

Passing of Chinese

Despot Brings Relief To Celestial Empire

IF the very definite announcement from Shanghai that Yuan Shi Kai is dead is correct, very considerable relief will be felt in China, in Tokio, and in the European capitals, except possibly Berlin. The republic will be sustained by the election of the Vice-President or some other officer of the Constitutional Government that Yuan overrode in the furtherance of his ambitions to be an Asiatic Napoleon. It remains to be seen, of course, whether the leaders of the rebellion can agree among themselves to support any other President consistently enough to give a stable administration or whether China will become another Mexico, with factions constantly contending for the mastery. The flames of rebellion spread so quickly and burned so fiercely in the Southern provinces when Yuan was so misadvised in December to declare himself about to be crowned Emperor, that there is not likely to be any similar attempt by other ambitious leaders. Tang Shao Yi, a former Premier of the Chinese republic, predicts that the successor of Yuan will be constitutionally elected Vice-President, whose term will be



YUAN SHI KAI

the balance left nullified by Yuan of the regular five years. He also predicts a new constitution, less bulky and complicated than the old one, and reducing the Parliamentary representation, which was found to be unwieldy. He thinks that the new constitution will be modeled on the French system, with a responsible Cabinet formed by the Premier, and subject to the veto power of the President. Another venture on the sea of popular government, as against an autocracy, is assured by almost unanimous will.

It was only in December last that Yuan Shi Kai, who resembled in some particulars Porfirio Diaz of Mexico, decided that the time was ripe for the country to demand that he assume a crown. Once he thrust the proffered (by himself) Emperorship from him, declaring himself unworthy of it, he proclaimed himself again the throne proffered itself toward him, and the second time he accepted. Perhaps he thought he dare not wait a third time, but his delay in accepting he misconstrued as excessive modesty. But the crowning, which was set for January, never came to pass. As soon as the Chinese of the Southern Provinces saw that their President had broken his oath of office, and aspired to restore a monarchy, trouble arose. The Republican leaders in Peking warned Yuan, and Japan warned him; but he took off the heads of offending Republicans and Japanese advisers he flouted, telling 'the Tokio Government in effect to mind its own business. By March, the revolt had spread to the important provinces of the Yang Tze Kiang, and the government met, to demand Yuan's resignation. A week or two ago, seeing himself unable to breast the tide, Yuan announced his readiness to quit, and a few days later it was reported, politically he might as well be dead. He was the victim of assassination or he was the cause of the keener of anxiety to the foreign colonies in China, for they never knew when the civil war might not lead either side to raid them, and it likewise kept the diplomatic officials jumping.

Japan has been popularly represented in the United States as desiring to foment strife in China, in order to have a good excuse for intervention, and thereby to get a good measure of control over Chinese affairs. That seems to be a misrepresentation of Japan's attitude. It is true that the Tokio Government has not been well disposed toward Yuan, nor could it be so after his attitude toward it. It gave considerable assistance to the Republicans who sought to overthrow the world-emperor. Sun Yat sen had his headquarters in Tokio. Chinese authorities of high degree say that Japan wants a strong Government in China. In the last nine months, it is said, the Japanese have changed their point of view. If they wanted to take China they could do it in thirty-six hours. Trained Japanese armies are in Korea and Manchuria. Japan has first-class transportation facilities, and armories and barracks at important Chinese points such as Han-yow. The Japanese know the topography and population of China better than the Chinese themselves.

THE LIGHTHOUSE POST.

How News and Relief Are Carried to the Keepers of the Tower.

The shores of England are plentifully studded with lighthouses, not a few of which are built upon small islands, or else isolated rocks, situated more or less near to the mainland. 'Stress of weather often cuts off these lonely watch-towers from the rest of the world, in order to communicate with which the lighthouse-keepers have to exercise their wits. It is then that what is known to watchful shore-dwellers as lighthouse post comes into play, by means of which communication is established through even the roughest sea.

The head lighthouse-keeper encloses a letter, or letters, in a bottle, and fixes the bottle securely in a wooden case. A leaden keel is attached to serve as ballast, and a small tin sail is added to catch the breeze. This tiny craft is then launched upon the sight, and then goes back to their lonely waiting for the relief-boat. Skerryvore Lighthouse last year had been isolated since December 21, when, on January 10th the head lighthouse-keeper resolved to resort to these messages by bottle. Favorable winds carried the craft to the small island of Erraid, on the west side of Mull, which it reached on January 15th. Four days later a similar tiny boat from Erraid carried the message to Bunnassan, in Mull, a distance altogether of thirty miles.

Although it is near to the shore, the lighthouse at the sea in the only approach from the sea in the weather. So, even there, lighthouse post has sometimes been resorted to, though nowadays the constabulary, in their station on the read them extracts from the newspapers over the telephone.

The Wolf and Smalls Lighthouses are situated on lonely rocks far out at sea, and their lighthouse post, when resorted to, is very uncertain. The Wolf Rock stands eight miles off Land's End; the Smalls light is twenty miles south-west of St. David's Head, in Pembrokeshire. Wolf Rock, the most isolated station in the British Isles, is not connected with the mainland by wire; but the Smalls, which is also an important Lloyd's Signalling Station, has a submarine-cable for communications. For all that the keepers like to cheer their wives with a letter or lighthouse post when, owing to heavy weather, relief does not arrive.

Lighthouses have a crew of six men, three of whom are on duty for a month while the other three are ashore.

Lighthouse relief in rough weather is effected by means of a boat having strong booms projecting from its sides which support stout nets. In most instances the sea is too violent to allow of a landing actually upon the rock itself, and the men have to be hauled up from and lowered down into the boat by means of the hoisting tackle with which the lighthouse is provided.

The nets around the boat have saved many a keeper from being drowned in the boiling surf that beats on the lighthouse rock during the performance of this feat.

Carlyle's Temper.

Carlyle had tempered? Not at all, if we are to place any belief in the testimony of the maid behind the broom. One of Carlyle's servants, Jessie, who on marriage became Mrs. Broadfoot, has left a very favorable impression of her old master, said The London Standard.

"I could have lived with him all my days," she says, "and it always makes me angry when I read, as I sometimes do, that he was bad tempered. He was the very reverse, in my opinion. I never would have left him when I did if I had not been going to get married, and I took great pride in attending on him and studying all his wants and wishes."

It was one of my duties to rush out and move on all street organs and things of that kind. Many a time in the morning before he arose I used to fill his pipe, the short clay he used in his bedroom, for him and strike the match to light it. I always put up his tobacco (he bought it in fat cakes), and kept his tin box regularly supplied. He was always so grateful for these little services. So much for popular belief and the dictum of the democratic servant biographer.

Last Zulu Elephant Dies.

There is not a single elephant left in Zululand, not a paradise of these great animals. The last survivor was found dead the other day on a farm on the banks of the Unfolozi River, where he had lived since the early part of the reign of the great chief, Cetewayo.

An immense herd once roamed the Durugugu forest and along the Unfolozi, but it was diminished by incessant hunting, until Cetewayo one day finally drove it away forever. The Chief used to make medicine from certain portions of their bodies, and the occasion referred to he organized a mighty drive, in which two elephants were killed and many wounded. One of the later turned and trampled one of his pursuers to pulp. It was this animal which was reported, and whose death is now reported. The remainder of the herd broke away, and thereafter none was seen in Zululand.

Hanging Them Up?

London children certainly get some quaint views of life. An instance of this recently occurred in an East-end Sunday school, where the teacher was talking to her class about Solomon and his wisdom.

"When the Queen of Sheba came and laid jewels and the raiment before Solomon, what did he say?" she asked, presently.

"One small girl, who had evidently had experience in such matters, promptly replied: "How much d'yar want for the lot?"

LEGENDS OR LIES?

No Black Hole of Calcutta, and No William Tell.

Wars are fruitful breeders of legends, and always have been. Nor is the present war any exception to the rule.

Everybody, to cite but two instances, will be able to recall the story of the Mous angels, and that other one about the Russian soldiers who came through England from Archangel.

Possibly these yarns, and other similar ones will be incorporated in the history-books of the future. It is a fact that stories equally without foundation are taught in our schools to-day.

Take, for example, the one about the Black Hole of Calcutta. Every schoolboy is familiar with the details of that ghastly story. It relates how the Nabob Suraja Dowlah shut up 146 Britons, captured by him in Calcutta Fort, in a small, unventilated dungeon, and how, after a night of agony from heat, thirst, and lack of air, next morning were found alive next morning were found

For more than one hundred and fifty years the story has been implicitly believed. Yet now along comes Mr. Little, and proves, in his 'Bengal, Past and Present,' not only that it is not true, but that it could not be true.

Nine persons only were, it appears from contemporary records, confined in the "black hole," which was really the common prison, and none of these suffered any very great inconvenience. The remainder of the party, numbering some 120, were either killed or wounded in the fighting, and the latter were treated by their conquerors with every consideration.

Similarly, 'Wellington never said, "Up, Guards, and at 'em!"' at Waterloo; nor did Blucher exclaim, on first seeing London, "What a place to sack!" while the phrase, "Providence favors the brave," which is usually attributed to Napoleon, is found in the writings of Cicero.

There never was a person named William Tell, and consequently he never shot an apple from his son's head at the bidding of the Austrian tyrant, Gessler.

The story of Queen Eleanor sucking the poison from her husband's wound during one of the Crusades is another war myth. She did not accompany her husband on the expedition in question; and, besides, the Saracens did not use poisoned arrows.

At Waterloo the commander of Napoleon's Old Guard is said to have replied to the challenge of surrender pompously: "The Old Guard dies, but it does not surrender!" In the French army, however, it is a tradition that his answer consisted of but one word, not at all fitted for ears polite.

Similarly, the Grondins had no last supper together. Columbus could not have foretold an eclipse of the moon in order to frighten the natives of Jamaica into submission, as is usually said. The simple reason that the moon was not in eclipse during the time the famous explorer was on that island.

Alfred the Great never went into hiding in a goat-herd's cottage while the Danes were ravaging his kingdom; on the contrary, he "got on with the war."

The Three Londons.

Roman London lies buried about 18 feet below the level of Cheselade. In nearly all parts of the city there have been discovered tessellated pavements. Roman tombs, lamps, vases, sandals, keys, ornaments, weapons, coins, and statues of the Roman gods.

When, a little over a century ago, deep sections were made for the sewers in Lombard street the lowest stratum was found to consist of tessellated pavements. Many colored dice were found lying scattered about, and above this stratum was a thick layer of wood ashes, suggesting the debris of charred wooden buildings.

While building the exchange workmen came upon a gravel pit full of oyster shells, bones of cattle, old sandals and shattered pottery. Two pavements were dug up under the French church in Threadneedle street, and other pavements have been found in several parts of the city. Though the city has risen over Roman London as late as a foot a century. Still further must the searcher dig to find the third London, the earlier London of the Britons.—London Chronicle.

Asking Leave.

Nobody is allowed to leave a warship without permission, even for an hour. Senior officers, "heads of departments," must obtain leave from the captain in person before going ashore, though usually a general dispensation from this obligation is given at the beginning of a commission. Young officers of branches other than the executive must first ascertain from their own immediate superiors whether they can be spared, so the chances of obtaining leave sometimes become quite elaborate.

The most junior engineer-officer, for example, may be observed to enter the wardroom, cap in hand. First he approaches the senior, and petitions the appointed interrogator.

"Please," he returns in a quiet voice. "But this is not enough. The younger senior officers to whom the engineer-commander is sitting, and again asks, "May I go ashore, sir, please?" once more getting "Please" to encourage him. Yet once again he stands a suppliant, before the commander now, till a final "Please" sends him away rejoicing to "shift into plain clothes."

Artist as Colonel. Mr. Solomon J. Solomon, the famous artist, has created a record for an R.A. He recently passed from the United Arts Force into the regular army, and has gone to the front as a lieutenant-colonel.

FIFTY YEARS ON STAGE.

Sir John Hare Celebrates His Golden Jubilee as an Actor.

The appearance of Sir John Hare on the variety stage coincides with the fiftieth anniversary of his theatrical debut in London, for it was towards the end of 1865, when he was twenty-one years of age, that Sir John made his initial appearance at the Prince of Wales' Theatre in London as Short, in "Naval Engagements." And it is in connection with this first appearance in London that Sir John tells an amusing story.

The play was written by H. J. Byron, who remarked to the young actor, when he was rehearsing his part as Short, the publican, "With a short name, a short part, and a short figure, you will, in short, be perfect."

"Thank you," replied Sir John, "but if I am a failure you will have to christen your play 'Short Engagements,'" a reply which no one appreciated more than the witty author of "Our Boys."

For playing this part Sir John received £2 a week. "Salaries were not so big in those days," he says. "For playing Sam Gerridge (in 'Caste') I received £5 a week. I think I am within the mark in stating that the entire salary-list for the company playing in 'Caste' could not have exceeded the sum of £60 a week, excluding, of course, Miss Marie Wilton's remuneration as leading actress and manageress. What would such a cast cost at the present day?"

Sir John has many amusing and interesting stories to tell of his theatrical experiences, and confesses that one of the most embarrassing moments of his life was when he was playing in "A Pair of Spectacles" in Edinburgh.

He had come to the scene where Benjamin Goldfinch refuses to entertain his brother Gregory's suggestions and suspect his wife when an encouraging, but an embarrassing call came from the gallery, "Well done, old 'un! Stick up for the 'mis'!"

It is another story which Sir John tells against himself. "I remember nearly thirty years ago," he says, "I was playing on my provincial tour the part of a very old man. A spectator in the audience said to his neighbour: 'Poor old fellow! It's a shame to keep him working. I remember him as an old man nearly twenty years ago. He must be over eighty! He ought to have been in his bed hours ago.'"

Fined for Getting Married.

There are certain sections and communities who penalize marriage, and regard it in the light of a punishable offence. It is the rule, for instance, at All Souls' College, Oxford, that a Fellow forfeits his Fellowship if, when studying the classics, he should marry. In such an event he must not only pay the penalty, but must also present his college with a memorial in the shape of a silver cup.

By payment of a fine of £25 he can, however, retain an honorary membership, but, of course, he cannot enjoy the privileges of this select band of non-marrying men.

There is a similar organization in Germany—the Jungesellen Club. Whenever there comes to the officials of this club any intimation that a member contemplates matrimony he is immediately summoned for trial in the club court, with the president as judge. The culprit is allowed to plead in extenuation of his offence, and upon his skill in presenting such plea depends the amount of his fine, which ranges from £20 to £200.

The humorous feature of the fine consists in the purpose to which the money is applied. The money is devoted to a dinner, where all members appear in mourning attire. At the conclusion of the feast the president solemnly reads the sentence of expulsion, and the delinquent is led from the room amid the groans and lamentations of his erstwhile club-fellows.

Snails Very Nutritious.

"All snails are edible and nutritious," says Canon Hersley in a book on British land and fresh water molluscs, just published. He goes on to say that even the common or garden snail, though insipid, is as nutritious as calf's foot jelly.

There is a large white shelled snail called Helix pomatia that is commonly eaten by connoisseurs in the South of England, while all over France, Italy, and Spain several species are used as food. In France there are many small farms which yield a good profit to their owners. In the French snail market, bought, either alive or cooked, and at the French restaurants they are served, "escargots farcis" being the most usual form of dish.

Snails are easy to raise in large quantities. They need lime for making their shells, but they do not have to be fed, as they can find their own food, which is exclusively the leaves of many plants. They are most delicious when properly prepared and cooked, and, as Canon Hersley says, as nourishing as calf's foot jelly.

Australian Navy Grows.

Australia's navy is expanding. Recently the cruiser Brisbane was launched at the Cockatoo Island, and it is notified that a new light cruiser is about to be laid down where the Brisbane was built. The cruiser will be named H.M.A.S. Adelaide. Australia is to undertake, as soon as possible, the building of submarines in its own shipyards. The Commonwealth Navy Office is calling for qualified persons desirous of proceeding to England to work in the Admiralty shipyards to learn the methods of reconstruction. They will take a two-years' course, afterwards returning to begin the work of submarine construction for the Australian navy.

Women "Specials."

Guildford is enrolling twenty-five women as police-constables, whose services are to be called for only on special occasions.

The STORE that does not take its Hat off to any Store in Hamilton, Brantford or London

You will find the items listed below displayed throughout the Store; where nothing becomes old.—One of Canada's best Stores—Falls Store, Simcoe.

Unpacked Within a Week

- From England, new Nurse Cloths in plain colors and stripes, scarce goods, at the yard 12 1/2, 15, 17, 20c and 25. Large choice of patterns.
Women's new Palm Beach Suits, very smart styles at \$8, 9, 10 and \$12.
New Variety of Summer Chairs and Rockers, each \$1.15 to 6.
New Wash Shirts in White, Tan and Fancy Stripes, 95c to \$3.
New Outing Skirts in White Serge, Flannel and Striped Silk, very fine styles \$5.50 to 9.50.
New Middy Blouses for Children, 50 and 75c. For juniors and women 97c, \$1.25 and 1.50.
New Silk Hosiery in White, Black and all the new season's colors, the pair \$1.50, 1.75, 2.00 and 2.50.
New French Wool Delaines, Black Dress Silks and colored Dress Silks.
New fine knitted Silk Outing Sweaters, \$5 to 12.
New White Silk Gloves, 2 button to 16 button, at the pair 50c to \$1.50.
New Fancy Parasols, each \$1.00 to 7.50.
Graded over a year and a half ago, only to hand last week, new "Sandour" Bath Rugs, each \$2.75, 3.75 and 4.75. Made in Manchester, beautiful goods.
For Picnic Parties, new paper napkins and table cloths, neat designs, large variety.
New Black and Colored Moire Ribbons, all widths.
LARGE SHIPMENTS of new black and colored Dress Goods.
Women's Suit Cases Umbrellas, each \$2.50, 3, 4, and \$5.
Women's Imported Swiss Underwear, Vests, Drawers and Combinations, 50c to \$2.50.
Summer Fluffy White Frocks for young women, \$3.90 to 12.
Women's Fluffy White Frocks for young women, \$3.90 to 12.

Saturday, July 1st, is Field Day for Norfolk's Own Store Open all Day. These Barquins ready Saturday Morning

- Children's Rocking Horses, substantially made, neatly painted dangle grey, each 75c.
Children's well made Chairs, golden oak finish, Saturday, 39c.
Women's Dungelow Aprons, liberal cut, good designs, made from heavy fast colored print and ginghams, sizes to 46, Saturday each 39c.
Smart Styles in striped Wash Silk Blouses, worth \$3.50 for 2.75.
Boys good style print blouses, all sizes, Saturday 29c each.
English Sheeting, full 2 yards wide, the yard 25c.
Breakfast gowns, made in neat designs from good quality of print full middie style jacket and shirt, the suit \$1.29.
Children's Creepers, assorted sizes, 39c.
Kitchen and Veranah Chairs, cane seats, durable and comfortable, each 98c.
Special Saturday sale of women's Black Cotton Hosiery. See the lines offered at 11c, 25c and 3 pairs for \$1.00.
Men's Black Cashmerette Half Hose, gray heel and toe, the pair 19c.
Men's fancy Stripe Pique Outing Shirts, reversible collar, special \$1 value, Saturday 75c each.
Boys Putting Caps, good style, each 39c.
Men's Work Shirts, made in light, dark and medium colors, all sizes, 43c.
Silver Cigarette Holders, including a neat little box with 2 quill holders, the set complete 35c.

Divide the price by 2. Special Interest. Saturday will be opening day of the Summer Sale of our entire stock of Trimmed Hats at Half price. First choice is best. Sale begins 8 a.m. Saturday morning.

- A large table of Women's White Cotton Night Gowns and White Undershirts, clearing Saturday, each 39c.
Special Sale of Men's fine tweed and colored worsted Suits, worth \$15 and 16, Saturday your choice \$12.
Children's well made Veranah Rockers, golden oak finish, each 39c.
Special Saturday Sale of men's raincoats, \$2.48, 3.90 and 5.00. Also fine English raincoats \$7.50, 10, 12, and 15.
Boys extra well-made tough wear Knickers, all sizes, lined ebroughtout, Saturday, the pair 69c.
Children (like mother's) roomy rockers, cane seats, bright scarlet, each 92c.

FLY SWATTERS, FREE. Only list only. With every purchase of \$2 or more we will give free a very neat modern fly swatter

The sale of beautiful framed Pictures at Half price begins Saturday morning.

- At 5c each, one hundred toy doll swings and Hammocks, with two seats, that are worth 25c for 5c.

Railway Fares Paid

During June the H. S. FALLS CO., of Simcoe, Ltd., will refund Railway Fare fare from Jarvis to Simcoe on a purchase of \$7.50 and over.

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