

An Outrageous Law.

If ever an official felt like pouring out the vials of his wrath upon the makers of absurd and unreasonable laws it may be presumed the Customs officer at Montreal did one day last week. A Mrs. Ahak, a Chinese lady of high rank, and a convert to Christianity, having been called home from England, where she had been holding public meetings in aid of the Zetana missions, proposed to avail herself of a trans-continental railroad, about which so much rhetoric has been expended in telling forth its advantage as a great highway between the Orient and Occident. But, lo! when she came to Montreal, she found it written in the tables of our laws, "No Chinese allowed to dehydrate the soil and contaminate the air of our glorious country without paying \$50, to make amends for his unhalloved presence." Little wonder that Mrs. Ahak refused. Only think of it. We advertise ourselves to the world as a Christian nation, and as having respect for the teaching and example of Him, who to destroy all such hindering distinctions, called himself the Son of Man; our churches are incessant in their appeals for men and means to convert the heathen Chinese to Christianity, and then when a citizen of that pitied land comes to our shores we give them an exhibition of what Christianity has done for us. What an enigma Christians must appear to these followers of Confucius. One can understand how that with rank, beauty (for Mrs. Ahak is said to be prepossessing in appearance), and moral character in her favor, it should be stated that the Customs official "with some hesitation informed her of the rates per capita, and that according to laws she would have to remain on the steamer until the Canadian Pacific railway should give the Customs house a bill of lading for her arrival in Vancouver, from which part she was going to sail for China." Though the character of the law is not altered by the social position which the person applying for the same occupies, it is in instances like the present that its unreasonableness and un-Christian nature is particularly felt. So long as it was Li Ching or Lu Chang, or Chu Lu, or some other inconsequential person who sought admission, little compunction was felt in closing our gates, even though it should result in one poor fellow taking refuge on the boundary line between the two great Christian nations, which, of all the nations in the world, are the only ones that treat their Chinese brethren so unbrotherly. But when a woman of noble blood, unusual intelligence, and unimpeachable moral character is in question, the case seems quite different in the eyes of those who have to administer the unrighteous law. What Mrs. Ahak thought about the law, our informant saith not, but tells us that "after some deliberation the Customs determined that it would not be breaking the law too much to take Mrs. Ahak around the city in a carriage along with an official. This they did, Mrs. Ahak stopping here and there to make a Canadian purchase. In the evening the bill of lading was secured, and Mrs. Ahak left Montreal for China, and the last purchase she made was a portrait of the Queen of this free British Empire." That this absurd regulation can much longer continue upon our statute books is hardly possible. Were it not for the fact that our neighbors go even farther than we, and absolutely refuse the Chinese to enter their country, the unrighteousness of the discrimination would soon force itself upon us. As it is, we are kept in countenance by an erring companion, and so continue to support a law, which the best instincts of humanity and the principles of pure religion unite in condemning. —Toronto Truth.

Eulogistic Resolutions.

The criticism by Marcus J. Wright of the prevailing custom of passing "eulogistic resolutions" is one that must commend itself to thoughtful men who are in the habit of making their words harmonize with their thoughts and feelings. That there is nothing intrinsically wrong in recounting the virtues and excellencies of a great and good man whose life has been to his fellows an inspiration and a blessing is too manifest to need any defence. It is the abuse of what in itself may be a very wise and proper thing to do that is condemned. So widespread has the custom grown that it would now seem a reflection on the deceased man's character if something complimentary was not said of him in this regular and formal way by the society, club, or guild, etc., to which he had formerly belonged. If all the members of these organizations were distinguished for their virtues and goodness there would be no ground for complaint, but unfortunately, seeing that most men can claim some relation of this kind, this is not the case. Consequently when those who have known the deceased read the glowing tribute to his memory and find him credited with the possession of qualities of which in his life he was so economic as not to let others know of their existence, they will be ready to vote all complimentary resolutions an hypocritical form, no matter how worthily applied they may sometimes be. As Mr. Wright well remarks: "The fact that complimentary resolutions are expected in the death of every member of any society of which the deceased may have been a member, without regard to merit, makes them not only useless, but damaging to those who really deserve them. It is certain that in the course of events all members of the various organizations will die. We cannot conscientiously say that all of them came up to the conditions demanded by the rhetoric of the commendatory resolutions which are usually adopted, nor is it proper to draw the line strongly between those who do and those who do not deserve a great tribute." Therefore his counsel is "to refrain from florid platitudes and undue praises, which are alike superfluous, meaningless and impertinent, and instead of seeking occasions for exhibiting our grief in public, determine to wait until a public demand requires it."

A young man led a blushing damsel into the presence of Rev. Dr. Carpenter. "We want to be married," he said. "Are you the Rev. Mr. Carpenter?" "Yes," replied the genial minister, "Carpenter and joiner." The cable announces that considerable feeling is aroused in St. Petersburg by the statement ascribed to the king of Sweden, that, while in the event of war between Germany and any other power he would remain neutral as long as possible, he would fight, if compelled to take part, on the side of Germany. This is regarded as a declaration of hostility toward Russia, whom the Swedes have never forgiven for the annexation of Finland.

Care of the Teeth.

The temporary teeth should have the best possible care. Their function is an important one; they are to "hold the fort" till the permanent set are ready to come upon the scene, and should then give way to their successors with the cheerfulness of a displaced politician. It is, therefore, a mistake to suppose that on account of their temporary character their decay is a matter of little consequence, or that they may be extracted at any time without injury. They should be kept in the best condition possible until the development of their successors absorbs their roots, and they become loosened. If this loosening fails to take place, as frequently occurs, they should be drawn as soon as the crown of the permanent tooth appears through the gum, in order that they may take its proper place in line. Two or three times a year is not too often to have a dentist examine the mouth of a child, till the permanent teeth have developed. The first molar of each set, known as the six year molar, may appear anywhere from five to seven years of age, and this, besides being the first of the permanent teeth, is also specially liable to decay. Very generally it is the first tooth requiring the dentist's forceps, and may be drawn before the twelve-year molar of the same set makes its appearance. In this case the loser, as the cavity will be partially filled by other teeth when they appear, often believes that his quota of teeth has been less than his neighbors. Even parents often complain of their molars with the temporary set, and neglect them when known to be diseased, supposing they will soon give place to others. The second set of molars appears at about the age of 12, and the last or wisdom teeth, five or six years later. The advent of any of these is liable to be accompanied by soreness, ulceration, or more serious complications; the eyes or ears may be affected, or serious nervous troubles may result. When these or similar complications arise, not readily understood, it is well to look for the cause in the mouth.

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