

THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL

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PUBLICATION OFFICE, THIRD AND MARKET STREETS, SAN FRANCISCO
THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 1906

THE AWAKENING OF CHINA.

BOTH Marquis Tseng and Li Hung Chang said that when China built railroads the empire would have ample room for all of its people and ample means for their advancement.

Now the Government and Chinese capitalists are actively taking up the work of railroad building. Concessions heretofore granted to foreigners are being bought back, and surveys are being perfected for a system so extensive that during the next twenty years China promises to be the principal railroad building country of the world.

These lines connect the treaty ports with the productive valleys of Eastern China, and with very large inland commercial cities. The line to Yunnan connects with the French roads in Indo-China, and the commerce of Hanoi, and ultimately with the valley of the Cambodia River.

The population of China has naturally congested on the coast, the canals and rivers, because water afforded the only means of communication. The country has lacked wagon roads, and instead of using animals and vehicles for short transportation merchandise has been distributed by carrying it on the backs of coolies.

The mulberry grows all over China except in the northern provinces, and wherever it grows silk is produced. The domestic consumption is enormous and regulates the export, and of course the price to foreign consumers.

Our interest in it is immediate as well as remote. We will share with the rest of the world the growing commerce in the staples of China. But our makers of locomotives, cars and rails should take notice.

Above all, the building of railroads in China means the happiness and prosperity of the Chinese themselves, an increase in their comforts and their wants, and of the means for supplying them.

AN EDITORIAL SWEAR-OFF.

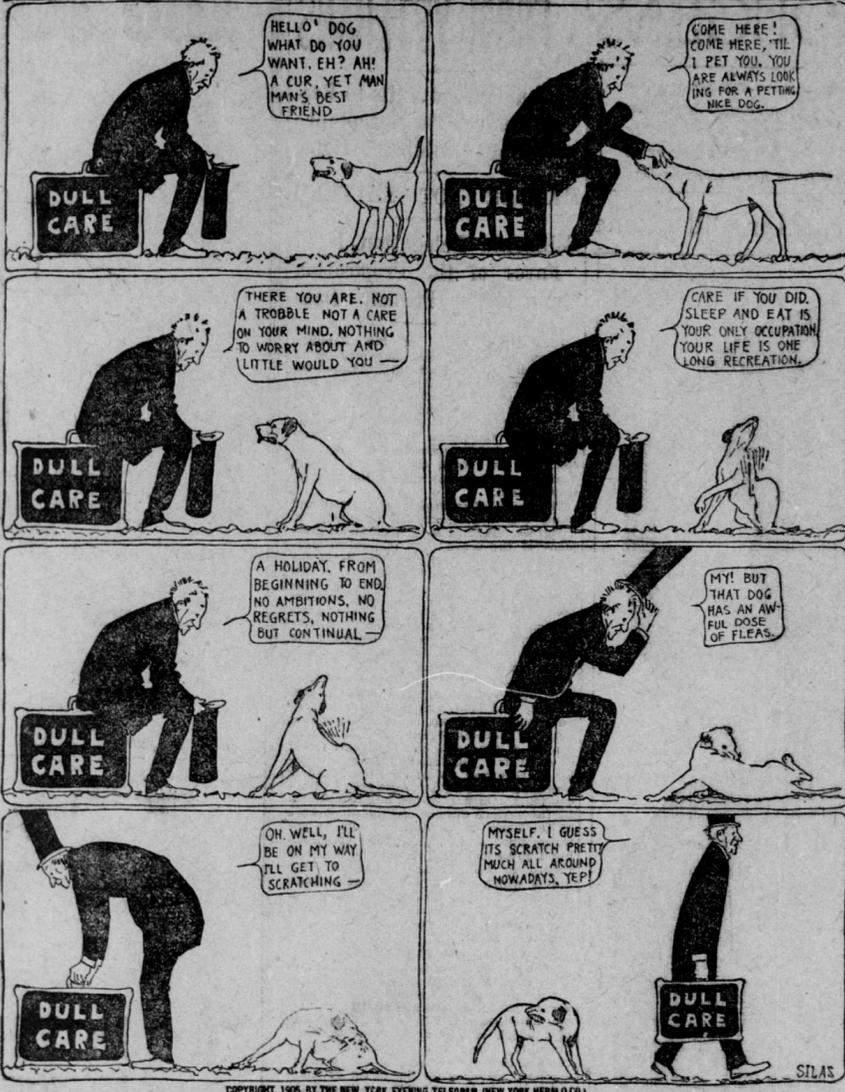
THE editors of Pennsylvania are just now, violently and with demonstration, swearing off the railroad pass habit. Railroads are quasi-public corporations and newspapers are quasi-public concerns.

At this distance it looks as though the railroads have the best of it. The newspaper men have put themselves in the position of admitting that passes have influenced them in the suppression or sophisticating of the news.

To the barbarians of this part of the country, supposed to be very wild and woolly, the attitude of the newspaper men of Pennsylvania and the reasons given for it seem like evils in a far country, with newspaper manners and customs that are strange and peculiar.

It is better to have a wife than a breach of promise suit.—New York Press.

A PILGRIM'S PROGRESS BY MISTER BUNION



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Answers to Queries

SEELEY DINNER—R. W. City. The so-called Seeley dinner given in the city of New York, in which Little Egypt took a prominent part, was given in the month of May, 1897.

THE AUTHOR—Subscriber, Oakland, Cal. "To love, to forget, to die—and then," is from a poem entitled "To Love, Forget and Die," by Joaquin Miller.

LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS—E. W. R. City. This department cannot devote the space to a publication of the language of flowers. You will find books on that subject in the Free Public Library.

THE PRESIDENCY—Subscriber, City. Charles O'Connor of New York was a candidate for the office of President of the United States in 1872 at the time General Grant ran for the second term. He received 28,408 votes.

Double Rule of Three

By J. J. Holden.

UNCLE ALONZO SPONDLEIGH had made his fortune in wheat and corn, and the time had come for him to take a little rest. He could not remember ever living in the country, but he knew he had been born there, and there being a certain back-to-nature feeling in the air, he determined to learn something about the grain he had dealt in for so many years, and he bought a small farm.

He ran the farm for one year, hiring his work done by the neighboring farmers. He had fine crops, and everything was satisfactory except the balance sheet, which, like a good man of business, he drew up against his new property.

covered, the more he raised and sold the worse off he became. So he sent for an agricultural expert, and a cursory glance showed that wise man that Uncle Alonzo had been paying about twice as much for his horses and men as he should have paid.

The two Clouse brothers, his nearest neighbors, had done most of this work the year before. He saw them when the new season opened and had a little talk. "I have been paying you two men \$4 a day for plowing twenty acres of ground a day with your two horses. I won't make the bargain with the pair of you this year, but I'll deal with you singly on the same terms. If that is satisfactory, go ahead."

The two men said it was, and they spent four days in getting the eighty acres in shape. Then they came for their pay.

Uncle Alonzo offered them \$2 apiece before witnesses in full discharge of the debt. There was an altercation, a suit, and the case came on for trial before the county justice near by, who had been a pioneer school teacher. Uncle Alonzo was his own attorney. He established the exact wording of the bargain, proved his tender of \$2 apiece to the Clouses, and spoke his piece.

"I need not say to your Honor that this is merely a question of the double rule of three. If two men are entitled to \$4 a day for plowing twenty acres with two horses, one man is entitled to \$2 a day for plowing twenty acres with one horse, and one man is entitled to fifty cents a day for plowing ten acres with one horse. Therefore one man is entitled to four times fifty cents, or \$2, for plowing forty acres in four days with one horse. And here is the \$2 apiece."

The justice took a day to consider the matter, went over old arithmetic with care and particularity, and rendered judgment in favor of the defendant.

Now old Uncle Alonzo is the most admired man in twenty townships roundabout.

21 a Lucky Number.

The lottery gamblers, who already had many superstitions, now have a fresh one. Some industrious statistician found out that more than half of the big prizes this month have been won by tickets the numbers of which added up make 21, says the Paris correspondent of the New York Sun.

This on December 1 the holder of ticket No. 230,335 won 40,000 pounds. The same day the holder of ticket No. 12,138 won 4000 pounds. On December 5 No. 232,427 won 2000 pounds and on the same day No. 435,504 won 1000 pounds. On December 15 No. 230,335 won the first prize of the Paris Municipal Lottery.

The superstitious gamblers now demand not only that the prizes but also the tickets shall be balloted for, so that the favored numbers will not go all in one district.

Exposure Enough.

In his efforts to be polite a clerk at one of the largest hotels of the city recently met with a rebuff unconsciously administered by a guest. After the man had registered the clerk politely said: "Room and bath; outside exposure."

Townsend's California glace fruits and choicest candies in artistic stretched boxes. New store, 747 Market.

Special information supplied daily to business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 39 California street. Telephone Main 1042.

The Smart Set

By Sally Sharp.

The "coming out" dance of Miss Rhoda and Miss Marie Pickering will take place this evening with half a hundred young guests to enjoy the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick M. Pickering.

The second dance of the Gaiety Club took place in Century Hall last evening, amid the artistic surroundings offered by the beautiful rooms, with the added attraction of floral decoration.

Miss Emilie Parrott, as hostess of the evening, presided most graciously, those leading the cotillon being Wharton Thurston and Wilberforce Williams.

As is known, this club is composed of thirty-five of our exclusive society maidens, who augment their number by as many bachelors for each dance, the total being delightfully requisite for comfort and pleasure.

The new club entertained additionally last evening Miss Lottie Collier and Miss Merritt Reid.

The engagement has been announced by Miss Ruth Foster of Los Angeles and Robert Sherman of the same city. There is widespread interest attaching to this news, as the fiancée is a maid well known in society of this city, having resided here for some years and is frequently a visitor in town.

At a tea yesterday in her home Miss Foster formally made public her betrothal, and she will be the personal recipient of many good wishes very soon in this city, coming to be an attendant at the Oddie-Treanor nuptials.

Much eagerness is being displayed concerning the event at Sequoia Club on Saturday evening, where "Twelfth Night" will be presented with all its rich accoutrements of dress and setting. The affair will be most artistic under the supervision of William Brewer Harrison and an able corps of assistants.

Mrs. John Chase entertained at a luncheon yesterday in honor of Mrs. Thomas Edward Bailey and Mrs. William Aloysius Sexton.

Miss Hallie Moulton and Horatio Weber Baker were quietly married at noon yesterday at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irving F. Moulton, on Devisadero street.

The bride, who was unattended, was gowned in a white lace robe over satin, with a long veil, and carrying a shower bouquet of lilies of the valley. Dr. William Harvey served the groom.

Rev. George C. Adams reading the service. No announcement of this wedding date had been made previously, and yesterday's ceremony has come as a surprise.

Mr. Baker, who is to occupy the chair of civil engineering in the University of Nevada, is a son of Professor Baker of the University of Illinois, and after touring with his bride through the south they will make their home in Reno.

The third hop at the Presidio is named for January 16, when the officers and ladies of the post and of the general hospital will entertain in their usual delightful manner.

Miss Maybelle Toy entertained at a luncheon for eight yesterday in the St. Francis. Miss Lysbeth Painter, who is being much feted before her marriage to George Engelhardt, was the guest of honor at yesterday's affair.

This same pretty maid will again be today the honored guest of Miss George Spleker, who will entertain at a luncheon in her home on Devisadero street.

Mrs. Walter Martin entertained at a dinner on New Year's evening, bidding several guests to the St. Francis Hotel.

Mrs. Walter Byron Webster entertained twenty-four guests at a dinner on New Year's day. All those bidden to the feast having birthdays in January, a feature which provoked much pleasure upon this occasion. The affair took place at a downtown restaurant, after which all returned to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Webster, where the evening was passed at whist.

Captain and Mrs. Wade L. Jolly were among the New Year's entertainers at Mare Island, a dinner being given to eight guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kestel (Gertrude Jack) have taken apartments at the California Hotel and will be the recipients of much social attention during their stay in San Francisco.

Mrs. Florence Land May is preparing for an Eastern trip, which she will make in February, visiting principally in New Orleans.

During her absence Mrs. May's Broadway home will be occupied by Mr. and Mrs. William Robinson of Philadelphia.

Mr. and Mrs. P. F. G. Plazson have arrived in New York and will soon sail for Italy.

Occidental Accidentals

By A. J. Waterhouse.

A PRAYER. GIVE me the grace each day to see The duty that is nearest me. The will to heed that duty, though it lead me where I would not go; The strength that copes with little things, And from their smallness greatness brings; The might to meet the cares of day, And send them bliest upon their way.

Give me the heart to feel and know Another's grief, another's woe; The hand outstretched in helpfulness, The soul that lives to others' bliss; More care for brothers, less for self; More love for all, less greed for self; Thus may my broken words avail "Why need these others? All for me!"

Fain would I know how small am I, And not "Self" forever cry; Fain would I feel, as God is good, One Fatherhood, one brotherhood; And when I reach the wall of mist And heed the call that none resist, Fain would I then my spirit tell: "I cared for others—all is well!"

My words drop down as futile things, Like birds of air with broken wings, Yet, stricken though the songster lie, His dying instinct bids him fly. Thus may my broken words avail To tell the One who heeds their tale "That though a falterer am I, I still would mount, I still would fly."

"If a woman who has never been married is called a maid, what should a fair divorcee be termed?" "Give it up." "Why, re-maid, of course."

A GOOD BET. When Duncan Doleful entered life he entered with a wall, And he merely kept on walling till the finish of the tale; He wailed about the weather, and he wailed about the crops, He played the organ of his life with misere-re strops; But when he died the parson said he'd have in heaven a share— And I'd like to bet a dollar he is walling Over There.

ALFALFA PHILOSOPHY. I've known some fellers that married fer love, but was dern careful not to fall in 'fore they investigated her pa's bank 'count.

Perseverance is a good quality, but they's such a thing as wastin' it. Fer instance, a hen that sets on a doorknob don't ever reap much of a reward.

God makes all kinds of women—cept the New Woman. She makes herself, so 'tain't no reflection on Him.

A woman that's attendin' a club fer the 'prement of her mind, w'ile her kids is runnin' the streets, may reach heaven; but I'll bet that the cross-examination 'll be middlin' searchin'.

I'm so blame proud of John D. Rockefeller's religion 'at I don't feel like sayin' a word 'bout the rest. It must be soothin' es oil to him.

Many a feller's made the mistake of knockin' at the door of Forchen, an' then backin' off 'cause she didn't anser the first time.

It 's 'nough to puzzle any man to tell whether it's better to know a lot to succeed, however won, is on their brow; and 'so—'ray!

Jungle Bootblack.



Simple Mistake.



Monk—Polish 'em up, boss? Jumbo—No; I've had enough of your monkey-shines.

Hippo—Say, young fellow, where do you think you are goin'? Monk—Oh! excuse me; I thought it was an entrance to the subway.