

THE CHINAMAN.

SKETCHES OF HIM ON HIS NATIVE HEATH.

CHINA IN CONVULSION. By Arthur H. Smith. With numerous illustrations and maps. Octavo, pp. xiv, 364, 496. Fleming H. Revell Company.

Of the several noteworthy books recently published dealing with the Boxer uprising in China, its causes, progress, subjection and consequences, none is more luminous than that, consisting of two volumes, by Dr. Arthur H. Smith, entitled "China in Convulsion." Dr. Smith has been for nearly thirty years a missionary of the American Board in China, and this fact defines his limitations as an impartial critic of the part which religious prejudices played in the great insurrection; but, as the author points out, these causes, while in a sense primary, were but auxiliary to the one great mainspring of revolt—Chinese contempt, suspicion and hatred of the "foreign devils."

The commercial intrusion upon China, our author thinks, is less responsible for the Chinese prejudices than any other form of activity of the foreigners. The Chinese are a commercial people, and can understand why a trader should want to come to China. Still, the innovations

his own abdomen, so that the intestines protruded and he found himself unfit for the office of executioner of the father and two sons, one of whom was acquainted with foreign medicine. Thereupon began a characteristic Chinese dicker, the wounded man offering to release the medically educated prisoner if he would put his enemy to rights again. The practitioner insisted upon freedom for all three prisoners, but finally compromised upon saving his father's life and his own, leaving his brother to his fate."

CHAPTERS FOR THE FAIR.

ILLUSTRATED ESSAYS BY MRS. SANGSTER.

WINSOME WOMANHOOD. By Margaret E. Sangster. Illustrated by Studies from Life by W. H. Dyer. Octavo, pp. 256. Fleming H. Revell Company.

Between covers of lavender and gold, with pages embellished with studies of pretty women photographed from life, Margaret E. Sangster has written an entertaining book for women and girls. She has written in the firm belief that women are the strongest as they are the gentlest, "that the 'loving are the daring,' and that the ideal Christian woman should be especially serene, tender and full of charm." She believes that there has never been a better

A BRISK TRAVELLER.

SOME PRACTICAL NOTES BY A PRACTICAL MAN.

SEEN IN GERMANY. By Ray Stannard Baker. Illustrated, Octavo, pp. xi, 317. McClure, Phillips & Co.

The new Germany, together with many of its interesting types and peculiar customs, as seen by a professional observer, is the theme of Mr. Ray Stannard Baker's book. He has kept away, as far as possible, from the paths usually travelled by the American tourists who flock to Germany every year, and has written entertainingly about the things he saw. The effect of many of the descriptive bits is heightened by photographs and sketches by George Varian, the artist who accompanied Mr. Baker on the visit.

The first discovery which the author made was that he had never known what it was to be governed in small things. Nor could he understand the German desire to be looked after, to get a pennig's worth of government for every pennig paid in taxes. There was a feeling that he was being watched from the moment he landed, and he promptly begins a humorous quest for what is forbidden. He finds comfort in the fact that the seats are labelled clearly "For Children," "For Nurses with Children Only," and "For Adults Only." He found it a good rule to discover the "verboten" before he was discovered, yet he came home with the feeling that there were many undiscovered regulations awaiting another visit. He tells of the recent success of an automobile bus company in running its big cars at excessive speed through the streets. The statute books were thoroughly searched by the police, but as automobiles were not mentioned they had no authority to regulate the speed. The lawmaking machinery was put in operation, but lawmaking in Germany is a matter of deliberation, and by the time a law was passed the mobile had pushed many of its slower rivals to the wall. "Exactly the same thing happened when the bicycle was first introduced in Germany. For months bicycle riders rode when and where they pleased, tipped over pedestrians, and generally demoralized the police; now they are regulated out of all comfort. There is a great fortune awaiting the Yankee who will introduce flying machines in Germany, and sell out before the machinery of the law overtakes him."

Americans always like to know what other people think of them, and this is the German idea, according to Mr. Baker:

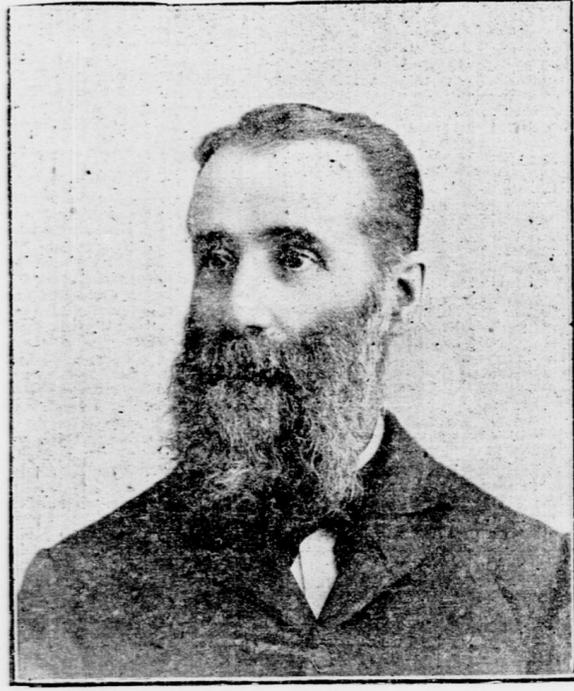
The ordinary German has a rather hazy idea of America and Americans, although it is perhaps as clear as the ordinary English idea. He knows Milwaukee, for he has a cousin there; he knows Hoboken, for that is where the German ships land; and he has heard of Niagara Falls and Chicago. The only Americans I ever heard mentioned, not of course among the educated people, who are tolerably familiar with things American, were Carl Schurz, Dewey and McKinley. The Spanish-American War did more than anything else has ever done to educate Europe on American affairs. Previous to 1898 they heard of our lynchings, train robberies, political dishonesty and international marriages, which confirmed them in the view that we were vulgar, energetic and rich; but now the papers contain a good deal of American news. All Americans, it may be said in passing, are still regarded as rich.

The German workman made an interesting study, and his manner of spending Sunday meets with the author's thorough approval. Even in the big cities, where it is impossible to escape from the streets, the poor German gets an idea of the country he loves from a high-fenced inn yard, where the trees grow in green tubs and there are always sociability, music and beer. He works for eleven hours a day and sixty-six hours a week, and is satisfied to be paid at the rate of 60 cents a day.

To work eleven hours, especially if he lives miles from the shop or factory, which is often the case, a man must be stirring at cook-crow, as soon as he is up, usually in the gray twilight, or, in winter, by candlelight, he has a cup of strong, hot black coffee and a wedge of rye bread. This is the first meal. Second breakfast comes about 8 o'clock; and if a man is working long of an hour or sometimes longer, it is a sight well worth seeing, the rush of workmen from a German factory at noon. Usually for fifteen minutes or more before the whistle sounds, short-skirted, comely women, girls and old men have been gathering at the gates with baskets and bottles; and at the sound of the whistle they rush in and are swallowed up in the outflowing current of men. Dinner is the most pretentious meal of the day. Usually there is meat, soup, sometimes with the meat from which it has been made, boiled potatoes, or some other vegetable, bread, and beer or coffee. Having finished, the men drop down to rest, saying little, thinking little and waiting for the whistle to call them back again. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon there is another meal, called vespers, for which there is a recess of 10 or 15 minutes. The last meal of the day comes after midnight, when the toiler reaches home. It is as simple as beer, bread, smoked fish, or sausage or cheese. That is all; and when it is eaten the workman is quite ready for his bed, especially if he has had to walk several miles to and from his work, as many do.

The German soldier, student, professor and other types are taken up in individual chapters. The story of the creation of a new industry—the glass and lens manufacturing of Jena—is told in an entertaining manner, as is the German method of building big ships, with the famous Deutschland as an example. New educational ideas involved in the commercial university established by the Leipzig Chamber of Commerce in 1896, and the development of the school garden system in a number of German cities, are striking examples of the German effort at improvement, which is the keynote of "Seen in Germany."

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ARTHUR H. SMITH. Author of "China in Convulsion." (F. H. Revell Company.)

attendant upon the introduction and extension of European commerce have had their share in producing the uprising. The railroad and the telegraph were at first regarded with the deepest suspicion by all the Chinese. When the Peking railway was built it was generally believed by the natives that the sleepers and the pliers for the bridges were all laid on the bodies of infants to secure the stability of the structure. Despite this strange belief, however, there is a fatal fascination for most natives about the rails, "which are about the height of a Chinese pillow, so that in the dim light of the night the engineer may see before his swift speeding engine a long row of brown forms, each stretched across the track, with his head beyond the rails. On such occasions it was sometimes necessary to run trains "dead slow" for miles together. In the early days of the line to the Tangshan coal mines there was a sort of market rate of 30 tails for Chinese killed by accident, but it was alleged that too many Chinese seemed disposed to "get a living that way, and a modification of the rules went into effect." When the telegraph lines were first put up the ignorant peasants thought that the rusty rain water dripping from the wires was the "exudation of supernatural blood, perhaps that of outraged spirits of the air, boiling ill to all near whom it falls." Dr. Smith concludes this portion of his work thus:

And with these views, held with every degree of distortion, and rehearsed in the hearing of every Chinese day by day with varied iteration, it is not singular that we have a well laid train which may at any moment produce an explosion of a magnitude hitherto unexampled. Taking all the complex factors into account, the wonder rather is that the explosion has not come long ago.

All these causes were emphasized in the Chinese mind by the reforms which the imperial government, incited by foreign urging and by the advice of such Chinese as had gone abroad to be educated, decided to put into effect. These, too, which are mainly educational, reacted in the Chinese mind against the "foreign devils," and finally resulted in the growth and activity of the Boxer movement. The Boxers, it may be said to remark here, flourished so extraordinarily upon the banquet of suspicion and hatred of the West that had been so studiously prepared for so many decades that it drove the imperial government finally to a point where it had to choose between the Boxers and the foreigners. As all the world knows, the former alternative was chosen. The English name of this society, we are told, is derived from its ancient Chinese name, which means literally "Fists of the Righteous." But the Boxers could not have enlisted such popular support as they had but for a feature which is thus described:

It was the supernatural element in the Boxer claims that gave the sect its powerful hold upon the popular imagination and faith. The divines worshipped were of the most heterogeneous sort, but many of them were deified heroes of extinct dynasties, whose spirits were supposed to animate the believer to such an extent that he could do the very deeds that had been wrought ages ago—deeds the knowledge of which had been everywhere popularized by the equally pervasive theatrical representations and the equally universal story teller. At the temples of the various divinities or in the presence of their pictures the initiated made their prostrations and invoked the aid of the gods. At certain stages of this experience they seemed to be literally madmen, daring everything and fearing nothing, as was frequently proved later when they came into collision with foreign troops. When the trance period had been passed through successfully the worshipper was held to be quite invulnerable, and was ready to submit to the crucial tests of his ability to resist blows of the sword on his bare arm, or the thrusts of spears in his abdomen; bullets or even cannon balls could not harm him, the projectiles being harmlessly dispersed with a wave of his hand, and the smoke dissipated to the right and the left. Credulity and suspicion struggle for pre-eminence in the Chinese character, so that it was necessary to demonstrate these claims publicly, frequently, and often in the presence of numerous spectators. Thousands and tens of thousands testified that they themselves had witnessed the trial and that the results were indisputable.

Although Dr. Smith deals so painstakingly with this big subject, his work is not by any means without the flavor of humor. He tells, for example, a tale of a Boxer who had seized "three Christians of one family, and was about to behead them, when, beginning with a preliminary flourish of his sword, he awkwardly miste

opportunity for the Christian woman to make a firm stand for the principles which she has avowed, and asserts that never in modern days has society so insidiously opposed the claims of simple Christianity.

Girls are given first place in "Winsome Womanhood," beginning with the girl of fifteen, her life at home, her friends, her innocent pleasures, her books and her correspondence. Then comes the girl in business, who the author believes is protected from temptation by becoming impersonal through preoccupation in her work. "By elevation of character, by irreproachable conduct, by the loveliness which is the badge of discipline, and by the brave protest, or the look of silent reproach, when there is occasion," the girl in business or professional life can show her loyalty. "When the prince comes," the author advises a marriage for love alone, but not a hasty one, and she tells of the happiness of a happy little home for two. She believes that there is a man for every woman and that every woman should marry. Then children enter into the text of several chapters, which will be interesting to mothers. In taking up the club question, the author comments on the unfairness of the early judgment of woman's clubs, and advises in this fashion:

Occasionally a woman, finding in her club agreeable companionship and mental stimulus, has made the mistake of giving to it too much of her time, or, fascinated by its attractions, has yielded to the temptation to join several clubs. To fulfil the obligations of membership in more than one club requires the sacrifice of more time than most women can spare. Yet the woman's club is not merely a place to which a woman resorts when she is weary, or when she has letters to write, or when she prefers dining away from home to dining there, nor has it any special political views, nor is it in any particular like the ordinary man's club. The women's clubs are founded merely for amusement. Like the famous Mrs. Giplin, of whom it was said that

Though on pleasure she was bent, She had a frugal mind, the conscientious woman takes up in her club a definite line of study, and reads with method and intention, that she may be able to prepare or discuss essays on the subject under review.

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