VISIT TO A CHINESE THEATRE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

A Bense Mass of Stolid Celestials -Acting Without Women or Scenery-A Chinese Duel.

A representative of the New York Commercial Advertiser has been making tour of the Chinese quarter of San Francisco. He write: about his visit to & Chinese theatre as follows: Passing in pur four bits each, at the box office, we went upstairs to the audience chamber. Confucius! what a dense mass of humanity! Every seat occupied, and every available space utilized by these uncanny sons of Ham, each individual a reflection of his fellow, and, as Thackerny has said, "not a profile among them." The air was filled with tobacco smoke, but we craned our necks and glanced around. A platform minus drop curtain and scenery was dimly visible at the further end of the room and spectre-like figures pranced about, hemmed in on either side by an overflow of the audience. A gal-lery ran round three aides of the audi-torium and was packed with women and children. A man with a washtub on his head circulated in some miraculous way among the crowd dispensing refreshments. By slow and painful degrees we found our way to the front and finally alighted on the stage in the glare of the footlights. The musicians (every man was smoking) occupied the middle back of the stage, and at either side were loosely curtained doors through which the performers made their entrees and

No women are employed in the Chinese theatre. Their parts are assumed by mea who seek to emulate the feminine traits by uttering their sentences in a squeaky falsetto, adopting a labored walk and a generous use of paint and powder. The male characters are attired in fantastic costumes of indescrib-able designs and either wear long, thin gray heards or decountable. The water, The water, The at the place selected about forty-one or gray beards or decorate their physiogno-mies with red and white stripes and

To an American the performance is a monotonous repetition of meaningless pantomimes, interspersed with occasional dialogues and heathenish songs. At short intervals, apparently without reason-certainly without rhyme-the orchestra burst in with a demoniac crash of gongs, bells and cymbals, shrill notes of stringed instruments and shricks from clarionets. During all this uproar the actors stick to the text like grim death, although their voices cannot possibly be

heard three feet from the stage.

Each male impersonator effects his entree, whether in the part of the heavy villain or friend of the family, in a manner calculated to produce a deep and lasting impression upon the minds of the He first makes a circuit of the stage in long, pompous strides, then with much seriousness and tedious preliminaries attempts a pas de seul, but so ungraceful and labored is each move-ment that the exhibition is really painon ful. When the stage is cleared and new relays are expected one of the musicians shifts a chair or table or procures some requisite "property" from behind the curtained doors, all the while diligently

puffing away at his cigarette. The audience looked weary. Only once did their stolid countenances relax, and this was occasioned by an incident which would not have appeared on the programme had such a medium existed. A chief chancelor or functionary of high rank entered and curvetted about the stage as usual, while the orchestra pounded and rasped and tore away at their instruments. He wore a band-box shaped hat, from which two long feathers protruded, and in making a sudden lurch the feathers brushed the face of a white visitor who was standing on the stage. The man dodged back so quickly and with a vehemence so disproportionate to the cause of his alarm, that every Chinaman grinned, and for a few mo-ments a general buzz of merriment

swayed the crowd.

A duel on the histrionic stage of the Chinese is highly instructive to a novice. The belligerants approach on tiptoe, as though each thought the other had forgotten the appointment or was oblivious to his presence. Then they plunge their to his presence. Then they plunge their long spears violently at every point except a vital one, make frantic leaps into the air and occasionally vary the monotony of this deadly encounter by adroitly spinning around on one foot. Absence of scenery and the accompanying stage realisms are supplied by large draughts upon the imagination of the spectators. A man enters equipped a la militaire. His left hand is held taut, while he brandishes a sword with his right. With legs stretched widely spart, he makes little spasmodic leaps into the air, and we are at once to assume that the man is mounted on a fiery, untamed steed.

A breeder of mischief stealthily ap-

proaches a group of law abiding citizens. He pauses a moment, then slowly lifts each foot alternately from the ground, every time a tribe higher, until he reaches his limitations; at the same time he makes similar motions with his arms. He then stretches his neck out as far as nature will permit, forming in this painful attitude a little tableau all by himself, and behold! what, to the mind's

through the branches.
In general hand-to-hand conflicts the vanquished appear to fall willing victims to the superior prowess of the attacking foe. The ground is strewn with the dead. They are not, however, aitogether oblivious of the things of this life, and do not scruple to roll their eves in the direction of the gallery if their curiosity gets the better of them or raise up on elbow and glance pleasantly and famil-iarly about. And of course it excites no comment when the dead arise, readjust their mortal coil and coolly walk off the

When we tired of the play or yearned for the shadow of coming events we stepped in behind the "scenes."

On bunks arranged around the oblong apartment several actors were seated, awaiting their summons. In an adjoining room others were "making up." The walls were hong with flags, banners, swords, bucklers, helmet and a chaotic assortment of theatrical paraphernalia. A general air of stuffness prevailed.

good sense, some good nature, and a lit-tle self-denial for the sake of others.

WISE WORDS.

He that has no character is not a man; he is only a thing.

Sow good services; sweet remembrances will grow from them.

Let your repentance be a lively will, a firm resolution. Complaints and mourning over past errors avail not. A wise man ought to hope for the best, be prepared for the worst, and bear with equanimity whatever hap-

For truth it is ever the fitting time; who waits till circumstances completely favor his undertaking will never secom-

No school is more necessary to children than patience, because either the will must be broken in childhood, or the heart in old age.

The glory of a man consists not merely in looking up to what is above him, but in lifting up what is below him. The noblest and most exalted character is also the tenderest and most helpful.

Leisure is time for doing something. This leisure the diligent man will obtain, but the lazy man never; so that, as has been well said, a life of leisure and a life of laziness are two different things.

Affoat in a Crater.

Captain C. E. Dutton, of the United States Geological Survey, has been recently engaged in making a study of Crater Lake, in Oregon, and he has discovered probably the deepest body of fresh water in the country. Leaving Ashland, Oregon, his party, escorted by ten soldiers, reached the brink of the wall of the lake, in three days, having brought with them boats so mounted on the running gear of wagons as to bear transportation over a hundred miles of mountain road without injury. Prepa-rations were at once begun for lowering the boats 900 feet to the water. The forty-two degrees, and the descent partly over talus, above covered with snow, and rocky, broken ledges lower down. The boats entered the water quite unharmed. The process of sheathing them, rigging the tackle, and lowering them occupied four days. A couple of days were occupied in making journeys around the walls of the lake by boat the only possible way-and in examining the rocks and structures of the wall in its various parts. Next followed a series of soundings. The depths range from 853 feet to 1,996 feet, so far as the soundings show, and it is quite possible and probable that depths both greater and shallower may be found. The average depth is 1,450 feet. The descent from the water's edge is precipitous; at 400 or 500 yards from shorel depths of 1,500 to 1,500 feet are found all around the margin. The greatest depths will probably exceed 2,000 feet, for it is not probable that the lowest point has been touched The soundings already made indicate it as being the deepest body of fresh water in the country. - Science.

What Would Follow.

Were such a thing possible as the substitution of a chemical for animal and vegetable food, some very curious results would follow. An article in a scientific nurnal says that the man of the future will be toothless and hairless. As there will be no need for teeth in assimilating a nutrient that would probably be liquid the human teeth might, from want of use, disappear or become rudimentary. Then fat people would disappear, for chemistry would control the conditions which lead to the formation of adipose tissue As there would be less work for the human stomach, the abdomen would diminish in size, while, possibly, the lungs might be still further enlarged. But the general digestive apparatus would be in better shape, as the chemistry of food could be adapted to every variety of system. This all may seem very wild, but in view of what science has done in the world about us, what may it not accomplish, when its improved and improving processes are applied directly to the human race?—

Thrashing by Electricity.

A novel application of electric power has just been made on the estate of the Marquis of Salisbury, at Hatfield. A gramme machine, driven by water-power half a mile distant, has been attached to a thrashing machine, and the result is stated to be highly successful, a regular, rapid and noiseless power being obtained, together with a great saving of cost. To effect a temporary stoppage of the machine, if necessary, it has been arranged that the current from the leads can be turned from the gramme machine into a cluster of swan lamps, so that a short break in the operations does not necessitate any communication with the source of power or stoppage of regular working, while at the same time it gives warning to the men when the current is running. - Liverpool Courier.

A Novelty for Supper.

At an informal supper—which might have been on April 1, but was not—given by Madame X. to her husband, she proposed for them a pleasing surprise. One eye, the man has really accomplished is of the guests was a well-known epicure, to climb a tree and peer cautiously and Mr. X. especially desired his wife to have something quite new to offer him. As the various courses were removed they were at length replaced by one dish, a magnificent silver cover, which the servant placed before the guest of honor. Lifting the top with a graceful air of appreciative expectancy, the bon vivant was greeted by a beautiful parrot which ruffled its feathers as it said prettily: "Have some?" It is quite needless to say that the tid-bit was declined, and the charming jest made Madame X. for a season socially famous. - Detroit Free

Charmed Centipedes.

A curious fact connected with centipedes is worthy of relating. A young man living north a few miles had been somewhat concerned at the appearance nightly in his dugout of a great number of these unwelcome visitors. Neighbors seldom or never saw them, but he was visited to ha alarming extent. He could not understand till some one learning Good breeding is the result of much tracted them. He suspended the concerts and the centipedes interrupted hi no more. - Richfield (has.) Southwest m

Dentistry for Horses.

The practice of dentistry in the case of horses is certainly a new thing anywhere, but in St. Louis it is decidedly so. For several years it has been used in the East, but it is only very recently that Dr. J. C. Kelly introduced the practice in all its branches in this vicin-Formerly the equine teeth were

placed in proper order by the use, of the file. Crooked teeth were straightened and decayed teeth extracted, but now the latter are receiving the necessary attention and a good horse need not suffer long from a bad tooth.

It may seem simple to fill a decayed tooth in a horse's mouth but when the horse happens to be a valuable one, and is really suffering from pain, is unable to eat the proper amount of food, and is fretful when a bit is put in his mouth, such an operation will place him on his nominal behavior at once. Dr. Kelly has filled several teeth in the mouths of different road animals, and has made a success of the undertaking .-- St. Louis

Mr. Buchter, a well-known citizen of Lan-caster, Pa., has used St. Jacobs Oll, and con-siders it an excellent remedy in cases of swellngs, bruises and burns.

ARTIFICIAL rubies have been made by chem ists in Spitzerland and sold in Paris, and have been brought to New York. They are said to be the best fraudulent gems ever made, but can be detected by exper s. Their actual value is about \$4, but their nominal value is from \$1,000 to \$2,500.

The publisher of Baltimore, Md., Ecory Saturday, Mr. T. J. Wentworth, says his child, aged six months, was suffering from a severe cold, and he gave it Red Star Cough Cure, which acted like a charm. No morphia.

A QUILT containing 3.165 pieces of calleo has just been completed by Miss Mattie Wooten, of Viola, Tenn. No two pieces in the quilt are alike, each one having been taken from different pieces of calleo. It required several years to gather material for this work.

How to Save Money,

How to Save Money, and we might also say—time and pain as well, in our advice to good housekeepers and ladies generally. The great necessity existing always to have a perfectly gafe remedy convenient for the relief and prompt cure of the aliments peculiar to woman—functional irregularity, constants main and all the symptoms attendant upon missing and all the symptoms attendant upon missing disorders—induces us to recommend strongly and unqualifiedly Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription"—woman's best friend. It will save money.

A POPLAR free was recently cut down near New Middletown, Ind., that measured twen-treaven feet in circumference. The tree made 12.000 shingles, 1,000 rails, 600 feet of lum-ber, and twenty-five cords of stoye wood.

Loss of Flesh and Strength, with poor appetite, and perhaps slight cough in morning, or on first lying down at nicht, should be looked to in time. Persons affliced with consumption are proverbially unconscious of their real state. Most cases commence with d sordered liver, leading to bad digestion and imperfect assimilation of foodhence the emacution or wasting of the flesh. It is a form of derofulous disease, and is curable by the use of that greatest of all blood-cleansing, anti-bilious and invigorating compounds, known as Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discov.ry."

A Pelicas was shot at Fredonia, Ia., a few days ago that measured from the tip of one wing to the other eight feet; from the bill to the toe five feet eight inches; from the eye to the end of the bill, fifteen and a half inches, and weighed fourteen pounds.

Many imitators, but no equal, has Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy.

THE latest London invention in hat lining is a map of the city printed on silk, so that any stranger or gay young fellow may find his way home or see at a glance if cabby is taking him the nearest route to his destination.

IT IS SO EVERYWHERE.—E. B. Rall, druggist at Hiardsville, Kan., has this to write about Allen's Lung Balsam: "It is the best selling throat and lung remedy, and gives general satisfaction. Teheerfully recommend it." Buy the large \$1.00 bottle for Lung Discusses.

Hints to Consumptives. Consumptives should use food as nourishing as can be had, and in a shape that will best

agree with the stomach and taste of the patient. Out-door exercise is earnestly recommended If you are unable to take such exercise on horseback or on foot, that should furnish no excuse for shutting yourself in-doors, but you should take exercise in a carriage, or in some other way bring yourself in contact with the

open air, Medicines which cause expectoration must be avoided. For five hundred years physicians have tried to cure Consumption by using them, and have failed. Where there is great derangement of the secretions, with engorgement of air-cells, there is always profuse expectoration. Now Piso's Cure removes the engorgement and the derangement of the secretions, and consequently (and in this way only) diminishes the amount of matter expectorated. This medicine does not dry up a cough, but removes the cause of it.

When it is impossible from debility or other causes to exercise freely in the open air, apart-

When it is impossible from debility or other canses to exercise freely in the open air, apartments occupied by the patient should be so ventilated as to ensure the constant accession of fresh air in abundance.

The surface of the body should be sponged as often as every third day with tepid water and a little soft-soap. (This is preferable to any other.) After thoroughly drying, use friction with the hand moistened with oil, Cod-Liver or Olive is the best. This keeps the pores of the skin in a soft, pllable condition, which contributes materially to the unloading of waste matter from the system through this organ. You will please recelled we cure this discase by enabling the organs of the system to perform their functions in a normal way, or, in other words, we remove obstructions, while the recuperative powers of the system cure the disease.

We will here say a word in regard to a cough in the forming stage, where there is no constitutional or noticeable disease. A cough may or may not foreshadow serious evil; take it in its mildest form, to say the least, it is a nuisance, and should be abated.

A cough is unlike any other symptom of disease. It stands a conspirator, with threatening voice, menacing the health and existence of a vital organ. Its first approach is in whispers unintelligible, and at first too often unheeded, but in time it never fails to mate a itself understood—never fails to claim the attention of those on whom it calls.

It you have a cough without disease of the lungs or serious constitutional disturbance, so much the better, as a few do es of Piso's Cure will be all you may need, while if you re far advanced in Consumption, several bottles may be required to effect a permanent cure.

How to Make Money.

No matter in what part you are located, you should write to Halie t & Co., Portland Maine, and receive, free, information about work you can do and live at home, at a profit of from \$5 to \$25 and upwards daily. Same have made over \$50 in a day. All is new. Capital not needed: Hallett & Co. will s'art you. Either sex; all ages. Those who commence at once will make sure of sing little fortunes. Write and see for yourselves.

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