

From Fred Hershner.

HONOLULU, H. A., Feb. 5, 1910.

Dear Mother and Father:—I thought I would write you a few lines, telling you what I can of Shanghai, China. My time for correspondence was very much limited while in that port, so I was obliged to wait until we reached this port.

Shanghai, the great commercial metropolis, and center from which foreign influence and civilization radiates throughout the Celestial Empire, is one of the most interesting places in the world. Here the Occident meets and mingles with the Orient, and the result is a melange of impressions, color and experience impossible to obtain elsewhere and unparalleled in history. Situated in practically the same latitude as Cairo and New Orleans, the climate of the Yangtse Delta varies considerably from that of these places. In the summer, from the middle of June to the end of September it is said the heat is sometimes excessive, the mean reading of the thermometer being in the neighborhood of 76 degrees Fahrenheit. The winters are cold, with occasional falls of snow and piercing winds from off the frozen plains of Siberia. On the other hand spring and autumn afford ideal weather, the sunshine being virtually continuous and the temperature equable. Generally speaking, the climate may be described as one-third tropical and two-thirds temperate.

Transportation between Shanghai and Woosung is maintained by railroad or small boat. At present the river is not navigable by the largest steamers, but the work of deepening the river channel is in active operation by the Whangpoo Conservancy Board, and within a few years ships of the largest draught will be able to proceed direct to the port itself.

Shanghai lies in the province of Kiangsu, and stands on the vast plain formed by the delta of the Yangtse Kiang. No hills or mountains exist in the vicinity, the nearest being 20 miles away to the westward, and these are but small rocky protruberances, which were formerly islands in the sea. This plain is cultivated like a garden and carries every imaginable sub-tropical plant, besides the products of warmer temperate zones. In the autumn such crops as cotton and rice are harvested, while wheat and other cereals are gathered in May. Almost every known vegetable and fruit can be grown, and in this particular Shanghai is probably one of the best supplied cities in the world. Trees and flowers abound, and the general vegetation is of the most luxuriant description.

While the name Shanghai stands for the whole great commercial metropolis of China, the huge agglomeration of human haunts is split up into three distinct districts, the International Settlement, the French Concession and the Native City. The last comes first in order of seniority, having been founded according to a well known authority in the year 304 B. C., and the literal meaning of the name is "On the Sea."

The International Settlement was founded in 1843 and is a combination of the original British and American concessions, which, by agreement among the various powers, was enlarged in 1898, and is governed by a Municipal Council, controlled to some extent by a court of consuls, constituted by the representative of Occidental powers and administering political affairs of the heterogeneous community under a code of laws embodying the principles of extraterritoriality and known as the Land Regulations. Consuls of some 16 different nations are stationed in Shanghai, each exercising jurisdiction over his own nationals. The French concession was obtained in 1849, and is administered solely by French officials assisted by a Municipal council. It has no administrative connection whatsoever with the International Settlement.

The native city is roughly circular in form and the walls are some three miles in circumference. Entering by the new north gate at the end of the Rue Montanban, one immediately encounters a never ending crowd of natives of all grades and ranks. Among the throng the beggars are noticeable, but as they are invariably professional, and are organized systematically in a Guild under the Beggar King, no qualm or charity need be experienced on their solicitations, especially as their mutilations and other bodily deformities are for the most part self inflicted, exaggerated or otherwise induced for the purpose of appealing to the pity of the uninitiated.

While the guide may be relied upon to conduct one to the various scenes and places of interest, I have found it best to have some slight indication of the route to be followed. Immediately on passing through the gate a square is entered where chairs—the ancient vehicles in use throughout the whole Empire for the transportation of travellers—are made. From the east side of this square a long street leads towards the center of the city and in it, are the quarters of the ivory and sandalwood carvers, the jar makers, brass workers, silk weavers and porcelain shops. Many

beautiful articles are exposed for sale and good bargains can be made if the principle of abatement is observed.

Turning to the left at the end of this street, by the side of a creek, and then crossing a bridge, one comes to that famous tea house, the Woo Sing Ding—commonly supposed to be the original of the tea house on the now rare "Willow tree pattern" plate and pottery, the City Temple and the gardens of the east and west. The first named is a small building in the center of a pool, approached by a zig-zag bridge, which, according to ancient tradition, baffles the approach of evil spirits.

We then visited the temple dedicated to the god of literature Wen-chang. This tutelary deity is one of a triad of which Confucius and the God of War are the other members, and which is held in the highest esteem among the Chinese.

The temple of Confucius is close at hand, and on the way thereto the temple of the God of War is passed. I have heard the great sage, Confucius, is not actually worshipped in China, but his memory is held in the highest veneration. He originated the idea of ancestor worship and elaborated a system of morality which still holds sway over the minds and destinies of a quarter of the world's inhabitants.

Hoping this may find satisfaction in your hearts, I will leave the rest for my next trip to China. Love to all,

OBITUARY.

BAKER.

Peter F. Baker was born in Kentucky November 5, 1845. Died February 28, 1910. Aged 64 years, three months and 23 days. He was married to Delpha J. Inman November 17, 1870, at Dover Hill, Ind. To this union 11 children were given, nine are still living. He leaves a wife, nine children, 29 grand children and two sisters, and a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

Mr. Baker was a soldier in the union army in the civil war, serving in the 136th Indiana Infantry. A good and influential citizen. A moral and upright man. Just and honest in his dealings with men. And benevolent in his character, fearing God and working righteousness, honoring his country and its flag.

He therefore died the death of the righteous. Simply going away without a groan or struggle.

His body was laid to rest in the Forbes cemetery on March 1st, Elder W. H. Hardman, commander of Christian Meyer Post No. 45, of which he was a member, acting as master of ceremonies, and closed them according to the ritual of the order. The members of the post extend their condolence and sympathy to the stricken and sorrowing family commending them to the care of Him who "doeth all things well."

ELDER W. H. HARDMAN.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to thank the many friends and neighbors for the kind and sympathetic assistance rendered us during the sickness and death of our dear beloved husband and father, and pray God's blessing on them.

Respectfully,
DELPHA J. BAKER AND FAMILY.

KELLEY.

Died February 19, 1910, at the National Military Home, Kansas; age 69 years, 11 months and 19 days, at his request was buried at the military home. Mr. Kelley leaves his wife, two sons and three daughters. William and Clint Kelley, Mrs. Lena Hautzenrader, Mrs. Ora Elder, all of St. Joseph, and Mrs. Nettie Adams, of Kansas City. Also three step children, Mrs. Gertrude Ballard and Mrs. Kate Quick, of St. Joseph, and George Taylor, of Holt county. X.

Birthday Party.

Monday last, February 28, was the 58th birthday, of R. C. Benton, of this city.

In honor of the occasion, he called in his Bible school class of boys, and Mrs. Benton, assisted by Mrs. Harris and daughter, Hattie, and Mrs. Earl Benton entertained them at 7 o'clock dinner in three courses. The boys entered into the spirit of the occasion and enjoyed themselves hugely, and it is needless to add that Mr. Benton was a close second.

About 9 o'clock p. m. Mr. Frank Kieffer and his son, Wylie, came over, and the way they made that piano and violin talk was a caution. It was almost too much for "R. C." and something got the matter with his feet like they used to get in his younger days. They would not stay still and Mrs. B. had to caution him.

At a reasonable hour all took their departure for their various homes, declaring they had had one of the best times of their lives, and wishing Mr. Benton many happy returns of the occasion.

—In local ad. Kansas Ranch for Sale, in last week's paper, it read 15 miles from railroad, when it should have read 5 miles. See correction this week.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are authorized to announce F. S. Rostock as a candidate for city collector.

The Tie That Binds.

Sunday, February 27th, at 2 o'clock, Mr. Harrison Vandever and Miss Vivian McDermott, were married at the country home of the bride's parents by Elder B. H. Dawson, pastor of the Christian church of Oregon.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis McDermott and is a highly accomplished young lady, much beloved for her kindly disposition, a good musician and a sweet, musical voice, having taught music in various localities of our county for the past three years. We do not see why Mr. Vandever should not be proud of his choice, in choosing such a lovely lady for his life partner.

Mr. Vandever is an industrious, christian young man of splendid habits and of good family, and the bride, like the groom, should be proud of her choice.

The bride was gowned in white Batiste, trimmed in over lace with satin bands and wore a bust bouquet of forget-me-nots; the groom wore the conventional black.

This wedding has been looked forward for some time by the loving couple, some saying it had passed, while others said it was not so, but last Sunday evening the news spread fast that the day was at hand and as fast as the wires carried the news it spread, and by 8 p. m. the young people began coming in and in a short time the home was filled to its capacity, all anxious to wish the contracting parties a long and happy life, and after twelve o'clock came, a charivari crowd came with everything that would make a noise, and for a short time everyone tried to make the most noise. The young couple surrendered by inviting the noisy crowd in and serving refreshments, and had an enjoyable evening, leaving for their homes wishing the bride and groom a long, happy life.

The couple the following day went to housekeeping on the Morgie farm south of the city, where the groom had his home furnished and ready for occupancy. May they live long.

Our local contemporaries, announce the following marriages during the past fortnight:

Miss Nora Litten and Charles Stoniker were made one at the M. E. church parsonage in Maitland, on the 22d ult., by Rev. W. R. Eneyart.

Colman M. Wilson and Miss Myrtle Adams were married at the home of the bride's parents, J. J. Adams and wife, March 2d.

Norman Miles, of Fairfax, and Ada Long, of near Craig; were married by Rev. John Duncan, of the Craig Presbyterian church on Feb. 23d, 1910.

John Meek, a prosperous farmer of Forest township, and Mrs. G. H. Bradley were united in marriage at the home of the bride's niece, Mrs. M. P. Phillips, in Forest City, on Feb. 20th, by Esquire Wilson.

Elder B. H. Dawson, on Tuesday March 1st, united in marriage, Miss Ida Cross and John D. Ketring. The bride is the only survivor of the late John Cross family and is most estimable lady. The groom is an industrious, honest upright young farmer, and we bespeak for them a long and happy life.

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Forest City.

—Mr. Brazel and family have moved to Mound City.

—Mr. Miller, of Forbes, was a guest at the Murry home Sunday.

—Lawrence Pilkington, of Fortescue, was in the city, Tuesday.

—Mrs. Speer has moved into her property purchased of N. N. Sheets.

—Alfred Mathers has been quite sick, the past week, but is better now.

—Mrs. Harry Frazier was the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wallace, over Sunday.

—Mr. Zimmerman and family have returned from an extended visit in Nebraska and are at home on the Albert Kollmer farm.

—Mrs. Hugh Cass, left Thursday for California. Her many friends here sincerely hope her health will be benefited by the change.

—Miss Bettie Beeler left Sunday afternoon for St. Joseph, where she will resume her work in college, after a two weeks' stay with home folks.

—Wm. Lunsford's little boy, who has been very low with pneumonia fever, is getting along nicely at this writing, and will soon be well again.

—Quite a number of our young people attended the "box supper and pie social" at the Banks school house, Friday evening. Miss Nellie Sheets won the cake for the prettiest girl there.

—We are pleased to learn Mrs. Lipp, who has been quite sick with the grippe, is able to be up and around again. Her daughter, Mrs. Pinkston, who has been with her, has returned to her home in St. Joseph.

—The Ladies Aid Society, of the Methodist church, met at the home of Mrs. D. N. Miller, Friday afternoon, and elected the following officers for the year: Pres., Mrs. Scott; Vice Pres., Mrs. Albert Kollmer; Sec'y., Mrs. D. N. Miller; Treas., Mrs. T. E. Teare, Cor. Sec'y., Mrs. Anna E. Efner.

—Miss Nellie Sheets left Wednesday for Seattle, Wash., where her mother and brother, Howard, have been the past year. Her older brother, Noel, who is a soldier, has just arrived in San Francisco, Cal., from Japan and will join the family in Seattle for a visit. Mr. Sheets will leave here as soon as he gets his business settled satisfactorily.

RUBY.

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Benton.

—Webb Carder has moved to the Presly Noland farm.

—Willie Frazier is at home once more and feeling well.

—Max Babb and family visited W. J. Glass, the first of the week.

—No school this week or last, on account of teacher's sickness.

—Mrs. Maude Emerson is spending the week with J. L. Andler's family.

—Little George Fields has been quite sick with pneumonia, but is getting better.

—A little corn is still in the field, though everyone hoped to finish before March 1st.

—Clota Beeler and family and mother will leave soon for their new home at Salem, Mo.

—Mr. Fletchall has set up his sawmill on Mrs. J. G. Elliott's farm, (the old Cottier farm).

—The Maher Music Co., has placed new pianos in the homes of W. J. Fields and John Peters.

—A most interesting and helpful sermon was preached Sunday by the pastor, Rev. Boehringer.

—The three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hood, living near Napier, died February 16.

—Mrs. Minerva Meyer has gone to care for Uncle Andy Meyer, who is in poor health. He is making his home with his son, G. W., of Mound City.

—Mrs. O. A. Wicker is much improved in health and they will move, this week, to the Hatfield place, Gale Emerson will occupy the farm vacated by Mr. Wicker. TRUTH.

Highland.

—Johnnie Hellar made his regular trip Sunday.

—We are looking for a wedding. Boys, get ready.

—Joe Kretzer will occupy the Baker property in Forbes.

—People are all rejoicing over the nice weather, the first of the week.

—Miss Edie Cordrey has been a Mound City visitor for the past two weeks.

—John Sipes has moved to the McGuire farm, now owned by George Cotten.

—Robert Riggie and family were visitors at the home of William Fancher, Sunday.