

# Kent News.

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 14, 1885.

## A LEPER BURIED ALIVE.

Horrible Fate of a Sick old Chinaman—Getting into a Coffin and Lowered into a Grave While Still Conscious.

The Hong Kong (China) Mail says that in the village of Chinglong, near Li-long, where the Basil Mission has a station, a following of about twenty took place. A man of 60 years of age was afflicted with leprosy, and lived in a hut within the village. The villagers, almost all relations of his, often urged the old man to remove his hut outside the village and live on the hills, to prevent contamination, promising that they would always provide him with food. However, the leper did not wish to leave the village, nor dared his relatives press him to do so. But the dreadful sickness developed more and more, and the dread of contamination increased thereby, so that the relatives actually proposed to the unfortunate man to put an end to his miserable existence. They made him a present of a long coat for a shroud, but the leper could not make up his mind to die voluntarily. Still from that time he purchased a quantity of opium, and kept it in readiness to be used for committing suicide whenever he should see the necessity for doing so.

Lately it happened that the leper was lying asleep in his hut. His son came and wanted to bring him something to eat, but calling into the hut he received no answer from the father. There was a gathering of people but no one ventured to go inside the hut. Some stones were thrown at the door to see if the man took any notice of it, and as there was still no sign of life in the hut, the general impression was that the occupant was dead.

It is well known that the Chinese are very much afraid of a dead body, and in the case of a leper this fear is greatly increased. There is an opinion that the disease is propagated by certain flies feeding on the corpse and carrying the poison to the living. Therefore, the resolution was forthwith taken to have the leper buried and the village prosed his son to take him and have the business done. He, therefore, went to a neighboring village to engage coolies for digging a grave and carrying the corpse out. During the absence of the son the elder of the village came to the scene and, learning how matters stood, boldly opened the door and entered the hut, to convince himself whether his relative was really dead, when, lo and behold, it turned out that the leper had not died. The people were from which all the noise and even the throwing of stones at his door had not been able to disturb him. Seeing that there had been a mistake, the elder sent at once a messenger to the son to inform him that his father was not dead and no coolies were needed to bury him.

However the coolies had been engaged for a certain sum of money and came along with the son, ready to do the work which was required of them, or at all events received the promised pay. After some deliberation, the villagers unanimously agreed that the leper should be buried, and that the son should be allowed to take care of the body. A coffin was now provided and the shroud redeemed from the pawnshop. A fowl was killed and rice and pork provided as a farewell dinner for the leper.

Next morning very early the procession started from the hut. First came the coffin, carried by the coolies, and behind it, walked the leper, to his grave, and the elder of the village, carrying the shroud and the pot which contained the opium. Having moved up a hill to a distance of about two miles from the village, the party halted and the grave was dug. The leper took a last meal and then swallowed the opium. After this he put on the shroud and a pair of shoes and laid himself down in the coffin, when the coolies put the lid on it without waiting till the leper should have lost consciousness, and lowered the coffin into the grave.

## HOW TO SET A HEN.

Every poultry-raiser desires to be successful in getting his chickens hatched, as a full hatching makes a good show for raising a full brood. To secure this the very best means should be adopted to set the hens. The American Agriculturist says that to set a hen to secure a "good hatch," four hatching eggs should be set, one in each corner of the nest, and the rest of the nest filled with straw. Where there is danger from rats, weasels, dogs, etc., necessitating more secure nests, the proper amount of moisture can be secured for the eggs by putting a fresh soil, about three or four inches thick, in the bottom of each nest-box, and making the nest up with it. If fresh and moist at the time it is put in, it will exhale all the moisture the eggs need. Two-year-old hens make better setters than yearling pullets, as they are far more constant, seldom deserting their eggs, or the young broods subsequently, as pullets frequently do.

Mr. Bader.—"Are you superstitious, Mr. Bader?" asked one of the girls. "No, in the least," replied that gentleman. "Would you prefer a dinner party of six to one of thirteen?" "Yes," decidedly, replied Mr. Bader. "Ah! I know you were superstitious. Why would you, Mr. Bader?" "Get more to eat?"

It has been remarked that some men give according to their means, and some according to their measure.

**Silverware!**  
AN EXTRA FINE SUPPLY OF THE BEST QUALITY AT 413. STAM'S DRUG STORE.

# AN ARMLESS LADY'S WAY.

Impressed of Both Arms, but Not Helpless—How she Threads a Needle, Writes and Eats by the Aid of Her Toes.

"Now, let me show you what I can do; dinner'll be here in just a moment. Thread a needle! Of course I can; see?" and sitting the action to the word, Mrs. Thompson picked up a fine needle with the large and second toes of the right foot, held it tightly between the tips and, taking some yarn in her left foot, rolled the thread on a smooth wheel, put it in her mouth by bending her body almost double and deftly inserted the yarn in the needle, more easily than a bachelor threads a large needle with a very fine thread. Next she took a handsome figure as fast as "my lady" in the sitting room does with her soft hands. Her right eye giving her some trouble during this work, she deftly pushed back her spectacles which she wore and with the second toe rubbed the eyelid. Then she bent forward and brushed back a few stray hairs from her forehead. Taking up the pen between the large and second toes of her left foot and holding a slip of paper with her right toes, she wrote in a feminine hand, small and rather neat: "He that lends to all shows good will but little sense. Ann E. L. Thompson. Born without arms. December 29, 1839, Georgia." This written, she put down the pen, took up the blotter with her left foot, placed it over the writing and dried the ink. Taking up a pair of scissors with the large and third toes of the left foot she cleverly cut off the portion of paper on which she had written.

"Here comes my dinner. Now you can see me eat—just as I do," such a sight, but you may find it to see one eat with her toes instead of fingers."

Mr. Thompson spread out a napkin on the platform, and placed on the dinner of a person in good health. Mrs. Thompson turned around in her seat, took up a cup of tea in her foot, stirred it up with a spoon held in her right toes, and half bending, half raising the cup to her lips, drank the tea and placed the cup on the platform. Then she grasped a flat-handled silver knife in her left foot, caught a fork between the first two toes of her right foot and once again took up the bread broken from a large slice by her large and second toes.

As soon as she had finished this novel meal Mrs. Thompson continued: "I forgot to tell you about my schooling. Oh, yes, I went to school. The pupils were kind and I had a little raised platform for my use. I held my books in my toes and read and studied as well as the rest of the girls. I held a slate in my right foot and a pencil between the toes of my left and managed to figure as well as any one. My right limb is shorter than my left, and I learned to write with my left foot as you have seen. I learned all that was taught in the common schools of Georgia before the war."—Milwaukee Wisconsin.

## GOOD USES OF TOBACCO.

"I ought at the outset to state that I never smoked, chewed or snuffed tobacco," writes a contributor to *Health and Home*. "I believe, however, that it can be used in many ways to the benefit of the human race, and in other respects of essential service to me and many of my friends. The first instance I can remember of its use as a remedy of inflammation was seeing Tom Kelly, when I was a small boy, with his face very red and his mouth in the shape of a large oval, with inflammation in the throat. He stated that he was curing it in that way. While carefully riding a horse and the animal sprang against the fence and knocked me off, so that I fell on the ground with so much violence as to sprain my ankle very severely. After enduring severe pain for some hours I thought of trying tobacco. I took a piece of tobacco and rolled it into a ball and placed it in my mouth. Within an hour the pain ceased and I slept through the night. The next morning on examining the ankle, to see if it was swollen it appeared rather less than its natural size; the skin had a wrinkled appearance and was very white. My next application of it was to a shot-gun wound. A bullet, ranging through my leg, near the knee, just below the knee, cutting the muscles and nerves and the bone, and the pain was terrible. I lost so much blood that I was carried from the field in an insensible condition. I sent my servant after some tobacco, enveloped my wounded leg in it, and kept it wet with saliva. In an hour or two the pain subsided, and the heat and throbbing ceased, and I rested more quietly than I had been doing. I have heard of a number of such cases where erysipelas has been cured by persons whose attention I had called to the use of tobacco.

"I also, last summer, when in New York, by applying large quantities of tobacco to my leg, cured myself of a terrible attack of sciatica, which had been greatly aggravated by the treatment of two physicians.

"One evening, in Washington, I found two of my friends sitting with their boots on fire. They both were suffering with the disease of sciatica. I advised the use of tobacco, and they sent for it and applied it. Application for a single night made a permanent cure, as they have assured me. They both were suffering with the disease of sciatica, which had been greatly aggravated by the treatment of two physicians.

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