



(The New York Herald's cartoonist gives his idea of the situation in the Philippines.)

### CHINA TOTTERS TO HER FALL

England Accuses Li Hung Chang of Being Bought With Russia's Gold.

The friction between England and Russia, arising from the attitude assumed by the Chinese Government in regard to railroad concessions in the Celestial Empire, has become the all-absorbing topic of the hour among foreign diplomats. In view of the large American interests in the Far East the trend of affairs is also being closely followed in this country. At the close of the war between China and Japan, England and Russia, bothateful for an opportunity to increase their power in the Chinese realm, stepped in and gained control through "leases" over the territory which had been occupied by the Japanese troops. Russia took Port Arthur and the surrounding country on the north of the Gulf of Pe-Chi-Lie, while England acquired control of Wei-Hai-Wei, on the south of the gulf.



EMPEROR OF CHINA.

At the present time there is only one railroad in China, which was built by Li Hung Chang, and is under the control of the government. The trouble now threatening between England and Russia has arisen through the repudiation by China of a contract with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank to build a road from Tientsin via Shan-Hai-kwon to New-Chwang. The bank is owned almost entirely by English capitalists, although a few Americans hold stock in it. The proposed new road was an important part of the railroad system under development in China.

The Empress Dowager of China has openly relieved the Emperor of all real power. The Ministers take their instructions directly from her, and Li Hung Chang practically superseeds the Tsung-li-Yamen.

It is rumored that Sir Claude Macdonald, the British Minister, before the Tsung-li-Yamen accused Li Hung Chang of betraying China to Russia; and it is said that Li Hung Chang has threatened to demand the recall of Sir Claude Macdonald.



THE TSUNG-LI-YAMEN—THE STATE DEPARTMENT AT PEKIN.

Li Hung Chang is thus once more in power, acting as Chancellor directly under the Empress Dowager. This was brought about through the weakness of the Emperor, who is recognized as unfit to deal with large matters of state. The Empress Dowager, who is a very able woman, convinced him that he must retire Weng, who for several years had been the head and front of the party opposed to all foreign reforms and improvements.

Foreigners and the Progressive party of Chinese are delighted. No more radical or necessary first step toward progress could have been taken. The Emperor has at last been made to

see this old fossil in his true light, and has rid himself of his "Old Man of the Sea." The Manchus, many of them, sympathize with Weng, and are fearful less this dismissal means wholesale innovations.

With Weng out of the way, the Empress Dowager had no difficulty in regaining her old place as real ruler of the eighteen provinces. All the provincial Governors and Viceroys, as well as government officials ranking higher than Taotai, are commanded to memorialize her, thanking her for the office they hold. She has already shown her favor to Li Hung Chang, and he is in power again as virtual ruler of the Tsung-li-Yamen. It must give old Li much satisfaction to thus prevail over Weng, who clamored for Li's head during the Chinese-Japanese war.

One weak man in the Cabinet is Wang, who has been called from the Chihli Viceroyship. Prince Kung on his deathbed stipulated that Wang should succeed him in the Cabinet. Wang is dull, ultra conservative, and smokes too much opium, but he is old and cannot last long.

The resurrection of Viceroy Li has aroused the British in China, who see in it another trick taken by the Russians. Li, who was once the strongest friend of England, is now doing everything in his power to help Russia.

The Empress Dowager of China, Tsou Hsi, is a woman of force. She is sixty-four years old, but she is the Chinese exemplar of the new woman. For nearly forty years she has been the most powerful influence in the Flower Kingdom.

The Emperor Kouangsu is the Empress Dowager's adopted son. After her own son's death she took up Kouangsu and trained him so that she could keep him under her thumb. The Emperor is twenty-six years old to-day, so that his open deposition from real power is a left-handed birthday present from his dear adopted mother.

For many years she has been receiving birthday presents which have made her the richest woman on earth. On each birthday the Chinese people have poured riches into her lap. During the war with Japan it was hinted to the Dowager Empress that the people needed all the money they had; that perhaps she might be pleased to refuse the usual presents. She compromised—took half.

Li Hung Chang, who was so popular in New York, has always found his firmest friend and most generous patron in the Dowager Empress. Once in a while she has been mad at him and taken away his peacock's feather or his yellow jacket, but he soon had it again, and her favor. So that usually, when all went well with Li Hung, it proved that the Dowager Empress was supreme. Rarely has the young Emperor tried to demonstrate his manhood and really be Emperor. Then Li Hung Chang was in trouble, but it never lasted long, for the Dowager Empress put her thumbs down on her stepson just as she has done now.

The Tsung-li-Yamen is the Chinese Foreign Office. The only thing to be compared to it in this country is the Department of State. It is stated that Tsou Hsi has lately been filling the

### AN AMERICAN GIRL VICEREINE OF INDIA.

#### LUCK OF THE CURZONS.

The first American woman to become a real Queen is the daughter of a former dry-goods clerk.

She will rule more than 400,000,000 of people. She will occupy an official position higher than any woman of this nation has ever attained.

She has mounted to her proud place on a foundation of dry goods and Chicago real estate, but she is worthy of it.

George Nathaniel Curzon, who married Miss Mary Leiter, of Chicago, has been made Viceroy of India, the highest administrative office in the gift of the British Crown. Before the vision of the Hon. Mrs. George Nathaniel Curzon there opens a vista of surpassing richness and promise.

Her husband will be created a peer of the realm before he goes to India. There he will be Vice-King and his wife will be the Vice-Queen.

It is quite true this American woman will act for Queen Victoria, Empress of India, in ruling over the largest and most important possession of the British Empire. She will sit on a throne and none will be too great to bow before her.

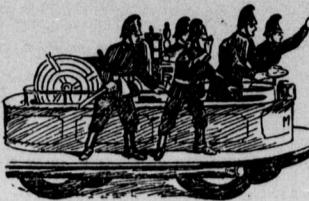
Mrs. Curzon, to whom a daughter has just been born, is thirty-one. She has great beauty, \$5,000,000 as a dowry and a young husband who is already one of the great men of his nation. Surely her career is enough to turn the head of most women.

Her position is fixed for all time. In

### UNIQUE FIRE ENGINE.

London is Using One Whose Motive Power is Gasoline.

The motive power of this engine is gasoline, as the picture plainly indicates, the engine itself is very different from the machine that is ordinarily in use for the purpose. It is more compact and powerful, two improvements that will be very welcome. In the rear of the engine, and within



LONDON'S PECCULIAR FIRE ENGINE.

the railing, is the fire hose on the reel of the usual pattern. Thus the engine and hose cart are in one. With this most up-to-date of fire engines there is a contrivance which will reel or unreel the hose, action being regulated by a lever close to that which operates the engine itself. This is one of the features which firemen find great cause for enthusiasm. In fact, the London fire fighters, who are considered fully equal to the bravest and best, even as good as the firemen of the United States, think that the reel feature is the point par excellence of the invention.

Generally the engine is supposed to carry five men, but this number can be increased if desired, as the additional weight of a larger crew would have no appreciable effect upon the

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### FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

#### Cows Eating Straw.

Wherever much grain is grown, and the grain is stacked in the barnyard, it is necessary to build a stack around it to keep cows from eating it. Freshly threshed straw, even when all the grain is out, is palatable to cows at this season of the year. But they should be kept from it if the milk yield is to be maintained. Even a little straw will dry off the cow very fast, and if grain is fed with it, the effect will only be to fatten the cow rather than to keep up the milk flow.

#### Flax Grown With Other Grain.

Under some conditions it may be advisable to grow flax with other grain. Flax is a very exhaustive crop but in this fact lies the advantage when grain is sown on very rich land in mixing some flaxseed with it. If the flax is not grown the grain will grow too rank a straw, while with the flax to help exhaust the superfluous fertility there is less danger of this. There will be more of the grain grown, while all the flaxseed that is harvested will be so much clear gain. Barley is one of the best grains to grow with flax, as both are ready to cut at the same time. But both should be very lightly seeded if clover seed is sown the same spring, else there will be a poor catch of clover.

#### Stacking in the Field.

When drawing in grain after the barns are all filled it is often a great convenience to build a stack of grain in the field and leave it there until threshing time. It will make some extra labor in threshing, but at this time labor is not so valuable as it is at harvesting time. In fact, stacking in the field may be the only means of securing the crop of fields distant from the farm. In winter some stock may be kept around the stack, and grain or hay brought from the barn to feed them there. This will save drawing manure, and the stock may be kept as warm by cutting holes through the stack as if it were kept in the barn.

In fact, the stack-fed animals are likely to go through the winter with more gain at less expense than other.

#### Fining and Firming.

Lack of thoroughness in these is perhaps responsible for more poor crops than all other causes over which man has control. Five out of every six farmers stop too soon and call it "good enough." The soil must be made fine and well compacted for best results to follow. Either alone is not sufficient. The middle of the road is compact, but not in condition for a good seedbed, for cohesion has taken place between the particles of earth, a thing which should not occur in the wheat field. On the other hand, a light, friable soil may plow up perfectly fine like an ash heap, yet will require much harrowing, rolling and tramping before it is right to seed. The soil must be reduced to small particles and these pressed close together when not wet enough to cause them to adhere one to another. Thus the ground will be solid enough so the horses' hoofs will not sink far into it, yet porous enough for the little wheat roots to readily penetrate by pressing close against the soil particles, and the thousands of little pumps will draw moisture from below, where the "big bore" pumps formed of clods would fail to "suck."

Clayey soils plowed sometimes become too hard, too much like the middle of the road, and require to be thoroughly loosened with cultivator or disc before a good seed-bed can be secured. Nothing better for the purpose than a good riding cultivator with plenty of team attached. It pays, as a rule, to put at least as much work on the wheat ground as would be required to raise a crop of corn. Of course, some seasons and soils require more work than others.

#### To Cut Grass for Hay.

No hard and fast rule can be laid down as to the proper time for cutting grass for hay; but it may be safely asserted that grass is nearly always cut at a period when it has lost much of its succulent and nourishing qualities. That is, it is a common failing with farmers to let their grass get too ripe. The reason for this in most cases is that the heavy pressure of farm work at this season makes it an easy matter for the farmer to be deluded into the belief that a few more days of postponement will not make much difference. Another reason is that the grass in some fields does not mature evenly, and while there may be patches of young green grass, other parts will be turning yellow. Should the whole field be sacrificed for these few patches of green?

Now it is a demonstrated fact that stock and cattle fatten much more quickly on grass or hay that is cut just prior to the stage of complete maturity. It is the young grass of early spring that makes stock look sleek and fat, and which adds strength and milk to the cows. After "haying time," the stock put to grass rarely make any great gain. A cow in the August pasture is not worth nearly as much as a cow in a June pasture.

These observations should lead one to cut the grass for hay earlier, even if other pressing farm work must be postponed. The proper time to cut grass is when it reaches its fullest growth, but before the animals fail to relish it. Usually this means that the grass must be cut before it has headed. To many this may seem like inviting waste, for the crop certainly would not weigh as much per acre; but on the other hand all that is cut

is nutrient. It is doubtful if the plants add anything more after this period that is at all beneficial.—Hay-maker.

#### Commercial Apple Grafting.

Nurserymen never use two-year-old roots for grafting if one-year-old can be obtained. At lifting time all apple seedling roots are assort into three lots. No. 1 contains all roots 16 inches long and 3-16 in diameter at collar. No. 2 all broken roots and less than 3-16 diameter that will make one graft. No. 3 all refuse roots. No. 1 will make more grafts per 1000 roots than No. 2, but the last will grow a larger per cent. of those planted for there will be more collar grafts in those made from No. 2 than from No. 1, as root and scion will unite better at collar than below.

Double worked trees are harder than simple root grafts. That is, hardy trees root-grafted and top-worked, as instance Duchess, root-grafted in the ordinary manner and then used for a stock upon which to graft a tender variety, as maiden blush. Simple top-working a seedling will not increase hardness, for only comparatively few seedlings are hardy. Scions should be put away full length as cut from the tree, for there is less liability to become dry. When ready to graft, cut with slope and tongue ready to fit together, from 100 to 300 scions; cut them 5 to 6 inches in length and throw out on the table. Trim all side roots from a root; cut slope and tongue at collar; select a scion as near as possible the same size as the root, crowd them together closely and cut off the root 2 inches in length. Repeat till the root is used up. For tying use No. 16 tidy cotton, drop a ball into hot grafting wax. A long scion and short root is best, for then the joint is well below ground and the scion will throw out more roots. North of 40° parallel 75 per cent. of the seedlings will winterkill the first winter, hence the necessity of having the scion rooted.—American Agriculturist.

#### Improving Pastures.

If there is any one part of the farm that is neglected in the summer time, when the rush of harvesting takes up most of the time and attention of all, it is the pasture fields. While there may be some little excuse for this on large grain farms, it can hardly be overlooked on a dairy farm, where grass and green pasture are the chief dependencies for success. The improvement of pasture fields is a crying need on many old places. As a rule, the roughest and most sterile fields are given over to pastures, and it is not giving a cow a fair show to make her pick up a living on land that would not produce anything else. This is often the case, however, and then we blame the cow for not giving more milk. Half the fault against our dairy cows can be traced to improper feeding. Because a cow has a large field or meadow to graze in it does not follow that she ought to give a large flow of milk. A much smaller piece of land would produce much better results if the pasture was rich and well cared for.

It is all right to give cows for pasture the roughest and rockiest part of the farm, for naturally one does not select that portion for plowing under other crops. But it is the part of wisdom to bestow a little care upon such fields to improve them each year. A few days labor devoted to the pasture fields every season will surprise the owner in the results five years later. First, here are rocks and stones that can gradually be carried off the field and piled up. Clearing the pasture field in this leisurely way will yield its reward some day, when it is found desirable to cultivate the meadows or hillside for orchard or field crops.

Along with this work should go that of clearing the land of wild berry bushes, brush, roots and weeds. The roots once taken up will kill the bushes and trees for good and so with the weeds. See that they are rooted up and not simply cut off. Noxious weeds prevent grass plants from growing, and generally they harbor parasites and rusts of grain which may spread to the cultivated fields any day and do a great amount of damage. This work of clearing the pastures of foreign growths is very important at this season of the year, when weeds are about ready to produce their seeds. One plant destroyed root and branch now may prevent the growth of 50 next summer. So it is wise to begin at once, for every year that the work is postponed the pasture field degenerates so much more.

While engaged in this work of destruction it might be well to reconstruct, too. Plant a few shade trees in the most convenient places of the field and if necessary for their protection fence them in until they attain a good growth. Years later they will be appreciated by both man and beast. When the weeds are pretty well rooted out, it will pay to sow the field in the fall with grass seed, spreading it thinly around to reinforce the old grass.—American Cultivator.

#### Farm and Garden Notes.

Keep your dust box full of dry dust and keep it where the hens can get at it at will.

Sound, sweet feed, plenty of grit, freedom from lice, pure water. These are the requirements to maintain good health in chicks from healthy stock.

Let fowls have free run of the clover field two or three times a week, turning them into it during the later part of the day, but never after a rain or in the early morning when the dew is on the grass.

Dry sand has been found the best material for putting in henhouses, as with that the manure mixes without caking up, but where such sand is not to be easily obtained dry loam or road dust is an excellent substitute.



GEORGE N. CURZON, THE NEW VICEROY OF INDIA, AND HIS WIFE, FORMERLY MISS LEITER, OF CHICAGO—PALACE OF THE VICEROY AT CALCUTTA WHERE THIS AMERICAN GIRL WILL PRESIDE.

India she and her husband will occupy a palace of the blood royal. In England she is upon the highest pinnacle.

Thirty years ago the father of this American queen was selling calico and stockings over a counter in Chicago. He saved one-half that he earned. He invested and saved all that he made until he had a fortune.

When he gained wealth his wife fought as hard for social recognition as her husband had to make money. She struggled in Chicago and made little headway. She went to Washington and resumed the fight there and succeeded. What matter if she was called the Mrs. Malaprop of Washington. She was a force, although to this day her sway is disputed.

But there is no disputing the power of her daughter. She has taken a foremost place in the most exclusive society in the world. She has now become the arbiter of the fate of American women seeking recognition abroad. By a mere word the daughter of Levi Z. Leiter can gain royal recognition for other American women, or she can, if she chooses, deny such recognition to them. She can make Mrs. Potter Palmer, her mother's ancient social enemy, knock in vain at the portal of European Courts even after having conquered the royal court of New York.

Mrs. Curzon was Miss Mary Virginia Leiter, the eldest child of Levi Z. Leiter, and the sister of Joseph Leiter, who was king of wheat a few months ago and who lost something like \$18,000,000, of which his father has had to pay about half, the other representing the profits of the deal at one time.

Mrs. Curzon has lived more in Washington and in Europe than she has in Chicago. Her marriage to George Nathaniel Curzon, who has been looked upon as the coming man in the Tory party for several years, was a great social event, although it did not attract as much attention as some other international marriages.

It was generally accepted that Mr. Curzon hoped some day to become Prime Minister of England and that it was his wife who influenced him in deciding to accept the high place of Viceroy.

She will occupy the highest place socially of any woman in India, because she will directly represent the Queen. She will hold court, receive native princes and be virtually queen of 400,000,