

The Rights of Americans Are Threatened in Turkey

Sultan Wants to Abrogate Certain Important Treaties.

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So few persons are aware that the word "capitulation" possesses another meaning than that of surrender in time of war that it may be of interest to explain just what is meant by the announcement that the Turkish government has quite recently approached President Taft and the State Department with a view to the abrogation of the "capitulations" within the borders of the Ottoman Empire. In this particular instance the word "capitulation" stands for a treaty.

In olden days agreements of this kind were always drawn up in Latin, and the various clauses and articles thereof were prefaced with the Latin word "capitula," which may be said to have stood for "headings." In course of time the treaties themselves grew to be described as capitula and then as capitulations, and we find the treaty of marriage between Dom Pedro of Portugal and Princess Marie of Savoy described as a capitulation, and also those conventions of the Helvetic Republic with the Netherlands, Spain, Naples, France and the Papal States for the employment of Swiss troops, especially bodyguards, by the rulers of these countries.

Finally capitulation was the word employed to designate the treaties by means of which the Turkish Sultans and other monarchs of the Levant, and of the still more remote Orient, undertook to grant to foreigners in their domains certain extrajudicial privileges in the form of a more or less extensive immunity from the jurisdiction of local tribunals and the right of trial by their own diplomatic and consular representatives.

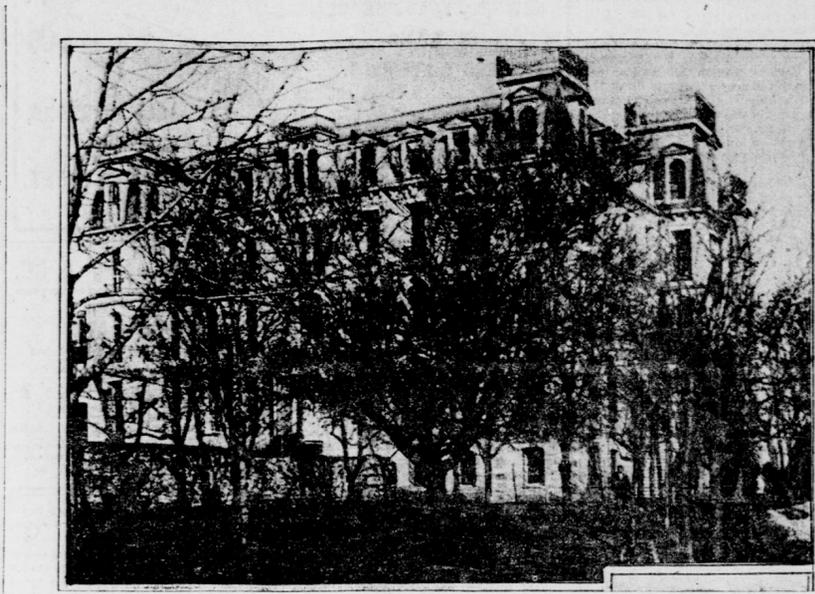
This prerogative was already enjoyed by foreigners at Constantinople under the reign of the Byzantine emperors, and when the Turks captured Stamboul, converted the superb Christian basilica of St. Sophia into a mosque and established their rule on the shores of the Bosphorus they consented to a continuation of the so-called capitulations.

It must be confessed that these capitulations were more honored in the breach than in the observance during the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, for they did not prevent the Turks from subjecting foreigners, espe-

cially Christians, to all sorts of indignities, even the envoys at Constantinople being the objects of much contumely. In fact, when one recalls that the slave markets of Stamboul, of Tripoli, of Alexandria, of Tunis and Tangier were recruited mainly through Moslem corsair raids along the coasts of Italy, Southern France and Spain and that the Dey of Algiers actually converted a foreign consul who had espoused the cause of one of his countrymen into a projectile for the big gun which he fired by way of defiance at the consul's warships that lay in the offing! It cannot be said that the capitulations were of much account as a protection of the Christian against Moslem tyranny.

Early in the nineteenth century, however, Turkey was brought to a more reasonable frame of mind, especially after the destruction of her fleet at Navarino in 1828, while some time previously the United States and Great Britain had taught manners and the necessity of observing treaties to the rulers of Algiers, Tunis, Egypt and Tripoli, and the result has been that for the last eighty years the capitulations have governed the attitude of the Turkish government toward all foreigners, including Americans, the latter by virtue of a special treaty between this country and the Sublime Porte in 1830. While they have been abolished in Algiers and in Tunis since France took possession of these two formerly independent states, they still survive in Morocco, and also in Egypt, while they have been extended to Persia, to Siam and China, and in 1857 to Japan, where they were, however, done away with about ten years ago.

It may incidentally be stated that the observance of the terms of the capitulations has always depended upon the power of the state concerned to make itself respected and to enforce its rights. That is to say, an Englishman, a citizen of the United States, a Frenchman or a German who happened to become involved in trouble at Constantinople or in any other Turkish seaport or city would be speedily turned over by the local authorities to his consul for the district, with a view to punishment, whereas a Belgian, a Portuguese, a Scandinavian or a stranger hailing from one of the Central or South American republics might be left to rot for months in some Turkish jail without the slightest attention being accorded to the protests of the diplomatic and consular representatives of the prisoner. In all countries, and nowhere more than in the Orient



ROBERT COLLEGE IN CONSTANTINOPLE: "ITS POWER FOR GOOD WOULD BE GRAVELY JEOPARDIZED."

does the exercise of rights depend upon the power to enforce them.

If the great powers of the world, after several years of negotiation, finally consented to the abolition of the capitulations in Japan and brought the foreigners there within the jurisdiction of the native tribunals in 1899, it was because the Mikado's government had adopted a civil and criminal code of the most progressive and enlightened character, and which, elaborated by a commission of the ablest Japanese and foreign jurists, had received the approval of the great powers, which had likewise assured themselves of the reliable character of the judiciary and of the thoroughly up to date police and prison systems. It is only fair to state that during the eleven years which have elapsed since then the foreign powers have never had the slightest occasion to regret their consent

to the abrogation of the capitulations in the dominions of the Mikado.

There are no such reasons, however, for making any co-cession of the kind to the Sublime Porte, and it is to be hoped that the United States government will return a negative response to the request which it has received from Stamboul. True, the Ottoman Sultan intimates that compliance on the part of the authorities at Washington would be followed by advantages in Turkey to American financial, commercial and manufacturing interests. But Mehemed V. is presumably holding out similar inducements, with a similar object in view, to the other great powers, and, if so, where does the advantage of the United States over the other nations come in? Moreover, committed as is the Porte to all sorts of costly reforms, entailing the expenditure of immense sums of money, it naturally

follows that it will be driven ever long to impose far heavier duties on foreign interests in Turkey than those which now exist, since native sources of revenue are virtually exhausted by the overwhelming present burden of taxation, and imposts on foreign interests are about all that is left from which the state can hope to derive any additional income.

American traders, too, will be in a position to push their business with a far greater degree of security and also prestige if known to be under the protection of their own government than if left to the tender mercies of the Ottoman authorities. The Turks entertain a considerable amount of respect for the foreigner whose person and whose interests are safeguarded by his own government and who may be regarded as enjoying its backing; whereas they have

nothing but contempt for the foreigner who has submitted to the rule of the Sultan. There are thousands upon thousands of Greeks who have transferred their allegiance from their native land to the Porte, in the vain idea of facilitating thereby their financial and commercial operations. Indeed, there are probably twice as many Greeks in Constantinople as there are at Athens. Yet they are subjected to all sorts of persecutions, annoyances and indignities, on the part of the authorities.

Known by the generic name of rayas—that is to say, non-Moslem subjects of the Sultan—they are despised by the followers of the Prophet to such an extent that until the inauguration of the present constitution, a year and a half ago, they were not considered worthy of being allowed to serve in the imperial army, having to pay a heavy personal tax in lieu thereof.

America has already large commercial interests in Turkey that are rapidly growing. She has also many educational establishments there, including the world-famed Robert College, at Constantinople, where so many Turkish, Bulgarian and Servian statesmen of note, and even members of the reigning House of Osman, have received either their education or else the principles of Western civilization. Then there are missionary stations, which dispense not only education but also medical care, scattered all over the empire, which have done much to spread Western enlightenment and progress. The fact that they have accomplished, their property, their personal safety and their powers of good for the future, would all be gravely jeopardized by the abolition of the capitulations.

For Turkey has not, like Japan, a new civil and criminal code, founded on all that is best in the laws of the United States, Great Britain, France and Germany—that is to say, in reality based on the principles of Christianity. The Turkish code is derived wholly and entirely from the Koran. It has been in existence since the days of Haroun-al-Raschid and the times of the Arabian Nights, is known as the Chariat, consists of a blending of the scriptures of Islam and of the reported teachings of Mahomet, and is incapable of modification as long as the Moslem faith endures. It has no elasticity, does not take into account the changes that the world has undergone during the last twelve hundred years, and it is to the last degree inconceivable that any American born

Strong Reasons for Refusing Urged by Ex-Attache.

citizen should ever be subjected to its jurisdiction.

It is a relic of barbarism, in spite of the wisdom of some of its teachings, and no civilized Christian government, least of all the government of the United States, should ever dream of permitting its subjects to be rendered amenable to the jurisdiction of purely Moslem tribunals, the principles of justice of which are wholly at variance with Western civilization.

There is no equality before the law in Turkey, where the Mahometan will always have the advantage over the Christian, and particularly over the foreign Christian, in the eyes of the Judges. Moreover, the punishments are cruel and the prison system worthy of a country steeped in the lowest depths of barbarism. The idea of subjecting an American born citizen to confinement therein is altogether intolerable.

Then, too, the present constitutional government has been in existence only eighteen months. Sultan Mehemed, indeed, completed only last week the first year of his reign. The new regime, while proclaiming itself a friend of progress and of reform, has perpetuated many of the abuses so rampant in the days of Abdul Hamid, especially in connection with the imprisonment, the banishment and the confiscation of property without any judicial process. There is no guarantee that it will last, or that some popular Moslem movement will not overthrow the present government, do away with the constitution and restore the autocracy of the Padishah in all its medieval despotism.

In one thing, at any rate, we may take comfort: It will need the consent of all the great powers to secure the abolition of the capitulations, and so pronounced just at present are the rivalries in what is known as the concert of nations that there is but small prospect of their coming to an agreement for the grant of the demands just made by the Porte on the United States.

EX-ATTACHE.

GENERALLY HAS THAT EFFECT.

She—I wonder why Methuselah lived to such a great old age?—He—Perhaps some young woman married him for his money.—Boston Transcript.

Lloyd Griscom's Heart Beats For Italy and the Italians

Republican County Committee President's Large and Generous Hobby.

Lloyd C. Griscom, the new president of the Republican County Committee, was honored last week at a great public dinner given for him by the district committee of the 25th Assembly District. It was the largest dinner given in this city for ten years, representing his country in Turkey, Persia, Brazil, Tokio and Rome. Mr. Griscom has become a profound Italo-philic. He admired Italian art, music, grace, he loves the people of that sunny land and wants to improve their condition when they come to these shores. He has been engaged in practical work looking to the betterment of Italy and her immigrants in the United States, and this is the work he prefers to politics. It is a large and generous hobby. It has an important bearing, after all, on politics and the future industrial and social state of this nation. The Italian question is much greater than the sensational aspect of the Black Hand.

Of course, Mr. Griscom is strictly on the presidential job, now that he has it. He means to carry it through.

"To tell the truth, I would rather work at this than at politics."

"I have been speaking at the Republican clubs throughout the city evenings," said "trying to get in close touch with the people, directly and through the district captains. I have asked the captains to find out the attitude of the people on the high cost of living. I want to find out what the people want in all directions, and then I will try to get them the legislation they require."

"Do you find much difference in addressing an American audience, as compared with the Latin and Orientals?"

"No," was the reply. "People are much the same everywhere. Of course the Southerners are more demonstrative. This was shown at the Metropolitan Opera House performance for the benefit of the Italian immigration society the other night, when the gallery was packed with fervid Italians."

"Are you not chairman of a charity or organization society committee which is fighting tuberculosis among the Italians of this city?"

"Yes. That is something I am vitally interested in. We are having a house-to-house canvass made. Here is a lithograph—the tall Mr. Griscom rose from his desk in his law office at No. 32 William street, went to a corner and returned with an artistic picture of Venice the delectable Venetian with inscriptions telling how to avoid the white plague by sanitary means. This is something rather attractive," he resumed. "It is a home scene; it has color; the Italian tenement dweller will hang it up in his rooms and learn what he needs to know while enjoying the view. There is a great mortality among Italians by tuberculosis acquired in this country. They mostly don't die here of the disease, but to home when in the last stages, infect their native villages and die there.



LLOYD C. GRISCOM.

lly susceptible to tuberculosis, coming from a warm climate to our wintry seasons and because of their habit of keeping their windows closed at night. At home they keep their windows closed to keep out the malaria-bearing mosquito, and the result of the practice, while enfeebling there, is disastrous here. It is the worst possible thing in an unobscured environment.

"We have sub-committees organized for each Italian quarter in New York, and some paid workers, to take a census of the Italian tuberculosis victims and to look after cases. Dr. Antonio Stella is our leading doctor in charge of this work. There are five hundred thousand Italians in this city, which is more than the population of Rome. The percentage of citizens and voters among them is small, compared to other races, for example, the Hungarians. The Italians generally expect to go home after making a small fortune, and so they don't get naturalized. Among the other reasons for not settling in this country may be a physiological reason—a desire for the sun and warmth of their native land.

"To make more Italians citizens and to remove the artificial obstacles which prevent their settling down here are the objects of another committee in which I am interested, the committee for improving civic conditions among Italians. I resigned the chairmanship of it the other day, because it is a non-political organization, and I did not wish to embarrass the work with partisan implications, but I am still a member of the committee, and will do all I can for it."

TO INSTRUCT ITALIANS.

"A number of leading Italians are engaged in raising funds and opening a bureau for the instruction of Italians. Alberto Pecorini, a gifted young author, is manager of the bureau, which is located in one of the Italian quarters. It is intended to teach the English language, how to get naturalized, give instruction in the responsibilities of citizenship and inculcate methods of bringing up children in American style. There is no partisan politics whatever in the enterprise.

"I feel that we have an enormous debt to Italy in several ways. Italian art appeals to me enormously. We should make some recompense for what we have borrowed and taken. Our most beautiful buildings are copies of the Italian school, our artists get a large amount of inspiration in sculpture, architecture and painting from the Italians. To-day Michael Angelo, both as sculptor and architect, is followed. Without the dome of St. Peter's we could not have our public buildings shut from the sky with beauty and economy. In science we are too apt to forget what we owe to Galileo in old days and Marconi in modern times. There was Volta, the great electrician. Our social ideas of liberty and the rights of man are based largely on Savonarola, who died for liberty. Bruno was another of the social pioneers and martyrs. They all stand in line and take turns drinking with it!—Housekeeper.

his battles for liberty, we forget that the Italian of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries inaugurated the capitalism of the world in New York to-day. I dined with them at their first annual banquet this year, and they were as distinguished looking a body of men as you could imagine. The Italian Chamber of Commerce here is a notable institution. The banking of these people is of the greatest importance to us. Generally speaking, the Italians form a valuable leaven in the conglomerate cosmopolitanism of New York. They contribute the light, subtle and artistic elements which the stolid races of the North lack. We need all elements in our national amalgamation. The popular idea is to regard the Italians as ditch diggers and railroad laborers. But in Northern Italy, the Province of Lombardy, there are a fine lot of people, not laborers, but expert farmers, skilled in intensive agriculture, which any government would be glad to welcome.

GO TO SOUTH AMERICA.

"Unfortunately this choicest class of Italians does not come to us, owing to the bad reputation of American hospitality. These people go to South America. We should induce them to come here. They can make crops grow in a desert, as they do on the sides of the mountains at home. Most of our immigrants come from Sicily and Calabria. We need the cooler blooded, larger statured men of the north, who breathe the air of the Alps. Their physiques can withstand our climate, and we can stand their industry and even temperance."

"We have the bad habit of calling Italians 'gangs' and looking down on them. They are ill treated in industry, mills, mines and factories. In Argentina the Italian settlers are the elite of society. They are not called names or discriminated against as here. They are not exploited and preyed upon. Therefore the naturally esteem South America above the United States. When social and industrial handicaps are removed here we shall have a more desirable class of Italian immigration. It is a slow and gradual work to change these things, a matter of years.

"We behaved very ungratefully to Italy not long ago by putting a tariff charge on lemons. The history of our tariff relations with that country shows a good spirit on both sides until lemons were put on the dutiable list, injuring the livelihood of one-third of the population of Southern Italy. When I was in Rome I protested against that tariff clause, and Senator Root made an unavailing fight against it on the floor of the Senate."

Mr. Griscom's attention was called to a published statement that the chairman of the Republican County Committee must play the part of Maccenas to the party and defray out of his own pocket casual expenses amounting maybe to \$30,000 a year.

"I don't believe in that sort of thing at all," he said, decisively. "The party is rich enough to pay its own way. The Maccenas principle is bad for any organization. It naturally makes one man the proprietor, for he who pays is the owner. When any such demand as that is made on me I'll get out. Incidentally, I haven't the means that I am reported to have, and that would facilitate my undertaking the role."

SETTING A GOOD EXAMPLE.

Slang is tabooed in the home of a West Philadelphia family, principally because there is a bright little girl who displays a persistent aptitude in retaining expressive but uncouth phrases.

The other evening at dinner the mother, father and daughter drifted into the vernacular. "Oh, mother, all the other little girls at school like me so specially much, and we have the most fun with my new cup! They all stand in line and take turns drinking with it!"—Housekeeper.



On the Boardwalk Changing Scenes from Week to Week at Atlantic City.

Atlantic City, May 8.—The Boardwalk is exhibiting the first sign of summer in its ability to change its character every week. This week it is all portly bankers and their handomely dressed daughters and wives, for two different banking associations are here this week. Next week the delegates for the Daughters of the American Revolution will begin to invade the great board way, and dignified matrons, with D. A. R. buttons, will take the place of the bankers.

There are a number of well known people at the Boardwalk this week. Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Drexel and Mr. and Mrs. Drexel Biddle came down in an automobile for a short glimpse of the sea and had luncheon at the Shelburne grill. Another automobile which arrived at this house brought Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Crowninshield, of Boston, who made a short stay. Justice William R. Day, of the Supreme Court, came down from Washington, with Mrs. Day, for a week's stay, and Mr. and Mrs. Rufus S. Day joined them here.

Bishop H. S. Hoffman and Mrs. Hoffman, of Philadelphia, have taken apartments at the Dennis for a three or four months' stay at the shore. Commander and Mrs. Joseph Garland, of New York City, are also guests at this house. Conventions of the American Supply and Machinery associations, with manufacturers' and dealers' associations, are to be held at the Dennis from May 11 to 13.

The Hotel Chelsea entertained the New Jersey Bankers' Association this week, and a dinner on Friday night was a notable feature. Among New York guests at this hotel are Mr. and Mrs. Penrose, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Eaton, Edward A. McDougall and Master Robert McDougall, Mrs. Julie Re Ryther and Mrs. Hugh Stewart.

Among New Yorkers registered at other Atlantic City hotels are the following: Youngs—P. A. Van Dyke, J. D. West, H. J. Eloben, Mr. and Mrs. M. Currie, George Vantam, T. M. Ruppel, N. A. Elisasser and Charles Ellis.

Traymore—J. B. Correll, Mrs. Middleton, Miss Middleton, B. McCatts, Mrs. E. Griffin, Miss J. Halle, Mr. and Mrs. Eshenrich, Edouard Eshenrich, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Norton, M. Davis, Horace Cabot, Harry Gribb, Mr. and Mrs. M. Whitney and Mrs. T. Glabond.

Charles—W. A. Reef, Mrs. William A. Reef, Mrs. D. M. Thompson, Mr. Thompson, Jr., Miss Conway, Miss F. Conway, Mr. and Mrs. James Collins and Alexander Graham.

Shoreham—Mr. and Mrs. G. Van Stone, Mr. and Mrs. David Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Garland, Mrs. G. Van Stone and E. H. Dunker.

Rudolf—Bernard Goldman, Benjamin Pinkle, Mrs. M. Rogers, Mrs. L. London, Mr. and Mrs. M. Emerson and D. V. Crawford.

Haddon Hall—A. E. Patterson, D. F. Connor, M. F. Burns, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Betts, Frank R. Emmons, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Dickinson and Mrs. Marcell.

Prince Tsai Tao Is Trying to Make China's Army Formidable

Emperor's Uncle Touring the World for Hints to That End.

Prince Tsai Tao, the Chinese prince of the blood and uncle of the little Emperor, who has just left New York, after a dash, smashing visit, attracted much attention while here. Few realize that this quiet young man amounts to a world-wide figure, for he it is who is trying to raise the great, sleeping, yellow giant and help him to stand aloft. The prince, who is the brother of the regent, is the chief of staff of the imperial army, and his globe tour is for the purpose of watching the armies of the world, with an end to establishing ultimately in China an organized force of 300,000 to 500,000 men. Although he had never before been outside of Peking, and has been practically all his life within the palace, he has kept up with the day, and his democracy is remarkable when the hidebound customs and chaining traditions of his land are considered.

The prince gave no interviews on the subject while in America, but it is understood from one who is close to his side that he and his staff officers have frequently discussed the military exhibitions they have seen in this country and Japan. On the train coming down from West Point the prince wrote several pages of notes. Lord Li Ching Mai, who is the prince's constant companion, has aided his highness greatly in his observations. This noble is not a military man, although he is a lieutenant colonel by brevet, but he has spent many years in European capitals, and was at one time minister to Austria, his brother now being minister to the Court of St. James's.

"China's army will one day overshadow the world," said Yin Chang, the Chinese Minister to Germany, as he was about to leave Berlin to take the post of Minister of War in his own country, and if the plans of Prince Tsai Tao go a right, the prediction may come true. While no definite scheme has yet been decided on, Chinese officers have been for some years gathering impressions everywhere. Staff officers accompanied both armies throughout the Russo-Japanese War, and have been scattered in other countries where trouble brews—in Algeria, for instance.

PRESENT STATUS OF ARMY.

It may be that inside of four years from now the dream will be partly realized. Already out of the old Manchuria army of the Eight Banners, the Chinese army of the Green Flag, the Mongolian and Tibetan militia, the provincial militia, special reserves and the Guards of the Mandarins has arisen an army which can put about 175,000 or 200,000 fighting men in the field. Perhaps 140,000 of these have been fairly well trained by German instructors and by Japanese officers who entered into contract after the Russo-Japanese War. There are now these divisions: The police army of about 47,000 men, the auxiliary police army of some 130,000 men, the Imperial Palace Guard, composed of manchu of the Three Banners and only 1,800 in number, and the gendarmes. The latter have been organized into five divisions, and this will be the ultimate scheme of organization.

It is hoped by 1913 to have 37 divisions, with a total of 27,713 officers and 435,268 men, of which 13,357 officers and 377,789 men will be combatants. On a war footing there would be about 567,284 fighting men. By 1920 it is designed to have 43 divisions and 537,000 men, 37 reserve divisions and 27 mixed reserve brigades and 111 depot battalions, with a total strength of 1,418,000 officers and men and a fighting strength of 1,185,000 of all grades.

Two years ago the troops were organized into 9 divisions and 13 mixed brigades, with 215 battalions of infantry, 43 cavalry squadrons, 31 mountain batteries, 12 batteries of engineers, 10 train battalions and 15 machine gun companies. At that time it was calculated that about 650,000 combatants could take the field, with 330 field guns, against a foe. Of these, 120,000 were regular troops, 50,000 were from the police force, which takes the place of the army in maintaining order in the provinces, and 50,000 were Mongolian cavalry trained in modern methods. Under reorganization all the units now in the system would be merged.

There are now twenty-eight police schools, with 5,440 pupils, and two cadet schools, at



PRINCE TSAI TAO. In the uniform of the Imperial Bodyguard of the palace in Peking.

Peking and Paoting-Fu, with 600 cadets each. It is expected to establish many military schools throughout the empire.

The estimate of the military budget at the time of reorganization is \$18,500,000,000. In 1908 it was estimated at \$1,000,000,000. The Imperial Guard, of which the prince is commander, formerly consisted of 12,000 men, but was reduced to 3,000, and now, as stated, the actual strength is only 1,800, the idea being to create a new organization to replace the old.

EVIDENCE OF ADVANCEMENT.

It is now looked on in China as an honor to have a military man in the family. It is not so long since the only examination given officers was in horsemanship and archery, a survival of the days of the Manchou bannermen. Feats of strength were also thought requisite for positions of command, and he who wielded the two-handed sword was thought better fit to lead an army than he who knew how to build a redoubt, dig a trench or tunnel a mine. Just in the same manner, the examinations for the rank of mandarin now include science as well as the classics, and candidates are required to have some knowledge of geography, geology, etc., instead of being able to repeat pages of Confucius from memory. The goal is the same, however, more advanced by the fact that he must pass with boys of twenty-one.

To get back to this prince, who is just twenty-five years old, and who has been able to shake the servile admiration for aristocracy and ancestry that has made of China a negligible quantity, a striking instance of his progressiveness is afforded by the recommendation to do away with the queue in the army. Just how much this means to a Chinaman no Occidental can understand. But soon after the prince assumed his position as chief of staff he advised the change, and it is said that on his return his brother, the regent, will assist the edict. Prince Tsai is the first young Manchou to take such a step, with the exception of the son of Prince Su, who is being educated in Germany. When this lad left China his father made it a point to tell him that his long, glistening black hair was the sign of his place in life, and therefore of age take the examinations side by side with boys of twenty-one.

Prince Tsai received a package in the parcels post, and it is hardly necessary to say that it was his son's discarded queue. Prince Chun, the Regent, is said to be very like his brother, who has just left New York. He is quiet and simple in manner, but very determined. An illustration of this is afforded by the fact that he usually directs the bear attendant and a great favorite of the late Empress Dowager.

After Tsai Hi, the "Aged Woman of the East," and the Emperor Kwang Su died in November, 1908, within twenty-four hours of each other, behind the mysterious palace walls, and Pu Yi, the two-year-old son of

Heaven, ascended the throne, the latter's father, Prince Chun, determined to get rid of Yuan Shih Kai. The Grand Councilor was as popular as ever, among foreigners as well as Chinese, and his removal was a radical step. But the yellow cord, the symbol of displeasure, bound the document Prince Chun sent him, asking him to retire because of "rheumatism in the leg," and his power was short.

BOLD AND CHARACTERISTIC.

"It was the boldest move ever seen in China," said an army officer who has spent several years in Peking, "but it was characteristic of Prince Chun. He is a strong man, and was, by the way, very much beloved by his half-brother, Kwang Su. It is probable that there is no one with whom Kwang Su would have been better pleased as his successor.

"Prince Chun's courage and diplomacy were shown on another occasion," he continued. "When he was sent to Germany to carry an apology for the murder of Baron von Kettler, it was rumored far and wide that Wilhelm would make him scrape the ground with his forehead, if not literally, at least, in effect. The Prince felt that all that he could do was to apologize, so when he neared Germany he paused for a time at Berne. He remained so long that the 'War Lord,' growing impatient, finally sent for him, and in this way the dignity of the Prince and of China was upheld. If this determination was shown ten years ago, his strength must have increased by this time."

This spirit of independence has been exhibited to a degree by Prince Tsai Tao. Before he left Peking for his trip it was said that England would not accord him honor unless China would accede to all demands regarding maritime customs, the Portuguese trouble, and the other international questions which have formed the subject of controversy. Prince Tsai and his suite did not decide that they would go to London until assurances were made that he would be received with all the dignity usually manifested toward his rank.

The third brother, Prince Tsai Hsun is chief of staff of the navy, and his tour of Europe last fall is remembered. He, like the Regent, is older than Prince Tsai Tao, but is much the same sort of personality. He is interested in all that goes on. Last year, on the eve of his departure for Europe, he said: "I am glad to be able to have the chance to see something of aviation. I am extremely interested in this."

Europe's apparent ascher appearance of the young noble who has been in New York, he is said to be perfectly alive and full of fun. "You must remember," said one of his party, "that he is not only fagged out, but he cannot speak English, and in company he is like a man who is deaf and dumb. But the humor breaks out now and then."

Prince Tsai Tao produced a fine impression in the few times that he appeared socially in the city. He attended a reception in his honor at the home of Cornelius Vanderbilt on Wednesday afternoon. "He was perfectly at home, and his manners were charming," said one of the American members of the party.

TWAIN TURNED THE TABLES.

Mark Twain, when he worked in Nevada on "The Virginia City Enterprise," inserted in the news a good many boarding house jokes.

In revenge the humorist's sensitive fellow boarders in Virginia City decided to put up a game on him. They enlisted the landlady's help, and at the Thanksgiving dinner at the boarding house Mark Twain was dexterous piece of sleight-of-hand, was served, apparently direct from the fowl, with a turkey leg of painted wood.

"You've changed your poultry dealer, haven't you, ma'am?" he said.

"Why, no, Mr. Clemens. What makes you think so?"

"This turkey," he answered, giving the wooden drumstick a little when appearing his knife, "is about the tenderest morsel I've struck in this house for some months."—Tit-Bits.

THE SAME, BUT DIFFERENT.

"What does ferment mean?" asked the teacher of the juvenile class.

"It means to work," answered Freddy.

"That's right," said the teacher. "Now, Tommy, you may write a sentence on your slate containing the word."

A few minutes later Tommy handed up the following: "Tramps don't like to ferment."—Chicago News.