

## TERRORS OF CHINESE INFERNO

It Is Not Pleasant to Look Forward to Inhabiting.

Post-Mortem Tortures of a Terrible Nature Are Applied to People Who Have Been Wicked on Earth.

From Thursday and Friday's Daily.

The Chinese purgatory is not a pleasant place to contemplate as a future abode. It is distinctly unpleasant even when compared with the gehenna as painted by the most orthodox Christians. Even Dante's inferno is not so bad as the place to which naughty celestials must look forward.

To the Chinese mind the proper punishment for sins done in the flesh is a series of post mortem physical tortures of the most horrible kind. These are vividly illustrated by means of pictorial charts with which every Chinese is familiar. An examination of one of these religious charts is most interesting.

It is because the Christian missionaries preach that these torments do not exist that they have aroused the anger of the Chinese, and especially of their priests. The present troubles are therefore directly connected with these pictures.

The Chinese love of cruelty and ingenuity in inflicting torture are vividly shown here. For every offense committed there is some different and peculiar way of tearing a man to pieces. Life on earth does not differ much from this imaginary purgatory. The Chinaman puts his enemy to the torture at every opportunity, and bears it himself with wonderful equanimity. He must suffer somewhat from it or he would not take so much trouble to inflict it, but the fact that he can conceal his feelings at all shows that they are very different from those of white men. This custom of torturing makes the danger of Europeans and Americans falling into Chinese hands during the present outbreak very alarming. They are clearly as bad as Apaches.

An explanation furnished by an educated Chinaman of the various torments illustrated on charts gives one a clear idea of the Chinese conception of purgatory.

The human bodies which have been impaled upon the sharp limbs of bare trees will at once arrest the attention. These are the bodies of women who have been guilty of the murder of their husbands. This is a very dreadful crime in China, much more so than the murder of a wife by a husband.

On the top of an ornamental bridge is pictured an unfortunate creature with his hands bound behind his back, while the executioner, with a devilish expression, pulls the eyes out of his face with an enormous pair of tongs. After the victim has been operated upon his body is handed over to the assistant executioner, who tosses it into a lake. This is the punishment inflicted upon a man for the murder of his brother. The sightless body floats for a hundred days in the lake, after which it is fished out for further disposition.

A very curious scene is where a tiger is used as a chopping block while a man is bound across his back and an executioner is in the act of cutting the man in two with an enormous knife. A Chinese authority explains that the tiger plays a very important part in Chinese religion. He is supposed to be animated by an intelligent spirit and to eat up only wicked men. This particular tiger has misbehaved himself by eating up good men, and for punishment he is to be used as a chopping block in purgatory for a certain period. The man tied across his back, who is being divided in two, has been guilty of disrespect to a priest.

In one case an executioner with an enormous sword is engaged in dismembering a human body lying on the stump of a tree. As he cuts off the head, a leg, etc., he sticks it on the sharp limb of a tree. The body before him has lost every limb but one arm. This is the punishment inflicted on a blasphemer, or one who said that there was no "shin," or soul, in a man. It is the most dreadful punishment that can be inflicted, for this is the greatest of all crimes against religion.

Two torturers are engaged in putting a man head downward into a receptacle which looks like a large ornamental flower pot. His legs are still sticking up in the air, while his body and head are already out of sight. This vessel is filled with boiling water, and the victim is suffering thus for having spoken ill of a mandarin.

In several places on the chart there are pictures of animals. They play an extremely important part in Chinese

religion. In one case a man is lying on the ground, while three curiously spotted animals with long tails are gnawing at him. These are mentioned to be cows and calves, and the man is condemned to be eaten by them because he had killed some members of their species in life. Another man is having his eyes picked out by a crane. He has been guilty of killing one of these birds, which are very sacred in China. Many other birds are hurrying up to take part in the execution, including the goose, the parrot, the chicken and others.

Still more curious are the pictures of the chicken and the kid, who are walking away with what appear to be tickets labeled "I" in their mouths. These contain souls which have once inhabited men and which, having been judged in purgatory, are now being sent on earth again in this form.

A woman having a board with a hole in it fastened about her neck is being led away by two men of very curious appearance. Three small children who look like demons cling about her. She is a woman who murdered her children, but died too soon, and is being sent back from purgatory to spend some more years on earth before undergoing the next transformation. She is condemned to have the demon children always dodging around her to remind her of her crime.

One executioner gouges out the eyes of a man whose hands are tied behind his back, while another fiend with a grin on his face holds the victim's head. This man has been guilty of disrespect to his parents, which is one of the worst crimes among the Chinese.

Treachery to the emperor is the crime for which one of the terrible punishments is inflicted. The traitor is fastened feet upward between two upright posts, while two executioners saw him in half lengthwise.

A pair of scales of Chinese pattern, with a man bound hand and foot at one end and a weight at the other, is pictured. The man's hands, feet and pigtail are bound together behind his back, and he is suspended face downward, in a most painful situation. His crime was wasting food, which, with considerable reason, is considered very wicked in China.

When the punishments are completed, the former dwellers upon earth come before the judge again to learn what shall be done with them next. If they have been good on earth, they are sent back to become princes and rich men. Then, according to their degree of unworthiness, they are condemned to be soldiers, workmen, sailors, women, and so on down to the lowest forms of human life. Most of those who have undergone punishment are too bad to go back to earth again as men, and therefore their spirits must pass into the bodies of animals. Those who have sinned least inhabit the bodies of horses and cows, while others become snakes and rats.

The fact that any animal may have a human spirit makes it wrong for a Chinaman to kill one of them. On the other hand, it is often not considered wrong to kill a white man, because many of the priests teach that they are not men, but devils.

**An Advocate of Peace.**

"You ran at the first fire, did you?" said the colonel of a colored regiment that distinguished itself during the war of the rebellion.

"Yes, sah," was the unblushing reply, "an I would have run soonah if I had knowed it was comin'."

"But have you no regard for your reputation, Sam?"

"Reputation is nuffin to me, sah, by the side of life."

"Well, if you lost your life you would have the satisfaction of knowing that you died for your country."

"What satisfaction would dat be to me, sah, when the power of feelin it was gone?"

"Then patriotism is nothing to you, Sam?"

"Nuffin whatever, sah."

"If all our soldiers were like you, traitors might have broken up the government without resistance."

"Yes, sah, dat's so; dere would hab been no help for it. I wouldn't put my life into de scales 'gainst any government that eber existed, for no government could replace de loss to me. I s'pect, though, dat de government would be safe 'nuff if all de soldiers were like me, as den dere couldn't be no fitin'."—Collier's Weekly B.

**Mysterious Shooting.**

The community living on the sidehill were startled last night by the sound of two rifle shots fired within a few minutes of each other. The reports occurred about 11 o'clock and a man was seen immediately afterwards running rapidly down the hill with a lighted lantern. No information could be gleaned as to the cause of the firing or the identity of the excited man.

## PERSONALITIES.

Bethany college, in Kansas, has consigned the body of a man on Representative Dolliver of Iowa.

Louise Chandler Moulton, the poet, has sailed for Europe, where she will spend the summer in travel.

Charles S. Wilbur, the New York supervisor of the census, was the first to send in his completed returns to Washington.

Secretary of State and Mrs. Hay will spend the summer at their country place on the shores of Lake Sunapee, New Hampshire.

Captain S. E. White of Columbia, S. C., an old Confederate soldier, will erect a monument to the dead Indians who helped the Confederate cause.

George W. Watts of Durham, N. C., has given \$30,000 to the Presbyterian Union Theological seminary at Richmond. It is his fourth large gift to the institution.

Professor J. Hendrik Witherdrink of the University of Leyden, who came to this country to observe the eclipse, is in facial characteristics the counterpart of Governor Roosevelt even as to mustache and eyeglasses.

J. B. Ploda, the Swiss minister at Washington, gave a public lesson in democracy the other day when he stopped his carriage to get some soda water and brought out a glass of the beverage to the coachman.

One of the first alienists to sit in the house of commons is Sir J. B. Duke, who has just been elected to represent Edinburgh and St. Andrew's universities. He is of the opposition and one of the greatest living authorities on mental diseases.

There is a story in the senate that General Hawley, speaking for 10 or 12 minutes in a short speech, once spoke 225 words a minute. The average speed of senators in dictating letters is only 100 a minute and in addressing the senate only 110.

Police Judge McAuley of Kansas City, who not long since won some attention by declaring in favor of a law to compel women to wear short skirts on the street, has added to his fame by imposing a fine of \$500 on a man who stood on a street corner and tried to flirt with the telephone girls when they came out of the central office.

Baden-Powell was nearly lost to the British army six years ago by reason of regulations. He was rapidly approaching the time limit at which majors, unless specially nominated for command, have to take a retiring allowance. Fortunately for him trouble broke out in Ashanti, and he was one of the first to be selected for the staff.

## A Dinner Party.

A dinner was given to Mrs. Major Wood by Senator Lynch at the Hotel McDonald last evening. The other guests besides Major Wood included Justice Craig, Capt. and Mrs. Starnes, Miss Tache, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Wade, Mr. and Mrs. Alex McDonald and Mr. D. Doig.

Senator Lynch leaves on an extended tour in a day or two and will be absent all winter.

## Big Liquor Seizure.

When the steamer J. P. Light arrived here from up the river night before last she was seized with all freight on board, the object of the general seizure being to capture a large shipment of contraband liquor consigned to Ole Olsen at this place. As the stuff was shipped to represent groceries, hardware, crockery and, in fact, nearly every other article of known merchandise, it was necessary to seize the entire cargo until it could be segregated and the liquor separated from the legitimate cargo. All the stuff was taken off and the steamer was permitted to sail for up the river this morning. A full inventory of the smuggled cargo has not yet been made, nor can it be until all the boxes are opened and their contents listed. It is known, however, that it amounts to several tons and cost in the aggregate a number of thousands of dollars. It is all Canadian stock.

## River News.

News of the racing steamers arrived this morning by the Yukoner and by wire. The boats are the Victorian, Columbian and Sybil. They were passed bunched within one hour of each other by the Yukoner, about 100 miles up river, with the Victorian in the lead. All were under heavy steam pressure and going at a speed never attempted before on the Yukon. This morning a wire was sent down from Selwinn that the Victorian and Columbian had passed that point, the Victorian leading, at 6 this morning and the Columbian following one hour later. The Sybil was not reported and it is thought she may have slipped by in the early morning. Bets are being freely made as to the possible winner of the race and news of their progress is watched for with the keenest interest along the water front.

The steamer Ora arrived yesterday with 72 tons of general merchandise, 11 tons of which were consigned to Mrs. S. Wall, wife of the editor of the Daily

News. Among the consignment brought in by Mrs. Wall are some thoroughbred Belgian hares, the raising of which has become a profitable fad on the outside. The Ora's passengers were as follows: A. McDowell, A. Sweeney, M. Keeney, F. Wood and Mrs. S. Wall.

The Clifford Sifton arrived at six o'clock last night with 70 tons of freight. She unloaded at the Yukon dock and is billed to sail early today. No passengers arrived on her.

The Yukoner pulled into the C. D. Co.'s dock at 8 a. m. today with 125 tons of freight, 29 sacks of outside mail and the following passengers: J. Gense, G. M. Taggart, Godfrey Gempe, John Cannon, C. H. Gaass, May Myers, Mrs. H. Turner, Mr. J. J. McDonald, A. Trobald, Mrs. R. C. Kirk, Mrs. H. T. Faulkner, Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Thomas, T. Lloyd, H. Lloyd, V. C. Garst, F. Burkhard, Rachel Byelland, Aug. Bay, H. Sopper, T. Leland, J. J. Stiles, J. H. Garbel, W. Garbel, Wm. Ward, Geo. Murphy, Mrs. Anderson, W. C. Fitzsimmon, Mrs. A. A. Hepen, Miss Hepen, Wm. Ogilvie, Mrs. McGowan, Miss Butts, Harry Chapman, J. B. Tyrrell, T. Snow.

The following was received by wire: Steamer Anglian passed Hootalinqua going up at 5 this morning.

Lightning passed Hootalinqua coming down at 4 this morning.

The steamers Victorian and Columbian passed Selwyn going up at 6 and 7 this morning, respectively.

Ocean steamers Dolphin and Humboldt arrived at Skagway last night and sail today.

The J. P. Light was held at her wharf last night by the police, they taking temporary possession of the boat owing to three cases of whisky being found on her. It is understood that the liquor in question was purchased in Vancouver, was not subject to customs duties and was allowed by the authorities at Whitehorse to be shipped without a protest from them.

The steamer Monarch changed her register this morning and is now a British bottom. It cost her owner, Capt. Green, the sum of \$2400 to ply under the flag of Great Britain. The nephew of the captain, J. Green, will act as pilot of the boat and she will sail on the upper river independent of the big company. She will be used for the rest of the season carrying cattle and general freight from Whitehorse.

## Given a Farewell Dance.

The friends of Frank Burkhard and E. H. Hatch, who leave for Dawson today, gave them a farewell dance last night at Firemen's hall. The affair was attended by nearly all of Skagway's society folk. Dr. Keller's orchestra furnished the music.—Alaskan, Sept. 15.

The young men above referred to are pioneers of Skagway, Burkhard's father being one of the first merchants to engage in business there in the summer of '97. Ed Hatch for a long time was cashier for the pioneer road builder, Geo. A. Brackett. He is now associated with Lilly Bros., in whose interests he is coming to Dawson. Both are of the stamp that makes good citizens.

## Sawdust Shut Off.

The supply of sawdust which the various mills have generously contributed to the Yukon government for use on the streets of Dawson for the past few months has ceased unless a stipulated price is paid therefor. The same "kibosh" has been put on the formerly gratuitous slabs, many loads of which have been advantageously used in street improvement. As there are yet many places on the streets which, in campaign parlance, "need fixing," it is probable that the government teams will be put to work hauling gravel from the river bed. It is possible that a tramway may be constructed to the bed of the river and that a line of gravel cars will be operated between there and some central place in the city where the gravel will be dumped and afterwards distributed where needed.

## POLICE COURT NEWS.

A stranger named Chas. Hennessey, not of three star fame, was before Magistrate McDonnell this morning on the charge of having violated a Yukon health ordinance. He pleaded ignorance of existing laws and all present wondered where he came from that such practices are resorted to. A fine of \$5 and costs was imposed.

Frank Sattler, who up to the 19th instant was operating a rocker for Leonard Gainesberg, on 49 below Bonanza, was in court this morning on the charge of having stolen gold dust from the rocker to the value of \$1500. According to the evidence of the prosecuting witness and his sons, Sattler had been taken in the act and had been then and there set upon by the various members of the Gainesberg family, knocked down and his pockets rifled. A sample of the dust claimed to have been taken from Sattler's pockets at the time was in evidence. Sattler conducted his own defence in which he showed himself to be a man of considerable tact and intelligence. Hearing of the case occupied the remainder of the forenoon, at the conclusion of which Sattler was held over to the territorial court.

## BACK FROM CLEAR CREEK.

Wm. Finnie and H. L. Kagel Tell a Good Story

About the Stampede—Forty Men Staked the Whole Country First, But Left Alternates Open.

Wm. Finnie and H. L. Kagel, two prospectors who returned from what is called the Stewart river country but what seems should take another name by reason of its remoteness from Stewart river, arrived last evening after a very hard trip of 11 days. They are stopping at the Yukon hotel, and this morning gave a brief account of their trip.

Mr. Finnie had been over the ground between here and the recently stampeded district in '98, and so, when the partners started on this trip they took the overland route with horses, knowing it to be the shortest and although it lacks much of being a good road, they believe it is easier than the way up the Yukon to the mouth of Stewart, up that stream to mouth of Clear creek, and then 140 miles up stream to the scene of the present strike.

By the overland route the distance is about 125 miles all told. The men are very enthusiastic over the prospects of the country, having located No. 37 above the right fork of Clear creek, where they got very good prospects, considering the little work the time at their disposal allowed them to accomplish, which was a little panning along the rim, where they got some good coarse gold.

They describe the lay of the land there as being something like that at the forks of Eldorado and Bonanza here, and say that holes sunk back in the flat, which is covered with from three to four feet of gravel, produce even better prospects than what are found on the rim. From 75 to 80 cents have been found in the gravel on the flat, which lies from four to six feet higher than the bed of the creek.

That a great many people have gone into the country is shown by what the two returning prospectors say concerning the numbers they met as they were coming out.

On the divide between Stewart and the Klondike they met one party of 40 from Dominion which was accompanied by a pack train, and during the same day met fully 10 more, all going the same way. There is a big flat of about 25 miles to cross just beyond this divide, and at night camp fires were seen burning pretty much all over it as far as could be seen.

"When the stampede started," said Mr. Finnie, "there were only about 40 men in the country, but when we got there it was all staked just the same, and if it had not been for the fact that the 40 active stakers were in ignorance of the fact that crown claims were open for location, we should not have been able to find anything worth locating."

"As it was they left every alternate ten claims for the crown, and we got in in consequence. Even that ground is all located now."

"It is the best ground sluicing proposition I ever saw, because there is so much fall to the creek. It is summer diggings and there is nothing to be gained by going back there this winter, so we will return in the spring."

"Evidently the fact that there is gold on Clear creek has been known for a long time, as we found where sluicing had been done a long time ago. The only way I can account for the claims having been worked and abandoned is by the supposition that when the last workers were there, transportation facilities were not nearly so good as now, and the ground was not considered rich enough to pay under the then existing conditions."

The men had a hard trip coming back, as they came through a wide belt of burned timber which was disastrous to their clothing, tearing pretty nearly all they had on to shreds. They lost their horses which they did not recover, and as a result walked steadily all day and night and well into the next day.

## Fire Last Night.

At 12:40 o'clock last night the watchman at the warehouse of the Standard Oil Co. discovered a cabin on fire back of the big warehouse. Although the fire had made considerable headway, the prompt and systematic use of a couple of hand fire grenades furnished by the Standard Oil Co. extinguished it without the necessity of calling on the department. Owing to the proximity of the fire to the big oil emporium it was feared for a short time that the results might be very serious.