

CHINA AND THE CHINESE

Manners and Customs of the People.

The area of China is 4,218,401 English square miles. Of this territory only 1,330,841 miles belong to China proper, the remainder being the dependencies of Manchuria, Mongolia, Tibet, Jungaria and East Turkestan. Notwithstanding the relatively small size of China proper, it contains the bulk of the population, having 380,000,000 inhabitants out of a total population of the Kingdom of 492,688,000. The present Emperor of China belongs to the Manchu dynasty, which overthrew the native dynasty of Ming in the year 1644. As the late Emperor died suddenly, he did not designate a successor, as is the custom in China, where there exists no law of hereditary succession. This is one of the



A CHINESE DONKEY CART IN PEKIN.

causes of the trouble in China, owing to the fact that the Empress Dowager was able to obtain ascendancy over the young Emperor, so that on September 22, 1898, an imperial edict was issued announcing that the Emperor had resigned power to the Empress Dowager, who has since retained the direction of affairs and by her dislike of foreigners has done much to foment the troubles and has made it easy for the Boxer movement to gain headway, even if she is not directly responsible for the attack, as has been suggested by those who have an intimate knowledge of Chinese affairs. On January 24, 1900, it was declared by decree that the son of Prince Tuan should succeed the present Emperor. This is generally regarded as equivalent to Kwang Su's deposition. The lively interest which Prince Tuan is taking in the attacks of foreigners is easily accounted for by his son's right to the throne.

The government of the State is based upon the government of the family. The supreme direction of the Empire is vested in the privy council or grand council. The administration is under the direction of a cabinet comprising four members, two of Manchu and two of Chinese origin, besides two assistants from the great college, who have to see that nothing is done contrary to the civil and religious laws of the Empire. These members are called ministers of State. Under their orders are seven boards of government, each of which is presided over by a Manchu and a Chinese. The boards are: 1, for civil appointments; 2, for revenues; 3, for rites and ceremonies; 4, for military affairs; 5, for public works; 6, criminal jurisdiction; 7, admiralty board. Independent of the government, and theoretically above the central administration, is the Board of Public Censors, which consists of forty or fifty members under two presidents. They are privileged to present any remonstrance to the sovereign, and one of them must be present at the meetings of each of Government boards. Each of the sixteen provinces is governed by a governor-general, who is responsible to the Emperor for the entire administration, political, judicial, military and physical. He is assisted by a council and other officials. Each province is subdivided into apartments, ruled by prefects, and each department into districts, each under a separate ruler.

British subjects predominating. About a half of the total number of foreigners reside at Shanghai.

Three religions are acknowledged by the Chinese as indigenous and formally adopted: Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism. The Emperor is considered the High Priest of the Empire and can alone, with his immediate representatives and ministers, perform the great religious ceremonies. Confucianism is the State religion. With the exception of the practice of ancestral worship, which is everywhere observed throughout the Empire, and was fully commended by Confucius, Confucianism has little outward ceremonial. The study and contemplation and attempted performances of the moral precepts of the ancients constitute the duties of a Confucianist. Buddhism and Taoism present a gorgeous and elaborate ritual in China. The bulk of the people are Buddhists. There are about thirty million Mohammedans, one million Roman Catholics and fifty thousand Protestants. Most of the aboriginal hill tribes are still nature worshippers.

Pekin is at once interesting, despicable, superlatively beautiful, disgustingly filthy, and, in short, a city of contradictions. Originally a Tartar encampment, begun by the hordes that swarmed to the eastern part of China, Peking soon became a fortified city of much strength. Here the Tartar rulers lived, surrounded by their Manchu followers—fearing the white man's usurpation far less than the numerical preponderance of the Chinese. So, in order to protect themselves from unexpected assault, they constructed a huge wall around their city—for China is a land of walls—and for a time lived in tolerable security.

Gradually, however, the Chinese, realizing to some extent their power,



WORKING GIRLS GOING HOME. (The motive power is a single coolie.)

began a rival city adjoining the Tartar fortress. They, too, built a wall, and, as the Tartars did, whenever a workman died, his body was entombed within the wall. In this manner, it is estimated, that one million human beings found their last resting places in the walls surrounding Peking.

While the Chinese city is of much interest, both from a sociological and architectural viewpoint, yet the Tartar city is the more important, for within its precincts is the "Forbidden," or Purple City, where lives Kwang Su, the unfortunately progressive monarch of the Chinese. The Forbidden City is a city of night, for there the denizens of the palace of the Son of Heaven awaken and begin their life.

Little is known of the Forbidden City, for within the memory of man not half a dozen whites have entered it. All that is known is that it contains the palaces of the Emperor, and what is perhaps more interesting, the famous coal hill. This immense heap of coal was accumulated for use in case the city was besieged. The hill is several hundred feet high and contains hundreds of thousands of tons of coal.

Whenever the Emperor was about to leave the Forbidden City for some religious or State function, the legations of the foreign nations have been

dressed plainly and utterly eclipsed by the gorgeous apparel of his retinue.

The rest of Peking is very much like all Chinese cities—picturesquely confusing and terribly dirty. Streets run in the most bizarre fashion, totally oblivious of their beginning and end, aimlessly wandering from bad to worse, fringed on both sides by hovels and palaces in confusion. Dogs and pigs meander about, jostle equally of-

worn upon the fingers to protect the long nails.

Although in bygone times European ladies used to dress their hair in wonderful and elaborate ways, nowadays it is worn much more simply coiffed.

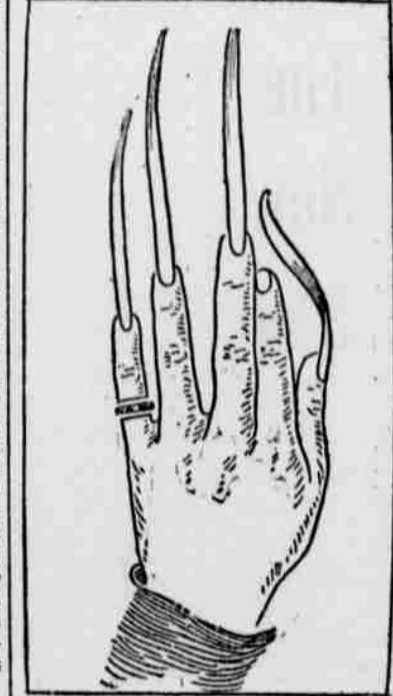
In China, however—that dark, mysterious land which is the world's centre of interest to-day—women still dress their hair in the most elaborate and fantastic manner.



TEA CLEANING PROCESS.

fensive beggars and unkempt children; stuffy litters, suspended on long bamboo poles and carried by coolies, make life a burden; odors, concentrated beyond the power of descriptive writing to portray, overwhelm the nostrils; the effluvia of ages of non-sanitation, drawn heavenward by the torrid sun, spreads disease; the chatter of a thousand guttural Mongols and Chinese is intermingled with the yelping of the dogs, the squealing of the pigs, the screaming of the children, and the loud cries of the coolies—such is Peking.

Of course, there are parts in the outlying hills where the rich mandarins and merchants live, where true Oriental luxury can be found. There, magnificent palace-like dwellings dot the landscape, surrounded by idyllic gardens. The art and imagination of the Chinese architect have found full scope for his talent, and as a result these habitations are a credit, externally and internally—all save the sanitation, of which the Chinese are in blissful ignorance. Yet the wealthy Chinese has luxury, even though a coolie takes



CHINESE FINGER NAILS.

the place of an electric fan to cool his fevered brow.

Taken all in all, China and the Chinese make an interesting study from any viewpoint, but it is wrong to underestimate their brain power in such study, for they are far more advanced than is generally conceded. Let China be civilized, and the world will witness as great a metamorphosis as that which so astonished the world when Japan emerged from her chrysalis of Middle Age conservatism and provincialism.

The nobles in China, both male and female, cultivate extremely long nails on the thumb and all the fingers except the one nearest the thumb. Sixteen inches is considered a good length, but those who manage to attain the length of seventeen or eighteen are regarded with envious admiration.



COIFFURE OF A PEKIN WOMAN.

Probably the idea of the impossibility of doing any work with such long nails upon the fingers may have given them the fashionable reputation. Among the Siamese silver cases are

The Peking ladies glue their hair into imitations of the magpie or jay bird, or pile it high with gorgeous flowers, and bunches, loops and tassels of pearls pendant from a great gold bar, which forms the "hairpin."

The blue-black locks are parted in curious zigzags, and the ornaments are balanced from the hairpin on each side of the head.—Scientific American.

"DON COYOTE," OF THE PLAINS.

The American Wild Dog is an Interesting Animal.

One of the interesting and typical animals of the Far West is the American wild dog, lowland wolf or coyote, *Canis latrans*, it being known under these and other titles. While a very common animal, it is rarely well figured in the books, and is made to look more foxlike than wolfish, says Professor C. F. Holder in the Scientific American. The accompanying illustration gives a correct idea of a young male two-thirds grown. In general appearance it resembles the typical wolf, the fur being a dull yellowish gray, with dark, even black, clouded spots; beneath it is sometimes reddish and white.

While the coyote hunts singly in towns or villages, he runs in packs in the open, and it is here that he demonstrates his skill and cunning. A friend of mine observed a pack of coyotes on the edge of the desert manipulating a jack rabbit. They swept across the country in a line, soon starting a hare, then formed in two parallel lines about 200 feet apart. There was a regular plan of action, and none of the coyotes seemed overexcited, but when the hare was started they wheeled into columns like soldiers, the leading coyote running at the top of his speed. After a few moments he dropped to the rear and a fresh coyote took the lead, and this was kept up until the hare was run down. The chase was a silent one. This method recalls the wild dogs of Australia, or dingoes.

Seven or eight years ago Southern and Central California abounded in coyotes, and the State Legislature passed an anti-coyote act, putting a price upon his head or scalp. I had the temerity to oppose this, but time has shown the fallacy of killing all



COYOTE.

the coyotes, and the act was repealed. My argument was that as the coyote was the only enemy of the jack rabbit and ground squirrel his destruction by wholesale would result in a vast increase of rabbits and squirrels. The jack rabbit, a famous girdler of young trees and an all-around enemy to the agriculturist, without a redeeming feature, is the natural food of the coyote, which does not disdain the ground squirrel. The coyote is also a snake eater, even attacking the rattlesnake; in a word, he is a valuable scavenger and an animal to be preserved.

Don Coyote can be tamed, and I knew of one instance where a herder kept one that was apparently as tame as a dog.

THE REALM OF FASHION.

New York City.—Every woman recognizes the value of a house or breakfast jacket that is tasteful and becoming at the same time that it means ease



WOMAN'S HOUSE JACKET.

and comfort. The excellent May Manton model illustrated combines many advantages and is simple of construction, at the same time that it is eminently smart. If desired it can be made from India silk in plain color, from Japanese wash silk, French flannel, flannelette and all the range of thin washable stuffs. As illustrated, however, the material is fine white dimity, the trimming embroidery on Swiss muslin, with hydrangea blue ribbon at waist and neck.

The fronts are in one piece, full at the neck, the effect of the vest being obtained by the trimming and adjustment of fulness. The back is in one piece, the fulness drawn down at the waist, where it is stitched to a narrow belt on the under side, which passes round to the front and through openings made beneath the trimming, to close at the centre front. The big collar is seamless and attached to the round neck. Ribbons are attached at the neck and to the belt, which they conceal. The sleeves are one seamed and bell shaped after the latest mode. To cut this jacket for a woman of medium size four yards of material

or less curved backward, and the shape chosen depends on the place it is to occupy. Very large and medium-sized buckles have the preference over small, and those set with small and with cut steel hold the first rank, nevertheless jet buckles are in some demand, as are those of tinted gilt metal in fanciful "art nouveau" designs, sometimes set with colored stones, pearls, or bits of amber. Some new ways of using buckles imagined for straw hats—for instance, the insertion of a long oblong one, curved backward, in the front of a hat brim—are applicable to felts. But the more novel applications consists in using the buckle as a decoration for the backs of small hats and toques.—Millinery Trade Review.

Taffeta Straps on Wash Gowns.

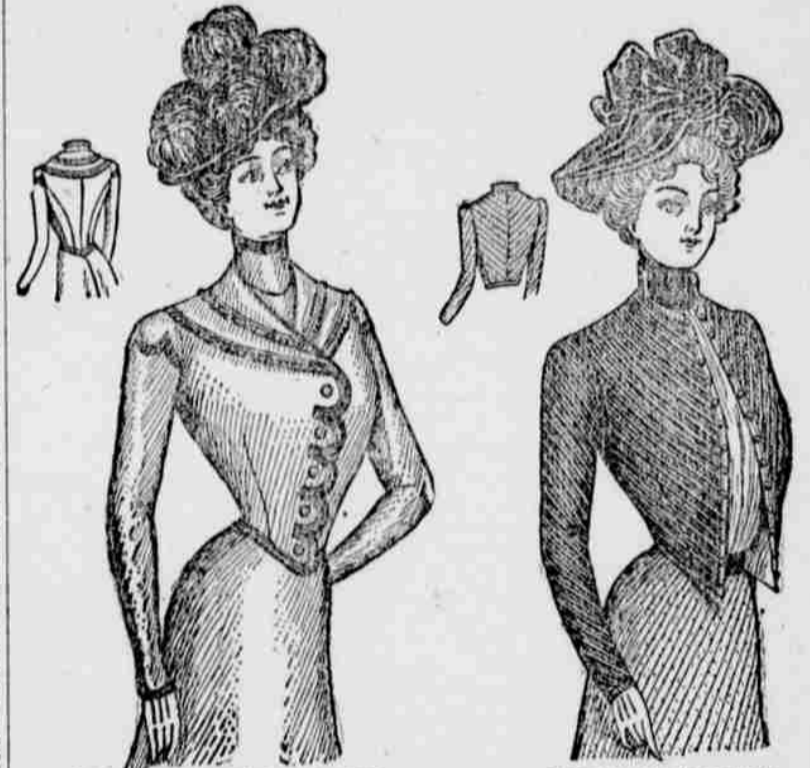
Straps of black taffeta now adorn wash frocks when such are what is known as tailor-made. The straps are carefully edged with rows of machine stitching. They should be ripped off when the gown is laundered because they are usually put upon a colored dress. Although this is extremely stylish, it is not to be recommended for the wardrobe of a girl who is not well off. It is a tedious business retrimming the frock after it has soiled.

The White Veil Fad.

In the trail of the green veil fad comes the white veil, which has not been so much in evidence in several seasons. At the seashore, in fact, at all summer resorts, the green veil is omnipresent, but the woman who floats the green veil in the morning dons the white veil in the afternoon. These green "complexion veils," as they are called, more often drape the hat brim than fall over the face.

Ladies' Golf Cape.

There is an ever increasing demand for double-faced cloths that has brought forth many new and artistic combinations of colorings in the plaids. This smart cape, reproduced from Modes, is made of an effective plaid in brown, fawn and beige, the yoke



LADIES' TAILOR MADE BASQUE.

LADIES' ETON JACKET.

twenty-one inches wide, three and one-fourth yards thirty-two inches wide, or two yards forty-four inches wide, will be required.

Garments For Fall.

Taffeta jackets have been constantly gaining in favor until now they are considered necessary adjuncts to the feminine wardrobe. Most of the new models are made of tuckered black taffeta and shaped so they can be worn open or closed.

The large illustration, reproduced from Modes, shows a smart Eton of tuckered taffeta and lined throughout with ivory satin.

The tucking, being bias, forms in V shape in the centre back. It is simply adjusted with shoulder and underarm seams.

The fronts are shaped with single bust darts and small steel buckles are applied on the narrow taffeta bands which finish the edges.

The shallow collar reaches only part way in front, the opening displaying a high velvet stock on the waist.

The stylish sleeves are correctly shaped with upper and under portions, having just enough fulness at the shoulders to give the fashionable rounding effect. They are finished at the hand with a narrow band of taffeta, which is also used to outline the lower edge of the jacket.

Etons in this style may be made of Lansdowne and taffeta, or of light weight cloth tuckered and trimmed with bands of gold, silver or self-toned braid and small buttons. It is exceedingly jaunty for cloth when made perfectly plain and finished with machine stitched bands of the fabric.

To make the Eton in the medium size will require one and one-eighth yards of fifty-four inch material or three and one-half yards of tucking eighteen inches wide.

Buckles to Be Worn on Fall Hats.

There is an ornament, the buckle, which is destined to an important role in the autumn and winter millinery. Buckles are of various forms: square, oblong, oval, round and fanciful, any of which may be had flat and more

and circular flounce being of plain beige cloth, machine stitched, in dark brown silk.

The yoke and collar are in one, consisting of six sections, flaring stylishly at the neck and forming a yoke with scalloped outline.

The circular cape is adjusted at the lower edge of the yoke, fitting plain over the shoulders and falling in graceful folds at the lower edge.

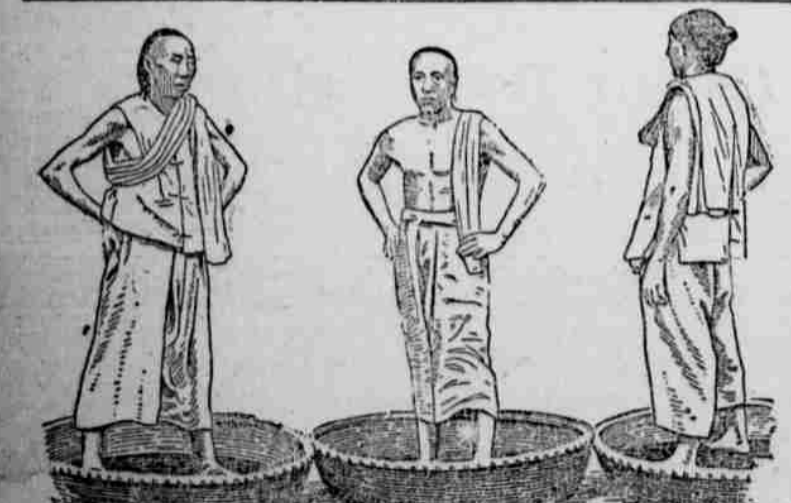
The flounce gives an additional flare to the garment. Convenient straps of the plain material are provided, which fasten on the shoulder and meet at the waist line in back. When the cape is open these straps keep it in proper position and distribute the weight evenly. The garment may be made of the plain goods and trimmed with plaid, or in self-color, as preferred.



LADIES' GOLF CAPE, WITH YOKE

For traveling, as well as for golf and mountain wear, these capes are exceedingly comfortable and much more convenient to handle than a close-fitting jacket.

To make the cape in the medium size will require two and one-half yards of forty-four-inch material.



"TEA TREADING," THE OBJECT BEING TO DISLodge THE STEMS.

Each town and village also has its governing body, and among the various rulers there is a regular gradation in rank, each being responsible to his immediate superior. Political office in the general administration of the Empire is less sought after than the position of viceroy or governor in the provinces, where there are opportunities of acquiring wealth. The number of foreigners resident in the open ports of China was 13,421 at the end of 1898,

notified, so that no unholy eye rest upon the puny form and fallow face of Kwang Su. The entire route to be traversed was curtailed off and thousands of soldiers line the so-called streets, so that no Peeping Tom could spy his trade. But despite all such precautions, the well-known Oriental propensity for money, exceptionally strong in the Chinese, enabled foreigners to see Kwang Su at close range. They beheld a shrinking, slight figure,