

Your "Annoyed Sign." "What," asks an exchange, "is your 'annoyed sign'?" Most people have, it seems, some characteristic gesture to express that the limit of toleration is approaching. The Prince of Wales when annoyed wrinkles his left eye rapidly; the Emperor of Austria puffs out his cheeks; the Czar lays his hand flat on the top of his head, Mr. Gladstone turns swiftly on his heels, as if executing a volte face, and the Sultan of Turkey grasps his throat tightly with his hand.—New York Times.

The General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church has come into possession of the largest collection of Latin Bibles in the world, consisting of 543 editions in 1364 volumes.

It may seem paradoxical, but to be accorded a warm reception and to be roasted are entirely different things.—Philadelphia Record.

Dr. WAMP-ROOT cures all Kidney and Bladder troubles. Pamphlet and Consultation free. Laboratory Birmingham, N. Y.

The emerald has long been regarded as a specific for sore eyes.

Indispensable. Why spend \$1 for a bottle of medicine for a complaint when one box of Beecham's Pills, costing only 25 cts., will cure nearly all known diseases? This is because constipation is the cause of nearly all ailments, and Beecham's Pills cure constipation. A valuable book of knowledge mailed free, on request, by B. F. Allen Co., 365 Canal Street, New York.

To Cleanse the System Effectually yet gently, when costive or bilious, or when the blood is impure or sluggish, to permanently cure habitual constipation, to awaken the kidneys and liver to a healthy activity without irritating or weakening them, to dispel headaches, colds or fevers, use Syrup of Figs.

If you want to be cured of a cough use Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar.

Hale's Catarrh Cure is a liquid and is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Write for testimonials, free. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O.

Dr. Hesse's Certain Croup Cure Saves the expense of a physician in severest cases of croup, bronchitis and congestive colds. A. P. Hoxsie, Buffalo, N. Y., Mfrs.

Shiloh's Cure Is sold on a guarantee. It cures Incipient Consumption; it is the Best Cough Cure; 50c., \$1. If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye-water. Druggists sell at 25c. per bottle.



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Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures I have now taken over four bottles and I firmly believe it has cured me, and also saved my life. Mrs. R. E. Farnce, Bushville, N. Y.

HOOD'S PILLS, Purely vegetable, mild and reliable. Cause Perfect Digestion, complete absorption and healthful regularity. For the cure of all diseases of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases.

LOSS OF APPETITE, SICK HEADACHE, INDIGESTION, DIZZY FEELINGS, FEMALE COMPLAINTS, BILIOUSNESS, DYSPEPSIA, PERFECT DIGESTION will be accomplished by taking Hood's Pills. By their ANTI-BILIOUS properties they stimulate the liver in the secretion of the bile and its discharge through the biliary ducts. These pills in doses from two to four will quickly regulate the action of the liver and free the patient from these disorders. One or two of Hood's Pills, taken daily by those subject to biliousness and torpidity of the liver, will keep the system regular and secure healthy digestion.

HALMS Anti-Rheumatic Chewing Gum Cures and prevents Rheumatism, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Heartburn, Catarrh and Asthma. Internal and External Use. Sold by all Druggists. Teas and Promotes the Appetite. Sweetens the Breath, Cures the Tobacco Habit. Endorsed by the Medical Faculty. Send for 10, 15 or 25 cent packages. Silver Stamps or Postal Note. GEO. R. HALM, 119 West 23rd St., New York.

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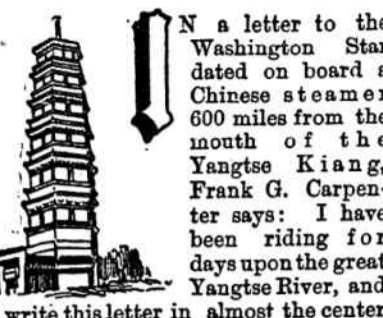
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YANGTSE KIANG.

WONDERS OF THE GREATEST RIVER OF CHINA.

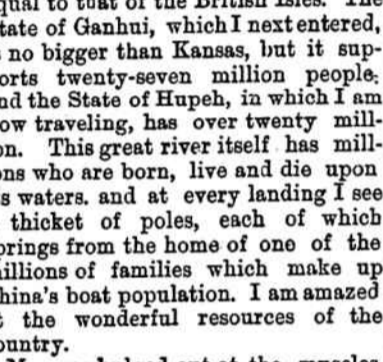
Immensity of the Valley - A Vast Empire Cut Up by Canals and Diked Like Holland - Chinese Country Scenes.



IN a letter to the Washington Star dated on board a Chinese steamer 600 miles from the mouth of the Yangtse Kiang, Frank G. Carpenter says: I have been riding for days upon the great Yangtse River, and I write this letter in almost the center of the Chinese Empire. I am within less than a hundred miles of the Chicago of the celestial land, the vast city of Hankow, and am passing through the country where the Chinese mobbed the foreigners a year or so ago, burning down the houses of the missionaries, and killing scores of the English officers of the Chinese customs. Last night I left Kinkiang, a big trading center at the mouth of the Poyang Lake, and during the past two weeks I have passed a half dozen cities of the size of Cleveland or Washington, and have traveled through about the same number of great States, having an aggregate population of something like one hundred and fifty millions of people. All the towns I have visited I have found packed with a throng busier than you find on Broadway at noonday, and I am amazed at the immensity of this great Chinese Empire and its enormous population. I entered the Yangtse at its mouth, where it flows through the Chinese Province or State of Kiangsu. This is in the center of the east coast, and it has an area about as big as that of Pennsylvania. It contains more than half as many people as the whole United States, and its population is equal to that of the British Isles. The State of Ganhui, which I next entered, is no bigger than Kansas, but it supports twenty-seven million people, and the State of Hupeh, in which I am now traveling, has over twenty million. This great river itself has millions who are born, live and die upon its waters, and at every landing I see a thicket of poles, each of which springs from the home of one of the millions of families which make up China's boat population. I am amazed at the wonderful resources of the country.

My eyes bulged out at the muscles and industry of its people, and my head buzzes in trying to understand the curious sights which are crowded upon me.

China's great rivers are among the wonders of the world, and the Yangtse Kiang is the king of its kind. It has a greater volume of water than the Nile or the Amazon, and it has built up a greater country than Egypt along the low lands of China. In approaching it from the ocean I found the waters discolored by its muddy fluid many miles out at sea, and it turns the salty brine yellow for sixty miles from its mouth. Here it is about as thick as pea soup. You draw up a bucket and in a moment its bottom will have a thick sediment of mud. I had been warned not to use the spigot which runs from the bottom of the boat into my bath, but this morning the boy had made it too hot and I tried to cool the barrel of filtered water in the tub with about a gallon from the Yangtse. I thought the amount was so little that it could not affect the rest. The result was that the clear water became the color of mud and my bare foot left an impression on the bottom as marked as that of the savage which so scared Robinson Crusoe on the desert island. It is a sort of a gritty silt, but I am told that there is no river on earth which brings down a sediment more fertile. The whole of the great plain of North and Central China has been made by it. This plain is seven hundred miles long, and it supports more than a hundred million of people. The Yellow River runs through it a hundred miles north of this point, and this river, in combination with the Yangtse, has built the foundations of one-fourth of the Chinese Empire. To-day it is estimated that the amount of dirt they carry down from the highlands of Tibet and of China is so great that it forms every two months an island a mile square in the sea and at the mouth of the Yangtse. I sailed by the Tsung Ming Island, which is thirty-two miles long and about ten broad. It has been built up within a hundred years or so, and now has cities and villages and supports more



A YANGTSE FARM YARD.

him, and his boats and officials are at all of the leading ports. You see their customs officers scattered all along the banks of the river, and at high water they sometimes use the little huts of bamboo, which are brought down in the rafts from the upper Yangtse.

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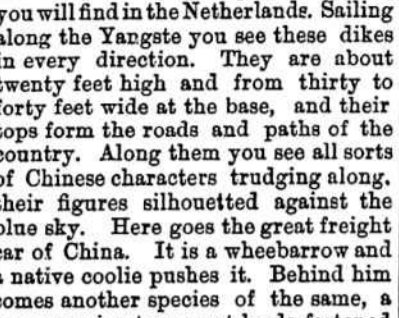


CUSTOMS STATION ON THE FRONTIER.

than a million people. The sea at the mouth of the Yangtse is filled with little islands, many of which have grown up within the memory of men now living, and along the low banks of the river I can see the strata of soil which it has brought down from year to year. At some points these lines of sediment are from one to two feet thick, and they are of as marked colors as strata of rock. The river has a vast volume of water. A line of freight water-tight cargo reaching from New York to Chicago and carrying twenty tons each could not hold its one day's discharge into the sea, and its rise and fall at the city of Hankow, about six hundred and fifty miles from its mouth, ranges

during the year from forty to fifty feet.

The rise in the Yangtse Kiang is so great that embankments have to be built along its course for more than 1000 miles. All of the country I have passed through is diked, and this, not only as to the river, but also as to every creek and canal connected with it. Central China is more cut up by waterways than Holland, and there are more dikes here to the square mile than you will find in the Netherlands. Sailing along the Yangtse you see these dikes in every direction. They are about twenty feet high and from thirty to forty feet wide at the base, and their tops form the roads and paths of the country. Along them you see all sorts of Chinese characters trudging along, their figures silhouetted against the blue sky. Here goes the great freight car of China. It is a wheebarrow and a native coolie pushes it. Behind him comes another species of the same, a man carrying two great loads fastened to the ends of the bow like pole which rests upon his shoulders. Next you see a brightly dressed girl, wearing red pantaloons and a blue sack, carrying a parasol of paper and looking very gay as she hobbles up and down the bank. You note mandarins riding in blue chairs carried between two bare-legged coolies, who trot along in front and behind, and among the nobles, the common people on foot.



A WELL-WATERED LAND.

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Everywhere you meet with native and Government officials. The different provinces have their customs officers, and they levy a heavy tax on all the native boats, each official gets his squeeze, and the taxation is terribly heavy. The customs collected for the general Government are in the hands of foreigners, for the Emperor cannot rely upon the honesty of his own officials, and so an Irishman, Sir Robert Hart, collects his duties for

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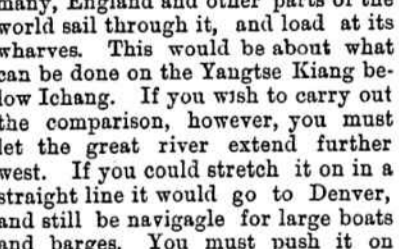
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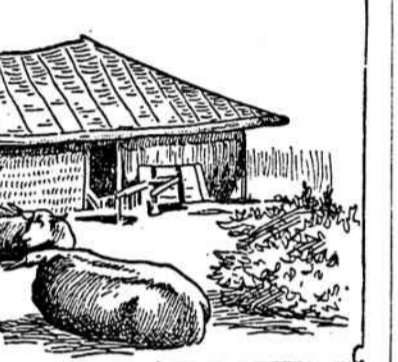
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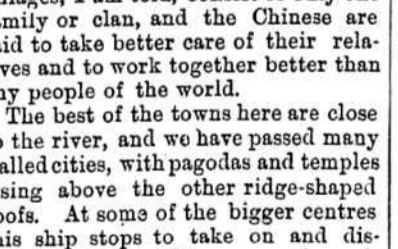
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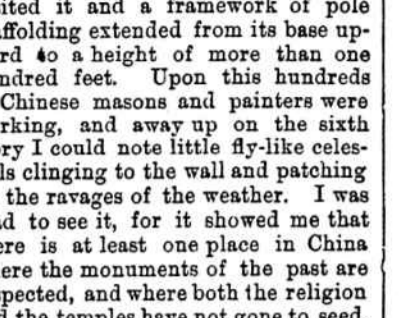


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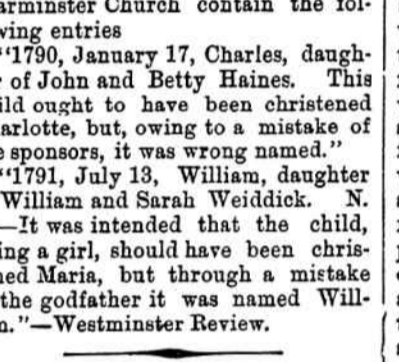
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Now and then they capture a smuggler or a pirate, and here and there outside of some of the villages I saw boats which had been cut in half and set up on end. I asked what they were, and I was told that they had belonged to pirates and thieves. The culprits had been caught and beheaded, and their boats were thus put up as warnings to their brothers to beware of the law. Such boats are usually put up at the places at which the crimes were committed.

Everywhere you meet with native and Government officials. The different provinces have their customs officers, and they levy a heavy tax on all the native boats, each official gets his squeeze, and the taxation is terribly heavy. The customs collected for the general Government are in the hands of foreigners, for the Emperor cannot rely upon the honesty of his own officials, and so an Irishman, Sir Robert Hart, collects his duties for

the year from forty to fifty feet. The rise in the Yangtse Kiang is so great that embankments have to be built along its course for more than 1000 miles. All of the country I have passed through is diked, and this, not only as to the river, but also as to every creek and canal connected with it. Central China is more cut up by waterways than Holland, and there are more dikes here to the square mile than you will find in the Netherlands. Sailing along the Yangtse you see these dikes in every direction. They are about twenty feet high and from thirty to forty feet wide at the base, and their tops form the roads and paths of the country. Along them you see all sorts of Chinese characters trudging along, their figures silhouetted against the blue sky. Here goes the great freight car of China. It is a wheebarrow and a native coolie pushes it. Behind him comes another species of the same, a man carrying two great loads fastened to the ends of the bow like pole which rests upon his shoulders. Next you see a brightly dressed girl, wearing red pantaloons and a blue sack, carrying a parasol of paper and looking very gay as she hobbles up and down the bank. You note mandarins riding in blue chairs carried between two bare-legged coolies, who trot along in front and behind, and among the nobles, the common people on foot.



A YANGTSE FARM YARD.

him, and his boats and officials are at all of the leading ports. You see their customs officers scattered all along the banks of the river, and at high water they sometimes use the little huts of bamboo, which are brought down in the rafts from the upper Yangtse.

This valley of the Yangtse Kiang is a vast garden. All along its course the grass is as green as in Egypt in winter, and two or three crops a year are everywhere grown. In looking over landscape you see no fences or barns. The people live in villages made of thatched huts, with walls of plaited reeds, which they plaster inside and out with mud. Sometimes the huts stand alone in the town, and at other times they are joined together in blocks. The best of them are not more than twenty feet square, and the average farm house has only one story. The earth floors the floor. You could, I venture, build a good one for \$5. The houses stand flush with the slimy mud sidewalk, and the filthier and

dirtier this is, the better it seems to please the people. Each village has a clump of trees about it, and in looking over the valley you see hundreds of these clumps, and realize the force of the statement that the whole Empire is one vast village. Many of the villages, I am told, consist of only one family or clan, and the Chinese are said to take better care of their relatives and to work together better than any people of the world.

The best of the towns here are close to the river, and we have passed many walled cities, with pagodas and temples rising above the other ridge-shaped roofs. At some of the bigger centres this ship stops to take on and discharge cargo, and I have gone through a number of cities since I came to China the names of which I had never heard. Take the city of Nanking—not Nanking, the old capital of China, you have all read of that—but Nanking. How many of you have ever realized that it existed? Well, we have just left it. It is a city of about a half million people and is bigger than St. Louis. It is the capital of the State of Ganhui, which has a population of more than one-third of the whole United States, though it is not as big as the State of New York. It lies right on the banks of the Yangtse, about 150 miles above Nanking, and it has miles of walls about it. These walls are twenty-five feet high and so wide that you could drive a buggy around the city on the top of them. Nanking is well built and rich now, though it was nearly ruined during the Taiping rebellion, back in the fifties. At that time the rebels held it under siege, and food became so scarce that human flesh was used, and it is said, was sold in market places for its weight in silver. The city has now a great native trade, though it is not one of the treaty ports, and foreign steamers cannot stop at it. It has



CHINESE POLICE BOAT.

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