

BUSINESS NOTICE

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

The opinions of the London Spectator are always worthy of consideration and we have been able to agree with much of what it has had to say concerning the present crisis in China. Its views are usually based on historical knowledge, which is more than can be affirmed of many current commentaries. We are unable to accept, however, the "Forecast for China" printed in its issue of July 21, because the solution of the problem therein advocated is not commended but refuted by experience. The Spectator maintains that the only mode of averting a repetition of the outrages perpetrated at Peking is to partition the coastwise provinces of China among the civilized Powers. It takes this position because it does not believe that the Chinese Empire can be conquered as a whole or governed as a whole by Europe acting as a syndicate, whether the effort is made through an international council, or through a nominal Emperor who should be guided by a council of Ambassadors." That is true. Such a syndicate would not long hold together, and an Emperor known to be the mere puppet of foreign Envoys would soon cease to exercise authority over his nominal subjects.

The Spectator is wrong in assuming that it has made an exhaustive enumeration of the courses that may be pursued after the capture of Peking. There are several other methods of dealing with China besides those which the Spectator designates, and any one of them, is better than to carry further the process of partition, which has already had disastrous consequences by arousing the innate patriotism of the Chinese people. If we desire to blot China, considered as a separate political entity, from the map of Asia, the most effectual mode of doing it would be to commission either Russia or Japan to conquer and annex the whole of the Middle Kingdom. That would be a drastic remedy, but the jealousy of other Powers will prevent its adoption. Neither Japan nor Great Britain would consent to see the mission conferred upon Russia, and all of the European Powers would witness with profound misgiving Japan's requirement of a stupendous increase of strength.

This solution is, therefore, out of the question, but experience has shown that partition would be equally impracticable. Over and over again in her history China has been divided; but the partition has never been permanent, although in more than one instance it has lasted for upward of a hundred years. Always in the end have the lopped-off provinces been recovered by that part of China which remained independent, and it must be remembered that the advocates of the coast and the northern frontier, and purpose to allow the vast interior of the Middle Kingdom to retain independence. If the history of three thousand years affords any criterion for a forecast of the future, the independent core would ultimately recover the peeled-off sections, unless the latter could be riddled with foreign emigrants, which is, of course, impossible. From this point of view, nothing would be more fatal than to base an opinion on the assumption that there is an analogy between China and India. From the Vedic age until the present hour the Indian Peninsula has been split up among alien races and hostile religions, and England manages to govern it to-day simply because she has learned how to balance the Hindu against the Moslem. The Chinese people, on the other hand, since the time of the Wall Builder, the famous Chin Chi Hwangti, the Napoleon of China, and one of the greatest men that ever lived, have had a homogeneous nation that has always conquered its conquerors, and never has been lastingly dismembered.

The wisest, as well as the cheapest, method of solving the Chinese problem would be, after exacting ample pecuniary reparation for the insults and injuries suffered, and insisting upon the condign punishment of all the guilty parties, no matter how high placed, to strengthen the Progressive party in China by helping to place the supreme power in the hands of a Sovereign known to sympathize with their purposes. The Emperor Kwang-shih himself and Prince Ching are probably the most eligible candidates for the position, and even were it otherwise, an acceptable candidate could probably be discovered among the descendants of the Ming. In the event of Kwang-shih's death, the Progressive Chinese themselves would probably be ready to indicate a candidate. The most effective way of strengthening an enlightened and progressive Sovereign would be for the four European Powers which have profited by the work of mutilation—we refer to Germany, Russia, Great Britain and France—to concur in a self-denying ordinance and agree to surrender the seized territories as soon as the outrageous indemnities due for the outrages perpetrated, upon their subjects shall have been paid. That, however, is a council of perfection which the land-grabbing Powers can scarcely be expected to adopt, although nothing is more certain than that the arbitrary mutilation of China begun by Germany is at the bottom of the present trouble. It is not only expedient, but right, that foreign Powers should do what they can to aid the Chinese reformers, and thus help China to govern herself, and acquire the honorable place among the nations which Japan has already attained.

RED HAND OF ANARCHY.

TO IT IS TRACEABLE MANY MOST CRUEL MURDERS.

The Anarchist is Vain, Hopeful and Cowardly—After Blood, He Has An Inordinate Craving for Publicity.

The assassination of King Humbert of Italy makes of timely interest an article in Blackwood's Magazine on the Real Anarchist, extracts from which are here appended.

"The anarchist is a ruffian of feeble brain and weak inclination, who is pursued by a spirit of restless discontent. Sorry for himself, he believes, by an easy transition, that he is sorry for his fellows; and it is this sham sympathy, rooted in selfishness, which generally wins for him the credit of 'amability.' So the discontent which he fondly construes into a general love of the human race, drives the anarchist to attempt reform, and for him reform means death. Indeed, so narrow is his brain that he can conceive no other remedy for a trifling ill than murder; he would wipe out a spot of dust with blood, and his own war cry is 'Kill, kill, kill!' In other words, his diseased intelligence forbids him to understand the link which binds cause and effect. He recognizes his poverty, and believes that a change of system will ameliorate it; but he can imagine no method of changing a system which appears irksome save the death of an innocent man. That is to say, he does not understand the rules of society's game; he is like a man who would be taken for a gentleman, and yet cheats at cards. So he rushes into the street, armed with dynamite or dagger, and finds heroism in a lupine brutality. Hence it follows that he is of a sanguine disposition. He is of those who hope always that the wickedness of to-day will be overlooked by the mercy of the morrow, and in truth nothing need appear hopeless to the brain which detects in an unreasoned crime a cure for poverty.

A VICTIM OF WORDS.

But says his apologist, at any rate, the anarchist is a man of courage; at any rate, he risks his skin for an idea. Nothing could be further from the truth; he is not brave, this irresolute apostle of slaughter; he is the victim of ideas, but of words. Impelled to his ineffectual act by a phrase, he does no risk excessive, if only he be given a chance to work off a few tags before his judges. His quick, restless mind omits one step in the argument. He sees the crowded court; he is blind to the gallows. He imagines himself for a moment the centre of attraction, he seems to hear the echo of his hollow voice, and he proclaims the foolish sentences which he has learned by rote. And his stupendous vanity blinds him to the last consequence, the early morning and the ghostly counsel, the chill walk from the prison to the guillotine, the oblique blade and the fateful basket. These horrors do not appal him, because his self-satisfaction carries him no farther than the speech which he fondly believes will impress the jury. For, indeed, if there were no vanity in the world there would be no anarchists, since vanity is the essence of that stupidist of crimes, which is called political. None but a vain fool would attempt single-handed what he grandiloquently describes as the "regeneration of man"; none but a vain fool would choose for this attempt the ridiculous method of inconsequent assassination; none but a vain fool would overlook all the consequences of his deed save the chance of an ill-deserved speech in a hostile courthouse. And, in all the history of anarchy you will not find one practitioner who did not unite in himself the three qualities of vanity, hope and cowardice.

THE CONCLUSION

at which Professor Weber has arrived is that "there is danger in grasping the conductors of two alternate currents with the hands while in a dry condition whenever the difference between the intensity of the two conductors exceeds 100 volts." At the same time he points out that, while currents of such comparatively low intensity are dangerous, other currents of very high intensity are under different conditions absolutely harmless. In explanation it is said that these strong currents affect so quickly the surface of the body that it is impossible for them to press into the interior and produce physiological changes there.

Another notable discovery was made by Professor Weber. He knew that many a workman had been killed while handling a conductor in which the current was 115 volts, while engineers had constantly handled a similar conductor without meeting with any injury, and he determined to find out why the current has proved so fatal in the case of workmen. One reason, he claims, is because engineers, owing to their training, are constantly on their guard against danger from electricity, and, furthermore, while performing work, are isolated from the ground through the soles of their shoes. The workmen, on the other hand, sometimes work in their bare feet and sometimes in damp leather shoes, the result being that either through this dampness or through their own bodies a connection is established between them and the earth which necessarily leads to their death.

Professor Weber's experiments have attracted widespread attention among scientists, and the belief among them is general that our knowledge of electricity is more likely to be increased by practical tests of this kind than in any other way.

ANOTHER TYPE.

"Nor are these the only exceptions to a clearly defined type. There is another sort of anarchist, who works stealthily, not for a revolution, but for the gratification of his own Sadié temper. Not many years ago there was a mysterious stranger, one Sternberg, who supported the Anarchists of France for the mere lust of slaughter and suffering. Wherever workmen were in revolt there were tidings of this man of mystery. It was not his hand that threw the bomb, but it was his brain that devised the crime, his money that bought the materials. For a while he was the best known man in France, yet few eyes had ever beheld him, and few knew his nationality. He is a Pole, said this one; he is a Russian said that; and we may cheerfully leave it to the wisecracks of eastern Europe to settle their claim. But he was indefatigable in his desire of blood. 'Kill more you brutes!' he is reputed to have said, when he thought his creatures were not giving him value for his money.

Frills of Fashion.

He was working at Antwerp, he was an inspiration at Lille, and then he vanished. Tried for murder, he was twice condemned, and, at last, a rumor came that he was in a Russian prison. Thereafter an enemy espied him at Geneva, and none can say whether he is dead or buried alive.

"It is France that made anarchy possible. For anarchy is the legitimate child of the Revolution, which now appears to us in a true light as the mother of evil. If the lesson of murder had not been taught to the imbecile citizens of the Terror, we might never have heard of the assassination which appears to its votaries as the highest virtue. The Revolution it was that first discovered the grandeur of cowardice, that first saw in the severed head of a girl the symbol of freedom and patriotism. The country which still insists that the Revolution must be taken on a bloc as the birthright of the world can hardly be surprised if her citizens and her pupils have learned the use of dynamite and the knife. Assassins there were, of course, before the black year, 1793, but they were no better than sporadic imbeciles, and neither Fenton nor Bellingham struck with the weight of a misguided movement behind them. No; the anarchist is a brief century old, and already it is time that he should crawl away to death, and be no more known.

DANGERS OF ELECTRICITY.

Novel Experiments Recently Made by Professor Weber, of Zurich.

Some very interesting experiments have just been made in Zurich, the object of ascertaining the precise conditions under which electricity is dangerous to human life. The general impression has been that currents of less than 500 volts could not be fatal, yet a few cases of deaths have been recorded through currents which were as low as 120 volts. Alternating currents of 109 volts have in like manner been regarded as absolutely harmless, yet experience shows that this conclusion is not always correct.

With the object of arriving at definite truth on the vexed questions, Professor Weber, a distinguished Swiss scientist, made several experiments on himself. He first made a test with 30 volts, and found that when he grasped the wires with moistened hands, his arms, wrists and hands were practically paralyzed. It was impossible for him to move a hand, an arm, or even a finger, and the pain in these parts of his body was so acute that he could not endure it for more than ten minutes. He also experienced considerable difficulty in freeing his hands from the wires. His next test was with 50 volts, and the pain in this instance was so acute that he could not endure it for more than two seconds.

Neither was it possible for him to free his hands from the wires, and for the reason that his hands and fingers were so numbly paralyzed as to be practically lifeless. A similar result was obtained when he made tests with dry hands, but not until the intensity of the currents had reached 90 volts.

THE CONCLUSION

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TO CLEAN WINDOWS.

A nice way to clean windows, or the glass in bookcase doors, or cupboards, says a writer in an exchange, is to take a small bunch of cotton batting dampen it with kerosene and wipe the glass all over carefully. After allowing it to stay on a short time, take a soft, clean cloth and polish the glass. You will be surprised at its brilliancy and clearness. There are no streaks to rub off, over and over again, and it can be done in a very little while, without any muss whatever. The smell evaporates almost immediately. One can rub the glass all over well, then go about other work, leaving it for several hours, and then it will polish just the same.

A SHINING MARK.

Borrows—Easy, is he? Grapher—Well, I should say. I wrote to him once and asked him to lend me \$2. It seems I spell two double o, and forgot to cross the t. He sent me \$100.

British locomotive firms have work on hand for 12 to 18 months.

Frills of Fashion.



Petticoat and corset cover of white lawn, the former trimmed with a ruffle of Valenciennes insertion and edging divided by clusters of tucks and embroidered dots. The corset cover is trimmed to imitate a bolero with bands of insertion and embroidery. The narrow frill of lace which forms the basque is headed with a ribbon run heading. For the corset cover 1 yard of lawn, 40 inches wide, is required, for the skirt, lawn, 40 inches wide, 5 yards.



Petticoat of white cambric, trimmed with a flounce, ornamented with lengthwise rows of cambric embroidery and edged and headed with embroidery. Material required, cambric 30 inches wide, 6 yards.



Prock of pastel blue lawn. Five gored skirt trimmed with five rows of valenciennes insertion and a lawn ruffe edged with lace. The corsage opens over a tucked lawn chemise and is trimmed with bertha of lawn and lace bands, edged with a lace frill. Elbow sleeves of alternate lawn and lace bands. Material required for girl of 10 years, lawn 36 inches wide, 5-1/2 yards.

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