













CHINESE BANDITS.

The French of Tonkin at War with the Freebooters.

Outlaws and Pirates the Curse of the Indo-Chinese Peninsula—Their Methods of Plundering the Towns.

For over a year the French in Tonkin have been trying to destroy the bandit bands that infest the country. Bandits and pirates are the curse of the Indo-Chinese peninsula. The story has often been told of the hundreds of Chinese pirates who infest the large archipelago known as the Robber islands, near the coast of Tonkin. These bands, in their little vessels, have preyed for many years upon commerce, but they have been at last nearly destroyed by the persistent efforts of the French and Chinese governments to root them out; now the French have an opportunity to turn their attention to the hundreds of bandit bands who terrorize the mainland.

Piracy and other forms of outlawry have existed for ages, says the New York Sun, not only in Tonkin, but also in the whole of Annam. These bands do not commit so many depredations when the harvests are good and the country is tranquil and prosperous; but in times of war, or when crops or epidemics afflict the land, they are the curse of Tonkin. Since the French occupied Cochinchina, in 1858, they have waged incessant war upon the bandits, and have at last nearly exterminated them in Annam. The native governments have always been powerless. They have often been obliged to negotiate with the robber bands, giving their officers dignities and money and apportioning lands among the robber soldiery.

The bands belong to two distinct categories. One class is well disciplined and armed with rapid-firing guns. It is composed almost exclusively of Chinese or of savage Muongs recruited in the mountains, who never visit the low, flat lands, and consequently the delta region, where the enormous crops of rice are raised, are free from them. They infest only the hilly and mountain regions of the interior, where they have hidden retreats and can easily get out of sight after a raid and defend themselves when attacked.

Their little settlements are strongly fortified on all sides, and it is believed the forces sent against them have never taken them by surprise. From these fortified centers they spread over the country and live at the expense of the people. If the inhabitants suffer their depredations in quiet, none of them is killed. All the robbers want is a good living. If any resistance is made, however, the bandits are merciless, and their revenge is terrible. When armies are sent against them, if they consider the advancing force too large to resist, they do not await its approach, but are usually far away in the mountain fastnesses before the avenging forces reach their fortified places.

The bandits of the second category are less warlike, but more numerous than the others. There is scarcely a district in Tonkin that is not troubled with them. While the bandits described above are almost altogether Chinese, these robbers are natives of the country. Many of them are fugitive criminals who dare not return to their villages. In the wilderness they have acquired a taste for the wild life of the freebooter. They till the soil no longer, but live by robbery. Often they dwell in villages that are friendly to them. Five or six men form a little band, committing depredations only in regions that are quite a distance from the villages that shelter them. They are not so well armed as the Chinese bandits. Some of them have flintlocks, but most of them carry only swords or lances with iron points. They give to their bands imposing names, to impress the common people and inspire terror. One band, for instance, is called the Butchers of the Mountains, and another the Heroes of the Country. They are too poorly armed to hazard an attack upon the French posts or populous villages.

They usually select little towns where they know there is considerable booty in the way of food and other plunder. On account of bandits, all villages are guarded by hedges of bamboo and cactus, and watchmen during the nighttime walk around the town. When the chief of a bandit band thinks the time favorable for a foray he rallies his men by an understood signal. Sometimes a big fire is kindled on a hilltop, or it may be a volley of musketry. At the signal all the bandits collect at the designated place, where they usually find a bounteous repast, as they do not believe in robbing villages upon empty stomachs. Then in the night they start for the village which is to be surprised. After reaching the unsuspecting settlement they send two or three men in advance, who noiselessly cut an opening in the thorny hedge, through which their comrades gain access to the huts within. Tonkinese watchmen are often known to sleep on their posts, and so it often happens that the bandits do not find it very difficult to surprise the town.

Once within the inclosure the bandits make a terrible noise, firing their guns and yelling like demons. As a rule, the people, thus rudely aroused from sleep, are frightened nearly to death, and offer no resistance to the bandits, who load themselves with every good thing they can find. If, however, the inhabitants offer resistance, their huts are set on fire, and the inmates are killed without mercy.

The French are finding that they have a big job on hand to break up this established institution of the country. Within the past few months they have captured two or three hundred of these bandits, have put the robber chiefs to death, and are keeping the humbler bandits in custody. The prospect is that their vigorous efforts will, in the course of time, make outlawry of this sort so unpleasant that the bandits will take to other pursuits. Then the people of Tonkin will be able to go to bed without the fear that they will be at the mercy of bandits before morning.

E. M. JOHNSON,

37 Government Street, Corner of Broughton.

ESTABLISHED 1879.

REAL ESTATE AGENT, CONVEYANCER AND NOTARY PUBLIC

MONEY to lend on Freehold Security at Current Rates. RENTS AND INTEREST punctually collected and accounted for. CONVEYANCES, Leases, Mortgages prepared and transactions of every nature in connection with Real Estate expeditiously carried out. PROPERTY SALES effected strictly on Commission.

FOR SALE:

Table listing various real estate properties for sale, including lots, buildings, and farms with prices. Examples include: 'Large Lot, 88x167, and garden; 8-room house; basement; hot and cold water; encaustic tile hearths; bath-room; gas, etc.; beautiful locality' for \$7,500; '2 Building Lots, Spring Ridge' for \$1,000; 'Building Site, One Acre, Pemberton Estate, High Land, View of the Straits and Olympians' for \$2,500.

SPECIALS:

Table listing special real estate offers, including: 'BEAUTIFUL HOMESTEAD—Orchards and Garden of Flowers, Vegetables and small fruits' for 11 1/2 acres; 'Garden and fruit trees, 6 peach, 4 apricot, 228 apple, 7 cherry, 16 plum, 5 pear, 80 rhubarb roots'; '27 ACRES, beautiful land, 4 miles out' for \$4,750.

SAWMILL AND PLANT; water power, houses, ship building sheds, steamer, all in running order; trading station; stock, etc.; capacity about 20,000 feet per diem; 8,000 acres of timber limits, and good-will of a long established business.

WANTED, an investment for \$10,000.00, on Mortgage at current rate of interest, on improved city property.

ANOTHER AUSTRALIAN IDEA.

The Torrens System of Registering Real Estate Transfers. The American Contractor contains the following in regard to the Australian system of real-estate transfers, known as the Torrens system. "This system has been in use for over thirty years in Australia, and as far as can be learned, gives satisfaction and does not infringe upon anyone's right or privileges. In south Australia in seventeen years the total amount of claims arising on account of titles thus granted was fifteen hundred dollars. Its discussion by the Illinois State Bar Association is evidence of the interest that is being felt in it and recognition of its merits.

"Briefly stated, it is what is known as 'registration of titles'—a system by which, after the title is registered, it is transferred only on the books of the registrar in analogy to the transfer of registered bonds, stocks, vessels, etc. It most closely resembles the transfer of vessels, which is done by the surrender of the old certificate of registration and taking out a new one in the name of the new owner. Such a system has been used in Bavaria, Prussia and other European states for over a hundred years, and in Hamburg for over six hundred years. Its use among English-speaking people originated in South Australia by Sir Robert Torrens, and has been generally known as the 'Torrens system'. He claims it was first suggested to him by the method in use in transferring vessels. So satisfactory has it proved that it has since been adopted in the other Australian colonies and in Tasmania, New Zealand, the Fiji Islands, British Columbia, Manitoba and Ontario. It is also permitted in England.

"The distinguishing feature is that the title is transferable only upon the record on the surrender and cancellation of the certificate of title of the seller and a new certificate is issued to the purchaser. "If only a portion of the land is transferred a certificate is issued to the purchaser for the part purchased and a new one to the owner for the part which he retains. If a peculiar estate is created, as for years or for life, a certificate is issued to one for the particular estate and to the other for the reversion or remainder. Every transfer is under supervision of the registrar, and all questions touching its regularity and validity are settled at the time of the transfer. So no question affecting the title can, therefore, arise except in case of fraud, and then only while the property remains in the hands of the purchaser or others having notice of the fraud.

"It would do away with the enormous cost of obtaining abstracts as well as avoid the loss of time incident upon the present transfer of title. It would save the state some millions annually which now are spent in making, keeping and storing the thousands of volumes upon whose pages the old and new records are spread in detail, all of which have to be gone over every time a new owner obtains the fee to the property unless he accepts in lieu thereof the guaranty of some title-guaranty trust company, which is good only so long as said company remains wholly solvent. But the purchaser has no assurance that if in future years some hidden claim arises against his property the title-guaranty company will not be so incumbered with suits on other claims as to be already insolvent, if perchance it may not already from other causes have gone out of business.

"The state, which is the people in their aggregate or representative sense, should be the arbiter, quieter and guarantor of all titles to real property, just as it is the protector of the individual rights of all citizens, and this should be done at the minimum expense of money and time both to the state and the citizen, commensurate with security and protection to separate rights under the laws.

UNCONSIDERED TRIFLES.

Very Trivial Circumstances on Which Great Things Have Depended. Dr. J. R. Parke writes in the Philadelphia North American: Had Cleopatra's nose been a trifle shorter, says Pascal, the political aspect of the world would have been different. Antony would not have been enslaved and Caesar would have gone down to history simply as one of Rome's defeated generals. Such a groveling thing as the passing lust of a Tarquin gave to the mother of men that liberty upon whose shrine a Caesar was sacrificed and a Cato suffered martyrdom. The battle of Waterloo, with all its vast interests, was lost to Napoleon, according to Hugo, through a peasant boy's false statement to Grouchy when asked the shortest road to Hougoumont. Louis Philippe's son drank one cup of wine too much, fell from his carriage, was killed, the Orleans dynasty was overthrown, the family exiled and its estates confiscated.

To most persons it will prove a new paragraph in history that the war of the revolution and the independence of America were brought about directly by a horse kicking over his traces. Such, nevertheless, is the fact. A gentleman residing in Cheshire, England, by such an accident, thrown from his carriage and slightly injured. At a farmhouse where he applied for assistance he first met the young lady whom he subsequently married, and who, emigrating with him to America, became, in the year 1783, the exalted and illustrious mother of George Washington, the hero of our father's memorable struggle and the founder of American liberty.

A Deaf Phenomenon.

Aaron Andrews, a colored man living four or five miles from Halyondale, Pa., presents a phenomenon in human nature. He is so deaf that he cannot hear the report of a gun discharged near him. The loudest thunder is not even faintly heard by him, but he can be communicated with by the agency of the human voice, though he can't understand anyone except those with whom he is intimately acquainted.

PANNICA



ONIST

Onto, for the to offer the ar's subscrip- rices: ROCCO, \$42.00

be paid at the rate and \$3.50 cash and 98.50 for sheep, and carrier, \$10 will be a usual way. The paper is guaranteed half of total price carriers, accredited for the paper and media published, and subscribers to

ONIST

and valuable ROCCO, \$34

S. are ever issued from fond of history, it modern times. Are clear, understand- inventions? The of manufacturing er heading to your whether you want at any matter as to

RATED

The information of the nineteenth of this grand work,

VICTORIA, B. C. W. H. GROVE, 10th, 1891.

HEREBY GIVEN that 60 days intend to apply to the Chief Lands and Works for permis- 100 acres land commencing at the bank of Cheewat River, at the north 10-1/2 chains, chains, thence south to the the shore to point of com-

10th, 1891. W. H. GROVE, 10th, 1891.

HEREBY GIVEN that 60 days after date apply to the Chief Lands and Works for permis- 100 acres of land in Goddard's life as follows: Commencing at corner post, then running N 40 chains; then south 40 commencement.

31st July, 1891. M. L. WILLIAMS, 1414 2nd-wy. Lady Teacher for Agassiz trict. Address G. W. Bebe, 15 25 St. d&w

HUDSON BAY CO.

Annual Meeting in London - The Years' Business Reviewed - Prospects More Encouraging.

The Co.'s Fur Business Expected to be Better Because of the Stoppage of Sealing.

A General Court of the Governors and Company of Adventurers of England, trading into Hudson's Bay, was held on Wednesday, July 22nd, at the Cannon Street Hotel, Sir Donald A. Smith, K.C.M.G., (Governor) presiding.

The chairman in his address said: The report gives a clear and accurate statement of the transactions for the outfit and year, with which it deals.

Mr. Spens thought there was a tendency observable to exaggerate somewhat the evils of the company's position.

Mr. Lomas thought the £23,000 carried forward, being money earned, ought to go into the pockets of the shareholders.

Mr. G. E. Francis considered it a delusion to suppose that good harvests in Canada would do much good either to Canada generally or to the company in particular.

Mr. McLean thought the report and accounts were thoroughly unsatisfactory. They had \$900,000 capital invested in the trading branch of the business.

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EAGER TO ESCAPE.

By such means he may prove himself equal to the task; he has my best wishes for his success.

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TAXPAYERS FLOOD THE COURT OF REVISION WITH PROTESTS AGAINST ASSESSMENTS.

Property Owners Anxious to Reduce Their Taxes Represented by Able Solicitors.

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WANTED, A HOTEL.

Prominent Victorians Agree That a First-Class Hotel is Now a Necessity.

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CHINA WILL MAKE AMENDS.

Combined Action of the Powers Compelling the Emperor to Protect Foreigners.

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THE MINES OF CARIBOO.

Rich Discovery on Slough Creek - A Seattle Man Speaks of the Wealth of the District.

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BEATING THE RECORD.

The Princess Louise the Northern Greyhound - A Second Run on the Skeena.

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FIGHTING THE RECORD.

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The Colonist.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 1891. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. BY W. H. KELLS, A. G. BARBOUR, } HILLIS & CO. THE COLONIST BUILDING, GOVERNMENT ST.

TERMS: THE DAILY COLONIST PUBLISHED EVERY DAY EXCEPT MONDAY For Year, (Postage free to any part of Canada) \$10 00 Per week (if delivered) 20 THE WEEKLY COLONIST For Year, (Postage free to any part of Canada) \$2 00 12 Months 1 25 Three Months 75 Subscriptions in all cases are payable strictly in ADVANCE.

ADVERTISING RATES: REGULAR COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING at a distinguished from everything of transient character—that is to say, advertising referring to regular mercantile and manufacturing business, Government and Notices—published at the following rates: Per line, Solid Nonpareil, the duration of publication to be specified at the time of ordering advertisement.

AMERICAN NEWS. The New York Fire. NEW YORK, Aug. 25.—At 12:30 the sum total of the bodies recovered from the Park Place ruins was 34. The total number that has been identified is two, and the number yet missing is 88.

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS INVESTIGATION. OTTAWA, Aug. 25.—At the Public Accounts committee, this morning, Foster announced that Lieut. Governor Schulz was expected here, to-morrow, to give evidence respecting the Keewatin boondoggling charges.

WATCHING EACH OTHER. Affairs in Chili Approaching a Crisis.—The Citizens of Valparaiso Awaiting the Result of the Battle.

Entertaining the French Fleet. PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 24.—The French sailors were entertained, to-day, at a banquet by the municipal authorities.

Health in Carefully. HEALTH-GIVING BARKS, roots, and berries are carefully combined in Burdock Blood Bitters, which regulate the blood, and build up the system.

QUEEN VICTORIA. Congratulates President Carnot Upon the Appearance of the French Fleet.

The Death Roll at Martinique—Prince Bismarck Writing His Biography.

Russian Jewish Emigration. LONDON, Aug. 24.—The Standard's St. Petersburg correspondent says that United States Minister Smith, acting under instructions from Washington City, has requested an interview with the minister of the interior to discuss the question of emigration of Russian Jews to America.

The Boston Baseball League. BOSTON, Aug. 25.—Mike Kelly, to-day, signed a contract to play with the Boston League club the remainder of this and all of next season.

Great Fire at Sheridan, Cal. WHEATLAND, Cal., Aug. 24.—The entire business portion of the town of Sheridan was destroyed by fire last night.

Deserting Mercier. TORONTO, Aug. 25.—The Empire's Quebec correspondent asserts that leading members of the local house, and amongst them some who have hitherto supported Mercier, state openly that even in the assembly, where the government has so far been supported.

The Census Returns. TORONTO, Aug. 25.—An Ottawa dispatch to the Empire says the complete census returns, report of the population, will be presented to the House to-morrow (Wednesday).

Stanley Goes to Paris. GENEVA, Aug. 24.—Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Stanley left Muarren, to-day, for Paris.

England's Trade With China. LONDON, Aug. 24.—Trade returns from China treaty ports for the quarter, ending with the close of June, show an increase of 16 per cent. over those for the corresponding period in 1890.

Health in Carefully. HEALTH-GIVING BARKS, roots, and berries are carefully combined in Burdock Blood Bitters, which regulate the blood, and build up the system.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE. NANAIMO, Aug. 25.—A boat containing the first officer and two Japs of the steamer Foochow was upset in the Gulf this afternoon.

Japan Wants a Large Naval Force as China—Outrages Against Foreigners.

China and Japan. SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 24.—The City of Rio Janeiro arrived, this afternoon, bringing the following advices: The British consul at Hankow is not satisfied with the perfumatory trial of the rioters who murdered and looted at Wushou, and after an energetic remonstrance, Viceroy Chang Chi Tung has consented to re-open the case.

Capital Notes. The Dominion Census Returns to be Presented to Parliament To-day.

Believed the Total Population of Canada Will Not Reach Five Million.

THE VALPARAISO BATTLE. The Final Struggle, Which Must Soon Determine the Mastery of the Strait.

The Insurgents Repulsed With Great Loss—General Canto Preparing for a Flank Movement.

Supreme Court. James Gray, John Gray and S. Gray vs. McCullum (by original claim).

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CHINA AND JAPAN. Latest Advice from the Orient—H. M. Gunboat Tweed Sinks During a Typhoon.

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FOG ON THE STRAITS. Causes the Steamer Zambesi to Collide With a Lumber Laden Schooner.

The Latter Badly Damaged and Towed Into Port—News From the Orient.

It was the expectation of the captain and officers of the Upton line steamship Zambesi that they would make this port at about 8 o'clock on Saturday evening—and they would have done so had it not been for the fog, which overspread the Straits, and necessitated running at slow speed from the time Cape Flattery was passed.

At six in the evening the grey veil commenced to settle down upon the water; and by midnight the fog was thickest. It was, two hours later, very difficult to distinguish objects any distance away, and this is the reason given for the collision that occurred.

The black mass ahead which subsequently proved to be the schooner Fanny Dutar, was struck by the Zambesi, about midship, the starboard bow of the liner, cutting the wooden side of the sailer like a knife.

OTAWA, Aug. 25.—The census returns will be presented to Parliament, to-morrow. It was not possible to get a reliable report to-day, but I learn from a reliable source that the statement is not satisfactory.

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION. The Auditor-General's department this morning reported to the committee on the office 105 days in four years.

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THE NEW PACIFIC MAIL. The Phenomenon of P. R. Speed in England Will be the World's Treasure.

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