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**CHINESE GROWING CREEKY**

Foreigners Forced to Kneel Before Chinese Royalty.

**ILL TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS.**

Peking, Dec. 23.—The return of the court after a four months' stay at the Summer palace and after several postponements reveal several new features in the situation in China.

One of them was that the Empress Dowager is again apprehensive regarding the Emperor, who has been closely imprisoned in the Summer palace all the time, and who was surrounded by an enormous guard on the route to Peking on the return journey.

In the second place the return of the court showed a different feeling on the part of high Government officials, officers surrounding the court, and members of the Grand Council, towards foreigners.

**TO FLOG THE PEASANTRY**

The Knout and the Carbine as a Remedy for Unrest

**HOW RUSSIA TREATS AGITATORS**

St. Petersburg despatch: The recent disturbances at Kostoff were of a far more serious character than appeared from the official accounts.

Fifteen thousand workmen participated in the demonstration. They carried red flags bearing revolutionary inscriptions, and shouted, "Down with the aristocracy," as they marched through the streets.

**BOERS AID CHAMBERLAIN.**

Botha Regrets That U. S. Boers Try to Raise Money.

New York, Dec. 23.—Louis Botha, writing to Theodore M. Banta, from Brussels, under date of Dec. 3rd, in reply to a letter from a committee of the trustees of the Holland Society, to Gens. Botha, Dewet and De la Rey, tendering the courtesies of the society and co-operation during their contemplated visit to this country, says:

"I regret to see that so many of our fellow-countrymen are already busy trying to raise funds in America. I wish to remark that no one represents our people, nor is on any mission from our people or in any way connected with us and our mission.

It is generally admitted that the opposition in the New Zealand Parliament will, as the result of the general election, be more effective in the new parliament than in the old, having gained the support of the liquor party, which is alarmed at the pronounced success of the prohibitionists.

Argument took place at Montreal on the motion to disqualify Mr. Brunet, M. P., but no judgment was given.

**MRS. MORLEY'S LUCK,**

A Michigan Woman Found by a Rich Father.

Grand Rapids, Mich., despatch: Mrs. Sarah Morley, of Alpena, who with her four children has been in almost destitute circumstances for several years, while at her daily task over the wash tub, received a letter from Dublin, Canada, conveying the information that her father, who disappeared suddenly thirty-two years ago, when she was but 7 years of age, was alive and the possessor of a fortune of \$275,000, which he amassed in the west.

**LIVES WITH BROKEN NECK.**

Survived Long Enough to Inherit \$1,000,000.

**HIS CASE IS REMARKABLE.**

New York, Dec. 23.—Walter E. Duryea, son of Edgar E. Duryea, the starch manufacturer, who in August, 1899, had the misfortune to break his neck while driving at Oyster Bay, has not only outlived the father by two years prescribed by the latter's will and come into an inheritance of \$1,000,000, but notwithstanding his infirmity, is now about to essay the role of a country gentleman, with two fine manions, one at Glen Cove, L. I., with an estate of thirty-five acres, and another at Clayton in the Thousand Islands.

Mr. Duryea is still paralyzed below the waist, but he is now able to sit up. He manages his own investments, reads a great deal, and chats with friends through a telephone at his elbow. He lives in a hotel on Brooklyn Heights, overlooking the neighboring waters. Armed with the most powerful pair of glasses that money can procure Mr. Duryea sits in his room hour by hour reviewing the passing craft. His physicians say there is a prospect of his yet being able to walk.

**Harold and His Pa.**

"Pa, what is the craze on that door for?"  
"For a funeral."  
"Is a funeral something that very often happens?"  
"Not very often—only once in a lifetime, my boy. But that's usually considered enough."  
"What do they do?"  
"Oh, lots of things. It's a very solemn occasion."  
"I thought I heard music—what's that for?"  
"That's to harrow up the mourners. Sometimes the people don't feel badly enough at funerals, so they have music to make it worse."  
"I see. And what are the mourners?"  
"Well, they are the people who are sorry that the man is dead—and some of the relatives, if he happens to be well off."  
"It makes a difference if the man is well off, does it?"  
"Some. Often hundreds of dollars—that is, in outward display."  
"And what is an outward display?"  
"An outward and visible sign of an inward and unsuppressed recognition of bonds, stocks and real estate."  
"When I die, papa, will there be all this fuss?"  
"Oh yes. Everybody would come in to hear all about it and sympathize. Flowers would be sent, hymns sung and everything done to make the agony as long drawn out as possible."  
"But, pa, couldn't you be sorry without all this?"  
"Why, of course, but it isn't the thing, you know."

**SIXTEEN DROWNED.**

British Steamer Sinks in Mid-Channel—Only One Rescued.

London, Dec. 23.—A despatch to the Central News says that sixteen men, officers and crew of the British steamer Marley are believed to have been drowned as a result of the foundering of their vessel. The Marley left Liverpool for Dublin, loaded with coal yesterday evening. She encountered heavy weather in mid-channel. A life-boat was lowered, but it was washed away with one man in it.

This sailor was rescued. He declares that he saw the Marley founder.

The British steamer Marley was built at Belfast in 1890. She was of 798 gross tons. She was owned by Tedcastle, McCormick & Co., of Dublin.

**Pink Pears.**

One of the most important industries of the Bahama Islands is the gathering of pink pearls. It is the only place in the world where these pearls are found. These pearls, when perfect, bring very high prices, it is said, ranging from \$50 to \$5,000.

**PAUL KRUGER BROODS**

Never Smiles and is Lost in Bitter Introspection.

**LONGING FOR AFRICAN HOME**

Menton, France, Dec. 23.—Mr. Kruger's health has slightly improved since he came here, but it is plain to anyone who has seen the man's worst ailment is not physical. He looks the picture of misery. When one meets him driving with his daughter and grandchildren he appears to be oblivious to everything around him. He never smiles, but looks lost in the bitter recollection of the evils which have befallen him and his country.

He again expressed a few days ago a strong desire to be permitted to return to the Transvaal and end his days near Pretoria. Some sympathizers undertook to plead his case with British Colonial Secretary Chamberlain. Two wealthy friends even offered to go bail for \$50,000 each as a guarantee for Kruger's good behavior in South Africa. The colonial official is afraid to assent owing to the state of feeling in the Transvaal, where all classes and races are discontented under the new regime.

**MISERABLE NIGHTS.**

What to Do When Baby is Fretful and Sleepless.

It is wrong to take up a wakeful baby from the cradle and walk it up and down the floor all night. It demoralizes the infant and enslaves the parents. Baby does not cry for the first time—generally, because its stomach is sour, its little bowels congested, its skin hot and feverish. Relieve it and it will sleep all night, every night growing stronger in proportion. Just what mothers need is a box of Baby's Own Tablets. They have worked like a charm with my baby, who was very restless at night, but Baby's Own Tablets soon brought quiet sleep and rest. I shall never be without a box while I have a baby. Baby's Own Tablets cure all minor ailments of little ones, and are guaranteed to contain no opiate or harmful drug. They are sold at 25 cents a box by all dealers, or you can get them by mail, post paid, by writing direct to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., or Seneca, N. Y.

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**CANADIAN.**

The railway companies have difficulty in obtaining a sufficient supply of coal.

The Young Conservatives of Manitoba held a provincial convention at Brandon.

The request for a recount of the South Toronto referendum vote has been refused.

Legislation is likely to be enacted fixing the period of annual drill of the Canadian militia at ten days.

The five men charged with personation at the Toronto referendum vote have been remanded for a week.

The reply of Mr. R. J. Fleming, Toronto Assessment Commissioner, to the charges made by the Retail Merchants' Association has satisfied the investigation committee.

A writ was issued in Montreal against the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society, of New York, for \$6,275 paid as war premiums on the life of the fourth contingent, which did not see any fighting.

Special prayers were offered in Anglican churches for the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Rev. A. S. Madill, rector of Caledon East parish, has resigned in order to accept the living at Grand Valley.

The Metropolitan Bank has made arrangements to open a branch in Peterboro, and has taken permanent premises.

St. Thomas Shaginnessy says the C. P. R. was unable to get all the money it requires owing to the very prosperous condition of manufacturing.

Kingston and North Ontario election petitions have been dismissed. Dates have been set for trials in Saint John, Marie, Centre Bruce and North York.

The Provincial Secretary of Ontario announces that henceforth permits to enter the Transvaal or Orange River Colony will be issued only at South African ports.

Rev. Mr. Heenev, of Belleville, is considering the acceptance of the position of Organizing Secretary of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew in Canada recently offered him.

By-laws were carried by Owen Sound ratepayers to purchase the electric light and gas plants, and to exempt the lined oil establishment for taxation for ten years.

Michael Devaney, 26 years of age, the Grand Trunk Railway fireman who was seriously injured in the wreck at Merchiston, on Thursday, Dec. 2nd, died yesterday afternoon in the General Hospital.

The Provincial Secretary has issued the office notice of the erection of the village of East Toronto into a town, and it will in future be known as the town of East Toronto. The town will be divided into three wards.

S. C. Macdonald, of Dunville, has been appointed local Registrar of the High Court of Justice, Clerk of the County Court, and Registrar of the Surrogate Court for the County of Richmond. Geo. H. Smyth of Kingston, has been made a notary public.

**BRITISH AND FOREIGN.**

Five Hoonah Indians who starved a man of their tribe to death for witchcraft, have been indicted for murder at Juneau.

It is reported that an English syndicate seeks a concession of 2,000-

000 acres in New Ontario for colonization purposes.

A commercial treaty between Cuba and the United States was signed, but remains to be ratified by the Senates of both countries.

A Beer store company is arranging to start business at Dordrecht on a large scale. It is stated that the object of the company is to enable the disaffected Dutch to boycott British traders and to advance Bond interests.

**BURNED AT THE ALTAR.**

Bride's Dress Ignited by a Taper Causes Her Death.

Vienna despatch: The Greek Oriental Church at Tohat, in Hungary, was the scene of a terrible fatality last Sunday, whilst a clergyman, Sylvius Elia, was being married to Sdonie Bratecu.

Just as the ceremony was closing the bride's muslin dress caught fire from a taper, and in an instant she was in flames. Two bridesmaids, rushing to her help, shared similar fates.

Finally the bridegroom succeeded in tearing off the bride's dress, but the unhappy girl expired soon afterwards. The other two, though badly burned, will recover.

**PEOPLE'S QUELER TASTE.**

Little Offences Disgust but They Dote on Murder.

The craving for seeing a fellow creature done to death on the stage, or for reading about it in a novel, has a strange fascination for many estimable people. It is singular how anything unnatural is regarded in this country as very correct and proper; while many things that are quite in the ordinary healthy course of nature are regarded as sinful in the first degree.

"If you write an affecting little story about a man, and a woman who loved each other very much, but eventually overlooked the customary visit to church before settling matters, many people will abuse to read it on the ground that it is sinful and the libraries will push it back at you with righteous indignation. But if you pen a dainty story of a bad man waylaying the little heiress, who stands between him and the money, and bashing her into eternal rest with a brick, the same good people will probably scramble over one another in their haste to absorb the lovely details.

"In the first case, you will have dealt with a phenomenon painlessly ignored by nature; and, as we all know, nature is really painfully ignorant on the subject of how to run the earth. In the second place, you have unearthed a vile crime, that is so far unnatural as to be happily extremely rare. As we have seen, in copy-righty times, you have provided a subject that good people can read without feeling at all sinful in consequence.

"If the villain meets the heroine on the cliffs, and offers her a furnished flat on the West Side and five thousand a year for pocket money, respectable people shudder at the idea and speak harshly of the book and its author. But if the villain, with a wild cry of rage, springs at the fair girl's dainty, white throat, and hurls her over the edge of the boiling cliffs, so that she is dashed to smith on the rocks below—that is all right. There is nothing improper there. We can take that story home. I saw a play, recently, in which the villain of the piece was a really beautiful specimen of rascality. He bribed the heiress' grandmother to bring the little victim down the river, and then he picked the child up in a hurry and drowned it. As he was not able to finish his choice job before he was disturbed, he made off when about half-way through, so that the little child could be brought back to die on the stage.

"I do not think that any one with his coat off and both hands free could imagine anything more atrocious than a scene like that. I didn't hear, however, that the public had objected to the incident in any way; though I believe, some years ago, they had objected to a public performance of a play, in which the ladies had their dresses cut too low in the neck, or too high at the knees, or something of that sort. I think the idea was that it wouldn't be correct for a young man to see a lady in public in such a scanty attire, but a nice, choice exhibition of child murder was evidently calculated to do him a lot of good."—From Ainslie's, for November.

**An Insult to Gotham.**

New York Post.

An out-of-town visitor in New York for a day's shopping, stood patiently at Forty-second street and Fifth avenue, apparently waiting for a chance to cross. He waited for a half hour or more. Finally a policeman approached him and asked: "Why don't you cross when you've got the chance?"

"Gosh, you know," the stranger replied, with a New England drawl; "I'm just a little bit superstitious 'bout crossing funerals."

**In Four Hospitals in Montreal**

But the Doctors Could Not Cure Mr. Cloutier—Said He Would Never be Well Again—After Six Years of Helplessness He Was Cured by Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

The case of Mr. Simon Cloutier, shoemaker, 110 Laquechere street, Montreal, deserves more than passing notice, because his case was unusually severe.

For six long years Mr. Cloutier was an invalid unable to attend to his work, and much of his time was spent in the hospital of Montreal. The doctors gave him no hope of recovery, but, on the contrary, told him that he would never be well again.

A treatment that will restore to good health a person whose case was considered hopeless must be of more than ordinary value, and this is only one of a series of remarkable cures that have been brought about by the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

Mr. Simon Cloutier, shoemaker, 110 Laquechere street, Montreal, Quebec, states: "For six years I was unable to work, my nerves were all unstrung and my digestion bad. I had severe attacks of headache, could not sleep, and suffered with shooting pains in the small of my back. I was in four hospitals, but the doctors could not cure me. They said I would never be well again. In spite of their decision I began the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food some months ago, and I am convinced that I owe my life to this medicine. I have now been at work for over two weeks, and I believe that my health has been fully restored. It is a pleasure to me to testify to the hosts of others from persons who have been cured by this wonderful medicine."

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, 50 cents a box, 6 boxes for \$2.50, at all druggists, or Edmonson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

**RUSSIAN CONVICT ISLAND**  
WHERE DAILY HORRORS AND MURDERS OCCUR.

Mr. Charles H. Hawes, who is believed to be the last Englishman to visit the Russian penal settlement of Sakhalin, and the only one to explore the interior and northeastern coast of the island, has been interviewed by Reuter. Mr. Hawes had been travelling in Korea when he decided to visit the island with a view to studying the natives, and also of observing the condition of the criminal settlers.

From Khabarovsk he proceeded with an convoy of exile barges, and was landed at Nicholavsk, opposite Sakhalin. At this point, says Mr. Hawes, my real difficulties commenced, and I was warned that I should probably be shot on the island by convicts at large, unless, indeed, I persisted in an attempt to cross the strait in a native boat alone, in which case the natives would certainly dispatch me.

Disregarding these warnings, which I believed to be exaggerated, I finally succeeded in embarking on a tramp steamer at Nicholavsk, and was landed at Alexandrovsk, the chief centre of the island. Arriving on the jetty in this way, and without any special permit, I was promptly arrested, and during the next few hours the steamer left, and in the absence of any means of conveyance back to the mainland, I knew that my wish was accomplished, and that I could not be sent back. After I had been detained some time, and while investigations were in progress as to my plans,

An Exiled Nobleman,

himself a convict, prevailed upon a storekeeper to offer me the shelter of his log hut, and induced the officials to release me under surveillance. My object was to proceed to the extreme northern part of the island, to study some unknown tribes there, and to see for myself by personal visits to the prisons the real condition of the convicts. On this point I may say at once that this is nearly as bad as popular imagination paints it. On the mainland, however, things are not so bad. Indeed, the Russian penal system, as compared with the whole favorably with other European systems. There are five great penal establishments on this convict island, and with the exception of the clearing house of Sakhalin, which is covered with a forest so dense that even the natives cannot penetrate it. They therefore travel, as we did, by the rivers, in dug-out canoes in summer, in dog or reindeer sleighs in winter. Each journey is a highly dangerous one, and one is never safe from an escaped convict, nearly all of whom manage to arm themselves with guns.

**Murder-Every-Day Occurrence.**

Immediately after my release I spent several days in Alexandrovsk, and in the other settlements, and murder goes on with impunity. During my stay four people whom I met were murdered, including a boy who was living in the same house with me. Almost everyone in the streets wears a gun, and the convicts, on the other hand, are armed with knives, and one is never safe from an escaped convict, nearly all of whom manage to arm themselves with guns.

**Chained to Wheelbarrows.**

In Siberia—apart from the Arctic settlements, of which I know little—the exiles, as is now well known, are not cruelly treated, but their lot in Sakhalin is indeed bad, this being due not so much to the system itself as to the condition of life and the great distance from any central controlling influence. It is no exaggeration to say that the majority of the officials are the dregs of the service—in too many cases drunken and brutal. The Russian Government has recently been made aware of this state of things, and has practically corroborated my statements in sending the Court of Ekstus to try almost the entire convict staff for forgery, fraud, embezzlement and worse. I went over some of the prisons. Despite continual contradictions that such a thing exists, there are still two wretched prisoners chained night and day to wheelbarrows. In Alexandrovsk prison there were six hundred convicts packed in four apartments, each constructed to hold about fifty persons. While I was on the island nearly 1,800 fresh prisoners arrived, mostly for this prison, so its subsequent condition can perhaps be imagined.

**Put Wit on Point.**

S-S-ellence is a flower of life that isn't reared in a hothouse. A convicted man advises his own mistakes because he makes them. The price paid to quiet conscience keeps mighty few people poor.

In order to reach success you must pass through a door labelled "Push." When money is tight it makes Bank scarce, but it's somewhat different with men.

There are men in the world who wear out more clothes sitting down than they ever will pay for by working.

Some marriages are failures because the woman in the man is suspicious, and some are failures because she isn't.