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MISSIONARY MATRONS.

Work Done by One of Them in Behalf of the Chinese Mission.
"Did you ever hear the story of the origin of the series of private balls at the Chinese Legation?" asked a gossiping young diplomat of the correspondent the other evening. "No." Of course you want to hear it, and I will tell you. It illustrates beautifully the enterprise, as well as the kind-heartedness of certain of our American women, who try so hard here in Washington, especially to make it pleasant for the stranger within your gates, and who are not averse even to taking up the heathen Chinese, if he has money enough to defray the necessary expense.
"Well, it seems that a wealthy matron, not famous for her beauty and only in the second year of her term as Chinese Minister in the name of herself and nineteen other ladies, informing him that they had taken pity on his lonely state and wished to come up to Castle Stewart and show him how to entertain in the American style by giving a few receptions and balls. The unsophisticated and somewhat suspicious Chinese diplomat did not appreciate the delicate consideration underlying the proposal of the twenty missionary matrons, and was inclined to snub them for impertinent interlopers. He wanted to answer that he had not heard of any committee undertaking to show members of other legations how to entertain in the American style, and, moreover, as the Chinese Legation was a bachelor's establishment, he did not think (if they would pardon a poor uneducated heathen for saying so) that the thing would be quite proper.
"This is how the unappreciative Chinaman, who has been in this country but a couple of years, desired to answer the note of the twenty matrons. But his secretary, who has longer enjoyed the refining influences of Washington society, told him that would not do at all; that the Chinese were not too popular, as it was, in this country, and that a reply of the kind the Minister proposed would not have a tendency to make them more so. The secretary advised the Minister to accept the offer of the twenty missionary matrons, and the Minister at last did so. So the enterprising matrons, who is not famed for her beauty, and who, it seems, does not ask much assistance from the other nineteen matrons to whom she referred in her letter, now goes up to the big building where dwell the meek and almost-eyelid Celestials once in a fortnight or so, takes possession, orders in the decorators, tells the Minister that he may prepare a feast and put plenty of wine on ice, invites a hundred or so of her friends to join her, and when night comes they have a right merry time, undaunted by any thought of the bills to be paid in the morning.
"The poor minister, it is said, does not even dare to ask to these merry-making in his own friends, and people who, in their own seasons, were accustomed to be called to the Celestial feasts, now find themselves out in the cold.
"The diplomat's story seemed hardly credible, but inquiry in other quarters seemed to confirm its truth. The Chinese Minister, it is said, made his immense fortune out of the savings of his salary as tax-gatherer in a Chinese province, and he must now feel that the tables have been turned on him in this capital of the great American nation, and, worst of all, by women, whom the Orientals regard as playthings or slaves.—Washington Cor. Waterbury American.

MADISON'S OPINION.

An Incident Which Is of Interest to All Historical Students.
Dr. Alfred Elwyn, a venerable Philadelphian, whose high position had brought him into contact with many men famous in our early history, used to relate a circumstance which is of singular historic interest in the light of events which followed it. After Dr. Elwyn had left college he was sent by his father to pay his respects to his old friend, John Randolph and Mr. Madison, in Virginia, and to form their acquaintance. The young man found his way on horseback over the century roads in Virginia, through a driving storm, to the plantation of Mr. Madison, whom he described as a man of a masculine appearance except for his great earnestness and sincerity of manner.
Mrs. Dolly Madison was as energetic and charming a hostess in her own plain dwelling as in the White House. Mr. Madison had been ill, and received his young guest in bed. Once or twice during the evening a tall, handsome, mulatto woman entered to room to perform some menial service. Her eyes were full of misery, and there was about her the look of one playing a sly part in some terrible tragedy. The young man's eyes followed her curiously, and he best observed it.
"You are looking at that poor woman?" he said.
"Yes, slavery is a thing unknown to me, and, naturally, interesting," explained the visitor.
"That woman's husband belongs to a neighboring planter, who is going to Louisiana. I am not able to say him, and hence they will be separated today for life."
Mr. Madison spoke with much feeling. He was silent for a few minutes, and then, raising himself in the bed, said vehemently: "I am a slaveholder. I do not know that slavery is wrong, but it is an evil to look white and black, and I believe, young man, that you will live to see the day when that question will tear this republic into fragments."
The incident, repeated by Dr. Elwyn frequently before the civil war, is of interest to all historical students.—Youth's Companion.

THE ROTHSCHILDS.

How the Great Money Kings of the World Founded Their Fortunes.
The Rothschilds are said to be the richest family in the world. They have banks in the leading capitals of Europe, and Kings and governments are among their customers. The Paris branch of the banking firm is said to keep a capital of \$200,000,000 at its command, and hardly a war is begun in Europe for the funds are not furnished by this family. Still five generations ago the blood which now rules these millions was selling old clothes in the Jewish quarter of Frankfurt-on-the-Main, and when Madison horseback over the century roads in Virginia, through a driving storm, to the plantation of Mr. Madison, whom he described as a man of a masculine appearance except for his great earnestness and sincerity of manner.
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For as soon as the young monarch caught sight of his intended bride's younger sister, then a girl in short dresses, he fell madly in love with her, and so Princess Elizabeth was chosen instead of Princess Helen. The marriage took place in April, 1854. But the Hapsburgs were accustomed to falling in love like ordinary mortals. A few years ago there resided on the Aussee Lake, near Ischl, the widow of the Archduke John of Austria, regent of the German Empire in 1848. She was known as Baroness Brandhof, was originally the daughter of the postmaster of Aussee, and had joined in the marriage name of Anna Bloch. One day Archduke John, venturing with a day's hunting, took lodging in the postmaster's house.
In the morning, when the buxom daughter of the host brought him his coffee, the Archduke was enchanted with the girl's appearance, and immediately proposed a kind of betrothal marriage. Of this the old postmaster would not hear, saying: "Either marriage or nothing." The Archduke considered the matter, and after creating the old postmaster Baron Brandhof, married his daughter and lived happily with her until his death. Up to a few years ago, and perhaps, now, his widow lived at Aussee, close by the lake. Her son, Count Marzan, resides with her, and has seven children, all remarkable for their lack of personal beauty and their love of the good craft, as Isaac Walton calls fishing.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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CONSTIPATION

CLEVER COUNTERFEITS.
Diamonds That Are Not Diamonds, But Rubies.
"What a brilliant diamond!"
"Yes."
"Why, one could almost see to read in the dark by its rays," said a reporter to a down town jeweler.
"Think so," he replied. "Well, it does look rather fine. How much do you think it is worth?"
"One thousand dollars."
"Is that all?"
"We'll make it \$2,000 or \$2,500, or possibly \$3,000."
"I'll sell it to you for \$10."
"Why so generous?"
"There's no possibility about that. Most buyers would not give \$10 more than \$5 for it."
"Why not?"
"Because it is not a real stone. They come from Oberstein, in Germany. The entire town is supported by the manufacture of such gems. How are they fixed up? In various ways. This imitation diamond is only quartz, and it has been boiled in some chemical that will make it look brilliant for awhile, but it soon wears off. If you handle it much it will not look so lustrous. Diamonds are the hardest stones to successfully imitate."
"What other gems are manufactured cheaply?"
"One of the easiest is the emerald. Many stones you think are rubies are only red spinel, and lapis lazuli is only dyed chalcidony. Chalcedony is the usual base of false onyxes and agates, which are most counterfeited. The stones are boiled in so us coloring matter and then subjected to intense heat. The color penetrates the whole stone. Some of the families at Oberstein have one secret and some another. They never give them away. One family has the secret of converting crocidolite into cat's-eyes. Gypsum and hornblende are also made into the same gems. Zircon, which are formed of silicon and zirconia, look like diamonds, but this slice of diamond is sometimes laid over a topaz so that the whole appears to be one gem."—N. Y. Mail and Express.

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HOPKINSVILLE, KY.,
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Manufacturers of Stationary Engines, Saw Mills and Mill Machinery.

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STAND WITHOUT A RIVAL, AN INSPECTION WILL CONVINCE YOU.

Tobacco Raisers Will Save Money By Buying Our Anti-Ratchet Press. No Blocks Used. Will Prize Two Hogsheads at a Time. Call and Examine This Novel Press.

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