

ENCOURAGING REPORTS.

Missionaries in West and Northwest of China Say All Is Quiet.

Washington, Sept. 10.—Acting Secretary of State Hill authorizes the announcement that a telegram from Commissioner Rockhill, dated Shanghai, September 7, states that missionaries arriving from the west and the northwest report quiet everywhere along the routes. Only four northwest provinces indicate signs of disturbance.

The state department is in receipt of a cablegram from United States Consul General Goodnow at Shanghai, dated September 7, reporting the deaths about July 31, at Funchu and Taiku, of the following missionaries:

Rev. and Mrs. C. W. Price and daughter Florence; Rev. and Mrs. E. R. Atwater and two children; Rev. and Mrs. D. H. Clapp; Rev. George L. Williams; Rev. T. W. Davis; Miss Rowena Bird and Miss Mary L. Partridge.

The department has notified the respective missionary boards of which the victims were members and their relatives as far as possible.

London, Sept. 10.—The Peking Correspondent of the Morning Post, in a dispatch dated August 23, says Mr. Conger has written a letter asserting that without the aid of the American missionaries the defense of the legations would have been impossible. According to this correspondent, the United States minister has received congratulatory telegrams from President McKinley and others.

Washington, Sept. 10.—There were no substantial developments over night in the Chinese situation. Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister, called at the state department Saturday morning to talk over the conditions with Acting Secretary Hill. The minister said that he had nothing new from home touching the Chinese trouble.

There is reason to believe that the negotiations have now reached another crisis, and developments of importance are expected, the nature of which it is not possible at present to even outline. It is apparent that the state department officials are giving a good deal of attention to the discussion of the personnel of a commission to adjust some phases, at least, of the Chinese trouble and discussion on this subject is now proceeding.

It is again stated that Li Hung Chang is still at Shanghai and unofficial advice that reach here indicate that he is not likely to leave for Peking, notwithstanding reports to the contrary.

Washington, Sept. 10.—It is believed that the president will accept the recommendation of Gen. Chaffee and promote Col. Aaron S. Daggett, of the Fourteenth infantry, to the vacant brigadier generalship which will follow from the retirement next Monday of Gen. Joseph Wheeler. If this is done Gen. Chaffee will be only temporarily set back in his own advancement to the brigadier generalship. Col. Daggett having undertaken to retire and thus create another vacancy upon his promotion.

Berlin, Sept. 10.—A dispatch received here from Amoy, under date of Thursday, September 6, announced that all the foreign marines landed there and at Kulang-Fu had been withdrawn.

A dispatch from Shanghai, dated Friday, September 7, says:

"It is reported here that Gen. Yang Lu, with his troops, returned from Pao-Ting-Fu to Tai-Yuen-Fu September 2."

"Ching Shu, the Manchu president of the ministry of finance, is reported to have committed suicide."

"Chang Si Tung's efforts to secure a loan of half a million taels from Chinese merchants at Hankow is believed to have failed."

"The Chinese papers publish an edict, dated August 19, ordering the presidents and secretaries of the ministerial departments to proceed to Tai-Yuen-Fu without delay, in order to assist the emperor in dispatching the affairs of state."

DEER STOP TRAINS.

Glenwood Springs, Col., Sept. 10.—Great droves of deer are crossing the tracks between Grand Junction and Glenwood Springs, and at times seriously interfere with the passing trains. There are from 10,000 to 20,000 animals in one large drove, and when this was passing the road was blocked for nearly two hours. As winter approaches they collect in immense herds and start for winter pastures and salt licks several hundred miles to the south.

PARDONED.

Washington, Sept. 10.—The president has pardoned Frank M. McBride, who was convicted at Salt Lake City in May, 1898, of embezzlement of \$3,072 post office funds while assistant postmaster at Salt Lake and sentenced to four years in the Utah penitentiary. The attorney general in recommending the pardon says that recently-obtained evidence raises a serious doubt as to whether there ever was such a shortage as was claimed.

CENSUS RETURNS.

Washington, Sept. 10.—The census bureau up to Thursday night had tabulated the returns from 54 cities. These show a population of 14,644,711. This is an average increase in population per city of 27.90 per cent. The same cities in 1890 had a population of 11,150,045, making a total gain of 3,494,666.

Will Open New Cathedral.

Washington, Sept. 10.—Archbishop Martinelli, the papal delegate to the United States, has yielded to the request of the southern prelates and will open the new cathedral at Savannah, Ga., which is now almost finished on the site of that destroyed by fire two years ago.

Record Lowered.

Hartford, Conn., Sept. 10.—The Abbot reduced the world's mile trotting to wagon record Friday afternoon at Charter Oak park to 2:05½. The former record was 2:09½, held by Lucille and made at Cleveland in 1897.

COURT MOURNING.

Period of Grief in Various Countries Depends Entirely on Rank of Deceased.

Now that so many countries are plunged into grief over the loss of King Humbert of Italy and the duke of Saxe-Coburg, mourning such as prescribed by the court is being worn.

In England it is customary to mourn for our king or queen three months; for a son or daughter of our sovereign, such as is the case now for the duke of Saxe-Coburg, it is to be six weeks; for a brother or a sister of a sovereign, only three weeks; for an uncle, aunt, nephew or niece, the court goes into mourning for two weeks; while from three to ten days is usual for a cousin, according to the relationship. The royal regulation for the first period is a black dress, white gloves, black or white shoes, feather and fans, white pearls, diamonds or plain gold and silver ornaments may be worn, says the London Times. For the men, black court dress with black swords and buckles.

At the end of that period, which is generally a third of the whole, according to the rank of royalty being mourned for, the costume is changed, the ladies then wearing black dresses with colored ribbons, flowers, feathers, and ornaments, while the men remain as before until the court goes out of mourning. For the military and other royal servants a black cravat band is fixed to the left arm for the time specified, while at night the handle of the sword is also to be enveloped in crape.

In different countries different mourning colors are used, but all over Europe black is universal.

MOUNT ARARAT ASCENDED.

The Task Was Recently Accomplished by a Party of Russian Scientists.

The Ararat mountains in Armenia comprise two peaks situated seven miles apart. They are known as Great and Little Ararat, and are respectively 17,260 and 14,320 feet above the plain. They partially belong to three countries, Russia, Turkey and Persia. The mountains are covered on the tops with perpetual snow, ice and glaciers. The summit of Great Ararat was reached in 1829 by Prof. Parrot, says the Scientific American, and on September 2, 1900, a member of the Russian Geographical society named Peoggenpohl ascended the peak with a considerable party. The difficulties of the ascent are very great, and his successful expedition will be welcome news in geographical circles. Ascents are rare, having been made in 1834, 1843, 1845, 1850 and 1856. Little Ararat is even more difficult to climb, as its declivities are greater and steeper, its form being almost conical. It is believed to be the spot where the ark rested, but there is a tradition that Mount Judi in southern Armenia was the spot. The mountain is of volcanic origin and was in eruption in 1785, and in 1840 there was a vast discharge of sulphurous vapors from its sides, and a tremendous earthquake shook the surrounding country. There is considerable literature devoted to the mountain.

MONUMENT ON A MOUNTAIN.

The Difficulty of Getting Heavy Stones for the Work to Lookout Mount's Crest.

A serious problem confronts the engineers in charge of the erection of the great New York peace memorial on the summit of Lookout mountain. The question is how to get the material for the monument to the top of the mountain, 2,000 feet above the surrounding country. The railroad which has been running to the top of the mountain as a freight line has been discontinued, and the rails will be sold for old iron.

It is unsafe even if it were in operation, the trestles and cross-ties being worn and rotten, says the Philadelphia Record. The track in its present condition will only safely stand a load of 30,000 pounds, the engineers say, while one of the stones to be used in the monument will weigh nearly 60,000 pounds, and many of them 50,000 pounds. There is no roadway near the spot where the monument is being erected, it being high above all the surrounding country. In case no other means can be devised to handle the material and move it to the top a road four miles in length will be constructed especially for the purpose.

Active Only at Night.

Sergeant McKenna, who has passed the last six months on the island of Mindanao, does not hesitate to maintain that the number of quadrupeds and insects enjoying existence in the moonlight of the tropics exceeds that of their daylight rivals; so much so, indeed, that whole species and groups or species are represented only by nocturnal creatures. Forests that remained as still as the grave under the glare of the vertical sun are all in an uproar within an hour after sunset.

One of the Ironies of War.

Capt. Lans, of the German navy, who took such a prominent part in the capture of the Taku forts, writes home that the Germans captured at that place 17 guns of various caliber and much ammunition. "These," declares Capt. Lans, "are the guns which have killed and wounded so many of my brave fellows, and which alas! like almost all the enemy's guns and ammunition, come from our native country. The guns are all modern quick-firers from Krupp's."

Newfoundland Sealing.

The Newfoundland sealing season has been the best for the past 25 years, 375,000 seal having been captured.

HOW TO MAKE FORTUNES.

The Late Collis P. Huntington Said It Was by the Chemistry of Manufactures.

Mr. Huntington was of the opinion that the field of chemistry applied to commercial ends offered the greatest opportunities probably for amassing wealth which will open up in this country in the twentieth century, writes Holland, in the Philadelphia Press. The great fortunes from the development of the transportation business have been made. Hereafter there is to be more and more distribution of these fortunes. But Mr. Huntington not long ago said that if a chemist were to make a discovery of some combination that would take the place of rubber he would have at his hand a fortune quite as great as that gained by Bessemer when he discovered his cheap process of making steel. In fact, Mr. Huntington declared that if he were a younger man, or were beginning to-day his career, he would go to Africa or South America and undertake the cultivation of rubber, while at the same time he would keep in close alliance with all the chemists, with the hope that they might be able to make an artificial rubber.

So, too, he said that the chemist or the botanist who was able to discover in some leaf or shrub or annual plant just the qualities that are in spruce timber and by a chemical or scientific process, of which he had the trademark or the secret, was able to deliver a pulp to paper manufacturers as good as that of spruce timber, would not wait long for wealth or enormous wealth, and in gaining great riches for himself would add greatly to the wealth of the world.

IN THE SAHARA.

A Traveler Tells of a Recent Pleasant Visit to the Great Desert.

A traveler from the Sahara desert has just returned to Washington with 500 young date palms which will be planted in Arizona, many parts of which have a climate similar to North Africa and Arabia. He found the nights pleasant on the sandy desert, there being often a difference of 60 degrees between noon and midnight. The sirocco, or hot wind and sand storm, made the days unbearable, but the nights were wonderful—cool, clear and windless and filled with far stars. He traveled at night, and the long caravan of which he and his baggage was a part swung silently along in the shadow of the sand dunes. The Arab guides steered their way by the stars.

This traveler witnessed the magnificent rising of the sun over the limitless waste of glittering sand, rocky heaps and promontories and clustered plumes of date palms that rose from green oases, where gay tents sheltered bands of Bedouins and their flocks and herds of sheep and camels. In such places as these he visited during the day and was served with goat's milk and bread and dates and good mutton and Arabian coffee. It was all so like a story book that he was afraid he would wake up sometimes and find it was all a dream.

WHAT THE TOURISTS SPEND.

Many Millions of Dollars Are Left Annually in Switzerland and the Riviera.

An astonishing contrast is apparent in the sums of money spent by the average visitor to these two world-famous pleasure resorts, says the New York World. In the season of 1898 about 2,300,000 tourists visited Switzerland. They paid to the landlords of 1,800 hotels and inns a little less than \$25,000,000. The average hotel bill was, therefore, only about \$1. In addition to this, about \$6,000,000 was expended for trinkets and mementoes.

These two items, in addition to a comparatively small outlay for horses and carriages, form the principal means of subsistence of the vast number of people whose livelihood is dependent on the natural features of the "playground of Europe."

The figures for the Riviera are very different. In the first place, a season's visitors are not to be reckoned by millions. A recent estimate puts the annual number at 270,000, of whom 60,000 were English and 30,000 Americans, and the money expended at about \$60,000,000, or \$225 for the average visitor.

Coal in the Rockies.

By far the most important mining work in progress in British Columbia is the opening up of the vast areas of the Crow's Nest—undoubtedly one of the largest coal properties known. The measures occur in the heart of the Rockies and extend north and south a distance of 40 miles, stretching east and west ten miles from the banks of the Elk river toward the boundary line between Alberta and British Columbia. The area is, of course, reduced by the creeks which abound on the mountain slopes and from which the coal measures have been eroded, but sufficient remains to constitute the coal fields, unique in extent as they are in richness.

New York Indians Still Pagan.

Christianity has not made much progress among the Indians in New York state. There are now on the reservation there 4,850 Indians, and a missionary says at least five-eighths of them adhere to the old pagan religion, rites and superstitions.

When Flies Stick Closely.

It is alleged that flies stick most closely just before a rain in fear of being blown away by sudden winds.

EXORBITANT TIPS.

They Prove a Severe Drain on People of Small Means—System Is Altogether Wrong.

The "tipping" question is one to be carefully taken into consideration before ending a round of visits or an itinerary. From time to time discussions have arisen as to the possibility of doing away with the docteur. Some people have steadfastly set their faces against it so far as their own house servants are concerned, but it is obviously impossible to put an end to the practice altogether, because there are some people who would always persist in buying attention and favors, whatever might be the custom, and others who would "tip" from sheer generosity, but we may well pray that some kind of restraint may be laid upon the very rich, who nowadays are so many in number.

The millionaire is no longer a rarity, and if the very rich set the example of presenting docteurs of such magnitude that the aggregate sum of their tips while visiting here or staying there is duly paraphrased, how many of those of limited income ever hope to win any respect or command any attention? The result of such absolutely indiscreet generosity is to make it almost impossible for those of limited means to go about at all, says the Philadelphia Ledger. How, for example, can women with purses but sparsely lined accept invitations to stay in the same house with the wives and daughters of men who think nothing of giving \$5 where the less endowed can give but 50 cents? The system is altogether wrong; and if hostesses allow their servants to receive money from their guests they should take some means of making it known that it will be taken as a personal favor if a certain sum is not exceeded.

EVERY SERVANT IS A SPY.

Diplomatic Secrets Are Impossible in Peking and They May Be Purchased in the Streets.

Every servant in a foreign establishment in Peking is a spy and informer of some degree; espionage is a regular business; and the table talk, visiting list, card-tray and scrap-basket, with full accounts of all comings and goings, sayings and doings of any envoy or foreigner in Peking, are regularly offered for purchase by recognized purveyors of such news. One often catches a glimpse of concentrated attention on the face of the turbaned servants standing behind dining-room chairs that convince one of this feature of capital life. Diplomatic secrets are fairly impossible in such an atmosphere. Every secret convention and concession is soon explicated abroad.

Every word the British minister uttered at the tsung-li-yamen was reported to the Russian legation with almost electric promptness, until the envoy threatened to suspend negotiations and withdraw. Wily concessionaries know each night where their rivals are dining and what they have said; whether any peace of written paper has passed and what has gone on at each legation in Peking and each consulate at Tientsin. Every legation keyhole, crack and chink has its eye and ear at critical times, and by a multiplication in imagination one arrives at an idea of what the palace may be like.

NO ONE KNOWS THEM ALL.

Not More Than One-Fifth of the English Words Are Used by Any Writer.

The growth of the English language is so enormous that it would be practically impossible for the most learned man to be acquainted with every word. Intelligent persons, even those engaged in the learned professions, do not make use of more than from 6,000 to 8,000 words at all, although there are properly belonging to our language over 200,000. The famous writer or authority of to-day, whether he uses words to express nice shades of meaning or as technical tools of thought in his own department, must have at his command a vocabulary of from 30,000 to 40,000 words, the latter being the maximum acquired by any man now living. There is a large number of words which until recently have escaped the attention of lexicographers. In the text of the "Encyclopedia Britannica" there are 10,000 words which have never been formally entered and defined in any dictionary. In the Century Dictionary there are 70,000 words found in no other, and it has been said that there is not to-day any man living who is sufficiently learned to write one average page of 7,000 pages of this dictionary. To give some idea of the tremendous growth of the language the words and phrases under the letter A have increased in 50 years from 7,000 to nearly 60,000.

Extent of the Florist Business.

The florist business of the United States is by no means an unimportant industry. It is estimated that the retail value of flowers sold annually is \$12,500,000 and of potted plants \$10,000,000. There are no less than 10,000 establishments in the United States devoted to the growing of plants under glass.

Steel Cast 2,000 Years Ago.

The manufacture of cast steel in India can be traced back for over 2,000 years, while there are also examples of wrought iron work nearly as old. Near Belhi, close to the Kutub, there is an enormous wrought iron pillar which weighs ten tons and is thought to be over 1,800 years old.

Rhode Island's Abandoned Farms.

The abandoned farms in Rhode Island number 349, according to the state's official catalogue.

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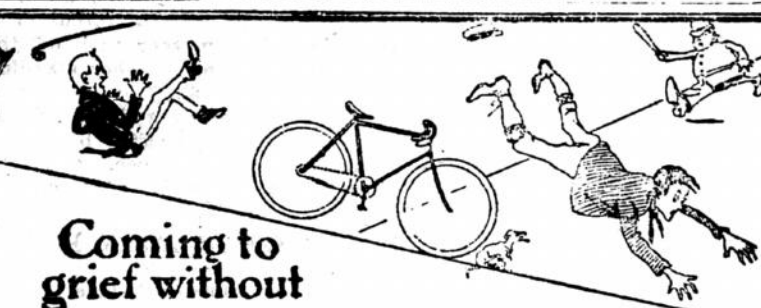
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