

sticks, wax tapers, and "chow-chow," or food, which is served up in small dishes, and consists of cold tea, and different species of fruit; but the loss of appetite which this uncomplaining favorite invariably manifests, if not a matter of wonder to its indulgent devotee, is at least an occasion of profit. Over head is a cylindrical frame-work covered with a double matting, the inner one being made of straw, and the outer of split rattan. It protects the inmates of the boat from the tropical sun, or pelting rains which are very frequent.

The cooking takes place in the after part of the boat, each one being provided with a stone or earthenware portable kitchen, which rests between the decks, and is covered over in wet weather, or when the smoke becomes disagreeable to those on board.

The other parts of the boat are used as lockers, store-rooms, or sleeping apartments; in fact, the Chinamen sleep all over the boat, as often on deck as below: a Chinaman's bed consisting merely of a mat and split rattan pillow. Should the night be cold, instead of wrapping themselves up in blankets, they put on one suit of clothes over the other until they feel comfortable. It is a common sight on a chilly day to see a Chinaman with all his wardrobe on at once, and presenting a portly appearance with which nature never endowed him.

The boats carry one or two masts and large sails made of matting, both of which are lowered on deck when they cannot be used.

The oars are composed of two pieces of wood, the blade being bound to the loom by means of cords. At the upper end of the loom is a transverse piece of wood about five inches in length and one in diameter, which is used as a handle, and on which the oarsman can have a good purchase. Instead of row locks, there are pins about fifteen inches in height, generally having a slight curvature in them, and graduated by notches, from one of which a small loop of straw rope is suspended, through which the oar is thrust.

Sometimes the Chinamen sit down on the deck and pull as Europeans do, but their custom is to stand up facing the bow of the boat and work the oar from the shoulder. The women labor as hard as the men, and in nearly every boat will be observed one or more having an infant slung on to her back, which is rocked to sleep by the exertions of its mother.

The appearance of the children is disgusting. No attention is paid to their sanitary condition, and they are allowed to grow up without appreciating the detersive property of water. Their play mates are cockroaches, which although they exceed them in numbers