

MONGOLIAN EXECUTIONS.

HOW THE CHINESE CARRY OUT THE DEATH PENALTY.

Fifteen Men Decapitated Like a Drove of Hogs—Brutal Delight of the Spectators.

"I am inclined to think," says a correspondent of the Pitt Mall Gazette, "that nobody can claim to have an adequate and accurate appreciation of Chinese character who has not witnessed a Chinese execution. This is not difficult to do at Canton, for the Canton river swarms with pirates, and when these gentry are caught they generally get short shrift. A few bambonings to begin with, then several months in prison—and it is not necessary to explain what a Chinese prison is—with little to eat and a stiff course of torture, and then one fine morning a "short, sharp shock" at the execution ground. If you care to accompany me there, I will try to place the scene before you. The execution is fixed for 4:30 o'clock, so at 4 o'clock the guide comes for us at Shamen, the foreign quarter of Canton, and our chairs carry us rapidly through the noisy alleys of the native city. Until we get close to the spot there is no sign of anything unusual. There suddenly we run into a jammed crowd at the end of a long and particularly narrow street. The chair coolies, however, plunge straight into it and it gives way before us till we are brought up by a huge pair of wooden gates, guarded by a little group of soldiers. To look through we would be told to wait rather than let us pass, but the production of a couple of ten-cent pieces works a miracle, and they open the gates for us, vainly trying to stop the rush of natives that follow us in and carries us before it right into the middle of the open space. Suddenly the gates are thrown open again, and welcomed by a howl of delight from the crowd, a strange and ghastly procession comes tumbling in. First a few ragamuffin soldiers, making a fine pretence of clearing the way. Then a file of coolies carrying the victims in small shallow baskets slung to bamboo poles. As soon as each pair reaches the middle of the space they stoop and pick their living burden out and run off. The prisoners are chained hand and foot and are perfectly helpless. The executioner stands by and points where each lead is to be dumped. He is dressed exactly like any other coolie present, without any badge of office whatever. The condemned men have each a long folded piece of paper in a split bamboo stuck into their girth, upon which is written their execution. One after another they arrive and are slung out. Will the procession never end? How many can there be? This is more than we bargained for. At last, over the heads of the crowd, we see the hats of two petty mandarins and behind them the gates are shut. The tale of men is fifteen, and the executioner has arranged them in two rows, about two yards apart, and all facing one way. All except one seem perfectly calm, and he has probably been drugged with opium, a last privilege which the prisoner's friends can always obtain by bribery. They exchange remarks, some of them evidently chaff, with the spectators, and one man was carried in singing, and kept up his strain almost to the last. The executioners—there are now two of them—step forward. The younger tucks up his trousers and sleeves and deliberately selects a sword from several lying close by, while the older man, collecting the strips of paper into a sheet and lays them on one side. Then he places himself behind the front man of the nearest row and takes him by the shoulders. The younger man walks forward and stands at the left of the kneeling man. The fatal moment has come. There is an instant's hush and every one of the two rows of condemned men behind twists his head round and cranes his neck to see. I will not attempt to describe the emotions of such a moment—the horror, the awful repulsion, the sickening fear that you will be splashed with the blood, and yet the helpless fascination that keeps your eyes glued to every detail. The knife is raised. It is a short, broad-bladed, two-handed sword, weighted at the back and evidently as sharp as a razor. For a second it is poised in the air, as the executioner takes aim. Then it falls. There is no great apparent effort. It simply falls, and moreover seems to fall slowly. But when it comes to the man's neck it does not stop, it keeps on falling. With ghastly slowness it passes right through the flesh, and you are only recalled from your momentary stupor when the head springs forward and rolls over and over, while for a fraction of a second two dazzling jets of scarlet blood burst out and fall in a graceful curve to the ground. Then the great rush of blood comes and floods the spot. As soon as the blow has fallen the second executioner pitches the body forward with a loud "Hough," it tumbles in a shapeless heap, and from every throat goes up a loud "Ho!" expressive of pleasure and approval of the stroke. But there is no pause, the executioner steps over the corpse to the front man in the second row, the knife raises again, it falls, another head rolls away, another double burst of blood follows it, the headless body is shoved forward, the assistants shout "Hough," and the crowd shout "Ho." Two men are dead. Then the headman steps back to the second man of the front row and the operation is repeated.

SELECT SITTINGS.

The city of New York has 600 Sunday schools.

About 25,000,000 letters pass yearly between the United Kingdom and North America.

Athens, Ga., has a cow that walked on the cross ties over a trestle 65 feet high and 150 yards long.

Nearly every vessel cleared from San Diego, Cal., nowadays carries from ten to eleven tons of honey.

The Florida State Board of Health requires all cities of 10,000 inhabitants to dispose of refuse by cremation.

Four million shoe boxes were used by New England manufacturers last year. They cost from 25 to 50 cents each.

There are 32,000 benefit and burial clubs registered in England and Wales, with funds which amount to \$135,000,000.

When petroleum was first discovered in the United States it was bottled and sold for medicinal purposes under the name of rock oil.

France's production and consumption of milk amount every year to 1,350,000,000 gallons, which is three times in excess of the production of wine.

A well recently found near Pittsburg delivers fresh water, salt water, and gas at the same time. There are two casings, one within the other.

Within the last few weeks more than 50,000 acres have been bought in the Bahamas by British and American capitalists, to be devoted to raising sisal hemp.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals intends prosecuting all householders in London who go to the seaside or elsewhere, leaving their cats to starve in the streets.

A curious feature of the artificial teed industry is the variety of color required for different countries. Canada, for instance, demands teeth of snowy white color, South America those of yellow color, and China only black teeth.

A San Diego grocer kept a fine mites cat to kill off rats. One night he was attacked by a giant tarantula and was found dead the next morning. The tarantula was subsequently captured and is now on exhibition. It is four inches long.

A German paper publishes statistics showing an uninterrupted growth of Socialism. Berlin in 1882 contained twenty-four Socialist societies; now it contains over 100. Bavaria in 1886 had 1021 societies, with 58,000 members. It now has 2000 societies, with 122,000 members.

A London shoemaker has invented a boot to make small people appear tall. The invention is an odd and ingenious one. Instead of tacking six inches onto a person's heel, a pair of entirely false feet made of cork are put into the shoes. When the wearer gets into them he is raised according to the inches of cork. Of course, in this invention, the original foot is made to combine with the cork one under the leather in such a manner that the line of demarcation is not perceptible.

Food and Garb of the Labradorians.

The manner of subsistence of all the Indians and half-breed population of Labrador is practically the same. The Montagnais and Nasquapees live in lodges the year round, whether in the interior or on the coast. The Esquimaux generally live in igloos, a sort of turf-covered wigwam, when in the interior, and when at the missions in rude huts modeled after the igloos; while the few remaining Indians seldom appear on the coast, unless driven by famine, or, when they come to the villages to barter, when they bring all their belongings down the rivers and inlets in open boats, camping at night under seal-skin tents. The coast Labradorians, and there are not 600 others, are occupied in sealing in the early spring; they fish in the summer and trap in the winter; and these occupations are common to all, including half-breeds and whites. There is nothing else to be done, whatever the ability or inclination. In the extreme north the clothing is exclusively seal-skin; and on the south shore the attire is a combination of seal-skin and fustian, the latter being especially prized for withstanding the cruel winds and storms of the region. The number of stockings worn by these folks is often astonishing. Four, five and sometimes half-dozen are used inside their seal-skin boots. There is nothing striking about the dress of the few white women who are here, save that they remind one, in the mountain of clothing they bundle upon themselves of the tremendous skirts of the women of Irish Connemara. But the Indian women of the south and the Esquimaux women of the north are wonderfully apparelled. Anything they can get their hands upon possessing gorgeous color is more noticeable among the women of the St. Lawrence coast than with the northern Esquimaux.—New Orleans Times Democrat.

Branding Bees.

The general term of the Supreme Court in the central part of New York State has decided that it is trespass for bees to go upon lands not belonging to their owner. This may be good law, but the wonder is how this law is to be carried out. It perhaps will offer a new field for the rubber stamp man to affix the owner's initials to the bees' feet, or Mr. Edison might invent some electrical appliance by which trespassing bees could be made to leave their mark, or nature, perhaps, would be sufficient if the bees would notify the owner by the land where the trespass is committed by presenting their business card as a sort of card of identification.—American Analyst.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

Wood pavement lasts about seven years in streets where the traffic is heavy.

The velocity of the progression of the tornado cloud varies from seven to 100 miles an hour, the average being 44.11 miles.

A traveling electric light has proved quite successful in Germany. The whole outfit complete for service is carried in one vehicle.

A society has been started in London to promote the development of science of mesmerism and of the application of hypnotism to practical medicine.

Three millions of money that belong to inventors, having been collected through the Patent Office in excess of the expenses of that bureau, are in the Treasury.

Observations of the stars were made in Babylon from remote antiquity and careful records kept of eclipses. Some of the Babylonian astronomical statements refer to a period earlier than 7000 years B. C.

Southwestern soldiers will remember Lavigne, seventeen miles southwest of Nashville. A mine of mineral paint has been found there, and \$20,000 worth of machinery has been put up to get out the stuff to ship to New York.

For deafness of old age, Sapolini, of Milan, Italy, weak the membrana tympani with a weak oleaginous solution of phosphorus. He claims to have stimulated the actions of the membrane and improved the hearing in sixty-two cases.

A system of building houses entirely of sheet iron has been communicated to the Society of Architecture in Paris. The walls, partitions, roof, and wainscoting are composed of double metal sheets, separated by an air mattress, which is surrounded by different non-conductors of heat.

The street cars at Lyons, in France are heretofore operated by a series of compressed air, which has been found to work satisfactorily in Nantes and other French cities. The cars are said to run smoothly and with little noise, while the machinery is simple and does not require a skilled mechanic to superintend it. The cost is less than with horses, steam or electricity.

"It is not intellectual work that injures the brain," says the London Hospital, "but emotional excitement. Most men can stand the severest thought and study of which their brains are capable, and become the worst for it; for neither thought nor study interferes with the recuperative influence of sleep. It is ambition, anxiety, and disappointment, the hopes and fears, the loves and hates, of our lives, that wear out our nervous system and endanger the balance of the brain."

Some interesting notes on human skulls, found in old monasteries in the Kearton Valley, near Jerusalem, have been given by Dr. Dwight in a medical journal. He concludes that the Caucasian skull has, during the past thirteen centuries, increased two inches in average circumference, and gained a brain holding capacity of three and a half cubic inches. The growth has been wholly in the frontal and upper region, and none at all in the lower portions associated with purely animal functions. This is the most important discovery in ethnology of recent date.

WISE WORDS.

Devotion to a method of expression will retard development.

He who waits to do a great good at once will seldom do anything at all.

Gratitude is the music of the heart when its cords are swept by kindness.

Let the motive be in the deed and not in the event. Be not one whose motive for action is the hope of reward.

No state can be more destitute, than that of a person, who, when the delights of sense forsake him, has no pleasures of the mind.

Keep going, always doing. Wishing, dreaming, intending, mourning, talking, sighing and pining are idle and profitless employments.

A snob is that man or woman who is always pretending to be something better—especially richer or more fashionable—than they are.

Sensibility would be a good portress if she had but one hand. With her right she opens the door to pleasure, but with her left to pain.

Flattery is foolishness, and whosever is deceived thereby is not wise; nevertheless, the discreet woman may use a little of it for her husband's sake.

There is no real growth of character except by a conquest over opposing difficulties—the doing right when it is against our inclination and prejudices.

If a man would note his failures when he acted advisedly in comparison with the acts of his own conception, he would discover how much more important his own ideas were than borrowed ones.

Elevation is spoken of as the means of relief for "poor laboring men," but how far he must descend before reaching the point to commence his ascent, for he already lurches down upon the highest elevation idleness has attained.

The Fat Wives of Labrador.

The dress of the women of Labrador usually consists of huge seal-skin boots, a petticoat, a seal-skin garment covering the whole person from the neck to the knees trimmed with white fur, a cap enveloping the entire head, and a sort of baggy cape or hood hanging down the back, in which their fat little babies are carried. The cradle is unknown among the Esquimaux; but the universal tendency of all mothers to bounce, sway and heave about the helpless infant, has illustration here in the "jiggling" of the Esquimaux child, in its aerial cradle. Walking or sitting the Esquimaux mother has an endless movement like that of an old tar under a heavy sea. It is a writhing, weaving, swaying motion which cannot be adequately described. But it suffices, and the fat mother gets a good deal of exercise out of it, whatever the effect upon the babe. Only among the half-breed women are there forms and faces that are attractive as civilized folks judge these things. The compensation is here, however, for nearly all Esquimaux women will measure in girth what they will in height; and all forms of fat represent the Labradorian idea of both utility and beauty. At childbearing their own women officiate as midwives; and they get along very well in every respect without physicians. There is not a resident doctor in all Labrador, nor, for that matter, a lawyer.—New Orleans Times Democrat.

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

RYE FOR PASTURAGE.

Rye sown in September will make during the autumn enough grazing to be profitable. This grazing has an extra value because it comes when other green feed is very scarce. The rye may be grazed during the winter when not buried by snow, and pasturing on it may begin early in spring and continue until the last of May, when the ground can be broken and put in corn. A better crop of corn will grow than if the rye had not been on the ground. Or the rye may be pastured until June 15, and the animals taken off, when it will set considerable grain. The land may then be put in turnips. Rye used in this way makes enough feed to pay well for the use of the land, and also purifies and recuperates the ground. It can be used to especial advantage in corners cut off by creeks, or otherwise so formed that cultivation is difficult.

HABITUAL WHITEWASH.

I have long distrusted the broad claims made for the much-recommended whitewashing of poultry-houses for prevention or extermination of the vermin which it is claimed, says O. S. Bliss in the New York Tribune, habitually infest them and their occupants. I have had no personal experience with it, because I never fail to accomplish the purpose by easier, cheaper and more permanent effective means than the advocates of whitewashing have ever ventured to claim for it. I have, however, taken pains to look the matter up, without prejudice, and am now persuaded that so far from accomplishing any real good of itself, the whitewash is actually harmful. It may be admitted that some immediate benefit appears to be gained, as would be the case with any other substance so thoroughly applied to every crack and crevice, but it remains true, nevertheless, that the whitewash is a protector rather than an exterminator of the vermin. This very day I examined a whitewashed house and found a confirmation of this view. Carbolic acid, kerosene and various other things which of themselves are destructive of insect life are put into the whitewash, but their destructive qualities are all more or less neutralized and rendered ineffective by dilution.

In a few hours the wash becomes dried and as harmless as sand, every destructive agent in it being effectually locked up. But the habitable retreat of the insects have been increased in number a hundred or a thousand fold. Cracks and other places without number which before were uninhabitable by them have had the dust wiped out, or wet down, and a protecting scale of whitewash hung up before them, thus creating many a new nidus where none existed before. If a house is really infested and it becomes desirable to clean it out to get rid of the vermin, it is easier, cheaper and far more effective to apply strong soap-suds with or without the addition of kerosene, spirits of turpentine, or any other of the agents employed to render it more effective. Such a wash not only kills the vermin, but detaches the acetylenes which protect them and leaves a free open space, which is greatly preferable to one partly filled with anything, except it be fine, dry dust in which insects cannot live. If the cracks and other open spaces in a poultry house are to be filled at all it should be with mortar containing sufficient amount of plaster of paris, raw or calcined, or other similar substance, to make the filling solid. But I repeat what I have often said, that there is no occasion for any of these things when the supply of dust is what it should be in every case.

ABOUT SHOEING HORSES.

A correspondent of the Journal of Agriculture says: I am convinced, both by experience and observation, that shoeing horses is not only a great inconvenience but I also say it is a nuisance to the horse. Of course this is intended for farmers, as city horses that are constantly kept on hard city pavements need to be shod. But a farmer's horse, for either farm work or road, does not need to be shod constantly. The less the better, and my belief is, no shoeing still better. The horse in his natural state has a good hoof and by a little application and patience it can be made to be as pliable as rubber and as hard as steel. The horses in Iceland are not shod and they travel over stony roads or ice as easily as our horses travel on our smooth roads with their costly new steel shoes for which hundreds of dollars are annually spent. In our Western States we seldom see a macadamized road, and even then there are not many farmers that keep a team for special road use. Many farmers make the mistake in believing that if they want to keep a nimble footed horse that they have to keep him shod. But this is a grave mistake. To keep a horse constantly shod he needs to renew his shoeing at intervals. Such is dangerous and liable to injure the hoof, and perhaps maim him for life. Many horses' legs are ruined when young on account of too frequent and careless shoeing. By negligence a horse is sometimes allowed to wear the old shoe for a long period without renewing. Such negligence is abusing the horse greatly, and very often is the cause of lame feet. And again, how can a horse be worked with a shoe on, on dry or muddy roads, or on soft or plowed ground without being quite exhausted at times? I have a six year old team that never had a shoe under their feet and never will have as long as they are in my possession. Still I never hesitate to hitch them to the plow or buggy, or drive them over soft or hard roads in their own shoes. My other horses have to be shod once in a while because they were used to it when young, or their hoofs will crack or become sore. But I make the practice never to shoe young horses, and I believe that they will do better than those that are kept constantly shod. A young horse has always good sound hoofs, unless accidents occur, and by a little attention they can be kept sound as long as the horse lives. The trouble lies in young horses when they are shod too young. Young horses that are a general thing are vigorous and we take a fancy that they can be driven hard because they are young, and to keep their hoofs and legs sound they must be kept shod. My advice is: Do not drive the young horse too much at first. Take the older horse for road use and leave the younger horse for farm use till they have reached the stage of maturity. This will be the means of saving the horse usually. When the weather is dry a good thing is to lead the horse in a pool of water for an hour or so once in a while so as to give the hoof a thorough soaking.

WHEAT CORN FODDER.

Where sweet corn is used in the family or sold in the market, the stalks on which it is grown should be promptly cut and fed to the cows; they are better fodder than they will ever be again, and all the better if a few imperfect stubbles remain on the stalks. Some farmers foolishly save these for seed, leaving the stalks to dry up as they grow, and the stubbles after all yielding little corn, and that poor. Only the largest and earliest ears should be saved for seed if the value of the variety is to be maintained.—American Cultivator.

CONCERNING WEEDS.

Weeds are usually plants that do not contain much valuable plant food. For this reason they are not worth so much for green manuring as are cultivated plants, such as the grains and clover. The damage they do is more in abstracting moisture from the soil than plant food, though what fertility they take is usually near the surface, and therefore possesses greater value for crops. The common rag weed has very little value at a manure. Pig weed grows only in rich soil, and it contains more valuable plant food than any other plant, but it takes it mainly from near the surface. Clover has the great advantage as green manure of drawing fertility from the subsoil.—Prairie Farmer.

HEARING CALVES.

E. D. Richards, writing to the American Cultivator, says: In the earlier days it was the general practice among dairy farmers to allow the calf to run with its dam during the first season. Such a method is too expensive for these days. Again, it works great damage to the cow if she is to be kept for the dairy. When the dam's bag becomes healthy and in normal condition, the sooner the calf is removed from her side the better for the cow.

Did I See a Dog.

Such is the inscription written upon the tombstone of the average workman. If he has a little from his salary he deposits his money in a bank at three per cent, and either local capitalists instead of making judicious investments for his own benefit, falls to devote any assistance from his capital. If you can save \$1 a month you may become a rich man. Millions have been made by similar investments and there is no possible risk. Send for full particulars to the PATENTSAVER TRUST CO., 1100 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

A JUDGE IN TENNESSEE.

A JUDGE IN TENNESSEE has instructed his grand jury "to indict all persons who publicly express infidel sentiments."

Any article that has outlived 50 years of competition and imitation, and sells more than any other article of the kind, is a good article. Electric Soap first made in 1861 is just that article. Ask your grocer for it. He has it, or will get it.

Over 400,000 patents have been granted in the United States.

America's finest—"Tanall's Punch" Cigar.

Sick Headache

Is a very distressing affection, generally arising from stomach troubles, biliousness and dyspepsia, and we frequently find persons of both sexes subject to periodic headaches for which they can ascribe no direct cause. But the headache is a sure indication that there is something wrong somewhere, and whatever the cause Hood's Sarsaparilla is a reliable remedy for headache, and for all troubles which seem to require a corrective and regulator. It cures dyspepsia, biliousness, indigestion, constipation, creates an appetite, and gives strength to the nerves. N. B. Be sure to get

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists, \$1, six for \$5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF.

THE GREAT CONQUEROR OF PAIN,

As an excellent and mild Cathartic, Purely Vegetable, "The Greatest and Best Medicine in the World for the Cure of all Disorders of the Liver, Stomach or Bowels."

CURES ALL SUMMER COMPLAINTS,

Croup, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Colic, Cholera, Diarrhoea, DYSENTERY, Cholera Morbos, Fatiguing Spasms, Intermittent Fevers, Neuralgia, Pains in the Small Intestine, etc.

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Weeds are usually plants that do not contain much valuable plant food. For this reason they are not worth so much for green manuring as are cultivated plants, such as the grains and clover. The damage they do is more in abstracting moisture from the soil than plant food, though what fertility they take is usually near the surface, and therefore possesses greater value for crops. The common rag weed has very little value at a manure. Pig weed grows only in rich soil, and it contains more valuable plant food than any other plant, but it takes it mainly from near the surface. Clover has the great advantage as green manure of drawing fertility from the subsoil.—Prairie Farmer.

HEARING CALVES.

E. D. Richards, writing to the American Cultivator, says: In the earlier days it was the general practice among dairy farmers to allow the calf to run with its dam during the first season. Such a method is too expensive for these days. Again, it works great damage to the cow if she is to be kept for the dairy. When the dam's bag becomes healthy and in normal condition, the sooner the calf is removed from her side the better for the cow.

Did I See a Dog.

Such is the inscription written upon the tombstone of the average workman. If he has a little from his salary he deposits his money in a bank at three per cent, and either local capitalists instead of making judicious investments for his own benefit, falls to devote any assistance from his capital. If you can save \$1 a month you may become a rich man. Millions have been made by similar investments and there is no possible risk. Send for full particulars to the PATENTSAVER TRUST CO., 1100 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

A JUDGE IN TENNESSEE.

A JUDGE IN TENNESSEE has instructed his grand jury "to indict all persons who publicly express infidel sentiments."

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