

## CHINESE SPLENDOR.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS BEFORE THE REIGNING POTENTATE.

A Formal Reception by the Emperor. Still Necked Ceremony in the Midst of Rich Trappings—Magnificent Temples and Palaces in the Forbidden City.

After the present emperor ascended the throne of China his government yielded the point and agreed to receive the diplomatic corps in the same manner that they are received by the sovereigns of Europe. The first ceremony of the kind, which took place on March 5, 1891, was an event in Chinese history. The members of the several legations arrived at Fu Hua, or East Flower gate of the forbidden city, at 10 o'clock on that morning in sedan chairs, each escorted by two mounted officers of the Imperial guards. They were there met by the members of the Tung Li Yamen, who conducted them to the Shih Yung Kung, the temple of the great river god, when they were offered tea and sweetmeats. An hour later they were escorted to the Tsu Kuang Ko, or reception hall, a handsome building profusely decorated with gilded coverings and ornamented with gay colors. The hall is approached by eight marble steps, which lead to a broad marble terrace. Around this terrace is a balustrade supported by pillars of marble, pure white and beautifully engraved.

The emperor arrived about the same time in his chair, which was covered outside and in with yellow silk, the official button on top being gold instead of silver and the ends of the bearing poles being elaborately carved and capped with gilded dragons. The dean of the diplomatic corps, escorted by members of the foreign office, was conducted into the hall, the sides of the approach to the steps, the steps themselves and the terrace being crowded with eunuchs employed in the palace and civil and military officers whose rank did not entitle them to enter the presence of the emperor. Each member of the diplomatic corps was given a separate audience by the emperor, who was seated upon a marble throne. As they crossed the threshold they bowed, advanced three or four paces and bowed again, then advanced to a point between the two dragon pillars, where a third stop and bow were made. There a foreign carpet covered the floor of the platform, which was about three feet high.

The ambassadors and ministers stopped about 12 feet from the emperor, where they made their speeches, which were translated by an interpreter into Chinese. They then advanced and handed letters of credence to Prince Ching, who had been standing on the left of the emperor. Taking the papers, he ascended the steps, approached the table in front of the emperor and laid them upon it, not kneeling until he had deposited them. The emperor replied to the speeches in the Manchoo dialect after the diplomatists had returned to their places between the dragon pillars, his remarks being translated into Chinese by Prince Ching, sentence by sentence. The exit from the hall was made by walking backward, with bows at three places.

The sides of the audience hall were covered with inscriptions and rare paintings of enormous size. The ceiling was composed of wooden squares 1½ feet in size, divided by heavy rafters, all gorgeously painted with the dragon figures. The supporting columns were of red lacquer, covered with figures of gold dragons.

On the right of the emperor stood Prince Po, on his left Prince Ko, and near him Prince Ching. The room was lined on either side by two rows of high officers of the Imperial guards and chamberlains, many being princes and dukes of the imperial family. No arms were visible except the swords worn by the emperor and the princes. The imperial escort, bearing long red lacquered spears, with silver points and a long tiger tail, could be seen just outside the doors. They presented a picturesque appearance. On either side of the emperor was a straight stem six feet high, supporting at the top what appeared to be painted imitations of peacock tails spread out, the feathers indicating rank in China.

Lengthy inscriptions in Manchoo were engraved upon a marble plinth back of the throne. Six immense incense bowls of old cloisonne, each guarded by an immense cloisonne dragon of great value, were placed around the platform, while from the ceiling were suspended eight cloisonne lamps made during the Tsu-Kuang dynasty. On the table in front of the emperor, which was covered with yellow satin, embroidered with figures of dragons, was placed the pipe of his majesty, a piece of carved jade and gold, the handle formed by the body and tail of a dragon, its mouth as the tobacco bowl.

Within the pink walls that surrounded the forbidden city are several temples and 40 or more palaces and other buildings which are occupied as residences by the emperor's immediate attendants and officers of the guard. They are all of one story and of uniform architecture, differing only in dimensions. Their exteriors are painted that peculiar white which Europeans have never been able to imitate and roofed with tiles of imperial yellow. The Fu Hua, or East Flower gate, is reached from the Tartar city by passing over a marble bridge, handsomely decorated and bearing several tablets with inscriptions that betoken long life, prosperity, happiness and other blessings. Immediately before the gates are the western gardens, handsomely laid out in the highest taste and skill in landscape architecture, and surrounding a lake that covers several acres. The nearest temple is dedicated to the great river god, and there the emperor offers sacrifices to appease that disorderly joss, who is responsible for the floods which so frequently devastate the lowlands of northern China.—Chicago Record.

## CATCHING COD IN MAINE.

The Fishermen Set Out Trawls With Three Thousand Hooks Attached.

In the herring fishery everything is done with the seine. In fishing for cod, halibut and hake hand lines are used to a limited extent, but most of the captures are made by trawls. All of the craft are schooner rigged, and but few of them carry topmasts. This gives them a slovenly appearance aloft, but they do away with the spar because the craft rolls less in a sea when at anchor. There are no fine lines about the hulls. The object is room and stability, and while they are good seaboats they are not fast sailers. The owners of the craft find trawls, small boats, salt and provisions, and two trips a year is the average for the craft which salts her fish on board.

Out of the fleet a few take ice and return to market with fresh fish every two or three weeks, but the majority catch and salt down. The crew go on shares. When the craft returns, the owners figure up the expense of the outfit and add to it half the value of the catch. What is left is divided pro rata among the crew. If the catch has been good, each one of the 16 or 18 men has made about \$40 per month, but it is quite as likely that he won't have made a dollar a day, though he has had free board all the time, and good board at that. Fishing on the banks at any time of the year is hard and disagreeable work.

Codfish are very erratic in their movements. A schooner may have fish around her for 30 days, one day being as good as another, or she may sail and drift for three or four days without getting a bite. If luck is with her, down goes the anchor, and the trawlers begin to work. A trawl may be described as a rope many hundred feet long, to which at intervals of 38 inches fishhooks are attached by lines about two feet long. There are 3,000 hooks to the average trawl, which is attended by two men. Each man has 1,500 hooks to bait and care for. The rope is weighted to sink within a few feet of the bottom and is then buoyed. The trawl is generally set late in the afternoon and overhauled the next morning.

If luck is with the fishermen, 500 cod may be taken from a trawl. They are a voracious fish, and in seizing the bait firmly hook themselves. It often happens that the 3,000 hooks may be overhauled without securing more than 50 fish, but again the catch may be 2,500. The boats of the trawlers look something like ordinary river skiffs, but are very buoyant and easily handled. A schooner with 18 men aboard puts out 4 trawls and 8 men. The rest are left to work the craft and attend to the fish as they come in.—Lewiston Journal.

## The Chinese Religion.

Chinese religion has never had the puerilities, the animal cults, the ecstasies and fanaticism of other religions. Like the Jews, the Chinese had very vague ideas of future rewards and punishments and of life after death. Their ancestor cult had no mythologic motive like that of India or Japan. The Chinese, like the Jews and ancient Egyptians, had the philosophic conception that continuation of life lies not in the immortality of the soul, but in the perpetual remembrance of the righteous by mankind. The Chinese could not persevere with metaphysical problems, and so did not advance.

Confucius appeared at a time when the Chinese felt the need of a religion; but the greatest of their religious reformers was Lao-tseu, who was born about 604 B. C., or half a century before Confucius. He introduced the word Tao, "way," for the idea of divinity, which previously was confused with the visible sky (Shang-ti). Tao is the element from which everything comes and to which everything returns. Lao-tseu also taught that the departure of the soul from the body was no disaster for us. But he was too vague to be a convincing reformer. Confucius was not an original thinker like Lao-tseu; he culled what he liked from the older writers, and allowed people to believe what they chose. When consulted, he spoke in an oracular manner, and while satisfying no one he offended nobody.—Nature.

## A Sympathetic Youth.

"Papa," said George, "I'm so sorry sometimes about all the trouble I give mamma."

"She hasn't complained."

"No, she's very patient. But she often sends me off to the shops for things, and they are a good way off, and I know she gets cross waiting when she's in a hurry."

"Not often, I fancy."

"Oh, she's nearly always in a hurry. She gets everything all ready for baking and finds at the last minute she hasn't any baking powder, or she gets a pudding all mixed and finds she hasn't any nutmeg or something, and then she's in an awful stew, 'cause the oven is all ready and maybe company coming, and I can't run a very long distance, you know, and I feel awfully sorry for poor mamma."

"Humph! Well, what can we do about it?"

"I was thinking you might get me a bicycle."—Boston Traveller.

## Letter Comes For President Monroe.

In the White House mail on June 1 was a letter addressed to "His Excellency, James Monroe, President of the U. S." It came from British Guiana and contained an urgent request for the autograph of the author of the famous doctrine against foreign encroachments on the American continent. The writer is a Venezuelan resident of British Guiana, who evidently expects great things of "President Monroe" in the territorial dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela.—Washington Star.

## The Decisive Test.

"When do you think woman will reach the climax of her ability?"  
"When she can send a ten word telegram without adding a postscript."—Detroit Free Press.

## The Growth of the Finger Nails.

A prominent man, who has devoted many years to the study of the subject, states, as the result of his observations, that the finger nails of the human species grow more rapidly in children than in adults, and that the growth is slowest with the aged. His observations, however, do not stop at this, for he finds that both in childhood and age they grow faster in summer than in winter. In one instance a nail that required 152 days to renew in winter renewed in summer in exactly 116 days. During both seasons the patient upon whom this experiment was made enjoyed normal health. The method of testing this growth was in each instance the same. The nail was pared close and slightly notched at the quick. Both the right and left hands were studied, with the result that he affirms that the growth of the finger nails is more rapid on the right hand than on the left.

One peculiarity of the growth of finger nails, in addition to those stated, is that the period of renewal differs proportionately with the length of the fingers. Thus it is more rapid in the middle fingers than any other. In the fingers on either side of the middle finger the period of renewal is about equal and slower. It is even more slow in the little finger, and the slowest of all in the thumb. Comparing the same fingers with the different hands, the person who discovered these curious phases of growth states that on an average the nails on the left hand fingers require 82 days longer to renew than those of the right hand. In one particular, the growth of the nails and hair and beard is governed by the same law—that of growing more rapidly in summer than in winter.—New York Ledger.

## A Question of Survival.

The Boers as a body are unprogressive, unadventurous, averse to change. The British are progressive, active and eager for adventure. The Boers are hunters and cattle owners. The British are miners and traders. The British have the forces of education, science and capital on their side; the Boers, on the other hand, decline to avail themselves of the resources by which wealth is accumulated, and through which the power conferred by wealth is acquired. The Boers receive no re-enforcement by emigration; the British population is increasing daily by the constant influx of new batches of emigrants. Given these conditions, and the result is certain.

In virtue of nature's law of the "survival of the fittest," the British are bound to distance the Boers in the future as they have done in the past. In this world, as present constituted, the weaker is certain in the long run to go to the wall. Just as in the southern states in America the Yankee is hunting out the southern planter, so the Briton is compelled by the same manifest destiny to oust the Boer. I hold, therefore, that no matter what one's respect may be for the individual fine qualities of the Boer population, one can entertain no doubt that in the end the race that goes ahead must get the better of the race that stays at home.—Nineteenth Century.

## Curious Frogs.

One of the most interesting species of frogs that have been described is the one discovered by Mr. Wallace in Borneo a number of years ago. It has been popularly called the "flying frog," from the fact that it has toes of great length, and these are fully webbed to the tips. If the animal wishes to descend from the top of a high tree, it has only to make the leap, and by spreading out its toes it converts its feet into four veritable parachutes, and thus this little aerial batrachian reaches terra firma in safety. Among the most curious types are the tree frogs, and Gibson says these "are readily distinguished from all others by having the ends of their toes dilated into knobs or disks, generally provided with a sticky secretion, by means of which they can cling to the leaves and branches of trees. They are small, elegant and exceedingly active creatures, the males possessing loud voices, of which they make copious use during the breeding season and on the approach of rain."—Popular Science Monthly.

## But Seven Impeachment Trials.

General Harrison discusses "Impeachment" in his "This Country of Ours" article in Ladies' Home Journal. He presents the constitutional provisions for the impeachment of high officials, and recalls that the process has been put into operation but seven times. William Blount, a senator from Tennessee, was the first official to be tried on impeachment proceedings. His trial occurred in 1797. The others were: John Pickens, a United States district judge for New Hampshire, in 1803; Justice Samuel Chase of the United States supreme court, about the same time; James H. Peck, judge of the United States district court for the district of Missouri, in 1830; Judge Humphreys of the United States district court for the district of Tennessee, in 1862; President Andrew Johnson, in 1868; William W. Belknap, secretary of war, in 1876. There were but two convictions—Judge Pickens and Judge Humphreys.

## The Sacred Bo Tree.

On the night of Oct. 7, 1887, the tree worshippers of Ceylon met with an irreparable calamity. During one of the worst storms that ever raged on the island their sacred bo tree was thrown to the ground. The oldest written description of this wonderful tree known to exist is that by Fa Hiam, a Chinese historian and traveler, who visited the tree in the year 414 A. D. According to the learned Chinaman, it was then 702 years old, having been planted by King Devanpiyassa in the year 288 before our era began. If the above data be correct, and there is no reason for doubting it, the bo tree was more than 2,175 years old when the storm ended its career on the date mentioned above.—St. Louis Republic.

## REPORT OF THE CONDITION

OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF REYNOLDSVILLE

at Reynoldsville, in the State of Pennsylvania, at the close of business July 14, 1898.

RESOURCES:	
Loans and discounts	\$88,800 84
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	32 45
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	35,000 00
Premiums on U. S. Bonds	3,500 00
Stocks, securities, etc.	1,200 00
Furniture and fixtures	2,902 50
Due from approved reserve agents	37,441 14
Checks and other cash items	1,615 31
Notes of other National banks	885 00
Fractional paper currency, nickels, and cents	69 15
Lawful money reserve in bank, viz:	
Specie	\$1,500 00
Legal-tender notes	\$7,374 00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer 5 per cent. of circulation	1,375 00
Total	\$193,598 49
LIABILITIES:	
Capital stock paid in	\$50,000 00
Surplus fund	4,000 00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	216 81
National bank notes outstanding	31,500 00
Due to other National banks	4,741 12
Dividends unpaid	728 00
Individual deposits subject to check	76,643 64
Demand certificates of deposit	150 00
Time certificates of deposit	15,492 96
Cashier's checks outstanding	113 96
Total	\$193,598 49

State of Pennsylvania, County of Jefferson, ss:

I, John H. Kaucher, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

JOHN H. KAUCHER, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of July, 1898.

ALBERT REYNOLDS, Notary Public.

CORRECT—ATTEST:

J. H. CORRETT, Directors.

C. MITCHELL, J. C. KING.

## Facts

and not "fad" are elements the thoughtful buyer is looking for in these days of close competition, and these are found in purchasing GROCERIES where you get the best returns for your money and this you can do at the

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I have bought the Finest and Best line of Goods ever brought to Reynoldsville.

A line of novelty goods from 10 to 50 cents a yard; dress goods in all colors and at all prices; plaids from 8 to 75 cts a yard; Shepherd plaid from 12½ to 75 cts; cashmeres in all colors and at prices to suit the times; forty-five inch Henrietta in black, blue, green and rose at 48 cts a yard; former price \$1.00.

A large line in wash goods; Dimity, Percale, Gesmonda and Moire Esistal, Dotted Swiss in white, blue and pink at prices lower than ever; white goods at all prices; satines in plain, striped and figures.

Large line of embroideries from 2 cts up to 75 cts a yard.

Ladies' waists from 48 cts to \$1.25.

## CLOTHING.

You will save money by buying your clothing at Hanau's. Men's all wool cheviot suits at 6.50, worth 10.00; men's all wool cheviot suits at 5.00; men's clay suits from 6.50 to \$14; youth's suits in cheviots, worsteds and clay, all colors, at all prices.

Boys' and children's suits from 75c up to 5.00.

A large line of laundered shirts, white and colored, from 50c to 1.25.

A fine line in neckwear, hats and caps.

Please call in before buying elsewhere. No trouble to show goods.

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