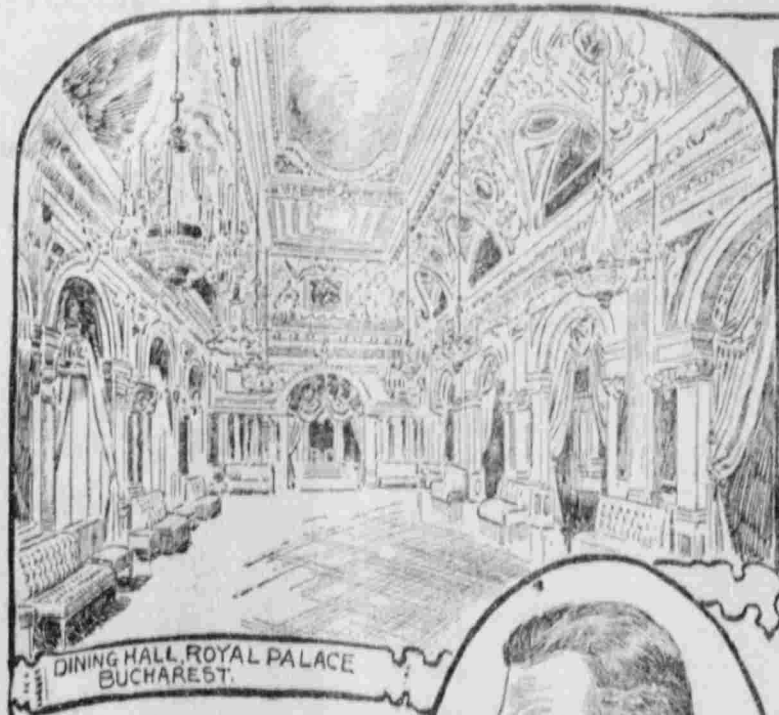


THE ROUMANIA-BULGARIA WAR CLOUD.

It is only a little matter to be settled among themselves, the world at large would not care much whether or not the Balkan states of Roumania and Bulgaria go to war. But these obstreperous belligerents are so situated that what concerns both or either of them is a matter of great moment to all Europe. When in 1878 the great powers, by the celebrated Berlin treaty, sliced up some of Turkey's territory into independent states and tributary principalities, it was thought

that a check might thereby be given to the rapacious progress of Russia toward the Balkan states as well as a hint to the "unspcakable Turk" that he was henceforth to be on his good behavior, unless he wished to be kicked out of Europe entirely. Servia and Roumania were declared independent, while Bulgaria was erected into a principality and, with eastern Roumelia, invested with several attributes of autonomy, without receiving freedom in its entirety. Since that time, however, the Bulgarians, desiring to set up a little kingdom of their own, have imported a princelet from Saxo-Coburg and have indulged in all the luxuries of a newly fledged royalty, before it was actually hatched. So long as they confined their antics to their own territory, neither Turkey nor Russia paid much attention to them, except that the former wished to have control over the actual head, and the latter was concerned mainly about the annual tribute and recognition of nominal suzerainty.



DINING HALL, ROYAL PALACE, BUCHAREST.

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KING CHARLES OF ROUMANIA.



THE ROYAL PALACE AT BUCHAREST, ROUMANIA.



BULGARIAN PEASANT GIRLS.



H.R. PRINCE FERDINAND OF BULGARIA.

It has been under one ruler for many years. On the other hand, while Bulgaria has an army nominally almost as large as that of Roumania, it has, conjointly with Roumelia, but 28,562 square miles of territory and a population of not over 3,400,000. And, again, the character of the two peoples must be taken into account. The Bulgarians are not by nature so brave and warlike as the Roumanians. Centuries of Turkish oppression have reduced their courage and made them submissive. The atrocities perpetrated by the Turks in Bulgaria were, in fact, the ostensible cause of the last great Russo-Turkish

A CRACK CHINESE REGIMENT'S GYMNASICS.



It has long been the custom of the Chinese to exercise their soldiers at a peculiar sort of drill, by which they were taught to leap into the air, perform contortion acts and make faces for the purpose of sending cold shivers down an enemy's spine. They really seemed to believe that they could frighten a foe into fits if they could make faces horrid enough and kick up the right sort of a "bobby" with tom-toms and bludgeons. Since the British took possession of their new port of Wei-Hai-Wei they have incorporated into some of their regiments stationed there bodies of Chinese soldiery whom they have converted into pretty good imitations of Tommy Atkins. And for the ancient tactics, with contortions and face making, they have substituted a system of gymnastics which has brought out the latent muscular development in which the Chinaman is generally deficient. These men, in fact, may eventually constitute a band of Chinese sepoys, such as the British have so successfully used for many years in India. But whether they can be depended upon to stand by the flag when it comes to fighting against their own countrymen remains to be seen.

AN IMPROVED AMBULANCE IN CHINA.



In the forced march of the allied armies from Tien-tsin to Peking the British made provision for their wounded by taking along the Indian "tongas" or covered carts, which had been of such service as ambulances in South Africa. Fortunately there was not a great demand for them, except for conveying the numerous soldiers prostrated by the heat, or there would have been great suffering on account of the terrible condition of the roads, with their ruts often axle deep.

HOW WORDS ARE COINED.

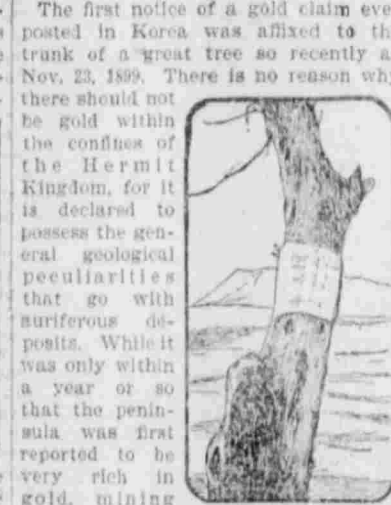
Within the last 50 years over 60,000 words and phrases have crept into the English language, some of them but for an ephemeral existence, while others, which only a short time ago were classed as slang or vulgarisms, are today permanent parts of the language. Unless the origin of a slang word is known it is almost impossible to tell how long it has been in use. Slang words which originate in different parts of the country naturally have their own peculiar significance, but after they have traveled a few hundred miles the meaning changes. The word "blues," meaning counter-tenor or minor, was once based upon a slang word. Its origin is somewhat peculiar. Over half a century ago a man named Douglas, a Scotchman, was notorious for drawing little on British banks. His name was commonly called Douglas, and his little as well as a word of a similar character, were universally styled Douglas currency.

A FORBIDDEN CITY PAVILION.



The gem of Peking, the precious ornament of the Imperial possessions, is the sacred Forbidden City, where dwelt the emperor and his family, secluded from the world. It not only contains his palaces and reception courts, temples and halls of audience, but various buildings devoted to pleasure and recreation. The gardens and grounds are extensive, although restricted by the towering walls that inclose them, and there are artificial lakes, marble bridges and colonnaded corridors. One of the most charming of the retreats to which the emperor and his family alone had access is the marble pavilion overlooking and in one corner of the Imperial garden, where flowers grow in profusion and stately gleams among the foliage.

FIRST GOLD CLAIM IN KOREA.



The first notice of a gold claim ever posted in Korea, was affixed to the trunk of a great tree so recently as Nov. 23, 1899. There is no reason why there should not be gold within the confines of the Hermit Kingdom, for it is declared to possess the general geological peculiarities that go with southern points. While it was only within a year or so that the peninsula was first reported to be very rich in gold, mining companies are now actively at work exploring the mountainous portion of Korea, which has a climate somewhat similar to that of northern Italy. There are already more than a hundred Europeans and about 3,500 natives employed at mining, and the outlook is said to be favorable for the export in the near future of large quantities of gold. If this proves to be correct, there may be an additional incentive for interference in Korean affairs by Russia and Japan.

IN A CANTON OPIUM DEN.



While the Chinese city of Canton is full of curious sights, picturesque and interesting, it is not a defensible place to reside in on account of its filth and evil odors. It may not be exactly the home of the opium fiend, but he dwells there in great numbers and is in evidence on every hand. The opium dens of Canton are, perhaps, infamous above all others, and yet the Chinese, addicted as they are to the habit of opium smoking, lay the principal blame upon the English. If it were not for the great opium war, they say, by which the British imposed their Indian opium upon them in opposition to the emperor's edict, they would not now be so much given to smoking the deadly drug made from the poppy.

CHINAMAN TREADING OUT TEA.

Most of the work done in preparing tea is by hand, but now and then the feet come into play, as shown in the illustration. After the leaves have been picked, cleaned and rolled in balls and curled, a coolly trends out the stems with his feet. For the comfort of those who drink of the "cup which cheers" it may be stated that this process does not always take place and that it is



not any worse probably than that used in packing tea and pressing grapes in oriental countries. One brand of scented tea is always treated by treading, but in this case it is tied up in canvas bags and rolled with the feet for a good while. It is then packed for shipment, and forms one of the most fragrant of teas, with an aroma which the Chinese declare to be perfectly "divine."

LI HUNG CHANG'S MOTHER AND HER GRANDSON.



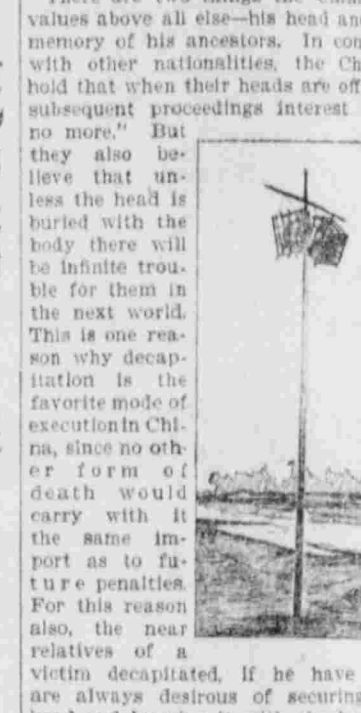
In the adulation of the "Grand Old Man of China" little has been said of Li Hung Chang's mother, although it is admitted that he was indebted to her for many of his noblest traits. He is descended from a race of conquerors, though his father is said to have been a simple farmer and his mother unknown until after he became famous. Former United States Minister Denby, who was intimately acquainted with the great Li, narrates that when a grandson was born to him in the legation Li called to offer his congratulations and tender his felicitations on having become a grandfather. "I listened with surprise," the minister says, "because Li well knew that my daughter was the mother of two children. When I mentioned the fact, stating that I had been a grandfather several years, Li said that he knew that my daughter had children, but they did not count—a man was never a grandfather until his son became a father!" Li was probably the name by which his fond mother knew him when a boy, as that is his family name, while Hung Chang, meaning "vast ornamentation," is merely a personal or official appellation which other officials use when speaking of him to the emperor.

A CHINESE MANDARIN'S FUNERAL.



One might believe from the fuss the Celestials make over a funeral that, to paraphrase that famous epigram accredited to General Phil Sheridan, "there is no good Chinaman except a dead Chinaman." Even at ordinary funerals there are great noise and bustle, vast expenditure of money and profusion of decoration. The hired mourners weep and howl, the tom-toms are beaten lustily, firecrackers are exploded at all the corners of streets through which the funeral procession passes, and a stranger might think it was a circus that was the occasion of all the hubbub. "The Chinese have a method, they say, in all this seeming madness, and the noise and fireworks are not intended to attract attention, but to divert it from the remains of the functionary passing to his last long rest in the grave. They pretend to believe that when a person dies the devil or one of his emissaries is always lying in wait to snatch the soul before the body from which it has fled has been decently buried. To frustrate his unhallowed aims the friends and mourners "kick up a bobby" in order to distract his attention, while the pallbearers, instead of pursuing a direct course to the grave, dart around corners and double on their tracks. By this means and by a mighty racket the arch enemy is often deprived of what he is said to consider his legitimate game—the soul of the departed.

HEADS IN BAMBOO CAGES.



There are two things the Chinaman values above all else—his head and the memory of his ancestors. In common with other nationalities, the Chinese hold that when their heads are off the subsequent proceedings interest them no more. But they also believe that unless the head is buried with the body there will be infinite trouble for them in the next world. This is one reason why decapitation is the favorite mode of execution in China, since no other form of death would carry with it the same importance as to future penalties. For this reason also, the near relatives of a victim decapitated, if he have any, are always desirous of securing the head and burying it with the body to which it was formerly attached. Decapitation in itself does not seem to be so much feared as the indignities possibly attendant upon it. Hence the reason for taking the heads of noted criminals and displaying them in cages of bamboo upon poles by the roadside or along the river banks. They serve as a warning to others and convey the assurance of the fate awaiting those who break the laws.

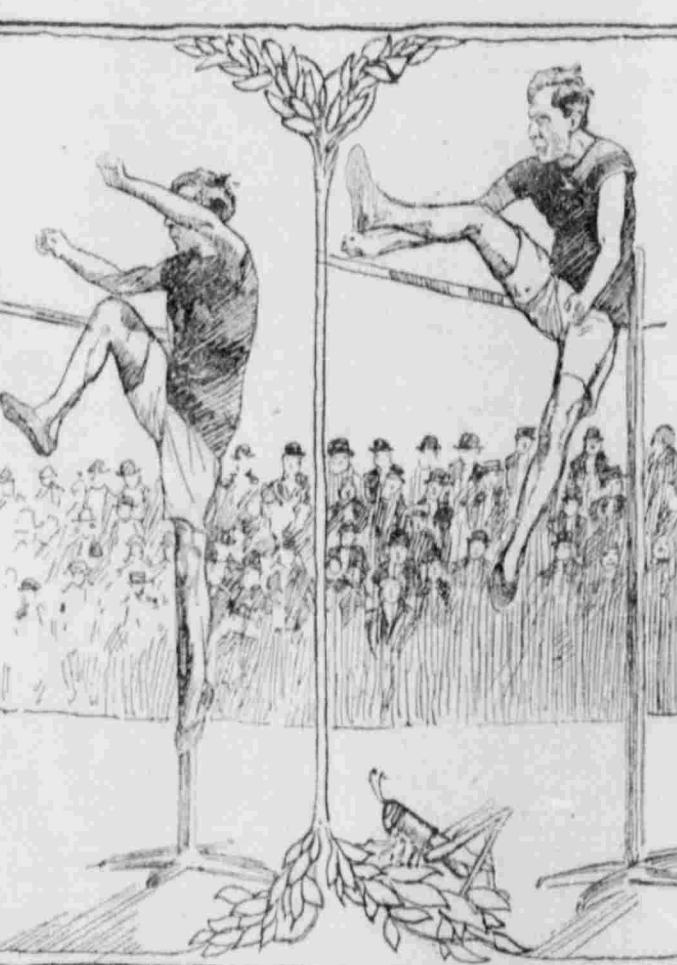
A beggars' league in St. Petersburg mutilates children and cripples them to arouse sympathy from the benevolent when they are sent to beg in public places. The chief of this gang, who is a wealthy man and has posed as a philanthropist, receives 75 per cent of the money begged by the unfortunates.

A CHINESE FAMILY GROUP.



Much has been written of family life in China and much has been said of woman's lowly lot in that country, but all writers are agreed that a woman's importance in the eyes of her husband is vastly enhanced when she becomes a mother. To bear a son, says a Chinese authority, is the greatest service a wife can perform for her lord, and consequently all wives are desirous of becoming mothers of male children. This picture of a mandarin at home conveys the impression that he is fond of his children, as he most assuredly is, and the tales of neglect and indifference shown by the Chinese males toward their offspring are mostly erroneous. Believing, as he does, in ancestor worship and devoting much of his substance to gifts to the shades of his ancestors, the Chinaman wishes for children that he may be thus posthumously honored, if for no other reason. He loves his family and is devoted to the welfare of his sons, while as to the daughters—well, that is quite another matter.

THE CAMERA QUICKER THAN THE EYE.



"Quicker than a flash" is no mere figure of speech when applied to the process by which the image of an object is transferred to the sensitized plate when exposed before the camera. This has found numerous exemplifications since the armies of amateurs have taken up photography as a pastime and since it is only necessary now for one to press the button and let the sun do the rest. The pictures herewith shown were taken of the same man making a high jump at an amateur athletic exhibition, and while the fraction of a second apart, might have seemed a "continuous performance" to the naked eye. They show, too, how different is the real from the preconceived position of one while in motion. This fact was emphasized a few years ago, when a prominent photographer took a series of pictures illustrating the horse in motion, proving that the stereotyped notions of a past generation were all at fault.

MEN AND EVENTS.

King Humbert of Italy, after paying the debts left behind by his father, was able to lay aside 240,000 a year, most of which he invested in farming lands, and King Victor Emmanuel III thus comes into a private fortune of approximately \$5,000,000. The Berlin Geographical society has

selected the following named Americans honorary members: Alexander Agassiz, General A. W. Greely, U. S. A., and Morris K. Jesup, president of the American Museum of Natural History. In a competition with 81 aspirants Dr. S. Adolph Knopf of New York was awarded the prize of 4,000 marks offered by the Berlin tuberculosis congress for the best essay on "How to Fight Tuberculosis as a Disease of the Masses." About 150 prominent Chinese business men met in the hall of the United Chinese Society of Honolulu recently and organized a political good government club. It was not decided which party the organization would affiliate with.

The main purpose is to secure the rights of members as American citizens. Don Carlos I, king of Portugal, who is to visit Queen Victoria in London early in December, has more royal titles than any other living monarch. Joined to these is one of the smallest kingdoms of the earth. Carlos was born in the capital of Portugal, Lisbon, and succeeded to the throne in 1889. Three years before that time he wedded with Amelle, a princess of Bourbon-Orleans and daughter of the late Count of Paris.

Although the temperature in Florida reaches 110 degrees, there are no cases of sunstroke because of the extreme moisture of the temperature. There is perhaps no better market for bridges and all kinds of bridge work in the far east than in the Dutch East Indies. Formidable inundations occur almost constantly, and the demand for bridges is steady and large. It was only recently that the colonial government placed an order for 42 bridges with German and Belgian bridge builders. The English statistician Muhall

makes an estimate of 76,300,000 of the population of the United States this year. The late General Francis W. Walker estimated it at about 75,000,000, and his present successor as president of the Institute of Technology, Professor Pritchett, made an estimate in 1891 that the 1900 figures would be 77,472,000. The actuary of the treasury department expects the total to reach 77,000,000.