

THE BOXERS' MANY GODS

Have Deities for Every Phase of Human Existence.

Advantages of Such Plurality—Reverence for Confucius—Annual Burning of the Kitchen God—The "Three Pure Ones" Prayed to For Knowledge—God of Wealth Must Be Invoked.

The Boxer has gods to burn. This is no figure of speech, for once every year, with appropriate ceremonies, he burns his Kitchen God, whose portrait is given below. This god is not an image, but a paper engraving about one foot square which is pasted on the range. He is supposed to keep posted on the family concerns and to make a report at the close of the year to the high mogul of all the gods, Yuh-hwang-tai-ti. He is, therefore, treated with great respect and at the close of his term of office he is given a grand feast to induce him to make as favorable a report as possible at headquarters. At the



THE KITCHEN GOD.

close or the feast he is taken from the range and burned, which process is supposed to wait him swiftly on the wings of flame into the august presence of the god-in-chief. The family is left without a god for a few days, until the beginning of the new year, when a new paper is secured and the Kitchen God is invoked to return and preside over the destinies of the family.

The Boxer is not tied to any one god. In fact, he has an infinite number and variety to choose from. He has great contempt for the man or nation, either, who has but one god. How poverty stricken must such a man or nation be! One can find any kind of a god he wishes. When he thinks a storm would be beneficial to his crops he petitions Lue Kung, the God of Thunder, and if he secures the active support of his wife Lue-po, the Goddess of Lightning, he offers his prayer to Tau-mu, a goddess of eight hands. When a man desires knowledge he lays the matter before the San Tsing, the "Three Pure Ones."

But perhaps he relies most on his forefathers to be his aid in every time of trouble. The objects worshipped are ancestral tablets and portraits of the deceased. The tablets are made of wood, and are about a foot high. Characters are engraved on them, giving the precise time of the birth and death, and the rank of the deceased. The tablets of a man's parents, if both are dead, are worshipped together. Few tablets of deceased females are found in the temples, although they are sometimes found in separate side apartments.

It is supposed that a man has three spirits, one of which, after death, resides in the tablet, another in the tomb and the third in Hades, from which place it will eventually return in the body of some individual.

Offerings are made at the tomb and at the costly family temples. The worship is much the same in its character as that of idols, and consists in prostrations, offerings of cooked food, and the burning of incense, candles and paper money, and sometimes theatrical plays for the edification and amusement of the deceased. New Year and the deceased's birthday are observed with particular care.

Yuh-hwang-tai-ti, the chief of all the gods, has temples erected to him exclusively. The people pay little attention to him, however, as he is thought to be so high above them that he cannot trouble himself with their concerns.

The God of War receives a good deal of attention. His aid is invoked when any military expedition is to be set on foot. The God of Wealth is treated with the same esteem as the Almighty Dollar. Although he is inferior in rank to some of the other deities of China, he is probably more extensively worshipped than any of them. Not only are large temples



LUE KUNG, THE GOD OF THUNDER.

erected in his honor, but each shopkeeper has a small image of him, before whom he almost continually offers incense. Scholars think very highly of the God of Letters.

There is no state religion in our sense of the word. There are, however, certain ceremonies that belong entirely to the State and its officers. But these ceremonies belong to the State only because they are appropriate for the State. They are chiefly a perpetuation of ancient usages, and are conducted and regulated for the most part by rules prescribed in the ancient classics and in the Book of Rites.

Each city contains a temple erected in honor of Confucius, in which officers are required to present worship and offerings on the occasion of the

vernal and autumnal equinoxes. There is not an image in this temple, as the people have too much respect for Confucius to worship him through an image.

There are so many gods in China, and their prerogatives seem so hopelessly intermixed, that a foreigner can remotely comprehend the beliefs of this people. An article really making their religion clear would take a volume.

THE TYPEWRITER GIRL.

Thomas G. Shearman, the New York Lawyer, Was the "Father" of the Young Ladies of the City.

Thomas G. Shearman, the New York lawyer and pillar of the Plymouth Church under Henry Ward Beecher, Lyman Abbott and Newell Dwight Hillis, is the reputed father of the typewriter girl. And he doesn't deny it.

"Yes, I am the father of the feminine typewriter," says Mr. Shearman, "and I am mighty proud of the distinction, as I am likewise proud of my big family of girls. Haven't the least idea how many there are of them now, but they number tens and tens of thousands. I know, and they are scattered all over the globe, from New York to Manila, and from Cape Nome to South Africa. Twenty-five years ago there was none anywhere in the world."

"In 1876 the 'typewriter woman' was born. In that year a young woman, the daughter of a dear friend of mine who had died but a short time before, came to me with the information that she was going to go out into the world and earn her own living. She asked my advice, and I told her to study shorthand. 'This she did immediately, and while doing so I instructed her in the use of the typewriting machine at my own home."

"When she had completed her course at a business college she announced her intention of trying to get employment in a lawyer's office. Thinking it would be better to begin a business life with strangers, I applied to several of my friends in Wall street, including some of the best known lawyers in the city, but without exception they positively refused to entertain the idea. In fact, they were horror-stricken at the very suggestion of such a thing."

"Then, as I had been the one to advise the young woman to take the step that she had, there was nothing for me to do but make a place for her in my office, advising her to obtain another position as soon as she could. At that time no woman was employed in any law office in New York, but after one example had been set it was followed within

two years by a few other lawyers, and one of the very law firms that had originally refused with positive terror to employ the young woman now sent for her and gave her a very liberal salary for those times. She became private secretary of the head of the firm, and was employed in much confidential and important work."

"When the lawyer with whom this young woman worked for many years retired from practice she removed to Chicago, where she speedily obtained employment, earning \$20 a week for the first year, and afterwards, by working in two places, one in the day, and the other in the evening, \$40 a week. But in the second year she married one of her employers, and thus established a triple record—of being the first woman typewriter, the first female clerk in a New York law office and the first of a long line of typewriters who subsequently married their employers. When I last saw the 'mother of the typewriter girl' she was in Paris, prosperous and happy."

Horse or Beef?
The first day horseflesh was served out at Kimberley some of it was cooked for the officers' mess at the mounted camp. At the table Peakman said: "Gentlemen, I am sorry to say that we are unable to get all our ration in beef to-day, and had to take part of it in horseflesh. This which I am carving is beef. The horse is at the other end, and anyone who prefers it can help himself. Nobody did prefer it and so they all ate beef and made a good dinner. When they had finished, Peakman suddenly exclaimed: 'By Jove! gentlemen, I find I have made a mistake in the joints. This is the horseflesh, and the other is beef.' It was just a dodge of his to get them started on the horseflesh.—Diary of Dr. Oliver Ashe.

Don't Get Ontario Lumber.

The recent disasters which have overtaken lumbermen in Ontario are beginning to make themselves felt in the lumber market. Between the big fire at Ottawa and the difficulty in floating logs in the north on account of the dry condition of the river beds, contractors at Sault Ste. Marie have had to import lumber from British Columbia for the first time in the history of lumbering in Ontario.

The Kaiser's Orders.

The Orders borne by the Emperor of Germany are worth over £46,000. In all he has over 200 crosses, stars, badges and other insignia.

Coral Roads in Bermuda.

The coral roads of Bermuda are the finest in the world for cycling. They are as smooth as a dancing floor, and are never dirty.

MOTHER GRAVES' WORM EXTERMINATOR is pleasant to take; safe and effective in destroying worms. Many have tried it with best results.

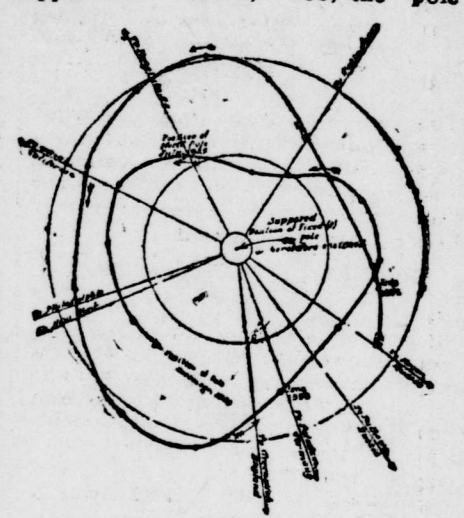
THE WOBBLING NORTH POLE

Finder Will Have to Keep Traveling to Keep Up With It.

The Comedy Side of the Search for the North Pole in the Light of Recent Scientific Discoveries—Diagram of the Path of the Recent Movements of the North Pole.

When one stops to think of it the search for the north pole is one of the funniest things imaginable. The question has been asked, How is a man to know when he has reached the north pole? How is he to find his way back home? is another. It would take a scientific man and considerable space to answer.

But here is an odder proposition. Suppose an explorer actually makes his way to where the north pole ought to be, and when he gets there finds that it has moved. Yet this is precisely what science says will happen him. Then, too, the pole



PATH OF THE RECENT MOVEMENTS OF THE NORTH POLE.

(Plotted from Special Report from Potsdam Observatory, Germany.)

moves in a most mysterious way. There are no wagon tracks to show the direction it took; no trail to follow. And in order to catch up with it the man on the scene must know exactly where the pole was on such and such a date, and where it ought to be on that particular day that he hopes to overtake it. In other words the pole is not a fixed but a constantly varying point on the earth's surface.

Professor S. C. Chandler of New Haven, Conn., is the man to whom the credit is due for having demonstrated not only that the poles are in motion but for determining after a long series of mathematical calculations the direction of the movement and the law by which it could be approximately predicted. For his wonderful study of all available observations Professor Chandler was awarded the gold medal by the Royal Astronomical Society.

Columbia University Observatory is at present engaged in important confirmatory observations, which were to have been completed May 1 this year. The work has been extending over a series of six and one-half years. The observers are Professors Rees and Jacoby and Dr. H. S. Davis of New York City. The zenith telescope used throughout this work was made by Waunscraft of Berlin for this special purpose. Up to the present time measurements have been made upon 6,518 pairs of stars, and the observed epochs correspond to the computed time very closely.

R. H. Tucker of the Lick Observatory on Mount Hamilton has made a provisional determination of the amount of latitude change at the location of that observatory, and fixes it at one-tenth of a second of latitude yearly.

The International Geodetic Association is undertaking a systematic study and accurate determination of the movements of the poles at six specially selected observatories strung along the thirty-ninth parallel of north latitude around the world. Important results may be expected from their hearty co-operation in the investigation.

Professor Charles Doolittle of the Flower Observatory of the University of Pennsylvania, as the result of his most careful research in this direction, concludes that at Philadelphia the movement of latitude amounts to at least forty feet annually. The strange aspect of the matter, however, is that it is varying in rate of movement, due to causes which have not been yet discovered. Furthermore, the motion may increase its speed at any time.

The consequences of this discovery are far-reaching. The sea level is changing, and even the motion of the moon is affected by the displacement of the earth's axis and the resulting uneven rotation. The longitude and latitude of all points are fluctuating, and this method of fixing the position of the earth's surface may have to be superseded or much modified. The instability of the pole and the shifting of latitude will disconcert the geodetic surveyors, raise legal complications and controversies over deeds and descriptions of land, and may upset state and national boundaries to some extent, and require many adjustments not now foreseen. The northern boundaries of the United States are given in terms of latitude, and the discovered vacillation of latitude will unsettle the exact boundaries and virtually alter their legally established positions. This will throw into confusion nearly 9,000 miles of state boundaries. A man living this year in the Dominion of Canada may find himself in the United States next year, or vice versa.

The International Geodetic Association has prepared an elaborate scheme for the systematic observation of these variations of latitude. The same general form of zenith instrument will be used in all the observatories, and the best for the purpose. Although three stations could have determined the polar motions with considerable accuracy, yet for the sake of greater precision six stations have been selected. The work is now in progress and the following are the official observatories co-operating in the investigations:

1. Torre di San Vittorino, Castel-

forte, in the Island of San Pietro, near the coast of the Island of Sardinia.

2. A place nine kilometres north of Charjui, on the Amu Daria.

3. The observatory at Mizusawa, in the valley of Kitakami, Japan.

4. The observatory established especially for this work at Ukiah, Cal.

5. The permanent observatory of the University of Cincinnati.

6. At Galtersburg, Md., a station on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, about thirty miles northwest of Washington.

The work of observation has been inaugurated and reports are already being received at Potsdam from Charjui, Charjui and Cincinnati. It is intended that the observations shall extend through a period of five years. Deductions of the observations will be made at the Potsdam Observatory.

VAUDEVILLE.

The Latest Sensation is a Balancing Act That Elicits Applause and Admiration Everywhere.

With vaudeville in such high favor everywhere in the country that men and women of prominence on the dramatic stage have been forced to turn to the variety stage for a living, the endeavor to find something new wherewith to amuse is simply tremendous. For a long time an acrobat who finished his performance by standing on his head on the trapeze bar and swinging to and fro in a balancing act as he did so, held the palm for novelty and daring. But he died in Spain a raving maniac. Since then several of his imitators have also been driven from the stage with insanity, and the act is now tabooed as conducive to mental disorder.

Just now two variety performers at the Victoria Roof Garden in New York are being hailed as the latest and most sensational artists in vaudeville. The Holloway trio, of which they are members, first do a tight wire act, and when the two men and a woman composing it walk a tight wire on stilts and wind up by doing a cake walk the acme of vaudeville art and sensationalism is supposed to have been reached. But



LATEST SENSATION IN VAUDEVILLE.

The next feat is an even greater one. A ladder fifteen feet high is stood in the middle of the stage and one of the Holloways proceeds to climb it, balancing as he climbs. He goes all the way up, carefully balancing at every step. He then stands up there, one foot on each side of the ladder, balancing himself as one would on a pair of stilts. Then he begins moving the ladder about by means of his feet.

At a signal the other man begins climbing. After he reaches the top the two do feats of balancing. Finally one of the men stands on the other man's shoulders, playing a mandolin.

The audience watches this feat in breathless excitement. One little slip, one wrong inclination to either side, and both men would be hurled to the stage. There is a rope attached to a wire in front of the men. This they are supposed to grasp in case of a fall, but it would be of small avail were the ladder to tip.

When finally, after remaining on the ladder for about ten minutes, the men come down, a sigh of relief is audible over the entire roof garden. It is a daring feat.

Daring, yes; but not new. Only another demonstration that there is nothing new under the sun. Twenty years and more ago a clever pantomimist, Maffitt of Maffitt and Bartholomew, electrified audiences in the midst of clever pantomimes by appearing on a ladder, and after reaching the top, trotting all over the stage upon it as if it were a thing of life and wound up by giving a rather stumpy but clever imitation of an Irish breakdown.

In Search of a Name.

England is looking up new names for its Boer conquests, "Chamberlainia" and "Robertland" are suggested by the St. James' Gazette, which, however, would prefer something made up from the name of the future ruler of England, Edward VII.

Fanny, But Just 'Til Nobody Knows.

London is luxuriating in a new street phrase, "There's 'air," which excites mirth whenever and wherever employed. The newspapers are trying hard to find out what it means, and where it was first used, but have been unsuccessful so far.

Steam tawners are expediting work in the mines of the Klondike this year. Klondike's limit for sale every where.

THE BEAR'S EASTERN DEN

Where the Czar Holds in Leash a Mighty Army.

Some Interesting Information About Khabarovsk, the Siberian City on China's Border—Base for Manoeuvring the Russian Army in Asia—This Capital of the Eastern Province Was Founded 250 Years Ago.

Way down in the southeastern corner of Siberia, if you look on the map, you will find indicated a place called Khabarovsk. At the present time we must make the acquaintance of Khabarovsk if you would keep step with the rapid march of events in the much disturbed orient.



MANCHURIAN LABORERS BUILDING RUSSIAN BARRACKS.

The part that Vladivostok has played in furnishing a base for the Czar's naval force on the Pacific is the same kind of a part Khabarovsk plays in the manoeuvring of Russia's army in Asia. It is a great military base, around which for over a year Russia has been concentrating a great army.

It is situated just on the edge of China's most northern province, and it is in direct railway communication with St. Petersburg, lying the breadth of a continent to the westward and with Vladivostok only a few hours in the other direction. It is the real den of the bear in the east, from whence, with one stretch of its paw, it can put its claws on Peking.

Khabarovsk is the seat of government for these eastern provinces of Siberia. The capital had its first foundation 250 years ago. Khabarov, a Cossack explorer and conqueror who is named as second only to Yermak in Siberia, pioneered throughout the region watered by the Amur river and spent two or three years at the union of the Amur and the Ussuri, where the city now stands. His history was full of fighting with the Manchus, who resisted the invasion, and when at last he withdrew in 1654 the heights overlooking the rivers were not again occupied by Russians until nearly 200 years later, when Muraviev founded the city and named it in honor of his predecessor.

It is an evidence of the foresight and the military wisdom of that peasant Cossack that he selected the place where the Zeia river enters the Amur and the Ussuri as the most effective stations for Russian military posts on the Chinese frontier and that 200 years later Muraviev established Blagoveshchensk and Khabarovsk at these very points. They are now the two most important places on the Amur, the stations where thousands of Russian troops have been gathered in readiness for any work that they might be called upon hastily to do on the Manchurian frontier or farther into that province.

General Nikolai Ivanovich Grodekov is the representative of the power of Russia at Khabarovsk, being governor general of the Amur and maritime provinces and of Transbaikalia.

Hills and valleys, alternate in Khabarovsk as regularly as they do in St. Thomas, so that for almost any elevation one may have a charming view of the city and the rivers.

The railway from Khabarovsk to Vladivostok has been in operation for about two years, being one of the first sections of the Siberian line completed. In ordinary times the trains make but three trips a week in each direction. The passenger trains cover the distance of 480 miles in 29 hours. The equipment is excellent, although no sleeping cars are run. The regular passenger cars of all classes are of the compartment style, and berths can be made out of the seats, so that comfort is easily in reach. A dining car serves all meals very satisfactorily. Between Khabarovsk and Vladivostok there are 30 stations. At nearly all of these Manchurian laborers have been busy for many months building barracks for the Russians. At the present time most of the completed barracks are occupied, and the work on others is being hurried along. Although there are many soldiers in Khabarovsk, the Russians have not made the mistake of congesting any one city with a great force. Instead small bodies of troops have been scattered all along the line where they can be easier handled.

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Leave Toronto 10:30 p.m. (daily). Arrive Ganouque 3:47 a.m. Passengers may occupy sleepers until 5:20 a.m. Arrive Montreal 7:30 a.m. Arrive Quebec 2:30 p.m. Arrive Portland 5:45 p.m. Arrive Old Orchard 6:46 p.m. Arrive at Boston 7:55 p.m. (via Central Vermont Railway). Elegant sleeping car from Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Toronto to Ganouque for Thousand Islands; also to Montreal, connecting with through parlor car service to Quebec, Portland, Old Orchard and Boston. Tickets, berths reserved, and all information at ticket offices Grand Trunk Railway, 18 Spadina, E. DE LA HOOKE, C.P. and T.A. London, M. C. DICKSON, District Passenger Agent.

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INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

On and after Monday, June 18, 1900, the

trains leaving Union Station, Toronto (via Grand Trunk Railway) at 9 a.m. and 9:30 p.m., make close connection with the Maritime Express and Local Express at Bonaventure Depot, Montreal, as follows:

The Maritime Express will leave Montreal daily except Saturday, at 12 noon, for Halifax, N. S., St. John, N. B., the Sydney and points in the Maritime Provinces.

The Maritime Express from Halifax, the Sydney, St. John and other points east, will arrive at Montreal daily, except on Monday, at 7:30 p.m., and daily from Rivier du Loup, at 7:30 p.m., and from Montreal daily, except Sunday, at 7:40 p.m., due to arrive at Levis at 1 p.m., Riviere du Loup at 5:50 p.m., and Little Metis at 8:25 p.m.

The Local Express will leave Little Metis at 4:25 p.m. daily, except Saturday, Riviere du Loup at 7:40 p.m