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CHINESE LADIES' FEET.

A Pedal Extremity Two Inches in Length the Idol of a Chinaman.

At five years of age the rich Chinaman's daughter has her foot so firmly bound that, in the native phrase, the whole is killed. The foot below the instep, explains a writer in the New York Ledger, is pressed into a line with the leg, to add to the height of the little sufferer, while two of the toes are bent under the sole, that its breadth may be only of the least dimensions. The agony of such a process it would be hard to estimate; but it is said to last about six weeks. When, I suppose, the wasting of all the parts, and the cessation of many of their functions, have rendered the whole insensible to pain.

This insensibility to pain is, perhaps, confined to the outer parts, for the chief portion belonging to the temple on the Island of Honan stated that his sister suffered much anguish in the sole of the foot, or rather, in its lower and more central parts.

To some inquiries as to whether this practice of destroying the foot was not attended with similar evils in after-life, he said no; and as he was a man of intelligence, his verdict may be relied upon. Among the multitudes who come for health and cure to the hospitals, no one has yet been met with whose ailments could be imputed to this source. This is a curious fact, and such as might well lead us to desire a more intimate acquaintance with the anatomy of this morbid organ, that we might see how nature, under the pressure of so great a calamity has contrived to maintain the intercourse of the arterial and nervous system, and keep the limb from being materially injured by it.

The development of the muscles which form the calf of the leg being checked, the limb consequently tapers from its socket down to the foot, without any risings or inflections. This is regarded as the perfection of beauty by the Chinese, who say that the knee of the female is not protuberant, like the knee of the male, and is so well covered that she can remain kneeling a long time without inconvenience. It is perhaps less throughout its length than when the foot is allowed to retain its natural size; but whether this is from want of exercise, which ever acts as a stimulus to muscular deformity, or from the lack of nutriment through functional disturbance, I can not take upon me to say; but I suspect the former is the real cause; otherwise the matter would grow from bad to worse, till the whole was destroyed by atrophy.

A foot two inches in length is the idol of a Chinaman, on which he lavishes the most precious epithets which nature and language can supply. But its beauties are altogether ideal; for when stripped of its gay investments, it is a piteous mass of lifeless integument, which resembles the skin of a washerwoman's hand after it has undergone a long maceration in soap and water. The sight of it is well fitted to excite our compassion, not our commendation—a beautiful limb crushed into a heap of deformity. The thought of seeing a Chinawoman's foot might awaken a smile; but I think I might defy the most merry-hearted to laugh when the loosened bandages disclosed the sad reality to his eyes. But fancy has played her part so well that this piece of ruined nature, which is seldom seen by men, is treated as the prime essential of all feminine beauty.

"The foot of a Chinese woman," said I to a Chinese acquaintance, "is very handsome, so that it is a great pity to spoil it." He smiled with much satisfaction at the compliment, but would only allow that it interfered with the gait. "They can not walk so well," was the amount of his concession in my favor. He was so blessed as not to know the real state of this organ, and therefore his admiration had no alloy.

Custom rendered my eye so familiar to the small foot that a Chinese lady would scarcely seem to be complete without it; but it was my misfortune to see it unmasked, and therefore I could not sympathize with him. To show that there is great privacy about this small foot, I need only mention that the servant, when her mistress proceeded to unwind the bandages, blushed and turned her face to the wall.

A COUNTING CHIMPANZEE.

Remarkable Exploits of an Inmate of London's Zoological Garden.

Nature prints an interesting paper read before the Zoological Society of London by Prof. George Romanes, F. R. S., and from it the following extracts are made:

"The female chimpanzee which has now been in the society's menagerie for six years has attracted general notice, not only on account of her peculiar zoological characters, but perhaps still more on account of her high intelligence. This is conspicuously displayed by the remarkable degree in which she is able to understand the meaning of spoken language—a degree which is fully equal to that presented by an infant a few months before emerging from infancy, and therefore higher than that presented by another brute, so far, at least, as I have met with any evidence to show. Nevertheless, the only attempts that she makes by way of vocal responses are three peculiar grunting noises—one indicative of assent or affirmation, another (very closely resembling the first) of dissent or negation, and the third (quite different from the other two) of thanks or recognition of favors. In disposition she is somewhat capricious, though on the whole good-humored, fond of her keepers, and apparently never tired of a kind of bantering play which, off and on, they keep up with her continually.

"A year or two ago it occurred to me that I might try some psychological experiments on the intelligence of this animal. The circumstances in which she is placed, however, did not prove favorable for anything like systematic instruction. Being constantly exposed to the gaze of a number of people coming and going and having her attention easily distracted by them, the ape was practically available for purposes of tuition only during the early hours of the morning, before the menagerie is opened to the public, and, as a rule, I did not find it convenient to attend at that time. Therefore the results which I am about to describe do not, in my opinion, represent what might fairly have been expected under more favorable conditions; if the chimpanzee could have been kept as a domestic pet for a few months (as I kept the Cebus kindly lent me for the purposes of psychological observation by this society) there can be no doubt that many much more interesting results might have been obtained. Nevertheless, it appears to me that even those which have thus far been obtained are worthy of being placed on record.

"Having enlisted the intelligent co-operation of the keepers, I requested them to ask the ape repeatedly for one straw, two straws or three straws. These she was to pick up and hand out from among the litter in her cage. No constant order was to be

observed in making these requests, but, whenever she handed a number not asked for her offer was refused, while, if she gave the proper number her offer was accepted, and she received a piece of fruit as payment. In this way the ape was eventually taught to associate these three numbers with their names. Lastly, if two straws or three straws were demanded, she was taught to hold one straw or two straws in her mouth until she had picked up the remaining straw, and then to hand the two straws or three straws together. This prevented any possible error arising from her interpretation of vocal tones—an error which might well have arisen if each straw had been asked for separately.

"As soon as the animal understood what was required and had learned to associate these three numbers with their names, she never failed to give the number of straws asked for. Her education was then extended in a similar manner from three to four and from four to five. Here, for reasons to be presently stated, I allowed her education to terminate. But more recently one of the keepers has endeavored to advance her instruction as far as ten. The result, however, is what might have been anticipated. Although she very rarely makes any mistake in handing out one, two, three, four or five straws, according to the number asked for, and although she is usually accurate in handing out as many as six or seven, when the numbers eight, nine or ten are named, the result becomes more and more uncertain, so as to be suggestive of guesswork. It is evident, however, that she understands the words seven, eight, nine and ten to betoken numbers higher than those below them; for if she is asked for any of these numbers (i. e., above six) she always gives some number that is above six and not more than ten; but there is no such constant accuracy displayed in handing out the exact number named as is the case below six. On the whole, then, while there is no doubt that this animal can accurately compute any number of straws up to five, beyond five the accuracy of her computation becomes progressively diminished.

"It is not necessary—indeed it would be unreasonable—to suppose that in this process of 'counting' the ape employs any system of notation. We know from our own experience that there is counting and counting, i. e., distinguishing between low numbers by directly appreciating the difference between two quantities of sensuous perception and distinguishing between numbers of any amount by marking each perception with a separate sign. The extent to which the former kind of computation can be carried in the case of man has been made the subject of a careful research by Prof. Preyer, of Jena. His experiments consisted in ascertaining the number of objects (such as dots on a piece of paper) which admit of being simultaneously estimated with accuracy, and it was found that the number admits of being largely increased by practice until, in the case of some persons, it may rise to more than twenty. But of course in the case of a brute it is not to be expected that such a high degree of proficiency even in this non-notative kind of 'counting' should be attainable. The utmost that could here be expected is that a brute should exhibit some such level of ability as is presented by a young child, or by those savages whose powers of accurate computation do not appear to extend further than numbers which we write as units. It was in view of such considerations that I did not attempt to carry the education of this ape beyond the number five, and the result which has attained subsequent endeavors to teach her numbers as high as ten is, as previously remarked, exactly what might have been anticipated. It may here be added that in the only records with which I am acquainted of animals exhibiting any powers of numerical computation these powers have not extended beyond the number five."

A Valuable Cat's Eye.

The most valuable cat's eye in the world was brought to London recently from Ceylon, the only region besides Madras where cat's eyes are found. It was found by an Indian working-man while he was grading a bank of earth, preparatory to opening a street. He sold it for thirty rupees. After passing through several hands, the big cat's eye was bought by an Indian merchant for 5,000 rupees. Cutting and polishing reduced its weight from 475 carats to 170 carats. It is now insured for 30,000 rupees.

Ocean Steamship Profits.

There is an enormous profit in the steamship business during the spring and summer months, the gross receipts of a single voyage frequently rising above \$100,000.

EFFECTS OF SMOKING.

According to Neal Dow it Dulls a Person's Moral Sense.

General Dow is as strongly opposed to the use of tobacco as he is to liquor drinking, and has carried on a life-long crusade against it. He always has claimed that tobacco dulls the moral sense.

Many years ago, relates the Lewiston (Me.) Journal, before there were any railroads, a man traveling in a stage-coach with Dow one day lighted a cigar.

"I wish you would stop smoking, sir," said Dow.

"Is smoking offensive to you?" the man asked.

"Yes, sir."

"Well, I'll stop as soon as I have finished this cigar."

Without another word Dow suddenly reached forward, pulled the cigar from the man's lips, and threw it into the road.

The man fired up, but looked at the well-knit figure of his fellow-passenger, regarded the bright light in his eyes—and cooled off.

"I recall an incident coming down the Rigi, while I was traveling in Europe," said the General. "European railroads do not provide a separate smoking-car then, and I don't know as they do now. A passenger in our car was complacently smoking his cigar."

"You're an Englishman, sir, aren't you?" I said to him.

"Oh, no," said he, briskly, "I'm an American."

"What! you an American and smoking in the presence of ladies?"

"He stopped smoking, but with very poor grace; and he looked as if he would like to eat me."

"He was of a different type from a man whom I met on a steamer in the English channel. I asked him to stop smoking, and he did so, with profuse apologies. I told him that I believed that tobacco dulls the moral sense, but he smiled at the idea."

"You furnish a proof of my theory, sir," said I. "You were smoking when you ought not to have been—and you acknowledged it as soon as I called your attention to it. Tobacco dulls your moral sense."

RACING FOR LIFE.

The Stranger Had a Good Horse, But He Didn't Need It Long.

I was hoofing it along a highway in Arkansas, my horse having gone dead lame and being left with a farmer, when a man driving a horse and buggy overtook me and invited me to ride, writes a New York Sun reporter. I was only too thankful for the offer, and when I got in beside him I liked his looks. He offered me a cigar. We exchanged names. He was informed on politics and current events. It was a spanking horse he had, and he kept a steady gait for mile after mile. The only thing that puzzled me was the way he had of looking behind every few minutes, and I finally inquired:

"Are you expecting some friend to overtake you?"

"Well, no—not a friend," he replied. "Enemies?"

"It may be that the sheriff and his posse will be fools enough to try and overtake me."

"My friend, I said, after swallowing the lump which suddenly gathered in my throat, "is there any good reason why the sheriff should want to overtake you. This is rather blunt, I'll admit, but if I hurt your feelings I am ready to beg pardon."

"Oh, no harm done," he laughed. "I borrowed this horse and rig about two hours ago without the formality of asking, and the owner may hope to recover it. Don't give yourself any uneasiness, however. I run to horses and not to highway robbery."

Three miles further on, as we rose a hill, he looked back and then pulled up and said: "We must part here. The sheriff and a half a dozen others are in pursuit, and every pound of weight will now tell."

"I am very much obliged to you for your kindness."

"Oh, not at all. Your society has been reward enough. I would suggest that you enter that thicket and lie close until the party gets by. When an Arkansas sheriff gets after a stolen horse he means to hurt somebody, and his crowd isn't particular who it shoots at. And, say, you needn't make any special effort to report that you have seen me. Savey?"

"I won't."

"Then good-bye."

He put the horse on a dead run, and was out of sight in two minutes. I secreted myself as directed, and in a few minutes the posse thundered by in a cloud of dust. I followed at a leisurely gait, and at the end of two hours came upon them grouped around a tree. Hanging from a limb was the lifeless body of my friend of the road, and they were now waiting for the blown and exhausted horses to recuperate.

PRINCE AND YANKEE.

A Good Story Told by a Young Man from Connecticut.

When the Queen is at Windsor visitors are permitted to visit certain portions of Buckingham Palace, but Marlborough House, the home of the Prince of Wales, is never open to the public, and both places are so carefully guarded that one is not often paid for loitering about. One young and venturesome American from Connecticut was standing in front of Buckingham Palace on the evening of the recent state concert. He walked to within a few yards of the palace gate, and there met a sinewy young fellow with bright eyes, broad shoulders, and a keen air, who was swinging along leisurely, came in hand. His outwary coat was thrown open. His shoes were dust-covered, and he had the general appearance of a healthy man who had walked a dozen miles.

"Queen lives here?" said the American, as the pedestrian slowed up.

"Yes," was the reply.

By this time the pair had reached the gate. The red-coated foot-guard saluted the tall young man as he opened the small gate.

"Goin' in?" said the American.

"Yes," was the reply, and the Yankee kept pace with him until one of the side doors of the palace was reached.

"Know anybody here?"

"Yes."

"Who'd you know?"

"The Queen."

"O, rats! S'pose next you'll tell me she's your mother?"

"She is my grandmother, and I am Prince George, of Wales!"

Here a half dozen flunkies appeared, and after much bowing and spine curving the tall young man was ushered in and the Yankee was informed that only holders of tickets to the state concert were admitted to the place that night.

"Come on the next visitin' day," said the Prince, and turning to one of the flunkies he said: "Be sure and give the gentleman every facility when he calls again. The Americans are curious in more ways than one."

It transpired later that the soldiers at the gate supposed the American was one of the Prince's companions and so allowed him to pass, and the American tells the story as a good joke on himself.

PIONEER JUSTICE.

How an Old-Time Squire Settled a Controversy in a Few Minutes.

A story that Judge Reilly occasionally repeats when the subject of Michigan justice is up for discussion runs substantially as follows, says the Detroit Free Press:

When Gratiot County, Mich., first began to be disturbed by pioneers, and after it had its first justice of the peace, a farmer named Davison walked three miles to secure a warrant for the arrest of his neighbor named Meacham for assault and battery. To save the constable a six-mile trip the defendant walked with the plaintiff. They encountered his honor just leaving his house with his gun on his shoulder, and Davison halted him with:

"Squire, I want a warrant for this man for striking me."

"I'm in an awful hurry," said the squire. "Come in to-morrow."

"So'm I in a hurry, and I'm going to have a raising to-morrow."

"Meacham, did you hit him?" asked the justice.

"Yes."

"Davison, did you strike first?"

"No."

"Meacham, had you rather work for Davison three days than go to jail?"

"I guess so," answered Meacham.

"And will that satisfy you, Davison?"

"Yes."

"Then make tracks for home and don't bother me another minute! My son has just come in with the news that an old bear and three cubs are up the same beech down at the edge of the slushing, and I'm going to have some bear meat if it upsets the Supreme Bench of Michigan. Court stands adjourned at present."

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The first term of the Collegiate Year 1889-90 begins on the 29th of August next, and the 2nd term on the 2nd of January, 1890.

For further particulars address the President for a Calendar Sackville, N. B., 10, 1889.