

WESTERN LEARNING.

BEING COURTED BY PEOPLE OF THE CHINESE EMPIRE.

The Educational Institutions of the Orientals Are Adopting American Ideals and Methods.

A Methodist missionary, recently returned to this country, has the following to say of conditions in the celestial empire...

China's rapidly changing attitude toward western learning and ideals is most strikingly illustrated by the visit of his excellency, Chou Fu, viceroy of the three provinces of Kiang-Sut, An-Huei and Kiang-Si, at the recent commencement exercises of Nanking university...

Chou Fu has only recently gone to Nanking as viceroy. At the time of the Boxer uprising he was treasurer of the Szechuan province in far western China...

Graduation week at Nanking university comes in winter rather than in early summer as at most colleges in the United States...

His excellency, through the president of the university, offered employment at 40 taels per month to all alumni of the university not already under engagement...

Cost of Mausoleum. The empress dowager of China has expended thus far \$6,000,000 on her mausoleum near Peking.

THEN HE MOVED ON.

Doctor Diagnosed a Broken Leg as Colic and the Camp Didn't Want Him.

About the time we heard that a new doctor was coming up to settle in our camp at Big Hopes a miser named Watkins fell over a bank and broke his right leg...

"I'll ease him of it in ten minutes," replied the doctor, and he was taken away to see his first patient in camp.

"Did this colic come with a chill?" eagerly asked the doctor. "Sorter that way."

SHE NAMED THE TRUMP.

And a Consequence He Chose Her for His Partner in the Game of Life.

They had been partners at the card party all the evening, and, naturally, he became her escort home.

"If you had a different partner," she said, after a mild and ineffectual resistance, "you might have held better hands during the game and afterward."

"Yes, yes," he said, "always and always." "It shall be a diamond for awhile," she said, slowly, as she looked far away into the mysteries of the starry sky.

Odd Sheaths. Suggestive of the sword cane is the dagger made for those who work in diving suits. Most divers find a keen bladed knife essential in working below the surface...

Round the World in Seven Seconds. Mr. Morton, secretary of the American navy, opened a telegraph switch in the grounds of the railway appliances exhibition at Washington...

Few Qualify for Navy. There were 28 vacancies in the grade of assistant paymaster in the navy. For these positions 2,000 young men applied.

GOLD GOING ABROAD.

INCREASE IN AMOUNT TAKEN TO EUROPE BY AMERICANS.

The Marked Effect Upon Exports by Summer Travel—Amount Spent Abroad Is Larger Each Year.

New York.—The recent gold exports, small in volume as they were, are suggestive of the relations which this market bears to those of Europe and serve to recall the fact that one of the potent factors in shaping the course of exchange between New York and European centers is the summer expenses of Americans sojourning in Europe.

These expenses of Americans in Europe go on of course in some degree all through the year, but the amount spent abroad is naturally largest in summer, and it is during this season that the effect of this particular feature of the international exchange situation is most felt.

A New York banker who was recently abroad largely in connection with important exchange transactions, in discussing this question the other day stated that while in Paris he met a French banker who had made careful investigations with a view of ascertaining so far as possible the actual amount of this particular factor in the exchange market.

TAX VALUE IS INCREASED.

Assessment to Be Levied in New York City on a Total Estimate of \$5,912,156,227.

New York.—According to the final estimates of the commissioner of taxes and assessments, New York city this year is worth \$5,912,156,227 and will pay taxes on this amount. This is an increase of \$271,613,570 over the assessed value last year.

Andrew Carnegie still leads the list on the personal tax rolls, being assessed at \$5,000,000 on his personal estate. In addition Mr. Carnegie's residence on Fifth avenue and Nineteenth street is assessed at \$2,270,000.

Unfit Marriages.

An eminent physician, writing to the London Daily Mail, demands legislation which will prohibit marriages between persons afflicted with either mental or physical diseases.

Tonsorial Geniuses. Some time ago an English author, George R. Sims, invented a new hair restorer. Now Gabrielle D'Annunzio has distinguished himself by concocting an essence for the perfuming of the bath.

Oldest Friendly Society. In old Montpellier there still flourishes a mutual friendly society, under the title of St. Faith, which has an unbroken history dating back to 1320.

ELECTRIC PLANT FOR PEAT

Current Power Passing Through Disintegrates, But Preserves Calorific Power.

An electric process for the treatment of peat has lately been adopted in England. The peat is transformed into a hard combustible which is well adapted for use under boilers.

A plant on a large scale is shortly to be installed in Ireland, and if successful it will be an important move in the direction of utilizing peat as fuel under the best conditions.

A set of electrodes is placed in the cylinders, and connected with a dynamo. The circuit is completed through the mass of the peat between the electrodes. The resistance which the peat offers to the current causes a considerable heat and the latter breaks up the peat and pulverizes it, but without causing it to lose any of its properties.

It is to be remarked that although the passage of the current through the peat gives rise to a heating effect, the results obtained in this way are quite different from those which another method of heating would produce.

To obtain a harder material the disintegrated peat is given a larger treatment with the current. The air is kept out by a tight cover, and the mass is then treated with an adhesive solution so as to unite the particles.

FOUND WHAT WAS BURNING

The "Op'ry House" Circle Made Some Good Guesses, But Didn't Hit It.

The noses of a little group of men around the stove in the box office of the op'ry house went up in the air simultaneously. "What's that burning?" said Jake Bentley, twisting his body half around and examining his coat-tails.

"I hope nobody's been puttin' rubber comb teeth in my pipe," said Uncle Sam Rankin, as he opened the little cap over the bowl, knocked the contents out on the hearth and began stirring among the ashes.

"Well, this'll help some," said Sam Knight, as he filled his pipe with "turtle" tobacco and lit it. "It's somethin', sure," said Abijah Novel.

"Smells like somebody set fire to a wet dog," said Jake Bentley. Suddenly a large cloud of smoke settled over the group.

Eggs to Belt the World. "If all the eggs handled in St. Louis last year were strung like pearls on a string," writes a Missouri poultry enthusiast, "they would encircle the earth seven times at the equator."

Canandaigua, N. Y.—Eight hundred carp in a cabbage patch will give a slight idea of the number of these fish in Canandaigua lake. The connection may not at first be plain, but it must be understood that the lake and the cabbage patch are adjacent.

Optimism Up-to-Date. A Harvard alumnus of some distinction, at a recent fraternity dinner, gave a definition of optimism that hasn't heretofore been published, but which is good enough for print.

GOOD RECRUITING FIELD.

The Door City to the West Gets First-Class Men for Uncle Sam's Army.

Kansas City, Mo.—The local army and marine recruiting stations have, in the past six months, enlisted more than 625 men in the service.

Sergt. J. R. Thompson, in charge of the marine office here, has not been looking for new men for the past two months. The marine corps has been full and only the most desirable applicants have been examined.

"Most of the men we take in the marine corps," said Sergt. Thompson, "are well dressed and have money. We try to keep out all the other kinds. When a man comes in here wearing respectable clothes and carrying himself as though he meant business, we encourage him to join."

"Farmers make the best recruits," said Sergt. J. A. Stanley, of the army station. "We get lots of men from the little towns within 100 miles of Kansas City, and they are always the right kind. They are strong, willing to work and are happier at an army post than a city man is."

STOP WHITE SLAVE TRADE

European Countries Agree to Suppress the Importation of Girls.

Berlin.—The Reichsanzeiger publishes the details of the treaty entered into between 12 European countries, which, having been duly ratified, went into effect July 18.

The contracting states obligate themselves to establish each a bureau for the collection of information regarding the solicitation of women and girls for immoral purposes abroad.

The contracting states further obligate themselves financially to assist girls enticed abroad to return home. Agencies and persons advertising positions abroad for women are to be subjected to special police attention.

While no American state is party to the treaty, it is understood that efforts to suppress the trade will apply equally to those who try to entice girls to North or South America.

CARP IN CABBAGE PATCH.

Extraordinary Crop Raised by a Farmer in New York State.

Canandaigua, N. Y.—Eight hundred carp in a cabbage patch will give a slight idea of the number of these fish in Canandaigua lake. The connection may not at first be plain, but it must be understood that the lake and the cabbage patch are adjacent.

Thomas Rafferty, who owns a farm on the east shore of Canandaigua lake, about three miles from the village, went out to his cabbage patch the other day and found it covered with dead and dying carp, some of them of ten or fifteen pounds weight.

Rafferty didn't consider this a piece of good luck. He could not get rid of the fish all alone, and soon his neighbors came to him with loud complaints and threats to have him indicted for maintaining a nuisance.

Light on Auto Collisions. A Chicago physician has diagnosed a case under his care as auto-intoxication. Wonder if that doesn't explain the frequency of these collisions and accidents.

ROLLS DOWN MOUNTAIN.

Scottish Clergyman Has Wonderful Escape from Frightful Death in a Thunderstorm.

Edinburgh.—Rev. Mr. Robertson, of Edinburgh, a prominent member of the Scottish Mountaineering club, has had an experience in climbing Ben Nevis which he will not soon forget.

Between his departure and his reappearance in a half-dead condition at a Fort Williams hotel, he had undergone the terrible experience of rolling 1,000 feet down the mountain side.

The day was a most unsuitable one for climbing. Snow was falling incessantly and there were frequent storms of thunder and lightning.

Mr. Robertson nevertheless determined to climb the mountain, and started off alone to make the ascent. He reached the summit in safety. On his return, at the top of a dangerous snow slope, he was holding on with his ice-ax when there came a vivid flash of lightning which he thinks struck the metal of his ax.

His wounds were dressed, and he is now making satisfactory progress at the hotel. Mr. Robertson's escape from death is regarded by those who know the spot where the accident occurred as little short of miraculous.

FISH CAUGHT FOUR TIMES.

Remarkable Tale of Finny Creature Which Avoided Death Three Times Brought to Light.

McHenry, Ill.—In the catch of a large pickerel in Pistakee bay, near here, by a neighboring farmer, a remarkable fish story, in fact almost the first one of the year, which had its beginning early last season has been brought to light.

M. F. Huber, of Chicago, a summer resident on Fox river, last year caught a pickerel, in the side of which he found a broken hook and in extracting his line from the catch, his hook, also, broke. Upon reaching home after his trip, he deposited the fish, still alive, in a fish box, alongside the pier at his residence.

His surprise was even greater when, upon arriving at the lake this year, he was told that the tale of a lost fish, which he had been expounding all winter, had been increased threefold in interest.

The fish weighs ten pounds, and, as the story goes, must have been caught by different fishermen at least four times, living through three of the experiences. However, this finny wizard will furnish no more remarkable fish tales, for its captor's family consumed it, the same day it was caught.

BUYS VELASQUEZ FOR \$50.

New York Man Finds Rare Gem in Sale of Collection of Old Paintings—Came from Peru.

New York.—Declaring his belief that for \$50 he has bought a painting worth \$50,000, Dr. Herman Linde, an expert on old pictures, is being congratulated by his friends. Dr. Linde declares he bought at the Fifth avenue auction rooms at a sale of ancient paintings, brought from Peru 45 years ago, a long-lost canvas by Velasquez entitled "Bacchanale" and catalogued as of the Spanish school.

The large picture, which, although in a bad state of preservation, has much merit, was only obtained by Dr. Linde after an exciting episode. The auctioneer, William B. Norman, had knocked down the canvas at \$19 when Dr. Linde jumped up and excitedly declared that he had bid more.

There was a small audience and the prices for canvases attributed to such old masters as Rubens, Murillo and Carlo Dolci sold for ridiculously small sums. A head of Christ by Peter Johann Brandel brought only \$13 and some heads of saints by the same painter went for \$2 and \$3 each. The total obtained for 72 canvases was only \$1,817.

Mother of Triplets at Fifteen. Mrs. Pearl St. Clair, wife of a well-known young Clark (Mo.) farmer, and only 15 years old, gave birth to triplets, all girls, at her home in this county, recently. The three girls only weighed a slight fraction over five pounds, and all are alive.

Light on Auto Collisions. A Chicago physician has diagnosed a case under his care as auto-intoxication. Wonder if that doesn't explain the frequency of these collisions and accidents.