

Low standard  
of comfort.

frugal. Rice and vegetables, fish, pork and fowls compose the principal diet of the people. The average Chinaman can live nicely in most parts of the empire on from seven to fifteen cents per day. The price of labor corresponds to the cheapness of living. Fifteen to twenty cents per day is very good pay, for a common laborer. Literary men of good ability can afford to teach for salaries from \$6 to \$10 per month, and board themselves. House-servants receive from \$2 to \$4 per month and found. Serving in white families in China, in the open ports, Hong Kong, Canton, Amoy, Fuh Chau, Shanghai, etc., they receive from \$3 to \$10 per month; mechanics and stone-masons receive from twenty to forty cents per day. The currency used in all parts of the empire is a brass "cash," about the size of a twenty-cent piece, quite thin, with a square hole through the centre. A Mexican silver dollar is worth about 1,000 brass cash. The banks, in changing brass cash for silver dollars, always take the dollars by weight. In large mercantile transactions payments are made in sycee, *i.e.*, in bars, lumps, or masses of silver by weight. They have a custom of squaring accounts at the close of each year, and the rule is that debts must all be paid at that time.

Chinese not clean  
in their personal  
habits.

It cannot be said that the Chinese, generally, in their houses and personal habits of living are a neat and clean people. They bathe their persons often in warm weather, it being common for them to take a sponge-bath from a little bucket of warm water at the close of each day's work. They do not believe in cold baths under any circumstances. Their clothing in warm weather is frequently washed and kept comparatively clean. On the other hand, the water-carrier might not think it out of place to wash his feet in the water-bucket, and after rinsing bring water in the same bucket for you to drink. I saw an instance of this while living in Fuh Chau. A Chinaman will often scrub his teeth and rinse his mouth in the same dish and same water in which he has just washed his face. The dish-washer might not think it amiss to wipe his face and your dinner plate with the same cloth. In the cold weather they do not bathe their persons so frequently, nor wash their clothing so often, and the consequence is that they become exceedingly filthy, and the clothing and persons of the common people often become alive with vermin. [At this point an extract was read by the witness from Mr. W. H. Seward's "Voyage Around the World," on the civilization of the Chinese.] The work of Christianizing the Chinese nation was at first slow, but is now progressing much faster than ever before. It was ten years before a single convert was baptized at Fuh Chau, but now that mission (Methodist Episcopal) numbers about 2,000 active church members and probationers scattered throughout the province, and about twice that number of attendants upon the regular Christian services. In this one mission there are some seventy native preachers, several of whom are ordained. These Chinese Christians are not often found in the service of the mercantile community nor in the employ of ship-captains. They are almost never seen by this class of Americans and Europeans. The missionary work in China is all done in the Chinese language. Few, if any, of the Chinese Christians can speak the English, at all, and that excludes them generally from European and American service. The persons who testify that there are no Chinese Christians are persons who know nothing about the matter, have never visited the mission, and have never come in contact with Chinese Christians. There are now over 12,000 communicants of the Protestant Christian churches in China, and a line of Christian chapels and communities all along the coast from Canton to Shanghai, a distance of 800 or 1,000 miles. You can

Progress of  
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nese.