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LONDON, CANADA.

God's in his heaven,

All's right with the world.

—(BROWNING.)

London, Monday, August 13.

—Only those communications to which the writers are willing to have their names appended in print will be published in these columns. Neither the writing nor the publication of anonymous letters can be justified.

The Black Plague.

Progress of the Dreadful Scourge Through the Chinese Empire.

Thousands Are Dying Daily in Towns and Cities and Being Buried in Trenches.

SHANGHAI, China, July 6.—Your readers have probably been advised by telegraph ere this of the dreadful crisis through which the British colony of Hong Kong is now passing—the most severe she has experienced during the 50 years of her existence. A hideous form of plague has been ravaging her population for the last couple of months, and ruin, absolute ruin, stares her in the face. The fell disease, which, beyond a doubt, was imported from Canton, where its effects have been still more appalling, is described by the medical faculty of the colony as being similar to that which, under the name of the Great Plague, proved so fatal to the people of London in 1665. Although it was only officially recognized as a dangerous epidemic in the beginning of May, there is no doubt the affliction was prevalent in Hong Kong much earlier, for as far back as March last several cases of death from a peculiar form of bubonic fever were recorded, and later on the disease was noticed to be very similar to a malarial fever which is only too well known in Yunnan, Kwangsi and Kwantung, and which almost from the beginning of the present year has been committing fearful ravages in Canton and the surrounding districts.

AUTHORITIES TO BLAME.

The spring of 1894 has been a disastrous one in many ways for Hong Kong. In the early months a long drought was experienced, which resulted in a water famine. Not only were the residents of the colony put to considerable discomfort and inconvenience by the supply of fresh water running short in the reservoirs, but a source of great public danger was speedily constituted by the want of means of flushing out the drains. The authorities are held greatly to blame for their apathy at this particular period, for it was not until the number of deaths from what was called at the time "sewage poisoning" became alarmingly great that any official notice was taken of the terrible scourge that was menacing the place or any measure adopted to cope with it.

The cry of those in office was that as soon as the drought was over and the drains were properly flushed out by a good down-pour of rain the disease would vanish. However, when the rain did come—and it did come in a deluge toward the end of April—the disease did not vanish, but continued to gain headway until early last month, when it first began to assume really alarming proportions. Long before this, however, the authorities had been warned by medical missionaries and others who possessed a knowledge of the southwest of China that the disease, which was then beginning to claim public attention, was really the black plague, or the bubonic plague, for it is variously termed in different provinces, which, it is no exaggeration to say, annually carries off millions of people in those densely populated and little-known regions of the empire which are adjacent to the Siamese and Thibetan frontiers.

CONDITIONS FAVORABLE.

The conditions in Hong Kong at the moment happened to be peculiarly favorable to the spread of this terrible malady, and the authorities were urged by those who knew what was threatening the colony to bestir themselves and do something toward alleviating those conditions, which are mainly three—overcrowding, filth and want of water. The two first named could certainly have been dealt with, whatever excuse there might be with regard to the water supply.

But, in spite of the innumerable warnings they received, and even with the terrible example of Canton before their eyes, the Hong Kong Government remained apathetic until it was no longer a question of prevention but of cure. The little worked and overpaid Public Works Department did nothing to abate the horrible filth and the shocking herding together of the lower class Chinese in Taipingshan and other native quarters until there could be no further doubt that the disease was simply raging in those festering purlieus.

Then, indeed, one morning, a little more than a month ago, when the daily number of deaths recorded had got well up into the fifties, the Government began to talk of sanitary reforms. The colonial surgeon feebly suggested

"It might be well for the sanitary board to direct that one of the periodical clear-outs of the refuse, etc., should be made at once," and later on a proclamation was issued by the governor and council declaring the existence of an epidemic and bringing into force certain public health ordinances which would have been extremely useful if they had been a few weeks earlier, but which, as the event proved, were utterly ineffectual.

QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

The neighboring ports in China, Japan and the Straits took alarm immediately on the issue of the Government's proclamation, and quarantine regulations were put in force at all those places which have dealings with Hong Kong, which measures, coupled with the appalling turn which events subsequently took there, have had the most disastrous effect upon the trade and prospects of the colony.

The death rate soon rose to 100 per diem, according to the official returns, which there is reason to believe were very much underestimated. According to the same source of information, from 200 to 300 fresh persons were attacked every day, so that the medical resources of the port speedily fell short of the demands made upon them, and Shanghai, Singapore and one or two other places were appealed to for assistance.

Made fully alive at last to the gravity of their situation, the Hong Kong Government rushed into the other extreme and set about enforcing their sanitary regulations with the most intense energy. A system of house-to-house visitation was inaugurated, in which the civil authorities were assisted by 300 soldiers of the garrison, who bravely volunteered their services for this repulsive work, and whose leader, Capt. Vesey, of the Shropshire Light Infantry, was the first European victim of the plague.

The authorities admit that some half dozen of the soldiers engaged in this dangerous service have since died in the discharge of their self-imposed duty, but it is hinted in trustworthy though unofficial circles that the mortality among the troops has been far larger than reported to the public, and there have also been several deaths among the foreign residents from the same dread malady.

LULLED INTO FALSE SECURITY.

This the authorities are trying to conceal or minimize, in the hope that foreigners in the treaty ports and in Japan may be lulled into a false security, and a consequent relaxation of the regulations by the belief that none but Chinese are liable to catch the plague. The very considerable mortality among the Portuguese section of the Hong Kong population is explained, says the Hong Kong Government, by the fact that the lower classes of the Portuguese live in Chinese style and subsist on Chinese food, but if this be the case it is strange that there has not been a single case of plague in the neighboring Portuguese colony of Macao, where the Lusitanians are, if anything more prone to Chinese modes of life than in Hong Kong.

The truth is that the malady is peculiar to no one race or no one class, and that anyone, be he Caucasian, Mongolian or negro, is liable to it if he lives in a place where it already exists, and where the conditions are favorable to its development. Up to the present the official returns estimate the mortality from plague in Hong Kong at 2,600, but there can be no doubt that at least three times that number of persons have died from the affliction since it first made its appearance in the colony.

CHINESE BECAME PANIC STRICKEN.

The state of the once prosperous island is simply awful, and the appearance of the city reminds one of nothing more than the descriptions we read of those places in Europe visited by the black death in medieval times. One of the first things, of course, the Chinese did when the epidemic began to assume alarming proportions was to get panicky-stricken. Those who had the means commenced to leave the colony in thousands, and those who were forced to remain, for want of the wherewithal to get away from the stricken port, resorted to native jugglery and "Joss pigdin" in order to check the spread of the malady, and in their stupid ignorance and obstinacy combined to resist the authorities and prevent them from carrying out the more rational and scientific methods of the Europeans.

WORK SUSPENDED.

The present state of affairs is that work is practically suspended in the colony; there is hardly any business going on, and the streets are almost completely deserted, for nearly two-thirds of the population have left the colony.

As to the measures that have been adopted, the Government, when at length its eyes were open to the true state of affairs, must be credited with having done everything in its power to meet the emergency. The hospital hulk "Hygeia," lying in the middle of the harbor, was cleared out and made ready for the reception and isolation of plague patients; two other hulks were pressed into the service, and similarly prepared; hospitals were erected at Pokfulam, Kennedytown and other places; a rigorous system of inspection was instituted; Chinese interference rigorously shut down upon; all persons found suffering from plague symptoms were at once removed to the hospitals, in spite of the resistance of their relatives, and all the houses in which cases of plague had occurred were thoroughly disinfected, and clothing and bedding of the patients burned.

Last of all the Government have resolved upon and carried out a measure which, if it was a little heroic, has been amply justified by the good results that have followed in the marked decrease of the plague since the course referred to has been carried out. I allude to the burning down of Taipingshan, a district of filth of which could hardly be conceived by those who have never seen for themselves the unspeakable abominations of a slum in an eastern seaport. The denizens of Taipingshan are all either poor, wretched coolies, pirates, thieves or gamblers. It is, or was, for happily the slum exists no longer, populated only by the desperately poor and desperately wicked classes.

The land and buildings were owned largely by foreigners, but the houses were let to Chinese, who used them as lodging houses, gambling dens, brothels, opium dens or low drinking houses. HERDED TOGETHER.

In all those filthy and criminal haunts human beings were herded together in the most shocking manner; the beds were arranged in tiers along the walls, like ships' bunks, one above the other, so that it was no unusual thing for as many as 200 or 300 persons to live and sleep and eat in the same little hovel. Not only this, but many of the gambling hells and thieves' resorts communicated with one another, so that, taking everything into consideration, the work of those engaged in house-to-house inspection during the past couple of months in this fearful district must have been both revolting and dangerous.

Finding it impossible to thoroughly disinfect the place, the Government determined to destroy the place by fire, and this they did last week. The Chinese offered the most determined resistance, threatening to riot and all sorts of things, and placards were posted up menacing the lives of foreign residents in Canton, and

the burning down of the Shamen in the same port if Taipingshan were demolished. But the Government persisted. Taipingshan was cleared of its teeming population, a wall was built round the district to prevent the inhabitants returning to it, and the whole nest of rookeries, which covered an area measuring several hundred acres, was burned to the ground. Even then some dozens of the old habits of the locality returned surreptitiously and lay down to die amid the smouldering ruins of their ancient haunts. Since then the plague has markedly decreased, and there are grounds for hoping the epidemic is on the wane. But still 30 or 40 persons die every day, and the doctors and nurses have their hands full. At almost every corner bundles of burning clothes and bedding, the property of persons who have had the plague, may be met with, and the sights and smells that greet the wayfarer on all sides are appalling.

SEEN TO DROP DEAD IN THE STREET. When the epidemic was at its height, and even still, people may be seen to drop down dead in the streets. The foreign residents have faced the emergency like heroes. Comparatively few of them have deserted the colony, and nearly every one of them has lent a hand in the noble work of trying to stamp out the disease. The ladies of the place have formed an ambulance corps and may be seen going about the streets wearing the red crosses on their arms; they are in the thick of the fight, and when the history of Hong Kong comes to be written a proud place must be given to the ladies who so bravely came forward in the plague year—1894.

All the foreign firms in the colony have given liberal donations, chiefly in the shape of whisky and cigars, the preventives recommended by the sanitary board, to the men engaged in house-to-house visitation. The scenes in the hospitals, where the patients under treatment are necessarily very crowded, are too horrifying to dwell upon.

BURIED IN TRENCHES. When a person dies he is set aside with the other corpses until the death cart comes round to fetch the heap away. The dead are buried in trenches filled with quicklime, and every grave is numbered so that the relatives of the victims may know where their friends are laid to rest and offer sacrifices to their names, if they wish to, when order is once more restored to the distracted colony. Every possible precaution is being taken at Shanghai and other ports to prevent the malarious spreading from Hong Kong, and so far it is satisfactory to note that Hong Kong, Canton and its surrounding districts where it has made its appearance. The disease begins by fevers and rigors, followed by swellings in the groins, armpits or neck; hence its name—bubonic plague.

Death generally occurs in a few hours, but if the patient survives for that he three days the probability is that he will die from filth, and it is a curious fact that rats and other animals, and even the fish in polluted waters, are attacked before the malady spreads to human beings.

In Canton between 70,000 and 80,000 persons have died of the plague since the beginning of March, and things are assuming a most alarming aspect, for the people are simply wild with fear, and threaten acts of persecution to the foreigners, to whom by some peculiar process of Chinese reasoning they attribute the presence of the epidemic.

WOMEN PHYSICIANS ATTACKED. Two American missionaries, women doctors belonging to an agency known as the Band of Brethren, were brutally attacked at Hoken last week, and nearly escaped with their lives. They are Miss Eggleston and Miss Halvestone, both qualified medical practitioners. They were walking along the street when they observed a Chinaman fall down in front of them. They immediately rushed to render him what assistance they could, but unfortunately for themselves the poor fellow died under their hands.

The crowd which had collected to watch the proceeding raised the cry that the foreign women had killed the man and attacked them in the most savage manner. Miss Eggleston was stabbed in the thigh, and both were hustled about, bruised and beaten and had their dresses torn. Fortunately they managed to escape into the shop of a friendly Chinaman, who protected them until some foreigners arrived to their rescue.

The mob then threatened to burn down the mission house, but after a few hours the trouble subsided without further damage being done.

FALL FAIRS, 1894.

LONDON WESTERN FAIR.....	Sept. 13-22
Winnipeg.....	Sept. 23-28
Toronto.....	Sept. 23-28
Kingston.....	Sept. 17-21
Wellesley.....	Sept. 18-19
Windsor.....	Sept. 18-20
Waford (East Lambton).....	Sept. 24-25
Goderich.....	Sept. 25-26
Essex.....	Sept. 25-26
Woodstock.....	Sept. 25-26
Paslay.....	Sept. 25-26
Collingwood.....	Sept. 25-26
St. Catharines.....	Sept. 25-26
Aylmer.....	Sept. 26-27
St. Thomas.....	Sept. 26-27
Brantford.....	Sept. 26-27
Stratford.....	Sept. 27-28
Brampton.....	Sept. 27-28
South Huron.....	Sept. 27-28
Port Elgin.....	Sept. 27-28
Larch.....	Sept. 27-28
Arthur.....	Oct. 2-3
Paris.....	Oct. 2-3
Chatham.....	Oct. 2-4
Walkerton.....	Oct. 4-5
Smithville.....	Oct. 4-5
Otterville.....	Oct. 5-6
St. Catharines.....	Oct. 5-6
Tilsonburg.....	Oct. 9-10
Thornhill (West Nisour).....	Oct. 10
Burlington.....	Oct. 11
Burlington.....	Oct. 11-12

Secretaries of shows not mentioned in the above list are requested to send in their dates to the ADVERTISER as soon as possible.

THE HARRISON CASE.

More Serious Than Was at First Suspected—At Times He Was Prostrated by His Sufferings—Now He Is Cured.

PETERBOROUGH, Aug. 13.—The case of Richard Harrison, mentioned in these columns last week, was a more serious one than appeared at first sight. He was afflicted for some years with backache, the direct result of kidney disease. In damp weather especially his sufferings were intense, and frequently prevented his doing any work. To an active, energetic man, such an affliction was most grievous, and he tried many alleged remedies without relief. J. D. Tully, the well-known druggist here, recommended Dodd's Kidney Pills, which Mr. Harrison used and is now thoroughly cured. He writes: "I regret that I did not use Dodd's Kidney Pills before, for he knows that if he had he would have been well long ago."

How a Football Team Wins Games. LA FAYETTE, Ind., Jan. 2, 1893.—"As manager of the Purdue football team, I have used about \$50 worth of DODD'S EXTRACT, and find it very beneficial for rubbing purposes as well as for bruises, etc." A. B. DODD

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

PAIN CURE IN AN INSTANT.

Let Radway's Ready Relief be used on the first indication of Pain or Unpleasantness; if threatened with Disease or Sickness, the Cure will be made before the family doctor would ordinarily reach the house.

CURES THE WORST PAINS in from one to twenty minutes. Not one hour after reading this advertisement need anyone SUFFER WITH PAIN.

ACHES AND PAINS.

For headache (whether sick or nervous), toothache, neuralgia, rheumatism, lumbago, pains and weakness in the back, spine or kidneys, pains around the liver, pleurisy, swelling of the joints and pains of all kinds, the application of Radway's Ready Relief will afford immediate ease, and its continued use for a few days effect a permanent cure.

A CURE FOR ALL.

For a half to a teaspoonful of Ready Relief in a half tumbler of water, repeated as often as the discharges continue, and a flannel saturated with Ready Relief placed over the stomach and bowels will afford immediate relief and soon effect a cure.

Internally—A half to a teaspoonful in half a tumbler of water will in a few minutes cure Cramps, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Nausea, Vomiting, Heartburn, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Sick Headache, Flatulency and all internal pains.

Malaria in its Various Forms Cured and Prevented.

There is not a remedial agent in the world that will cure fever and ague and all other malarious, bilious and other fevers, aided by RADWAY'S PILLS, so quickly as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF.

Travelers should always carry a bottle of Radway's Ready Relief with them. A few drops in water will prevent sickness or pain from change of water. It is better than French Brandy as a stimulant.

Miners and lumbermen should always be provided with it.

Price 25 cents a bottle. Sold by all druggists.

Send to DR. RADWAY & CO., 419 St. James street, Montreal, for Book of Advice.

Always Reliable. Purely Vegetable.

Perfectly tasteless, elegantly coated, purge, regulate the bowels, cleanse the system.

RADWAY'S PILLS for the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Dizziness, Vertigo, Costiveness, Piles.

SICK HEADACHE, FEMALE COMPLAINTS, BILIOUSNESS, INDIGESTION, DYSPEPSIA, CONSTIPATION

AND ALL DISORDERS OF THE LIVER.

Observe the following symptoms resulting from diseases of the digestive organs: Constipation, inward piles, fullness of blood in the head, acidity of the stomach, nausea, heartburn, disgust of food, fullness or weight of the stomach, sour eructations, sinking or fluttering of the heart, choking or suffocating sensations when in a lying posture, dimness of vision, dots or webs before the sight, fever or dull pain in the head, deficiency of perspiration, yellowness of the skin and eyes, pain in the side, chest, limbs, and sudden flashes of heat, burning in the flesh.

A few doses of RADWAY'S PILLS will free the system of all the above named disorders.

Price, 25c per box. Sold by Druggists, or sent by mail.

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Is absolutely pure, nothing whatever being added but sugar and flavor. For icing cakes or making a cup of Good Chocolate it has no equal. Put up in 5c tablets. Try it.

Lost Manhood and vigor quickly restored. Varicocele, atrophy, etc., surely cured by INDIANO, the great Hindoo Remedy. With written guarantee, sent by Anderson & Nelles, Druggists, LONDON, ONT.

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Large size American Quilts at 75c, \$1, \$1 35 and \$1 38
 Large size Honey-comb Quilts with fringe at 75c, \$1, \$1 25, \$1 50, \$2.

Full-sized English Toilet Quilts at \$2, \$2 25, \$2 50, \$3, \$3 35 and \$4; every one a leader.

Colored Art Quilts, 60c, 75c, \$1, \$1 25, \$1 50, \$2. See them.

SHEETINGS.

Bleached Twill Sheetting, 36 inches wide, 10c.
 Bleached Plain Sheetting, 72 inches wide, 22c.
 Bleached Twill Sheetting, 72 inches wide, 25c and 30c.
 Bleached Twill Sheetting, 80 inches wide, 35c.
 Unbleached Twill Sheetting, 72 inches wide, 20c, 22c and 25c.
 Unbleached Plain Sheetting, 72 inches wide, 18c and 20c.

COTTONS.

Good strong Unbleached Cotton for 4c.
 Heavy Factory Cotton, full yard wide, 5c.
 Very special line of Factory Cotton 6c, worth 8c.
 Our extra heavy Cotton at 8c has no equal.
 See our Unbleached Cotton, 40 inches wide, at 6c and 8c. These are decidedly attractive lines that commend themselves to every careful buyer.
 See also our three specials in Bleached Cottons at 7c, 8c and 10c.

LINENS.

Unbleached Table Linen, 20c. Bleached Table Linen, 35c.
 Unbleached Table Linen, 25c. Bleached Table Linen, 45c.
 Unbleached Table Linen, 35c. Bleached Table Linen, 60c.
 Unbleached Table Linen, 40c. Bleached Table Linen, 63c.
 Unbleached Table Linen, 50c. Bleached Table Linen, 75c.

Bleached Table Cloths, \$1 25, \$1 50, \$2 00, \$2 50.
 Unbleached Table Cloths, colored borders with fringe, 50c, 60c, 85c, \$1 15, \$1 50.

Linen Towels, colored border, 8c, 10c, 12c, 15c, 18c, 20c and 25c.

Big Spongy Bath Towels, great water drinkers, at 12c, 17c, 20c, 25c, 38c, 45c and 60c.

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Laces

Ties

Vests

Muslins

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Embroideries

Collars

Hosiery

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126 and 128 Dundas