

Theory and Practice

In China Official Life Is a Vast Sink of Corruption, But in Private Life There is a Measure of Business Integrity.

Now when the attention of the Western world is so largely concentrated on the great mysterious Empire of the Far East, it is brought home to most of us how meagre is our knowledge of the ideas and the actions of those four hundred millions of yellow men with which nevertheless we and all Europe are now so intimately concerned.

"Ancient Chinese literature is a witness to the nobility of human nature its best thoughts and aspirations. The Sage taught that man is made for virtue. 'To be benevolent is to be a man.' They taught that virtue distinguishes men from animals, and that when men fail to be virtuous they cease to be men.

"Orthodox Confucianists have always laid an emphasis upon the inherent goodness of human nature; and because it is 'natural' for men to be good they have taught that it is an easy matter to be good. It is only necessary to have a right example set by men in high stations, and the people will revolve around them in virtuous conduct as the sun revolves around the earth.

"Confucius tersely describes the ideal condition in human relations as realized when the prince acquires himself as prince, the minister as minister, the father as father, and the son as son; that is when men in every rank in society discharge faithfully the duties belonging to their place.

"The Chinese tell of a 'Golden Age,' far back in the dawn of their national history, when the noblest conception of family and social life were realized in the experiences of men. For brief periods, under the rule of benevolent princes, men had a taste of this Edenic order of society, when officers refused bribes and administered equal justice, when the people strove with one another in deeds of kindness, when bars were not needed upon doors, when lost articles were passed by untouched, and when the practice of virtue was universal.

"These conceptions of an ideal society have found expression in the ancient classical literature of China, have been discussed by Chinese scholars for a hundred generations, and are as familiar to the thoughts of the people of the present generation as are the conceptions of a Christian society in nominally Christian lands. The Chinese people have educated consciences. It is a mistake to think of them as having blurred and obscure notions of right and wrong. The Confucian system of education, which is the basis of Chinese civilization, largely consists of 'instruction in questions of political and social economy; these questions being always considered in their relations to nature and to ancestors. Wrong is not only committed against living men; it is committed against the orderly course of nature, and especially against ancestors, who are honored by the virtues and dishonored by the vices of posterity.'

"To the superficial observer of Chinese life there seems to be a wide divergence in the moral character of different classes of the people. Official life is seen to be a vast sink of corruption, while there is a good measure of business integrity and mutual trust in general intercourse. To understand Chinese character we must search for the motive forces operating in the lives of the people. It is the realization of the Emperor Chi'en Lung, who was fond of going out incognito to study the condition of the people, that his attention was directed by a companion to the multitudes passing out of the city gate. The Emperor replied: 'I see but two men passing out of the city gate. The one is Ming and Li' (Name and Wealth). All the activity, the Emperor judged, was for one or two ends, to win fame or to secure wealth. The Chinese people, when they feel at liberty to speak with frankness, are severe critics of their own social condition. They do not declare that truthfulness and integrity are national virtues, but that untruthfulness and want of integrity are national vices. In these things the Sages failed to teach, and their defects have been palliated by their disciples. Mencius taught

that men should not 'bend an inch' in order to 'straighten ten feet,' lest the evil principle being introduced they should bend ten feet to 'straighten an inch; but in the incidents of his life there are many cases of his bending for no better reason than that was the will of the power of the spirit of the times. There is a saying often heard from the lips of the Chinese: 'Falseness is the wisdom of the superior man.' The man of culture and virtue knows when and how to prevaricate. He is no bungler in this art!

"There is much business honesty in China, but the root of that honesty is not fidelity to fundamental convictions of right; it is rather a strong sense of business responsibility, a realization that honesty is the best policy, and that failure to meet obligations will bring exposure and loss. The larger the transactions the greater the responsibilities, and the stronger and more numerous the checks against dishonest dealing. Thus, as business increases in importance the quality of business integrity improves, but the humble huckster who has a moving price for his wares, according to the shrewdness or gullibility of his customers, is at heart as honest a man as the prosperous merchant who sells at 'one price' to all customers.

"The practical outcome. 'In spite of the teachings concerning the dignity and rights of men conferred in common by 'compassionate Heaven,' the strong in China have ever oppressed the weak; the cunning have circumvented the simple, the few have 'eaten the sweet,' and the many have 'eaten the bitter.' The ox of the rich man in times of general distress chews a full cud, while the family of the poor neighbor starves. Families sell the last article of furniture to buy the last cup of rice, and they wander forth to perish in their search for food. If the distress is widespread some small governmental provision is made; but too often these streams of 'imperial grace' are lost in their courses as they flow out to the people through the channels of corrupt officials. These illustrations are taken from extreme conditions, but it is in such conditions that character is put to its truest test. Chinese civilization is remarkable in its partial achievements; but it has not 'renovated the people,' and they have not found it as easy as the flowing of water to follow the precepts of the Sages."

We do not know that the failure of the Chinaman to realize his moral ideal is more glaring than that of other races and other religions. The same failure was noted in memorable alike by St. Paul and by Horace. However, Mr. Sheffield attempts to explain what appears to be the arrested development of the Chinese. "We have drawn a contrast," he says, "between Chinese civilization in its ideals and in its results. The radical cause of failure to realize these ideals have been pointed out—the weakness of human nature, the conflict in each individual between what Mencius calls 'the great man' and 'the small man,' the noble and ignoble affections and aspirations. Yet in the evolution of this civilization other causes reveal themselves and help us to understand its strength and weakness, its persistence and immobility."

The causes of the arrested development of Chinese civilization enumerated by the writer are: (1) The isolation of China, which "deprived Chinese thought in its formative period of the inspiration that would have been derived from the thought of fresh ideas of other nations; honor paid to the Sages, who are believed to have perfect knowledge from birth; 'without the need of study they apprehend truth in open vision.' (3) The narrow lines of Chinese education, of which the writer gives some interesting particulars. (4) The system of ancestor-worship, which "has helped to stamp the thoughts and customs of China in its formative period upon the life of the people in subsequent ages. This peculiar cult had assumed definite form twenty-two centuries before Christ and the ceremonies of worship then existing have undergone but little modification down to the present time."

Summary and Moral. The author thus sums up his conclusions with regard to the influence exerting upon Chinese life to prevent progress: "China was secluded from the outside world; the Sages were the oracles of heaven; their teachings were the final statement of truth. Confucian learning perpetuated and strengthened this system of thought; and ancestor-worship added its power to fasten the system upon the religious conviction of men, until their capacity for progress was weakened, and the very thought of progress was well-nigh lost." And he then draws a moral that has especial interest in the light of recent controversy. "The hope of China," he contends, "is not in itself, but in the realization of its highest ideal come from without. Christian civilization will bring to China a truer conception of the nature of man, a better understanding of his relations and duties, and his dignity and destiny. It will turn the faces of the people from the past towards the future, and will enrich their lives with a quality of love and fellowship and hope that Confucian civilization has been powerless to bestow."

A FORTUNE AWAITS HIM. San Francisco, Aug. 29.—Emmett Burdick, of Honolulu, with his father, John Burdick, of Sacramento, Cal., has arrived on the steamship China, en route to England to claim an inheritance of \$1,700,000, which they have been advised is awaiting them there.

The Chinese Army

The Training of Men, Strength and Armament Described in Detail.

Fighting Troops Number Over Two Hundred Thousand—No Medical Service.

The enormous and complicated military power of the Chinese Empire is of a nature to defy any detailed description on a brief scale. The ramifications of the various systems relating to its origin, constitution and control have no cohesion with each other. Each province of the empire has a separate force at the disposal of its governor, consisting of troops belonging to the four classes named below:

1. The Banner Men. These are descendants of the army which established the Manchu dynasty 250 years ago. The war with Japan revealed the force to be untrained, ill-disciplined, and cowardly, and since then little or no improvement in either respect has taken place.

2. The Green Standard Troops, forming the Chinese Territorial Army, and a survival of that which was conquered by the Banner Men. For many years these regiments have proved themselves to be utterly inefficient, either as an army or as a police force.

3. The Fighting Braves, composed of voluntarily enlisted men, a force that originated in Gordon's 'ever-victorious army.' The Braves were the first section of the Chinese army to be drilled in foreign style, but the instruction which they now undergo in this respect is merely nominal.

4. The Chien-Chun or disciplined troops. This force, numbering about 10,000 bayonets, was inaugurated by Li Hung Chang, and is composed of the cream of the fighting braves—young men of good physique. They are the only 'beef-fed' troops in the whole army. After the war, thirty-five German military instructors, under Capt. Reitzenstein, were specially engaged to remodel, drill and train these troops on the latest European lines. They are extremely unpopular with the remainder of the army.

5. Local troops, or raw levies, armed with spears, matchlocks, and bows and arrows. The Different Forces. These five constituent sections of the Chinese army are divided into three lines of defence, namely: Fighting troops, reserves under arms, and reserves between sixteen and sixty years of age, who are called out for training for only a few days in the year. The fighting troops and reserves under arms form what may be termed the Imperial standing army. It is impossible to arrive at any definite conclusion as to their strength, but it is reckoned that there are 60,000 cavalry and 800,000 infantry and artillery. Major A. E. J. Marshall, the British observer who is best acquainted with the numbers and disposition of the nation's military forces, sums up the standing army as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Force Type and Number. Includes Fighting Troops (50,000), Banner Field Force (20,000), Fighting Braves (125,000), Chien-Chun or Disciplined Troops (205,000), Reserves Under Arms (13,000), Banner Troops in Pekin (75,000), Banner Troops in Provinces (95,000), Lan-Ying, or Green Standard Regiments (506,000), and Total (680,000).

There are also 858,000 reserves, not ordinarily called out, between sixteen and sixty years of age, including militia, volunteers, gendarmes, river and canal guards, grain transport and tribes. In the Chinese army numbers are always reckoned by battalions or "yings" of 500 men in the infantry and 250 men in the cavalry. Two or three companies go to a "ying." In the event of an international force being opposed on the march to Pekin, the most formidable resistance would be encountered from the Chien-Chun and the Pekin field force. The Chien-Chun, however, has never been already placed in the hands of the conqueror of the Taku forts, as owing to their quarrelsome behavior these crack troops have been expelled from the standing camps and relegated to the river and coast fortifications. The Pekin field force dates from 1862, and is composed of the pick of the Pekin Banner Men. It is composed nominally of thirteen battalions of infantry of 1,000 men each, eleven of cavalry, of 500 each, with 1,500 artillery. The latest accounts state that the guns with this force are 4-pounder cannon of antiquated design. The Chinese generals, however, assert that the Pekin arsenal is full of modern field pieces, which will replace these whenever hostilities break out, the worthless old guns being utilized for drill purposes only. The Chinese field artillery proper appears to be under the management of the "Fighting Braves," who are mainly stationed in the interior. There are at least thirty six-gun field batteries with these troops, the weapons being 9-pounder B. L. Armstrong guns, and 7-pounder and 12-pounder B. L. Krupp guns. The gun teams consist of four ponies, thirteen hands in height, hence the batteries are very deficient in mobility, and the men themselves have hardly any training in gunnery; while in order to save trouble, a battery will as often as not appear on parade minus its limbers. The Chien-Chun Japanese war this arm was most abominably mismanaged; indeed, the majority of gunners did not know how to set the fuses of their shells. Curiously enough, the Chinese artilleryman displays considerable interest in the manipulation of fortress pieces, with which he often comes to make very fair practice.

number of 3.7 cm. quick-firing mountain guns, but their present whereabouts are unknown. The army possesses also a respectable stock of machine guns of various patterns. There are said to be hundreds of Nordenfelta of 42 mm., 47 mm., and 57 mm. calibre, as well as Gatling's, Hotchkiss and Maxim's. In the war with Japan the infantry were armed with rifles of various descriptions, both ancient and modern. Mausers, Remingtons and Winchester predominating. They had besides many native-made rifles of 1-inch calibre, each carried and manipulated by two men. The Chinese authorities state that the latter achieved great success, so 120,000 of these Ginals have since been manufactured. The weapon is 9 feet long, and is fitted with a home-made Mauser or Mannlicher breech mechanism, according to fancy. The tactics pursued by foreign firms in foisting on the army inferior and damaged lots of modern magazine rifles have at last proved too much even for Chinese officials. Consequently, it has recently been decided to rearm the whole infantry with one standard pattern rifle, and the choice has fallen upon the Lee, which has a calibre of .433-inch, and possess the same magazine as our own. The Chinese arsenals are now capable of manufacturing their own small-arm ammunition, including smokeless powder, but machine-gun charges have still to be purchased abroad.

Lastly, it may be pointed out that the army has no regular transport, commissariat, or medical service whatsoever, everything of this nature being left entirely to chance.—London Daily Chronicle.

THE BOER AT HOME.

A residence of several years among a large Boer population of the most enlightened description has given me material, says a writer in the Cornhill, which I here present to you in the form of a correct estimate of the character of an average Boer—not the educated and progressive Dutchman who is beginning to make his influence felt, and will do so more and more, let us hope, with every year; but the ordinary, uneducated farmer, the "man in the veldt," the head-of-goats, who can hardly write his own name and cannot read his own paper, except in the Dutch, Afrikaans, and English.

Familiar to my eyes is the typical Dutch homestead—I see it as I write—four-roomed, dilapidated, dreary and unlovely, erected, perhaps, by the present owner's great-grandfather, and surrounded by a wilderness of his own creation, for the Boer always cuts down every tree, and every bush of any size, growing within a half-mile radius of his homestead. The reasons for this proceeding I have never yet been able to fathom; but there can be little doubt that this wholesale destruction of trees has contributed to the terrible rainlessness of some parts of the country, which seems to increase as years go on.

The Boers, as a rule, marry very young, between the ages of sixteen and twenty; and as the Dutch church in its wisdom has ordained that they shall not marry until they have been confirmed, and that they shall not be confirmed until they can sign their names and repeat certain answers in the Dutch catechism, it therefore follows that, when they want to get married, they forthwith learn, not to write, but to form mechanically, and in correct order, the letters composing their name; and they also learn, not to read, but they acquire mechanically, and in correct order, the letters of the catechism which it behooves them to know, and in later life, for want of practice, often this amount of useful knowledge is frequently forgotten.

This, of course, is the lowest stratum. Above this is a very superior class, who go to school for one year, or even two, and are then pronounced "vollegert," or, in English phrase, "finished." These are the educated Dutchmen who read the London and Simsbury publications, and digest the marvellous fictions therein contained; and of these is the Boer; henceforward famous in history, who said that "he did not mind Lord Salisbury, but he could even put up with Mr. Chamberlain, but he could not stand that Mr. Franchise, and was determined to have a shot at him directly he got the chance!"

Two marked characteristics of the Boer, which have strongly appealed to the sympathy of many people not otherwise favorable to their cause, are his attachment to the soil and his love of independence, the latter quality being marred by the circumstance that he does not yet wholly concede independence to any one else.

The alarming increase of idleness among the poorer classes in Ireland, the lunacy inspectors say, is due to the drinking of very strong tea. Mr. Michael McDonald throws some light on the subject in an article in The Nineteenth Century. In his rambles through Kilkenny he was invited by a peasant to a cup of tea, through being black and strong through age, and giving the writer a sensation of dizziness in the head, although the peasant seemed to relish it highly. "If I do but get the cup of tea," said he, "I'm content, I rise the heart in me when I'm poorly." McDonald asked, "Do you drink much of it?" The reply was, "If he at it mornin', noon and night. Oh, it's mighty refreshing," and he smacked his lips after drinking the second cup.

NOTICE OF SALE. Notice is hereby given that there will be offered for sale BY PUBLIC AUCTION At the Mining Recorder's Office, Clayquot, on Saturday, the 1st day of September, 1900 By Walter T. Dawley, Mining Recorder, Clayquot, under the provisions of Sect. 67 of the "Mineral Act," the undivided half interest of Barclay Bonthrone, of Vancouver, British Columbia, in the following mineral claims, viz: Muirrod, Sap phire, Brown Jug, Brown Jug No. 2, Franklin, Frankford, Franchise and the Jennie Fraction, all situate on Hesquit lake, West Coast, V. I., and known as the Brown Jug Group, all which claims are held jointly by the said Barclay Bonthrone, Arthur North, A. W. Smith, Thos. Fletcher and Geo. A. Smith.

Section 17, Range 2, Cowichan District, B. C. NOTICE. Whereas the Crown Grant, No. 1189, for the above named land was on the 8th day of September, 1871, issued in error to one Modeste Demers as therein described; and whereas application has been made for the issue of new Crown Grant for the said land in favor of August Brabant, the present owner.

NOTICE. Whereby the Commission of Lands and Works for a special license to cut timber on Crown lands, hereinafter more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a stake or post at the mouth of a creek on the north shore of Boat Passage, Barclay Sound, near Julia Island, thence north eighty (80) chains, thence west one hundred and twenty (120) chains, thence due south to the northeast corner of section nineteen (19), thence continuing along the east boundary of section nineteen (19) to the shore line, thence east following the shore line in a southerly and westerly direction to the point of commencement. The above described tract to contain as nearly as possible one thousand acres. Dated this 4th day of August, 1900. E. LLEN DIER.

THE MILES CANON & LEWIS RIVER TRAMWAY COMPANY. Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of the Miles Canon and Lewis River Tramway Company will be held at the office of Bowdell & Duff, 2 Broughton Street, Victoria, B. C., on Tuesday, the 4th day of September, A.D. 1900, at the hour of two o'clock in the afternoon.

THE MILES CANON & WHITE HORSE TRAMWAY COMPANY. Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of the Miles Canon and White Horse Tramway Company will be held at the office of Bowdell & Duff, 2 Broughton Street, Victoria, B. C., on Tuesday, the 4th day of September, A.D. 1900, at the hour of two o'clock in the afternoon.

NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that 30 days after date we intend to make application to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a special license to cut timber on Crown lands, hereinafter more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a stake at the head of a small bay at the mouth of Inverness Slough, marked "P. R. and E. McK. N. B. corner," thence 10 chains south, thence along the shore 10 chains west, thence 10 chains north, thence 10 chains to point of commencement. Dated July 22, 1900. F. RUDGE, H. MCKENZIE.

A RARE CHANCE. Wanted, party with capital to work Penton Mineral Claim, West Saanich; shafts 50 ft. and 20 ft. deep, also sunk, showing rich copper and magnetic iron and gold, samples of which may be seen at E. G. Prior, Co.'s. For further particulars apply to Thomas Graham, proprietor, Sluggert, P. O., B. C.

TAKE NOTICE that I intend to apply to the Honorable the Commissioner of Lands and Works for a special license to cut timber on Crown lands, hereinafter more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a stake or post on the west shore of Edinham Inlet, Barclay Sound, thence east forty (40) chains, thence north sixty (60) chains, thence west twenty (20) chains, thence north forty (40) chains, thence west to the eastern shore of Edinham Inlet, thence following the shore line of the inlet in a southerly direction one hundred and twenty (120) chains, thence east to Vernon Bay, thence following the shore line of Vernon Bay in a northerly and easterly direction to the point of commencement. The above described tract to contain as nearly as possible one thousand acres. Dated this 19th day of July, 1900. W. A. DIER.

TAKE NOTICE that I intend to apply to the Honorable the Commissioner of Lands and Works for a special license to cut timber on Crown lands, hereinafter more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a stake or post on the east shore of Vernon Bay, Barclay Sound, thence east forty (40) chains, thence north sixty (60) chains, thence west twenty (20) chains, thence north forty (40) chains, thence west to the eastern shore of Edinham Inlet, thence following the shore line of the inlet in a southerly direction one hundred and twenty (120) chains, thence east to Vernon Bay, thence following the shore line of Vernon Bay in a northerly and easterly direction to the point of commencement. The above described tract to contain as nearly as possible one thousand acres. Dated this 20th day of July, 1900. GEORGE OKELL.

WANTED—We will pay \$12.00 a week salary to either a man or woman to represent the Midland Monthly Magazine as a subscription solicitor. The Midland is the same size as McClure's or the Commonwealth. It is now in its sixth year and is the only Magazine of this kind published in the great Central West. A handsome premium is given to each subscriber. Send 10 cents for a copy of the Midland and premium list to the Twentieth Century Publishing Co., St. Louis, Mo.

EVERY WEAK MAN SHOULD read a Descriptive Treatise on the Modern and Successful Treatment of Nervous Diseases and Weakness in Men, including Premature Ejaculation, Loss of Power, and other ailments, by Dr. J. C. Williams, M.D., of New York. Write at once and grasp this opportunity of being cured, or at least of having a reliable showing of the nature of your ailment, by returning a few lines to the author, Dr. J. C. Williams, 100 N. 5th St., New York, N.Y.

LICENSE AUTHORIZING AN EXTRA-PROVINCIAL COMPANY TO CARRY ON BUSINESS. "COMPANIES ACT, 1867," Canada: Province of British Columbia. No. 184.

This is to certify that "The Vital Creek (B. C.) Mining Syndicate, Limited," is authorized and licensed to carry on business within the Province of British Columbia, and to carry out or effect all or any of the objects hereinafter set forth, in accordance with the legislative authority of the Legislature of British Columbia, in the following terms: The head office of the Company is situated in England.

(a) To locate, peg off, or otherwise acquire any mining claims, mines, mining rights and metalliferous land in British Columbia or other parts of America, or elsewhere, and to explore, work, develop and turn to account the same, and in connection therewith to acquire certain properties, patents and rights, and to carry out or effect all or any of the objects hereinafter set forth, in accordance with the legislative authority of the Legislature of British Columbia, in the following terms: The head office of the Company is situated in England.

(b) To acquire any concessions, grants, decrees, rights, powers, privileges, franchises from any state, company, or person in British Columbia or other parts of America, or elsewhere, which may be required for the exercise and carrying out of the objects of the Company, and to work, develop and turn to account the same.

(c) To carry on, improve, work, control and superintend any railways, tramways, telegraph lines, steamships, ferries, bridges, tolls, watercourses, wharves, embankments, telegraphs, telephones, railways, smelting and other works, furnaces, factories, warehouses, hotels, transport and other works, and to carry on all kinds of business which may seem calculated, directly or indirectly, to further the working and development of any concessions, rights, or property of the Company, or otherwise to benefit the same.

(d) To carry out, establish, construct, maintain, improve, work, control and superintend any railways, tramways, telegraph lines, steamships, ferries, bridges, tolls, watercourses, wharves, embankments, telegraphs, telephones, railways, smelting and other works, furnaces, factories, warehouses, hotels, transport and other works, and to carry on all kinds of business which may seem calculated, directly or indirectly, to further the working and development of any concessions, rights, or property of the Company, or otherwise to benefit the same.

(e) To carry out, establish, construct, maintain, improve, work, control and superintend any railways, tramways, telegraph lines, steamships, ferries, bridges, tolls, watercourses, wharves, embankments, telegraphs, telephones, railways, smelting and other works, furnaces, factories, warehouses, hotels, transport and other works, and to carry on all kinds of business which may seem calculated, directly or indirectly, to further the working and development of any concessions, rights, or property of the Company, or otherwise to benefit the same.