

THE CHINAMAN AT EASE.

When He Casts Off the Cares of the World He Becomes a Dignified Being.

With the summer weather the Chinaman comes before us prominent in his artistic silks and in his native nakedness. His temperament also becomes a noticeable feature to the observant foreigner and the manner in which he takes his pleasure contrasts marvelously with that of the energetic occidental human being.

In the early hours of the morning, says the Shanghai Times when the rays of the red sun are tempered with the dissipating dew of night, the wealthy native as well as the worker of low degree may be seen carrying the cage containing his favorite singing bird to the native gardens or other tree-embowered spots and listening in contemplative ecstasy to the joyous greeting which his caged friend pours forth to the coming glory of the day.

As soon as the golden beams become oppressive he retires to his domicile, whether to labor or sleep is hard to tell. In any case, he is wise, for he has not sought the beauty of the grandest part of a summer's day, the majesty of dawn. Again, when sunset's glow has fallen dead in the west the Chinaman pours forth in his diversion. To stand for hours with waving fan on the curb of our city's thoroughfares watching the procession of vehicular and pedestrian traffic brings him apparently the delight which a Londoner can obtain from a lord mayor's show, daily repeated.

While a volunteer parade brings him forth in numbers proportionate to the metropolis, he is myriads called out by a royal pageant.

Thus in dignified, contemplative manner does the Chinaman display his idiosyncrasy of pleasure-taking. Again, the native of younger blood, imbued with a lineage of foreign taste, rushes madly through the streets on the whirling wheel or drives, luxuriously reclining in his smartly appointed carriage behind the fastest trotting pony, steered by a reckless native jehu, which his means are able to procure.

The visitor to the various public resorts of the Chinese in the settlements will invariably gain an interesting insight into the Chinaman and his pleasures and amusements.

OCTOBER PLEASANT MONTH

Data on Weather Record for the Last Thirty-Three Years Gathered by Prof. Cox.

Data for the month of October for the last 33 years have been gathered by Prof. Henry J. Cox, of the Chicago station of the weather bureau, reports the Daily News, showing that the month has been on an average the pleasant season it is supposed to be. The mean or normal temperature during that period was 53 degrees, while the average number of clear days was 12.4, partly cloudy days 10, and of cloudy days 9. The average precipitation is set at 2.55 inches.

The warmest October came in 1890, when an average temperature of 61 degrees was noted, and the coldest October was that of 1896 with an average temperature of 46 degrees. The warmest October day was October 15, 1887, when the mercury reached 87 degrees, and the coldest day was October 25, 1887, when it dropped down to within 14 degrees of zero. October 15 is set as the average date for the first "killing" frost of autumn. The greatest precipitation for the month was 7.36 inches recorded in 1853 and the least was 1.8 in 1897.

The greatest snowfall recorded in any 24 consecutive hours during October occurred October 17, 1896, and measured three inches. The greatest precipitation of any kind during 24 consecutive October hours was found to be 2.55 inches, October 19 and 20, 1877. Prevailing winds have been from the south and the average hourly velocity was reckoned at 17 miles. The high velocity of 63 miles an hour was attained by a gale from the southeast October 17, 1898. Prof. Cox points out that the statement of average conditions must not be taken as a forecast for the coming month.

Bill Nye's Cow Ad.

Bill Nye, the famous comedian, had a cow to which he gave the name of "Bill Nye." The cow was a very fine specimen of the breed, and was very intelligent. She was very fond of her master, and would follow him wherever he went. She was very useful to him, and was a great help to him in his work. She was a very good mother, and her milk was very good. She was a very good cow, and was a great help to her master.

SUCCESSFUL AS MAYORS.

Some Prove So Competent as Municipal Managers They Are Called to Other Cities.

When a German city wishes a capable, economical and trustworthy mayor, it adopts a plain, business expedient to get one. It simply looks around and hires the best official that can be found, says a London paper.

The correct management of municipalities has long been a study in Germany and the putting of this knowledge into effect has become a profession. In reality, therefore, the mayoralty is a professional pursuit and those who devote their energies and abilities to it grade upward, being called from city to city.

If a man makes a notable success as the mayor of one city he is liable at any time to be called to administer the affairs of another and a larger. The honor and emoluments of the office increase with the importance of the town. There is every incentive, therefore, to the best administrative efforts on the part of a mayor, especially as the opportunity for graft is almost entirely missing.

This plan of having professional mayors and of promoting them from city to city has worked well in Germany. It provides a class of men who make the business of the people a study and qualify themselves to conduct the affairs of municipalities upon business principles. The element of politics is cut out for the better policy of looking to the public good.

The Germans are sensible in that they prefer to retain public officials who have proved their value. The argument of rotation in office does not carry much weight. An illustration of this comes from Ingersheim, near Strasbourg, where the discharge of mayoralty functions has descended in one family through an unbroken line for more than two centuries.

The burgomaster of Ingersheim, named Gilet, has just succeeded in the office held by his ancestors for 224 years. The first of the line was a French soldier named Dominique Gilet, belonging to Turanne's army. He was grievously wounded in the battle of Turckheim, fought on January 5, 1675, was cared for by a peasant of Ingersheim, recovered, settled there, and married the daughter of his rescuer and in 1680 became burgomaster, and the Gilets have been burgomasters of Ingersheim ever since.

"SNEAKERS" THE THINGS.

Best Footgear for the Woods on Account of Comfort and Aid in Walking.

"Sneakers" said the man back from the woods, according to the New York Sun, "that's what you want, sneakers. Not that everybody has them. We found plenty of people walking the trails in leather shoes, and as a matter of fact, that's what I would have done myself if my friend, who knew a heap more about such things than I did, hadn't warned me to get sneakers. You want the sneakers big enough, but not too long; no long end sticking out in front of your toes to catch in things as you walk. The soles of leather shoes soon wear smooth in the woods, and if the trails are dry you slip on leaves and pine needles and twigs and roots and your hard heels, of course, don't give you any foothold whatever. But sneakers, with their flexible rubber soles extending the whole length of the foot, and their equally flexible cloth tops, permit the foot the freest play, and permit it to settle and grip on whatever you step.

"And with sneakers you can so to speak wrap your feet around the logs you have to walk in crossing brooks and marshy spots, and there's nothing like them for climbing and walking down hills, and so sneakers are the thing for comfort and safety. Of course this is all old to people accustomed to them, but as I said, we found plenty of people walking the trails in leather shoes, not yet knowing the comfort and usefulness of sneakers. My friend tells me that there's a sort of moss-kill that is better for walking than sneakers, and that may be; but sneakers satisfy me, as far as I've got, and next year when I go to the woods I take along sneakers, and I take two pairs. The soles of them may tear loose, and you want a pair in reserve and one or two extra pairs of laces.

"Take off your suspenders if you wear them and put on a belt and give your body a freedom that will be astonishingly delightful if you have never experienced it, and put sneakers on your feet, and then you can walk the wood trails not only with safety but with joy unmitigated and untrammelled."

A Helpful Spirit.

There had at first been six names on the list of candidates to be sent by popular vote from the little seaport town to the great fair, but gradually the list had dwindled, for two of the candidates went so far ahead of all the others that it became a farce to retain the other names. It was when affairs had been at this point for three weeks, and within 24 hours of the time set for counting the last votes, that Miss Mattie Hawley met one of the candidates on the street. "I didn't know what to do," said Miss Mattie, with a distressed look in her eyes. "I want you to go and I want her to go on at last. I thought me how I could help you both. So I went into Jones and bought ten dozen cakes of soap and put half the coupons in for you and half for her." Youth's Companion.

The Difference.

People are esteemed comfortably well off who have a modest competence. People who have an immediate competence are uncomfortably well off.—Puck.

GIRLS CASE PUZZLES.

A YOUNG LADY FALLS ASLEEP CONVERSING WITH FRIENDS.

Physicians Are Unable to Arouse Her, But Spiritualist Finally Succeeds in Restoring Her to Normal Condition.

A case that is puzzling physicians of Berkeley, Cal., is that of Miss Bertha Young of that city. One afternoon recently Miss Young fell asleep while talking to friends at the residence of J. C. Aitken, where she was stopping. Restoratives were resorted to in order to awaken the girl, but all efforts failed and Dr. E. L. Carpenter was summoned. The physician worked over Miss Young for several hours, but failed to arouse her. The following day he made several unsuccessful attempts to restore her to consciousness, but met with defeat. As a last resort a spiritualist was sent for. After uttering strange incantations and making passes over the sleeping girl the spiritualist told her to awaken, and to the surprise of those who witnessed the performance Miss Young opened her eyes. For a while she was somewhat dazed and in an uncertain state of mind, but she soon recovered her normal condition and expressed no illfeeling from her long sleep.

Owing to the timidity of Miss Young efforts were made by the Aitken family to keep the affair from becoming public. The name of the spiritualist would not be disclosed by the family. Miss Aimes Aitken, however, was willing to discuss the case.

"This is not the first time Miss Young has been in a trance," said Miss Aitken. "Some time ago she had a similar experience. When the physicians failed to arouse her relatives were compelled to secure a clairvoyant, who awakened her. She is peculiarly sensitive about the matter, and we have tried to keep it quiet. She has a brother attending the University of California.

"Although only a spiritualist can awaken her, she is not of that belief and cannot account for the strange trance into which she fell. The spiritualist offered no explanation and we are at a loss to understand the cause of her sudden lapses into the profound slumber."

WALKS THROUGH A WINDOW.

University Student, Absorbed in Letter from Home, Roused by Crashing Glass.

Thomas Lynch, a student at the Northwestern university, at Evanston, Ill., walked through a plate glass window in the Evanston post office the other day while absorbed in the reading of a letter.

The crashing of the glass and the sharp sting of numerous cuts on his face brought him to a realization of the occurrence, and he went immediately to the police station.

He advised the officer in charge there of the incident and left \$15 as a self-imposed penalty.

"There," he said, "that ought to pay for the window. I was entirely innocent of intentional offense. I had just received a long expected letter from home and was so engrossed in its perusal that I walked mechanically toward the light, without thinking of the possibility of glass being there. The resulting shock was cheap at \$15."

The money will be turned over to the postal authorities and a new window will be installed. Lynch is known for his fits of abstraction.

POLICEMAN BANK DIRECTOR.

Los Angeles, Cal., Said to Have the Only Such Financier in the Entire Country.

Los Angeles, Cal., has long been noted as possessing everything that any other city in the United States has, but not until recently has it been able to claim a bank director who is also a policeman. His name is T. M. Kristovich. He has a place in the directorate of the new International Savings & Exchange bank, which was opened for business Monday at Temple and Spring streets.

"It does seem a bit strange for a policeman in the ranks to be a bank director, but it is true in my case, and I guess I am the only policeman-director in the United States," said Kristovich.

"My new office will not cause me to give up my position on the force. I shall remain a policeman as long as my work is satisfactory, and during leisure hours will attend the meetings of the bank directorate."

Heights of Monarchs. The distinction of being the shortest monarch belongs to King Victor Emmanuel of Italy, who measures five feet two inches in his boots. Next comes the mikado, with five feet six inches, and then gradually increasing in height the czar (five feet seven inches), King Edward VII. (five feet eight inches), the king of Portugal (six feet), and the king of Sweden (six feet two inches). The tallest, though not the greatest monarch, is King Leopold of Belgium, with six feet six inches.

New Kind of Vaccination. Under the advice of Prof. Davenport of the Illinois agricultural college farmers of that state are sowing their fields with alfalfa bacteria from Kansas, remarks the New York Telegram. In a little while we'll hear the howl: "What's the matter with Illinois?"

Oklahoma's Broom Corn Crop. Oklahoma now has the greatest broom corn producing district in the country, and will produce more this year than Kansas and Illinois combined. It is estimated that the crop will amount to about 25,000 tons.

WERE EXPENSIVE LUXURIES.

Altercation Between Grocer and Beliegent Customer Made Small Purchases Cost Much.

"I knew a case where a basket of grapes and a quart of oysters cost \$27," said Attorney Jacob Ingelstrom, in the Chicago Daily News. "They were not a very superior sort of grapes, nor a specially high-class brand of oysters—just about the ordinary kind of both commodities. What made them so expensive was the natural desire of two persons who have a quarrel to get even with each other.

"One Saturday night Mrs. Schultz was going home with a basket of grapes. She went into Schaefer's store to buy a quart of oysters. She set her basket on the counter and asked for what she wanted. When she got them in the usual paper pack she opened it, before paying, to examine them. She did not like the looks of them. In fact, she became so indignant and excited at sight of those oysters, that she upset the pack, accidentally, or otherwise, throwing some of the oysters on the counter, and most of them in the sidewalk on the floor. Then she refused to pay for them.

Schaefer got mad and seized her basket of grapes, saying he would keep it instead of his oysters. She called him a fraud and a swindler, and he ejected her from the store.

Then Mrs. Schultz went to the nearest police station and had five warrants made out against him for assault and battery, malicious mischief, threats to kill, common assault, and disturbance of the peace. Schaefer was arrested and had to give bonds for his release, costing him five dollars. Next morning, when his case was called, he took a continuance, costing him five dollars more, five dollars also going to his lawyer.

"Annoyed at this bother and expense, Schaefer had Mrs. Schultz arrested on five different warrants for malicious mischief, willful destruction of property, assault and battery, threats to kill and disorderly conduct. When she was brought in her case was continued to the same day as his, and she also had to give bond for her appearance, costing her five dollars with five dollars more to her lawyer. When the cases came on again both sides said they wanted time to bring witnesses. So the cases were continued once more, with five dollars added more to their lawyers. When the cases finally came up and were disposed of, both Schaefer and Mrs. Schultz were out under peace bonds, costing them \$250 each.

"So that is how a basket of grapes and a quart of oysters cost \$27. But, then of course, there was thrown in the excitement of litigation, with the sustaining mutual hope, based on the glorious uncertainty of the law, of each side seeing the other punished. The oysters, as I said, were spoiled. As for the grapes, I don't know what became of them, but they must have tasted extremely sour."

WHEN NEPTUNE RESPONDED.

The Equanimity of the Beach Loungers Was Swiftly and Completely Upset.

Hot afternoon on the white sands at Coney Island. Beach crowded with bathers and spectators. Well in the foreground sat two elderly ladies, engrossed in gossip and hand-sawing. Says the New York Times: "Both utterly oblivious of steadily approaching tide, the last wave of which has come within five feet of where they are sitting.

Middle-aged man in bathing suit, benevolently disposed, close observer of tides, remarks briefly to ladies: "The next wave will be higher."

Both ladies show their gratitude by simultaneously fixing him a freezing stare, then gaze gliding at each other in mutual congratulation at the effectual manner in which they have squelched this individual who is surely trying to scrape acquaintance with them. Again they resume gossip and the sandwiches. Middle-aged man, benevolence now all gone, places both hands in attitude of prayer, and silently invokes Father Neptune to do the proper thing.

The merry old sea god, ever ready for a prank, responds by pushing in a wave that transforms each old lady into a temporary Island. Up and down their waists sweeps the flood of salt water, saturating their clothing and putting the establishments out of commission.

Middle-aged man, keen satisfaction illuminating his features, alertly watches different moves of disgraced old ladies as they vainly endeavor to remove salt water and wet sand. He is apparently anxious to enjoy a bit of their discomfiture.

Finally, unable to restrain the human nature which persists in bubbling forth, he again remarks to old ladies in calm, measured tones: "You don't know how glad I am!"

Good for England.

The ill wind which is blowing toward Russia is likely to be of some good to an English industry which has been some time in the doldrums. A few of the woolen mills of Lancashire and Yorkshire have recently received large orders from the Japanese government for uniforms for their troops, and the fortunate manufacturers are working at the highest pressure. The familiar stone-built factories in the cloths and wales on the Yorkshire side of the Pennine range are especially busy, several being at work night and day. The extent of the orders would seem to indicate that the Japanese have made up their minds to face a long campaign in the cold regions of Manchuria.—London Pall Mall Gazette.

ANIMALS GOOD SWIMMERS.

Even Some of the Most Ungainly Are Strong and Graceful in the Water.

In spite of the fact that man is not an instinctive swimmer, as are most of the lower animals, he excels in the latter that are not aquatic in "endurance in the water." It is reported that, in attempting to swim across the English channel recently, a man covered 30 miles before he succumbed to exhaustion. The only land animals that are known to be able to approximate such a feat are bears, writes J. Herbert Welch, in Success, which are probably the strongest swimmers among animals not specially adapted by nature for the water.

Deer and horses rank next to bears in swimming powers. Deer swim rapidly and gracefully, and it is not uncommon for them to cover a distance of ten or even 15 miles in the water. Horses are powerful swimmers, and have none of the aversion toward entering the water which is often shown even by animals which can swim well when forced to. A number of horses that were postured on the American side of the Niagara river once swam in company across this broad stream. In order to return to their old stables, it may be useful to know that, in crossing a body of water with a horse, the best method, if the horse is expected to swim any considerable distance, is to slide over his back, and hold the animal lightly by the tail and allow it to tow you across. This relieves the horse of the weight of your body, and enables him to swim faster and much farther than otherwise would be the case.

Dogs vary greatly in ability as swimmers. The water spaniel, retriever, mastiff and St. Bernard excel all others. A retriever known to the writer once followed a canoe for nine miles. The dog was much exhausted, however, when drawn into the boat. The elephant is a good swimmer, and the wild animals of the vast family, the tiger, the panther, the jaguar and others do not hesitate to cross lakes and rivers. On the other hand, the domestic cat shrinks from immersion, and drowns quickly. The nostrils of some small animals are so placed as

to be in the water, so that they are able to breathe beneath the surface. Rats are excellent swimmers. Almost all birds, except those which are distinctly aquatic, are nearly helpless in water. Small birds in particular have no power of pulling in, and though they do not sink they drown quickly. Even many species of waterfowl rise from the water with difficulty or not at all, when their wings are wet. After a sea gull plunges and returns to the surface it stretches its wings so that they may be dried by the wind and sun before it attempts to fly.

All reptiles swim. Almost all snakes move through the water with as much ease and rapidity as on land. Rattlesnakes, for example, are much given to swimming in placid water if it is not too cold. In the Florida lakes of Florida they may be often seen. It is well to know that to swim from a boat a poisonous snake in the water is a much more dangerous proceeding than to attack the snake on land. The reason is that the rattlesnake immediately makes for the boat, where it must have a solid base from which to strike. Half-come and half-go into the craft, or there is a fight at uncomfortably close quarters.

WHERE WOAD IS GROWN.

Plant from Which Blue Dye Is Expresed Cultivated in Lincolnshire, England.

It is not generally known that woad, which impressed our earliest years with envy when we heard that the ancient Britons stained themselves bright blue with it, is a moment's notice, is still grown in Lincolnshire as a dye, says Country Life. The neighborhood of Huxon and of Wisbech, in Lincolnshire, are the places where the industry survives. The seed is sown early in April, on little embankments, and the plants grow from three feet to four feet high. The cultivation is laborious as the ground has to be weeded constantly, and to do this men and women work on their hands and knees. The harvest goes on from August till November, the plants being pulled in a green state as they come to their full height. To insure their coming on in relays the sowings are very intermittent. The juice is crushed out by heavy wheels working in a trough, and is peculiarly poisonous to other plant life. The finest and most lasting blue dye or cloth is obtained in this way.

Irish Emigration.

The labors of the Irish Anti-Emigration society, an organization formed last year, do not appear to have been attended with much success. The emigration from the south and west of Ireland, from which the outflow chiefly takes place, has shown no sign of diminishing. In 1903 the emigration through the port of Cork to the United States amounted to 27,105; in 1901, 29,450; in 1902, 23,440, and 1903, 24,412. For the eight months of the present year the figures are 18,512, while for the corresponding eight months of last year the return was 17,769.—Indianapolis News.

Blasts in Simplon Tunnel.

In boring the Simplon tunnel, now almost completed, 1,510,000 dynamite blasts have been made. Dynamite to the amount of 165,900 pounds was used.

Tax on Each Cat.

The returns in London for the quarter ending June 30 show a decrease of income of £2,500,000. A large meeting under the presidency of a dignitary of the Church of England, therefore, pointed out to the chancellor of the exchequer that it would be advisable to tax cats half a crown a head. He estimated that the expedient would turn £20,000 annually into the treasury, "decrease the number of cats, and elevate their social standing by removing the stigma of cheapness."—Boston Globe.

Brought It Upon Himself.

Lazy Husband's Complaint Turned to Good Account by Quick-Witted Wife.

"When a man gets married," exclaimed the man, who had just got the most for his money in any competition, according to a humorous exchange, "he might just as well make up his mind to work like a dog all the rest of his life." His wife looked at him with an expression of mingled grief and surprise. After a thoughtful pause she said: "Why, I wish you would step out with me on the porch for a minute if you're not too tired to move so far." He languidly obeyed, and as he stood in the doorway he inquired: "What do you want? It's too warm to sit here."

"I don't want you to perform any labor," she said, "but I want you to work like a dog because you got married."