deposited in Peking must have a duplicate deposited in the archives at Moukden. One of the only public roads of which China can boast is the great highway from Moukden to Peking, a distance of 500 miles.

It will then be seen that if Japan were to advance overland from Korea towards Peking, her first object would be to occupy Port Arthur, and then proceed against Moukden, and thence along the great highway to Peking. The first is now an accomplished fact. After a stubborn resistance, Port Arthur has

fallen. Inasmuch as it was the strongest naval port of China, this is an immense blow to the Chinese, and its loss may be the means of bringing them to sue for peace. If terms of peace are not agreed upon, it is probable that the Japanese forces will march upon Moukden—about 300 miles from Port Arthur—and having captured that city advance towards Peking.

Facts About Li Hung Chang.

Li Hung Chang, the Bismarck of China, placed great reliance on Port Arthur, or Lee-Shem-Kow as the Chinese name it. Immense sums had been spent in making it a second Gibraltar—in appearance. Unfortunately for the Chinese, the details of their defenses would not always bear close scrutiny. Sand for powder, and balls of mud and coal dust for cannon balls are not at all unknown. Hence when the critical moment comes, the defense breaks down. And as such subterfuges and trickery are well known to both officers and privates, there is a mutual lack of confidence, which has deplorable results when they are face to face with an enemy. If that enemy be well drilled and well armed, the average Chinese soldier is apt to think of the battlefield that distance would undoubtedly lend enchantment to its view; and he hurries off to seek such enchantment.

And one can hardly blame him. Antiquated bows and arrows, the ging-all—an ancient muzzle-loading blunderbuss, which it takes two men to carry, a miscellaneous assortment of muskets and Enfield rifles, discarded by western nations, with spears,—such form their weapons of defense. And their field artillery is in keeping. With the exception of a few batteries, nearly all of their guns are of the old muzzle-loading style, useless in modern warfare. And to add to their inefficiency, a large proportion of the soldiers is employed carrying huge banners, which float gaily enough on the breeze, but do not perceptibly increase their fighting powers. I have seen regiments marching along the highway with as many bannermen as riflemen. They make a fine show under review, with their many colored gigantic banners,—it takes a man's whole strength to hold one—but flags are a poor thing to lean upon in a fight.

An Unappreciated Statesman.

Li Hung Chang, backed by a few of the most liberal-minded of his countrymen, has done what he could to bring the Chinese army up to the modern standard; but it has been a gigantic and well-nigh hopeless task. For one thing he has arrayed against him a powerful combination, backed by the literati, that powerful class over the country, which opposes these foreign innovations; and amongst the rank and file of the army itself there is a deep ingrained spirit of conservatism, which seizes every opportunity to draw them back to the old ways and methods. As an officer in the British army, the late Captain Gill, R. E., wrote: "Prompt action, readiness of resource, ability to seize on the smallest advantage or to neutralize a misfortune, and the power to evolve fresh combinations, these are the qualities which make a soldier, and these are the very qualities that cannot co-exist with Chinese want of originality and reverence for antiquity."

Supporting the Japanese forces now to advance from Port Arthur to Moukden, what kind of country would they have to pass through? For the first part of the way, it would be rocky, hilly and barren; the road winding in and out of the mountain defiles, crossing chasms, and over bleak stretches bare of everything save stones. At this time of the year, too, there would

probably be a foot or two of snow on the hills, making traveling all the more difficult. For in the sea-board provinces—Fengtien—the winters are severe; though milder than in the northern part of Manchuria. By Christmas time at Moukden, the thermometer will go below zero daily, registering anywhere down to twenty degrees Fahrenheit, though further north it goes as low as forty-five degrees. The atmosphere is intensely dry; and when the wind does not blow, most healthful and exhilarating. When the north wind does blow, however, as one remarked, "the less said about it the better." I have walked along the banks of the Liao at Newchwang—the port of Manchuria—clad in furs from head to foot, both inclusive—and almost felt the wind whistle through my bones. The river Liao—about 600 yards wide at Newchwang—is closed to navigation till towards the beginning of the following April. When the winter has set in the ice on the river is about three feet thick.

A Chinese Winter.

The only advantage, therefore, which the Japanese army would have in marching through the enemy's country in winter would be that the rivers and the country bare, so that, when no mountains intervened, they could make a line for their destination. Trees near the coast and for miles inland are conspicuous by their absence; a few stunted willows being the sole representatives of their kind. One reason of this is the fact that the land has gradually risen, and is still rising, along the northern shore of the gulf. Halchong, a large walled city, forty miles northeast of Newchwang, means "City of the Sea"; and about three centuries ago was a flourishing seaport. Now it is forty miles from the sea-coast. Having been thus reclaimed from the ocean, the soil is salt, and trees will not flourish, nor, indeed, other vegetation to any extent. "Live and let live," is their motto. On the whole I believe they would as soon see a Japanese as a Chinese army march through their country. For a large part of the Chinese army is recruited from Honan and other distant provinces, and to the unsophisticated countryman in Manchuria these soldiers are almost like foreigners. The dialect they speak is about as different from the Mandarin spoken in Manchuria as French is from English. More than once I have acted as interpreter between a native of Shanghai and a Chinaman from the north; they could only communicate by signs.

Once across this barren stretch, the country improves, farms are plentiful, and mountains clothed with forest, add to its beauty. Immediately in the neighborhood of Moukden the country is comparatively flat, the nearest hills being a day's journey away. The roads through this district—or what do duty for such—are simply tracks, good or bad according to the ground they pass over, the bad decidedly predominating. At this season of the year, however, this would not matter so much, as once the crops are all cleared away, the traveler is allowed to strike out across country, quite independent of the usual route. There—being no stone walls, barbed wire or any other kind of fence, this is not so difficult as it might seem. The Chinese in the north as a rule never fence in their land. A man counts his fields by so many furrows, these being of the same breadth from time immemorial. Cattle are not raised for their milk, as with us, and but little for food; and those that are

kept for draught purposes are allowed to graze where they please. A Chinaman never touches milk, and will only milk his cattle when some "foreign devil" will buy the milk. They are also largely vegetarians in their diet; strict Buddhists being entirely so. And when they do depart from vegetarian principles, they prefer pork to either beef or mutton. One great feature of the country is the pig; large, black and uncleanly to a degree; and the scavenger of the neighborhood. Chinese pork is not a delicacy likely to tempt the foreigner, in spite of Charles Lamb's deliverances on the subject.

The people of this district are kindly, hospitable, and of a peaceful disposition; for the most part agriculturists, an unenviable reputation all over China as being desperadoes, with whom the less one had to do the better. Even their officers at times are powerless to control them. To show the spirit of these men, let me recount an incident. In the winter of '86 a large number of these southern soldiers was disbanded at Newchwang. Their pay being as usual in arrears, and their homes over 1,500 miles away, they became desperate, and applied their energies to thieving. Three of them attacked a house one night close to where I was living, but meeting with unexpected resistance they had to beat a retreat. Two successfully jumped through the window, but the third man, in attempting to follow the others, was caught by his feet by the man of the house. A tug of war immediately followed, the two soldiers trying to drag out their comrade by the arms, while his legs were held by those within. Seeing that those inside were too many for them, on the principle that "dead men tell no tales," one of the two outside, with one of the long knives they always carry, quickly severed the head of his comrade from his body, and then made off with his companion in the darkness. Contrary to what generally happens, these two were caught later and beheaded, not for the murder of their comrade, but for the attempted robbery; and for some days afterward their heads adorned the entrance gate of the city, as a warning to all would-be thieves.

The Japanese as Soldiers.

While, therefore, the Chinese soldiery are often brutal and utterly without discipline—witness the murder of the Rev. J. A. Wylie last August in a city forty miles from Moukden,—the soldiers of the Mikado have been trained more in accordance with civilized nations; and are less likely to harm either country or people as they pass through, than would the same number of Chinese troops. There are no mountain passes between Port Arthur and Moukden which could easily be held against them; and if the Chinese attempt to stop their advance it would be more in the nature of guerrilla warfare than anything else. Between Moukden and Peking there are many points at which a few well directed troops might do much toward stopping a whole army. Before, however, the Japanese forces get so far, China may have had her eyes effectually opened and her pride humbled; and peace been concluded. That the war may soon be ended cannot but be the wish of everyone; for war in any shape or form seems but a relic of barbarism.

W. W. Shaw.

A Natural Result. Superintendent (modestly)—We will have to abandon our trolley to Branchville. President—What's the matter? Superintendent—No passengers. The people living along the line have all been killed.—New York Weekly.

How to Prepare Excellent Bread

Mrs. Rorer's Practical Talk at the Philadelphia Food Exposition.

THE DANGER IN THE BREAD PAN

Dyspepsia and Insanity Are in Many Cases Caused by Bad Bread, Mrs. Rorer Says—Receipts That She Gave Her Recommendation.

Mrs. Rorer delivered the following address, recently, on bread making at the Philadelphia Food Exposition: "Housework," she said, "is the easiest work in the world when thoroughly understood, and any woman who has no more than ten or twelve people to cook for has her lines cast in very pleasant places, but I do not mean a cook who does not mix brains with cooking and runs down cellar fifteen times to make one article. To make Boston brown bread take one cup of cornmeal, one cup of rye meal and one cup of whole wheat flour. Mix all together and add one teaspoonful of salt. Mix half a cup of molasses and two cups of either sour milk or buttermilk, and dissolve one tablespoonful of soda in two tablespoonfuls of water. "You use soda because molasses contains acid, but if the molasses should be deficient in acid add a little baking powder. A good baking powder is nothing but an acid and an alkali, no matter in what form it comes. Take a brush and grease the inside of the mould carefully with melted butter and pour in the batter. Put the lid on, tie it down, put in boiling water and boil continuously for five hours. Let it stand in the water until cold. Warm in an oven before using."

Importance of Details.

"To make a Vienna loaf, said Mrs. Rorer, "take half a pint of boiling water and pour into it half a pint of milk. When lukewarm add half a teaspoonful of salt and one yeast cake, dissolved. It is important that the yeast should be fresh and in perfect condition. To test a yeast cake see that it is quite firm and solid. It should be devoid of any odor except that of yeast. A single yeast cake contains 10,000 times as many yeast germs as a cup of brewer's or home made yeast. It is possible to make eight or nine loaves of bread from one cake of yeast when it would require several cupsful of home made yeast to do the same work. "As a rule, the yeast plant is thoroughly killed by baking, but it is not always so, and that accounts in a large measure for flatulence and incontinent symptoms of dyspepsia sometimes felt after eating a meal. If the yeast germs are not killed in the baking the bread is not a healthy food. If the germs are not all killed bread soaked in water and kept in a warm place for twenty-four hours will turn to yeast."

How to Make It White.

"Add sufficient flour to make a dough. Knead the mass constantly until the dough is soft and elastic. Use as little flour as possible in the kneading, to prevent the bread from becoming hard and dry after baking. It is the kneading that makes it soft and elastic. If very white bread is wanted, pounding the dough while kneading it should be resorted to, as a good pounding will make the bread ten shades whiter. Put

DOMESTIC POINTS.

Fresh lard will remove tar.

To purify a cistern the charcoal in a bag and efface scratches on furniture rub on some linseed oil, and then follow with a little shellac, dissolved in alcohol.

A silk dress should always be brushed with a soft camel's hair brush, as whisk brooms are too harsh, and cut the silk.

Prevent your pretty new gingham from fading by letting them lie for several hours in water in which has been dissolved a goodly quantity of salt.

Take little rolls of cotton batting, covered with a dark cloth, under the rear ends of the rockers of the chair that makes a practice of "tipping over."

Try ironing all lace and embroidery on the wrong side, and iron until perfectly dry. Cottons that are apt to look too "shiny" should be ironed on the wrong side.

When anything has been spilled on the stove, or milk has boiled over, and a sparkling smoke arises, sprinkle the spot with a little salt, and it will quickly disappear.

When cane-seated chair bottoms have "sagged," you can often make them as tight as ever by washing them with hot soap suds and leaving them to dry in the open air.

Wash teapots thoroughly with strong soda and water, and then rinse well and dry perfectly each day. If you would prevent the curious bay-like smell often noticed in a teapot.

Solded black garments may be cleaned by sponging with clear black coffee, with an equal quantity of water added, and a teaspoonful of ammonia and alcohol for each pint of the liquid.

To make excellent glue, cover pieces of glue (as it comes in the dry state) with vinegar; keep in a warm place and shake occasionally until dissolved. For mending, thin it with more vinegar.

When you are through with wash tubs or wooden pails, turn them bottom side up on the floor of the wood house or cellar, and set a can of fresh water under them to keep them from coming to pieces.

Delicate glasses may be prevented from breaking when hot lemonade or other hot drinks are poured in them, by standing them, while they are being filled, on a folded napkin, and placing a spoon in each glass.

In these days of bacteria let the sunlight have free access wherever its poisonous-scattering rays can reach. In other places use boiling water and copperas, or chloride of lime where the water is undesirable.

A fine restorative jelly is made by putting into a jar three ounces of linggals, two of gum arabic, two of pure sugar candy, and a pint bottle of sherry. Cover closely and let it stand all night. In the morning set the jar in a sauce pan of water and let it simmer until dissolved, then set aside to harden.

If a hair mattress yields all the comfort that it is capable of, it is quite necessary that the hair should come out of it and be picked over and aired every two or three years at least, if it is one that is in constant use. As a matter of cleanliness, too, the mattresses need to be made over frequently, though not perhaps as often as they are by the European peasant women, who always make the work a part of their yearly house cleaning.

White Bread Denounced.

The next recipe was for making "whole wheat bread." "Hygienists," she said, "dislike white bread, because it has been robbed in large part of its nutritious qualities." She rather startled her audience by declaring it was no mean factor in producing insanity.

White bread "also makes people fat, which is not a sign of health at all. It is away out of proportion, the starch and gluten being in excess of the nitrogen. White bread is beautiful to look at, but it is demoralizing to the brain and stomach. A diet of corn bread and whole wheat bread is far preferable if you care at all for your health or wish to live long. White bread, as we have it, is not the 'staff of life' the ancients know, and does not contain the phosphates necessary to sustain prolonged brain action. Our mad houses and lunatic asylums are proof enough."

Continuing she said: "To make whole wheat bread pour one pint of boiling water into one pint of boiling milk, dissolve one yeast cake into two tablespoonfuls of water, add to the liquid and then add one teaspoonful of salt and sufficient whole wheat to make a dough. Knead carefully until the dough loses all of its stickiness, then stand aside for two and one-half hours until it is double its bulk, mould the dough into four loaves and put them into square greased pans, stand aside for one hour and then bake for one hour in a moderately hot oven."

A Corporation Kindness.

From the Indianapolis Journal. "I notice they are putting fenders in front of the trolley cars," said young Mr. Pitts, as he sat down to dinner.

"Oh, how kind," twittered Mrs. Pitts, "they will be so nice for the poor motormen to warm their feet on when the weather gets cold, won't they?"

THE DAY AFTER.

Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the chill November, And each separate dying ember wrought a shadow on the floor; What I read of the election—party treason and defection—

Ground the iron of dejection deeper in my heart's red core; So I rose up, loud exclaiming, all my soul with passion flaming, "Bird or beast, of what thy naming, perching on my chamber door—

Quail or buzzard, crow or turkey, roost—in on my chamber door— I shall eat you, if you're flying, for my dinner next, Thanksgiving, Shine or blizzard, bones and gizzard, I shall eat and call for more

Steeped in gall and hellebore from the night's Plutonian shore—" Stoop the raven: "Evermore!"

—Chicago Record.