

## HE SOLD HIS WIFE INTO SLAVERY



**DRUGHT INTO SLAVERY**  
 Nailed Them Up in Boxes and Shipped Them Like so Much Freight to Distant Purchasers. How the Crime Was Accidentally Discovered.



**V**ANCOUVER, June 5.—An atrocious case of the selling of two Chinese girls as slaves has just started the people of British Columbia. Two little girls of tender years were sold by their father with no more consideration than if they had been hogs' carcasses. Packed in narrow boxes, they were delivered like livestock to their destinations.

The whole story is the most brutal of its kind that ever occurred on the Pacific Coast. The fact that white men are implicated places a crime of horrible cruelty in a worse light.

The fact that for years Chinese women have been sold as slaves is well known, but the difficulty has always been in fixing the crime. The two girls whose pictures are given were the pride of a mining camp where women were few. When they disappeared under mysterious circumstances, within a few weeks of one another, every miner in Quesnel camp was indignant and every one took an interest in ferreting the mystery to the bottom.

**Discovery of the Sale.**

Shortly afterward the whole details came out, and now the authorities are

investigating the matter with a view to punishing the brutes implicated.

An old Chinaman, whose family name was Quong, was the inhuman father of the two girls, and it was he who profited by their sale into slavery.

Twenty years ago Quong was among the first of the Chinese gold-hunters who went to the rich Cariboo fields, and there he has lived ever since. For three or four years he was a prosperous miner among his countrymen. During that time he managed to save enough money from his gold digging operations to bring out his wife from China. But before this he had taken another woman in with him on a sort of common law partnership.

Before wife No. 1 arrived from China Quong married this second woman under the Canadian law. Hers were the children whom the brutal father sold into slavery.

When Quong's first wife arrived from her home in China Quong evidently thought that with the two women he could not be expected to demean himself with work any longer. So for over ten years Quong has retired from active personal labor. He forced

the two women to wash gold in his placer claim during the day, and what few hours they could steal from the night he compelled them to wash the miners' clothes. Between them they did the laundry work for the camp and Quong pocketed the pay.

**Nailed Her Up in a Box.**

During these years Quong has apparently taken a good deal of interest in his two little girls. Every miner in the camp knew the children. Much as they hated the father, they often gave candies and small presents to the youngsters, who had a pretty free run of the mining claims in the vicinity.

Pele, the younger girl, was 13 years old at the first of the year, and her sister is only about two years older, although she looks nearer 20.

Three months ago Quong, the father, sold the elder girl to another Chinaman at Soda Creek, about 100 miles from her home in Quesnel. He got \$250 cash for her.

From the Chinese standpoint of value she was not nearly so pretty and shapely as Pele, the younger sister. Her father therefore let her go at reduced rates. Her feet were too large

for the Chinese connoisseur who inspected them, and, in their own phraseology, she had simply not been bred for sale. More attention was paid to the physical refinement of the younger girl. It was in the coldest part of winter that the girl was sold into slavery. The two white men who hauled and delivered her like so much goods were, of course, fearful of detection, and in order to insure safe delivery they assumed a C. O. D. sort of air and nailed the girl up in a box, just large enough to contain her. Holes were bored through the top to admit air. The prisoner was helpless and could only live in pain and anxiety until delivered to the destination marked on the box.

**Pleaded for Her Liberty.**

The mother of the girl pleaded piteously for the freedom of the daughter,

but even the white men said that the deal had been made and nothing about it could be taken back.

The thermometer was below zero when the boxed girl, late at night, was loaded on a heavy sleigh and started away in the hands of her drivers. They drove all that night and the best part of the next day, the girl being never once freed from the box that jolted along in the sled through the snow.

No wonder that when she arrived at Sam Lee's house, at Soda Creek, that she was unconscious and nearly dead.

Weeks went by before she was recovered fully enough to step outside the house.

By that time the whole horrible story had been made public. It came about through the sale of the younger sister into the same sort of slavery by the rapacious father, Pele, boxed up the same way, was being hauled like a bundle of goods to a distant purchaser, but fortunately some one discovered that a live human being was in the box, and the horrible traffic was at once exposed.

**Sale of the Second Sister.**

Sam Lee is another rich Chinaman who has made his money in mining, and the fact that he had another wife already did not, of course, interfere with his buying a second girl to be his slave.

Pele, the younger girl, was much more attractive than her sister, and she brought a higher price. Five hundred dollars was paid to her father by a Chinaman who lived near the 150-Mile

House, one of the stopping places on the Cariboo road. She was actually spoiled for a year ago, and during that period her feet had been pressed into small enough shape to suit the purchaser's taste. Pele was delivered by the same two white men about three weeks after the sale of her elder sister. It was due to the curiosity of a proprietress of one of the stopping places that Pele's awful plight was discovered.

The weather was still very cold when the little Chinese girl was being delivered, in precisely the same boxed-up fashion as her sister.

The men arrived at Mrs. Langdale's house about 10 o'clock at night and left the box in the sleigh out in the yard. Mrs. Langdale happened to walk through the yard and heard a moaning sound coming from the box. The girl was in hysterics.

**Purity Leagues Take Up the Matter.**

Mrs. Langdale promptly endeavored to release her, but the stout boards of the box were nailed down too tight and resisted her efforts. She went in to the men and demanded that the boxed-up woman be released.

They laughed brutally and said that they had been paid \$135 for doing their part of the work, and as long as they delivered the box they did not care whether the girl was dead or not.

Mrs. Langdale was alone. Neither threats nor entreaties could effect the release of the hysterical slave girl, and

she remained nailed up in the box out in the winter snow all that night.

The men drove away with her early in the morning. It was late the next night before the journey was completed, and Pele was still nailed up and almost dead from exhaustion, close confinement and lack of nourishment.

Mrs. Langdale reported the matter to the authorities as soon as she could. The Attorney General's Department is now investigating it with a view to punishing the unnatural people.

Eastern social purity leagues have taken the matter up and it is likely to go hard with the slave dealers.

One of the most popular railway managers of his day was the late Sir James Allport of the Midland Railway Company. He once paid an official visit to a little country station in the Midlands, where he flattered himself he was unknown.

On the train entering the station, his carriage door was opened, and a shrewd-looking porter inquired if there was any luggage to be looked after. There was, and for the attention he received Sir James offered the man two shillings, which was immediately pocketed.

Then the manager, having in mind the rule, "asked," inquired, "Are you aware who I am, my man?"

"Yes, sir," was the reply. "Mr. Allport—follow-servant of the company, sir. Never take tips from the general public, sir."

The ready answer brought a smile to the manager's face, and the matter went no farther.

There are fewer suicides among miners than among any other class of workmen.

## INVENTOR HOE TELLS HOW HE BUILT HIS FIRST BIG PRINTING PRESS.

**W**HERE it not for the high speed perfecting press this newspaper could not be printed and placed before you in its present form; certainly not at its present cost. The modern newspaper, with its wonderful service in spreading information and molding opinion, is perhaps the greatest civilizing and controlling force of its time. The rapid printing press, by making the news-paper possible, deserves to rank as one of the great achievements in an age of mechanical invention. Certainly there is no other machine of such power and complexity that possesses at the same time such accuracy and delicacy, handling, printing and folding sheets of paper that can be torn between the fingers without an effort.

Its operation is easy and resistless. A man throws back a lever; the many shafts and cylinders begin to revolve, going faster and faster until the streams of white paper are pouring into the machine too rapidly for the eye to measure. On the other side the printed sheets rain out so fast that one sees only the continual flash of the steel fingers that seize and forward every sheet.

The operation of the press at its highest rate of speed means that each paper receives its impression in less than one-fifth of a second. How a permanent imprint can be made in that space of time is a marvel difficult to comprehend. Yet it is done. The ink does not smudge nor rub off, and even the most delicate lines of an illustration are accurately reproduced.

**Genesis of the Invention.**

It is easy to understand that such a machine as this, performing so many different operations, represent a series of achievements rather than a single one. It is a gradual and natural development from the wooden screw press used by Gutenberg back in the middle of the fifteenth century.

But while there is no hard and fast line separating the new from the old or the perfect from the primitive in the history of printing, there are certain dates that are marked by notable advances and improvements in the art.

One important change took place in 1806, when a Saxon named Friedrich Koenig devised a form of press in which the paper was carried on a

cylinder and received its impression from a form of type carried backward and forward on a flat bed.

The first of these cylinder presses was little more rapid than the earlier hand and lever forms, because the cylinder had to stop three times—that is, had three separate motions—to each impression. But in 1814 Koenig improved on this by a continuously revolving cylinder press which attained the rate of 900 sheets per hour. The advance from 200 sheets per hour, the record of the old hand presses, to 900 sheets, was a decided advance. Moreover, it introduced a new principle which has been of the first importance in the modern high-speed press.

Many improvements in the method of handling the paper were devised after Koenig's press came into use, and thousands of presses constructed upon the plan are in use to-day. An American improvement on this style of press, known as the double cylinder, attained speed of 900 per hour. These presses answered the requirements of the newspapers when they were small in size and circulation. But with the advent of the daily, with its circulation running up to many thousands, they proved inadequate. There was a demand for something better, for greater speed.

**First Rapid Printing Press.**

In 1845 the firm of R. Hoe & Co., which had already been for many years engaged in the manufacture of printing presses, attacked this problem. A number of experimental machines were erected, and finally it occurred to the experimenters that by placing the type instead of the paper on the cylinder greater speed could be obtained. The result was the construction of a press known as the "Hoe Type Revolving Machine," embodying patents, taken out by Richard M. Hoe. The first one of these machines was placed in the Ledger office in Philadelphia in 1845. The basis of these inventions consisted in an apparatus for securely fastening the forms of type on a central cylinder placed in a horizontal position. This was accomplished by the construction of cast iron beds, one for each page of the newspaper. The cylinder was made "V" shaped, i. e., tapering toward the feet of the type. It was found that with proper arrangement for locking up or securing the type upon these beds it could be held firmly in position, the surface forming a true circle, and the cylinder revolved without danger of the type falling out.

The first of these presses had only four impression cylinders, necessitating four boys to feed in the sheets. The running speed obtained was about 200 sheets to each feeder per hour, thus giving, with what was called a "four-feeder," or "four-cylinder" machine, a running capacity of about 800 papers per hour printed upon one side. As the demands of the newspapers increased, more impression cylinders were added, and these machines were made with as many as ten grouped around the central cylinder, giving an aggregate speed of about 20,000 papers per hour printed upon one side. A revolution in newspaper printing took place, journals which before had been limited in their circulation by their inability to furnish the papers rapidly increased their issue, and many new ones were started. The new presses were adopted not only throughout the United States but also in Great Britain.

The type-revolving machine marked a great advance in rapid printing. It was believed that the problem had been settled, at least for a long time to come. It was scarcely conceivable that any paper would want to print more than 20,000 copies per hour.

The type-revolving presses had scarcely been put into general operation in this country and Europe before the constant growth in circulation figures demanded still further improvements.

**First Curved Stereotype Plates.**

Various experiments had demonstrated the possibility of casting stereotype plates on a curve. The process was brought to perfection by the use of flexible paper matrices upon which the metal was cast in curved molds to any curve desired. These plates were placed upon the type-revolving machines instead of the type forms. The newspaper publishers were thus enabled to duplicate the forms and to run several machines at

the same time, with a view to turning out the papers with greater rapidity. In some of the large London and New York offices as many as five of these machines were kept in constant operation.

The difficulty in obtaining high speeds with these machines was not in printing fast enough, but in getting the sheets to the machine rapidly and in disposing of them quickly after they had passed through the press. The demand was for a press which would print from a continuous roll of paper, leaving the sheets to be cut and folded after they had passed through the machine. It was necessary, too, to insure satisfactory results, that the machine and effort were expended upon one itself. It was found that human hands could not work fast enough to keep up with the requirements of the modern newspaper.

Thus it will be seen the study this problem in a comprehensive manner and to solve the difficulties in the way of attaining much higher speed than had ever before been attempted.

Expert mechanics were set to work on different phases of the problem. Time, money and effort were expended without stint in the study of existing models, in erecting experimental machines, and in trying all manner of devices suggested to meet the requirements of the situation.

The difficulties were not wholly of a mechanical nature. One was in the set-off of the first side of the sheet printed. This was avoided by the co-operation of the ink-makers, who were induced to devise special rapid-drying inks.

**New Ink and New Paper.**

Another drawback was in obtaining paper in the roll of uniform perfection and strength. The paper makers were led to make a study of producing large rolls of paper meeting these requirements. They solved the problem of finding a strong and cheap paper such as could be afforded by the daily press.

While these improvements were being wrought out the press manufacturers were working on the problem of a rapid severance of the sheets after printing and the reliable and accurate delivery of the printed papers.

The most important device relating to this matter was the patent of Stephen D. Tucker, a member of the firm of R. Hoe & Co. It was called a "gathering and delivering cylinder," and was able to handle the papers as fast as they were printed. It is the mechanism on which the great speed of the modern press depends. Without it the use of the great machines would block a press room with papers before it had been in operation fifteen minutes.

This press for the first time did away completely with hand labor in the process of printing. It was, therefore, the beginning of rapid printing as that term is understood to-day. The only duties men were required to perform in connection with it were the starting of the press, watching to see that its work was performed properly, and taking away the papers after they were piled flat on the receiving board.

**First Great Power Press.**

The first press of this pattern was set up in the office of the New York Tribune in 1871. Of course it had been thoroughly tested beforehand, and Nevertheless considerable excitement attended its first trial. When the lever was thrown back and the cylinders began to revolve the while at the other end of the web in perfect form without interruption and delay, even pile, ready to be folded for delivery. The new press delighted all who saw its operation, and earned the encomium of "a mechanism of almost human intelligence and more than human accuracy."

When the first of these web perfecting presses was put into successful operation it was claimed that there was no limit to its speed except the ability of the paper to stand the strain of passing through the press. This claim seemed to be justified by the fact that 18,000 copies of a paper were printed from a single feedboard. This was, however, the maximum speed obtained by one single feedboard. The actual running speed of the press was 12,000 copies per hour. One feature in this later improvement of the web press illustrates the way in which demand has acted to stimulate invention in this field. The first press did not fold the papers, but delivered them flat. They were given to the carriers in rolls, and it was left to those who sold them to fold them.

Here was a chance and a demand for a time-saving mechanical device. The newsmen wanted the folding done in the office, for one of the men hurrying to their offices or trains would purchase the folded papers in preference to the others. Of course such an advance of competition could not be allowed to remain in the hands of a single publisher. All the offices had to put in folders. The advantage of combining this operation with the others performed by the press was clearly apparent. And so one more function was added to the already complex duties of the printing machine.

It has been with every advance. The enlargement of papers by the addition of supplements or odd pages brought about the necessity of printing or stitching these pages into the main body of the paper. A press had to be devised to do this work. To-day the 60,000 copies of The Times and other London weeklies are printed, cover and all, folded, cut and stitched into a complete pamphlet on a single machine at the rate of 45,000 per hour.

**Color Printing.**

The latest innovations have been in connection with color printing, which has required the addition of more new parts to the mechanism of the machine. A single color press built last year for one of the largest dailies in the country contained between 50,000 and 60,000 individual parts. It seems as though this was carrying the possibilities of one machine to its utmost limits, but it is by no means certain that still further additions may not be made.

Such machines as this cannot be constructed without great expense. The price of the most improved style of quadruple machine is \$35,000, of a sextuple \$45,000, and so on, the price mounting with the complexity of the press itself, and the increase in the work it is intended to do. In the best equipped newspaper office in the country the value of the machinery employed falls far short of \$1,000,000.

From the web press of 1871 to the latest improved form described at the beginning of this article, with its speed of 50,000 per hour, there has been no radical change of style or form. The improvements have been in matters of detail and in the direction of an increased size and capacity. All the at the present time no thoughtful man would venture to say that the limit of speed has been reached. In the future our successors may smile at the designation of a press which prints less than 100,000 papers per hour and with cylinders revolving 200 times to the minute as "rapid." Nevertheless, by our present standards it is rapid, and its construction deserves to rank among the great achievements of the century.

R. HOE.