

A GOOD SPEECH.

Mr. Wu the Orator of the Day at Binghampton.

Binghampton, N. Y., Sept. 1.—At the Labor Day celebration here today Mr. Wu Ting Fang, China's minister to the United States, was the orator of the occasion. This may be Mr. Wu's last appearance in the United States before he returns to China. The Chinese statesman said:

"Thanks are due to the labor unions of Binghampton for this invitation, which came as a surprise. It is a pleasure to address men who have shown such liberal-mindedness—men who have strong opinions of their own, and yet are not afraid to listen to arguments. To be open to conviction and information is the mark of a noble mind. "Men nowadays differ on all important questions. Indeed, there is no unanimity on any subject. Many men, many minds is the old saying. This is the natural result of seeking after the truth, it is necessary to keep our minds open; for, according to a Chinese saying, 'those that agree with us are not for that reason right, and those that differ with us are not for that reason wrong.' At any rate, variety seems to be a law of nature. What a humdrum world this would be if all had the same ideas. We ought, therefore, to hold ourselves ready to modify our opinions in accordance with newly-discovered facts. Only fools and bigots do otherwise. What eminent statesman of our times have not allowed themselves to be influenced by the everchanging conditions of things? Gladstone, for example, began his political career as 'the rising hope of those stern and unbending Tories' who followed reluctantly and mutinously Sir Robert Peel, and ended his days as the unrivaled leader of the Liberals.

"It is a pleasure, therefore, to address an audience composed of men and women so intelligent and broad-minded.

"It may not be generally known that China recognizes the dignity of labor. The people are usually divided into four classes, namely, scholars, agriculturists, laborers and merchants. It will be seen that laborers are placed above merchants. In China neither birth nor wealth counts so much as hard work. The late Viceroy Li Hung Chang furnishes an example of the self-made man of China. He rose by his own exertions from the people to the highest position in the empire next to the emperor. In the early spring the emperor goes to the temple of agriculture and turns up the sod with a plow he guides with his own hands, and the empress likewise picks the first mulberry leaves of the season and feeds them to silk worms. The provincial officials perform similar acts. The object is to set an example for the people to follow. Moreover, rich people often in China hire out their sons to service in order to teach them the value of work. In the United States college students are not ashamed to do menial work to help themselves in getting an education. This is a good sign for the country. China and the United States are the only countries in which a man does not lose caste by going to work.

"Born and bred as I have been, it is natural that I have been a friend of labor. It is right and proper for workingmen to combine and organize for mutual benefit and protection. Capital does the same thing. But all workingmen should study labor conditions for themselves so that they may be able to act intelligently in case of emergency. It has often been said that too much power is put in the

hands of a few capitalists. There is some ground for this complaint. But workingmen should take care that a similar charge should not be made against themselves.

"It seems that labor and capital have formed themselves into two opposing camps. There is no valid reason for this state of things. The laborer of today may be the capitalist of tomorrow. Capital and labor should be partners, not enemies, in the industrial world; for their interests are identical. There is, indeed, a community of interest between capital and labor. Arbitration is the method that is generally proposed for the settlement of differences between capital and labor. It is good as far as it goes. But a better method is to remove all causes of difference. In a contest between capital and labor, injury is done to both. China has solved the question by the adoption of a profit-sharing scheme. This has worked well.

"The industrial development of the United States has now reached a stage in which production is so much greater than what is required for home consumption that an outlet has to be found for the surplus products. The Western States have not gone into manufactures hitherto owing to the lack of coal. But with the harnessing of water-falls, the establishment of factories is rendered possible. It will not be long before the Western States will compete with the Eastern States in manufactures. Where shall they go for a market, if not to China? The Southern States, especially South Carolina, now sends 60 per cent. of their cotton goods to China. The trade of the United States with China has been steadily increasing for some time past. This increase would have been more marked if there had been no legislative obstacles in the way. It is said that trade is not sentimental—that men will buy where things are cheapest. This is true only when there is no competition. But England, France, Germany, Japan, Belgium and others are also in the field. Under such circumstances, sentiment may turn the scale in favor of one country against another. Every Chinese wants to see the United States have its due share of China's trade.

"It should be remembered that a vast foreign commerce is good for the workingman. Owing to the Boxer disturbance in China two years ago the cotton mills in Charlotte, North Carolina, had to be closed, because their goods could not be marketed. The result was very disastrous to factory hands in the South.

"In this connection I may be expected to say a word or two about the discriminatory legislation against my countrymen. I do not wish to enter into a discussion on the subject now that it is settled. But I can assure you that nothing has ever been done or said by me which is not to the real interest of all workingmen. It has been my aim, not to secure the unrestricted admission of Chinese laborers into the United States, but to remove unnecessary obstacles to the coming of Chinese merchants, students, and other desirable classes of Chinese. Such a stand certainly does American workingmen no harm. The objections to the discriminatory legislation against my countrymen are because it is not called for; because such an extreme and unusual step should not be taken unless no other course is open; because some means can be devised that will amply protect American labor without offending the sensibilities of a friendly nation. It is certainly unjust to stigmatize the whole people of a country as undesirable, and place unnecessary obstacles to the coming of merchants, students, and other classes, who do not in the least compete with American labor. Now the consequence is that while the workingmen of this country have to struggle against an ever increasing immigration of the laboring classes from Europe and Asia, Chinese of respectable classes, to whose coming no possible objection can be urged, find it almost impossible to set foot on American soil.

"The Government and people of the United States have proved themselves to be true friends of China, and China is very grateful for this. The only sore point is the hostile legislation directed solely against them. It is injurious to the commerce between the two countries. It is injurious to the interests of American workingmen. Be assured that I have in view the welfare of the United States as well as that of China, and I regard it as my highest privilege if I can say or do anything that will reduce the existing prejudice and inure to the benefit of both countries.

"This is Labor Day. It is a holiday established for the benefit of the laboring classes. It should be made

a day of rest and recreation. One of the disciples of Confucius used to ask himself these questions: 'Have I been faithful in transacting business for others? Have I been sincere in intercourse with friends? Have I performed the duties imposed upon me?' This is the day for self-examination.

"I wish the cause of labor every success. It is customary for friends in China to wish each other the enjoyment of 'three kinds of abundance,' namely, good fortune, years, and male children—in other words, happiness and longevity. So now I wish the same to you all."

WHEN A BURGLAR COMES.

Points From a Policeman as to the Etiquette of the Occasion.

"I notice that the Star from time to time has advocated the infliction of the death penalty upon the conviction of the crime of housebreaking, holding that the burglar is at heart at all times a murderer," said a headquarters detective this morning, "and none more heartily concur in this recommendation than the police of Washington and of the other large cities. The recent cold-blooded murder by a burglar of a citizen of Brooklyn in the presence of his wife calls the point to mind. It brings up a suggestion or two regarding these distressing casualties which I recommend to the citizens of Washington as what to do when you find a burglar in the house.

"In view of the fact that the Legislatures of the different States do not appear to be willing to impose the death penalty upon new offenses, it is probable that it will be years before the first State may be won over to the plan, so I suggest these rules:

"First, the best burglar alarm in the world is a small dog, kept in the house at night. Whether of mongrel or thoroughbred, he soon becomes accustomed to the ordinary noises about the premises and in the neighborhood and familiar with the footsteps of the occupants of the house. I lodge where there is a pug, a breed of dog not considered over bright, but I will give any man of peaceful intent or otherwise a new suit of clothes if he can enter my house and, entering it, move about that Pug will not detect his presence at once. Though she is a coward, she will bark the steeple off a church and raise enough full to float a full-rigged ship at the slightest untoward noise, however faint, though I may enter the house at any time of the night or morning and be greeted with affectionate sniffs and grunts. The house is not the place for big dogs, which, if kept on the outside, are as likely to bark at cats as burglars. Nevertheless, a large well trained dog in the house is better than no dog at all.

"Second, if you see a stranger in your room and your revolver is close at hand, always shoot at him to kill; take good aim at his body, and not at his head, as a larger target is presented and your bullet is more likely to reach home. You are in all probability not a good shot, or, if you are, you will more likely miss his head than his body. Always fire twice, and thrice if necessary before you stop. Ask questions as to his presence in your room at that hour afterward. Have no more compunction about killing a burglar than you would a mad dog; in fact, favor the dog. Always remember that he is in your house unlawfully for two purposes—to rob you and kill you if necessary; therefore, whether expert or novice with a gun, never shoot to wound; plant your bullets thick and fast into his body.

"Third, if you have a revolver, do not keep it in the bureau drawer, but under your pillow, or within easy reach by the side of your bed so you can get your fingers around the trigger with the least possible movement, and without getting up. If a man ever needs a revolver under these circumstances he needs it right away, and he should not have to go and hunt it. Lie still in bed and shoot your would-be murderer full of holes; if you get up he may make a sieve of you, never forgetting that he is about the vilest scoundrel on earth, and is never willing to give you even a fighting chance for your life. It is always 'dead men tell no tales,' with the burglar, and you should apply the axiom obligingly to him.

"Fourth, if you hear a 'noise in the house,' or your wife hears it and wants you to go down in the cellar with a light, don't go. Don't light the gas, either, to 'see what' the noise is about. The darkness makes a perfect shelter for the burglar, while the light makes of you a perfect target for his bullet. Many men have been shot to death or wounded because they followed the natural impulse to get up and strike a light. Get your revolver well gripped, lie still and await developments, which are sure to come if the noise is caused by a burglar. If he comes into your room, fire at him as soon as you can discern his shadowy form. If you wish to investigate, do your exploring in the darkness. You know your own house, the intruder does not. You place the

boof on the other foot when you follow this, and if he is kindly packing up your silverware from your dining room sideboard to save the hired girl the trouble of keeping it clean, you can kill him easily if you have the requisite nerve. If you haven't lock your door, stick your head out of the window, call for the police, and fire off your gun. You will then scare the fellow away at least.

"Fifth, if you have neither revolver nor nerve and you hear a burglar in the house or think you do, just lie still and scream good and loud if you are a woman, and give a Comanche yell if you are a man. The chances of your being shot are thus lessened than if you got up and raised the roof with your voice. He will take the hint and get out quick. If you happen to wake up and find him in your room and you are timid let him have your valuables and you lie very still. You may replace your valuables, and but not the life he will take if you are foolhardy enough to tackle him barehanded.

"Sixth, don't forget that all burglars are armed with revolvers, but that all householders and roomers are not. He has you, therefore, practically at his mercy at the beginning of the game, and always at a disadvantage even if you are armed. He is prepared to shoot, with his gun in his hand. He is wide awake, while your weapon may be just out of reach, and as you have been awakened out of slumber your senses are not as alert as the man who will kill without a single thought.

"Seventh, because you hear a noise in the house it does not follow that it is caused by a burglar, or if you are a roomer in a lodging house that the intruder who has entered your room is one with evil intent. When a man is more or less drunk all doors look alike to him, and I have frequently found roomers trying my door, and even in my room. These conditions are trying to the nerves, to be sure, but you can almost instinctively feel whether a man is there by mistake or with burglarious intent. If in your own house don't be too hasty to shoot if it is possible for a member of your own family to have strayed into your room while in a fit of somnambulist abstraction or while looking for your private bottle of rye on the top shelf of the closet.

"Eighth, in shooting a burglar do not feel that you are taking a human life. The burglar is a human hyena, and as all of the animal kingdom despise the hyena so ought the higher intellectual animals regard the burglar. He is an outcast, worthy only of execration and death, and compared with whom the highwayman, who gives you at least a chance to hand over your valuables and go, is an honest man. The burglar is the most villainous of villains, and for every one removed from earth by a bullet or locked up behind prison bars, law-abiding citizens should give a sigh of relief and a prayer of congratulation."

—Washington Evening Star.

Advertisement for Prickly Ash Bitters, Evans Pharmacy Special Agents, Pendleton Collegiate Institute.

Webster's Last Words. Concerning 'last words' says Victor Smith in the New York Press, my old friend A. H. McKee has this to say of Webster: "I knew an old lady who was neighbor and intimate friend of the Websters in Washington. She explained to me the meaning of his last words—I still live." Webster, as all the world knows, was a hard drinker. Liquor caused his death. In his last days he was kept alive by brandy, which he craved. The day he died his physician called on him early in the morning and found him very low, and as he thought, unconscious. Turning to the nurse, he said: "If he is alive at 8 o'clock, give him another drink of brandy." The family gathered at the bedside to see him breathe his last. A clock in the room struck 8. For a moment he remained silent; then, as no one offered to help him, he said, rousing up and opening his eyes, "I still live." The nurse, recollecting the doctor's instructions, hastened to give him another drink, which proved to be his last, as he relapsed into a quiet stupor and died within an hour. The old lady did not have a high opinion of Webster from a moral standpoint, knowing that the immortal words, 'I still live,' were uttered for the purpose of getting a final drink."

He Was Still Dead. Many politicians pride themselves upon their memory of faces and incidents in the lives of those they meet on their tours in quest of votes. A certain Maine congressman is of this class. He thinks it is through his ability in this line that he has been able to retain the hold that he has had for a long time on his constituents. He seldom forgets a man, and whether the visit is made to his office on business relating to the postmaster-ship in the largest city in his district or in regard to a pension for a poor widow, he always remembers the visitor and knows him when next they meet.

It chanced that some little time ago, two men, father and son, entered his office to see him in regard to some business they had with one of the departments at Washington. The Maine congressman was very courteous and heard them through. Several months later the young man called again. "How is your father?" was the first question asked. "He is dead," the young man replied. The sympathy expressed by the statesman was deep, and the young man went away believing that the congressman was a much larger man than he had before regarded him.

Careful in His Statements. One of the constituents of Judge Culbertson, the father of the present senator from Texas, had wagered that he could get a definite and decided opinion from the old man, a proposition so unlikely that it created no little excitement in the Texas town in which the judge resided. It had been stipulated that the bet should be decided in front of a livery stable, where Judge Culbertson liked to spend some of his leisure hours. A crowd collected, and as they discussed the state of the weather and the condition of the crops a newly sheared flock of sheep was driven by. "Judge," said the man who had made the wager, "those sheep have been sheared, haven't they?" "It looks like it on this side," replied the judge.

—Nothing jars a chronic invalid like being told that he is looking well.

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