

AMONG THE CHINESE.

Their Curious Way of Reckoning—Old Age a Distinction.

The Chinese do not reckon their age from the day of birth, but from New Year's day. It is on this account sometimes difficult to find out the true age of young children. Here is a tiny shaven-headed bundle of humanity, scarcely able to stand alone for a moment, and you are gravely assured that he is 8 years old. If you have left the sacred rules of propriety at home, you venture mildly and politely to cast just a faint shadow of doubt upon the statement; or if you do not discredit the parent's assertion, but are still unacquainted with the mode of reckoning, you probably conclude with its parents on the slight degree of progress he has made toward maturity.

Should a child arrive in this world at 11:55 o'clock on New Year's eve, the fond father will proudly assure you next morning that the new arrival is 2 years old, and never so much as think that what he says is untrue. Seeing that clocks are very scarce articles except along the coast, and that even where a clock is found time is a very elastic and variable quantity, one wonders how such matters are determined in certain cases. The Chinese do not conceal their age, nor do they ever try to represent themselves as younger than they are. There is a much stronger tendency to add to the stated number of their years than to diminish it. On being introduced to a new acquaintance the first question is, "What is your distinguished surname?" and the second is, "What is your honorable age?" You reply to one as readily as to the other.

Age is so much respected that it is considered a distinction to be advancing in years. There are eight or ten different names which correspond to "Mr.," according to the appearance of age, or real age, to which a man has attained, and the same for women. Besides, it is a matter of greater congratulation as years go by that one has been spared to add another year to the term of life. The length of the reign of the emperor, the term of official service, the engagements of servants, the period of residence in a locality—all are dated from the new year.—Brooklyn Magazine.

How to Become a Centenarian.

Dr. Burggrave, a learned professor of the University of Ghent, has just published a remarkable work in which he endeavors to prove that anybody who will take the trouble to follow his instructions may become a centenarian. His system is merely a system of renovation, and is simplicity itself. The great panacea for all ills which he professes to have discovered is salt, the rational use of which, he says, is a sure preserver of life. He alludes to good health as not a matter of chance or constitution. The laws which regulate human life are calm and regular phenomena, and all we have to do is to take care that they shall develop themselves without obstruction. According to his theory, salt is the great regulating agent. If the blood be too rich, salt will clarify it; if the blood be too poor, salt will strengthen and furnish it with the necessary elements.

Dr. Burggrave quotes several examples in support of the sovereign virtue which he attributes to salt. In Holland, the greatest punishment which existed for offending soldiers was to give them unsalted bread. After a few months of this regimen the culprits almost invariably died. In Saxony, at the end of the last century, a terrible epidemic reigned solely through the want of salt. The Dutch savant furthermore assures us that salt is an infallible cure for consumption and cholera. (The Russian peasants once saved themselves from a plague by putting salt in their milk.) He estimates that the quantity of salt which every adult in ordinary health should consume daily is two-thirds of an ounce. In conclusion, he asserts that if the world would only take to salt, centenarians would become almost as common as new born babes.—Chicago Times.

Scandinavian Food on Shipboard.

The food furnished us is good and substantial. Salmon, beefsteak and eggs constitute the main part of the breakfast, and the supper are still more satisfying. Great preparations are made each day for dinner. The tables are first set with shining glasses, bright silver and sundry imitation plants, such as begonias and small palms, while the available space remaining is filled with large soups and whole hams with a checker board design of squares carefully cut in the dark outer skin of each, and a paper roll pinned around each end. Huge mountains of cake, one layer upon another, with jam spread between, rise in conical form, until the last cake, about the size of a dollar, is reached. They rear their heads high in the air and almost touch the brightly polished kerosene lamps that swing above, while down below may be seen various pickle jars, and last, but not least, the cheeses. If they are not seen, they will certainly be noticed by one of the other senses. There are seven kinds of cheese provided, and by actual measurement they cover one-third of the table space. The plates come next, but they crowd close to one another, frightened by their bullying neighbors, the cakes and cheeses; but, as a guardian for each plate, there is a silent, dangerous-looking, perhaps, but harmless sentry in the form of a half bottle of Bordeaux wine, Pontet-Canet.—Sweden Cor. Boston Herald.

It is the "Shower" Now.

"Bouncer!" repeated the landlord of a big State street beer hall. "Oh, yes, I know what you mean. We don't call them bouncers any more. Yes, we have one. He is the shower. The shower performs the same duties that the bouncer used to, but he does it up slicker. The bouncer was a thumper, who never could get a man out without musing up things, tipping over a few tables, knocking off gentlemen's hats and scaring the ladies. Besides that, he usually wanted to string his rights out as long as possible, to follow men home and to forget to come back. He never knew when to quit. Now, with the shower it is different. He is more of a science man, and when he takes hold of an obnoxious party he shuts off his wind and throws him clean out into the cable track without anybody knowing it. In fifteen seconds he is back at his post. Cost much? Oh, yes, more than the bouncer did, but we get the money back, because there are no interruptions to the beer drinking."—Chicago Herald.

A Cure for the Blues.

When things go wrong; when your sweet-heart proves unkind; when your pen is hard and your ink pale; when your razor isn't as it ought to be; when you dip your pen into your wineglass instead of the ink horn; when the car driver in the street below begins to curse the poor dumb brutes he holds the reins over; when you think of false friends, trusts betrayed, lonely graves in far away churchyards; penitential strangers in crowded towns, weeping women and dying men, then turn to your letters for expression and solace—to good books written by good men and women.—New York Graphic.

Mighty Interesting Reading

Lamar Fontaine, of Yacon City, Miss., has exhibited a postal card containing 7,500 words written by him upon one side of the card with a pen.

The recent fair at Delaware, O., was characterized as a "wax-in-lined blow-out with satin trimmings" by an enthusiastic visitor.

Pretty Girls of Dublin.

Ireland is noted for its beautiful women, and the girls of Dublin are as pretty as those of any city in the world. They have, as a rule, fair, rosy complexions and good forms, and they know how to dress the latter. I attended a regatta at Dalkey, the great yachting place near Dublin, and saw some several thousands of the better class of girls of Ireland. The poorer class were shut out by the higher prices of the inclosure allotted to us, and the crowd was a kid-gloved one. The girls seemed to be remarkably healthy and in high spirits, and they showed, as I could judge from the witty remarks I heard en passant, all the love of humor for which old Ireland is famous. The Irish brogue coming out of the pearly teeth of a rosy-cheeked, bright-eyed Irish girl sounds very sweet indeed, and were I a millionaire American with one or two American girl babies, I would bring them to Ireland to raise them for the sake of their complexions. The beauties are not, however, confined to the upper classes. I saw pretty girls everywhere, and many a sweet face there is among the white capped servant girls of the hotels, and even among the workers in the fields or in the cotters' huts.—Frank G. Carpenter in Cleveland Leader.

Something for the Children.

In these days of picture books, crayons, blocks, etc., it would seem that the little ones would not lack for variety. But even these at times prove monotonous, and one must resort to some other device. At such times a blackboard is a source of interest and oftentimes amusement, and it is not a little help in teaching primary arithmetic and geography. It is not necessary for it to be large, and it will cost but little. Keep a box of colored crayons as well as white, and do not deprive the children of the pleasure of drawing on the board, as well as writing and sipping. When small children become wearied, it is just as well to release them, or draw their minds off in some other channel. Therefore, it is a good plan to let each little one have a slate and pencil, also a lead pencil and paper, and when they become wearied with their studies let them make letters. Children can not be taught the use of pen and pencil too early, and should be allowed the free use of them, even at the risk of scribbling their books, for by their continued use they learn to write easily and rapidly.—Mrs. I. A. W. in Courier-Journal.

The Pretty Queen of Rome.

A correspondent writes that the pretty queen of Rome is with her young son, the Duke of Naples, at Courmayeur, which is the Italian Chamounix on one side of Mont Blanc. "She lives," says the correspondent, "in the Hotel Royale—royal only in name—a third-class hotel, excepting in price. It is, however, delightfully placed, commanding a fine view, and the queen can go out for her frequent walks without passing through the town. Here, with her dear friend, the Villa Marina, and two gentlemen in waiting, with her young son, the pretty queen takes her summer vacation. Plainly dressed and well shod, she walks miles. She chooses the hour when the people at the hotel are dining, and the roads deserted excepting by a few peasants, to whom she speaks, and finding out their needs, is judiciously benevolent—a beautiful character Marguerite de Savoie. In the evening they send up lighted balloons and burn wood fires on the summits of the mountains.—Boston Traveler.

Girls in the Cities.

I tell you, when you come to look at it, the outlook for girls in cities is very discouraging. Their aim in life is, of course, to become happily wedded; but how few marriages in respectable society take place nowadays. Girls grow up to blooming womanhood, with in old maidhood and die without having secured a taste of married blissness. Men seem to have no desire to wed, and of those who do, how many bring their wives to early graves or drive them to something worse. I knew a young lady who was at one time the belle of St. Louis. She married, and was considered to have made a good match. Her husband was wealthy and moved in good society. She died soon after her marriage and her funeral was largely attended; but how is she remembered? There is not so much as a slab to mark her resting place. Men, truly, are becoming wholly depraved.—Police Clerk in Globe-Democrat.

California Girls Abandoning Corsets.

I will confide to you that us girls have pledged ourselves to eschew corsets. I always did hate those things and marvel that they have been fashionable so long. Do you know, I believe us women will be wearing trousers before 1900! La mode is getting newer and newer that consumption. Look at the figures you can view any day on Kenner street or Market street. Almost the typical Grecian drapery in scantiness. Skirts are being laid aside and great is the consequent gain in ease. Oh, dear! how slow the monde is in enlightenment! Suppose we, the fair sex, should don trousers, would masculines stare at us curiously more than a week? Use breeds indifference, you know.—Oakland (Cal.) Echoes.

The Woman With the Dog.

And the inevitable woman with the dog. Shall I get to heaven some day, I wonder, and, with adoring eyes and reverent tread, go wandering through the golden streets only to encounter a sister angel, earth born and paradise transplanted like myself, clasping yet her horrible, little, dim-eyed poodle or her fat and lazy pug to her breast? I hope not, for I think I could not endure even heaven with such women about. Oh, for an earthquake to shake the cobwebs out of their brains and open their eyes to the truth that all sensible folks hold them in contempt.—"The Echo" in Chicago Journal.

A Woman Bill Poster.

Saratoga has a woman bill poster, who hangs the broad sheets and the broad paste brush with the skill of an expert. She is the widow of a former bill poster, and continues his business with energy.

Woman's Labor Union.

San Francisco has a woman's labor union. It was incorporated for the purpose of manufacturing wearing apparel, establishing laundries, eating houses, restaurants and reading rooms.

After having your hands in soapy water wet them in vinegar and spirits of camphor, it kills the alkali and keeps your hands soft.—Tribune and Farmer.

There exists still a form of contract, made in the time of Edward I of England, in which a man engaged to sell and deliver his wife to another man.—Boston Budget.

Woman is society's balance wheel, and the man who does not confide in his wife leads a life which cannot admit of day being turned with.—Washington Hatchet.

Got it Off Impromptu.

"Well, now, Mary, the cook has left us," said she, in deep distress, "and what sort of shape are we in now?" "In the shape of a polygon," replied he in great glee, for he was a paragrapher, and had never got off a good thing so impromptu before.—Judge.

General Advertisements.

WENNER & Co.,

Manufacturing and Importing JEWELERS.

No. 92 Fort Street

Always keep on hand a most elegant assortment of FINE JEWELRY,

SOLID AND PLATED SILVER WARE

Ever brought to this market.

Clocks, Watches, Bracelets, Necklets, Pins, Locketts, Gold Chains and Guards, Sleeve Buttons Studs, Etc., Etc.

And ornaments of all kinds.

Elegant Solid Silver Tea Sets.

And all kinds of silver ware suitable for presentation.

KUKUI AND SHELL JEWELRY

Made to order.

Repairing of watches and jewelry carefully attended to, and executed in the most workmanlike manner.

ENGRAVING A SPECIALTY.

Particular attention is paid to orders and job work from the other Islands.

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Carriages at all hours, day and night. Saddle horses, buggies, wagonettes and village carts with stylish and gentle horses to let.

Horses clipped with the Patent Lightning Clipping Machine.

FOR SALE.

A few good Horses, 2 Phaetons, Two Top Buggies, second-hand Harness and 2 Village Carts.

PRICES TO SUIT THE TIMES

Ring up Telephone Number 30, or Apply MILES & HAYLEY.

Election of Officers.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF the stockholders of the Hawaiian Agricultural Company, held January 20th, 1887, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Hon. C. R. Bishop. Vice President, Mr. Samuel C. Allen. Treasurer, Mr. P. C. Jones. Secretary, Mr. J. O. Carter. Auditor, Mr. T. May.

DIRECTORS:—Hon. C. R. Bishop, Messrs. S. C. Allen and P. C. Jones.

J. O. CARTER, Secretary.

Honolulu, Jan. 20, 1887.

THE ONLY PRACTICAL

English Watchmaker

On the Islands is

WM. TURNER,

No. 82 King Street.

If you want your watch well repaired, or your clock put in order, go and see him.

TELEPHONE NO.—. P. O. BOX NO. 415.

CHAS. T. GULICK,

NOTARY PUBLIC.

Agent to take acknowledgments to Labor Contracts, Marriage License Agent, General Business and Commission Agent and

REAL ESTATE BROKER.

Campbell's Block, second floor, adjoining United States Consulate, Merchant street, Honolulu, H. I.

For Waianae and Waiialua.

The steamer WAIMANALO will leave here every Monday and Thursday for above ports, returning here Wednesday and Saturday.

C. BOLTE, Agent.

New Photograph Gallery.

Above Pantheon Stable.

Fort Street, Honolulu, H.

Portraits and views. First-class work. Satisfaction guaranteed.

I. A. GONSALVES

A. H. Rasemann,

Book Binder, Paper Ruler and Blank Book Manufacturer.

Campbell's Block, Rooms 10 and 11.

Entrance on Merchant Street, Honolulu.

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE Insurance Company.

BISHOP & Co. AGENTS.

ESTABLISHED 1826

Unlimited Liability to Stockholders.

Assets \$27,012,913 Reserve 7,500,000

INCOME FOR 1884

Premiums received after deduction of re-insurance \$

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ARRIES A FULL ASSORTMENT OF

Fine and Commercial Stationery.

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PENCILS MUTILAGE

Paperies, Visiting Cards, Cap, Letter, Note and Memo Tablets and Blocks in Manila and fine paper.

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STOAKES' AUTOMATIC SHADING PENS

Time, Trial Balance and Log Books, LETTER PRESSES

Pass, Memo, Time, Order Receipts, Exercise and Letter Books.

Copying Brushes, Rubber Copying Sheets, Blank Books in Various Sizes and Styles of Binding, Tracing Cloth and Paper.

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BOUND TO ORDER ON SHORT NOTICE

A orders respectfully solicited and guaranteed prompt attention.

THOS. G. THURM

Nuuanu Bus Line.

The Pantheon Stables will run daily at Omnibus known as the

"NUUANU LINE,"

Beginning WEDNESDAY, January 19, 1887. The Bus will start from foot of Fort street, corner of Queen, go along Foot to Beretania, Beretania to Nuuanu, and thence up the Avenue to Paty's old place. Following is the time table:

WEEK DAYS.

LEAVE TOWN, LEAVE PATY'S.

6:00 A. M. 6:30 A. M.

7:00 " 7:30 "

8:00 " 8:40 "

10:00 " 10:30 "

12:05 P. M. 12:45 P. M.

2:00 " 2:30 "

4:00 " 4:40 "

5:10 " 5:40 "

6:30 " 7:00 "

9:00 " 9:20 "

SUNDAY.

9:00 A. M. 9:30 A. M.

10:00 " 10:30 "

12:10 P. M. 12:45 P. M.

2:00 " 2:30 "

4:00 " 4:30 "

6:30 " 7:10 "

8:40 " 9:10 "

S. I. SHAW,

Manager,

NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE Company of Boston.

CASTLE & COOKE, AGENTS.

INCORPORATED 1852

The oldest Purely Mutual Life Insurance Company in the United States.

Policies Issued on the most Favorable Terms

Losses paid through Honolulu Agency, \$40,000

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