

SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHINESE.

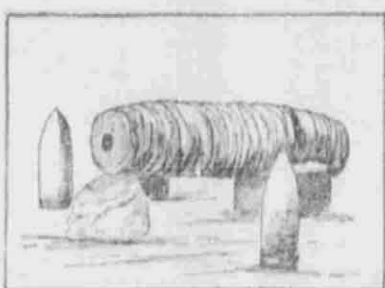
WHILE the Chinese have many characteristics that distinguish them from the rest of the world's people, there are but few salient features that differentiate one Chinese from another. The beginning of their history goes so far back that it is shrouded in mystery and obscurity, but their traditions tell us that the first of their royal line was one Hsiao-jing, the producer of fire and wood, who taught

B. C. 1125-225; the T'ao, B. C. 225-206; the Han, B. C. 206 to A. D. 220; the Wei, A. D. 220-420; the Sui, A. D. 420-618; the Tang, A. D. 618-907; the Song, A. D. 907-1125; the Ming, A. D. 1368-1644; and the Manchou, A. D. 1644-1911. The Manchou, who conquered the country and founded a line which reached to the Pacific, ruled from 1259 to 1911. A native dynasty called the Ming succeeded, but was overthrown in 1644, when the country was conquered

by the Tartar Manchous, who founded the imperial house which has reigned continuously ever since. The Manchous overran the land and established military garrisons in every portion, descendants of those same "banner men" occupying the posts at which their ancestors were stationed more than 200 years ago.

They imposed upon the subject people their manners and customs, and their language is the official speech of the court, but in all essential features the Chinese have remained the same for centuries. They are distinguished from the other "mongoloids" as the naturalists term them, more by location as the indigenous people of China, and share with the Manchous and others the

A CHINESE "QUAKER" GUN.
It has been shown that while the Chinese cling tenaciously to everything ancient, including material objects as well as traditions of government, they can on occasion imitate the foreigner very well and sometimes surpass him by their proficiency at his own game. This has been conclusively proved in



the encounters between the Chinese and the allied troops at Tien-tsin, for while the former were supposed to be mainly an undisciplined mob, armed with weapons chiefly obsolete, their tactics and gun fire have astonished their foes.

They have improved greatly since their war with the Japanese and the opium war with Great Britain, when many of their guns were something like the "Quaker" shown in the illustration, which is entirely of wood, bound about with split bamboo. This old time piece of ordnance is now at Wei-Hai-Wei, where a special guard has to be detailed to prevent its being carried away—not as a relic, but for use as fuel, wood being rather scarce and guns of this character comparatively numerous.

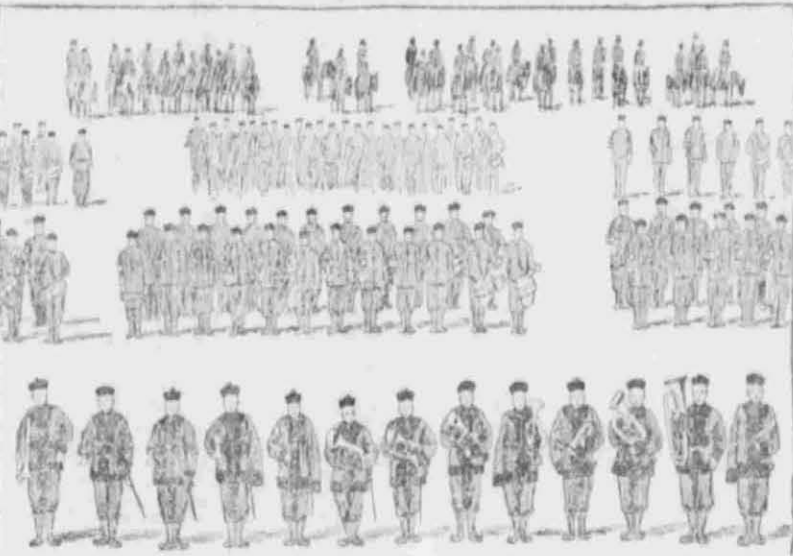
A GROUP OF TONQUINESE.



The French in Annam claim that they have in that country the missing link—not between monkey and man, but between Mongolian and Malay—in the Annamites, or Tonquinese, who have for many years been tributary to France. When their country was conquered, nearly 40 years ago, they made a game fight for freedom, but the warships were too much for them, and they finally surrendered. Now their territory is generally known as Cochinchina, and though for centuries they sent embassies to the Manchou emperor at Peking and acknowledged him as their overlord, it is now to Paris that the tribute bearing mandarins go.

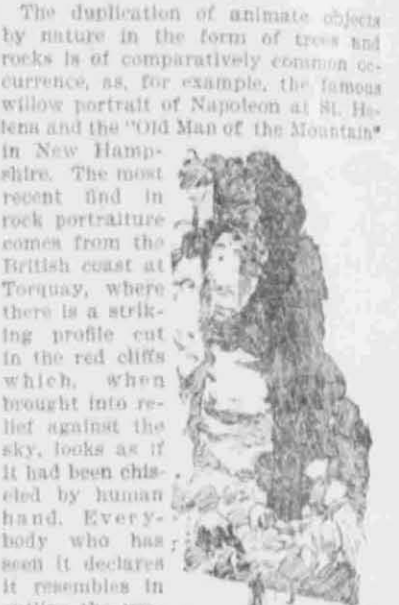
This group of Annamites, or Tonquinese, was photographed on arrival at Paris, whither they had come to see the exposition and study the arts and sciences.

THE FLOWER OF THE CHINESE ARMY.



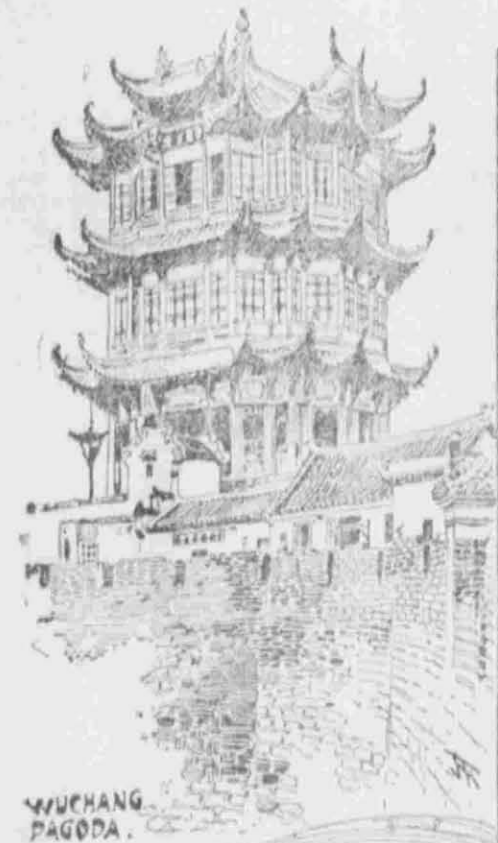
Great surprise has been expressed by the allied forces that they have encountered such stubborn opposition from the Chinese in their advance toward Peking. But when it is reflected that for years the Chinese have been receiving instruction in military tactics from foreigners, mostly Germans and Russians, and have been importing vast supplies of ammunition, the latest types of guns and improved repeating rifles, there need be no cause for surprise. It is said that the bulk of the Chinese army is equipped with spears and lances, bows and arrows, and even the imperial guard that surrounds the emperor is mainly armed with these obsolete weapons. But there is now a suspicion that John Chinaman has been playing upon the credulity of his foes, and that while he has been giving out for publication these stories of unpreparedness he has been sedulously filling up his arsenals and armories and drilling the best of his Manchou soldiery. The Sino-Japanese war taught him a lesson, perhaps, and, though slow to learn in other ways, he may have been benefited by the result of that war of defeat for China and ever since may have been preparing for the next struggle.

A BRITISH STATESMAN'S PORTRAIT IN ROCK.

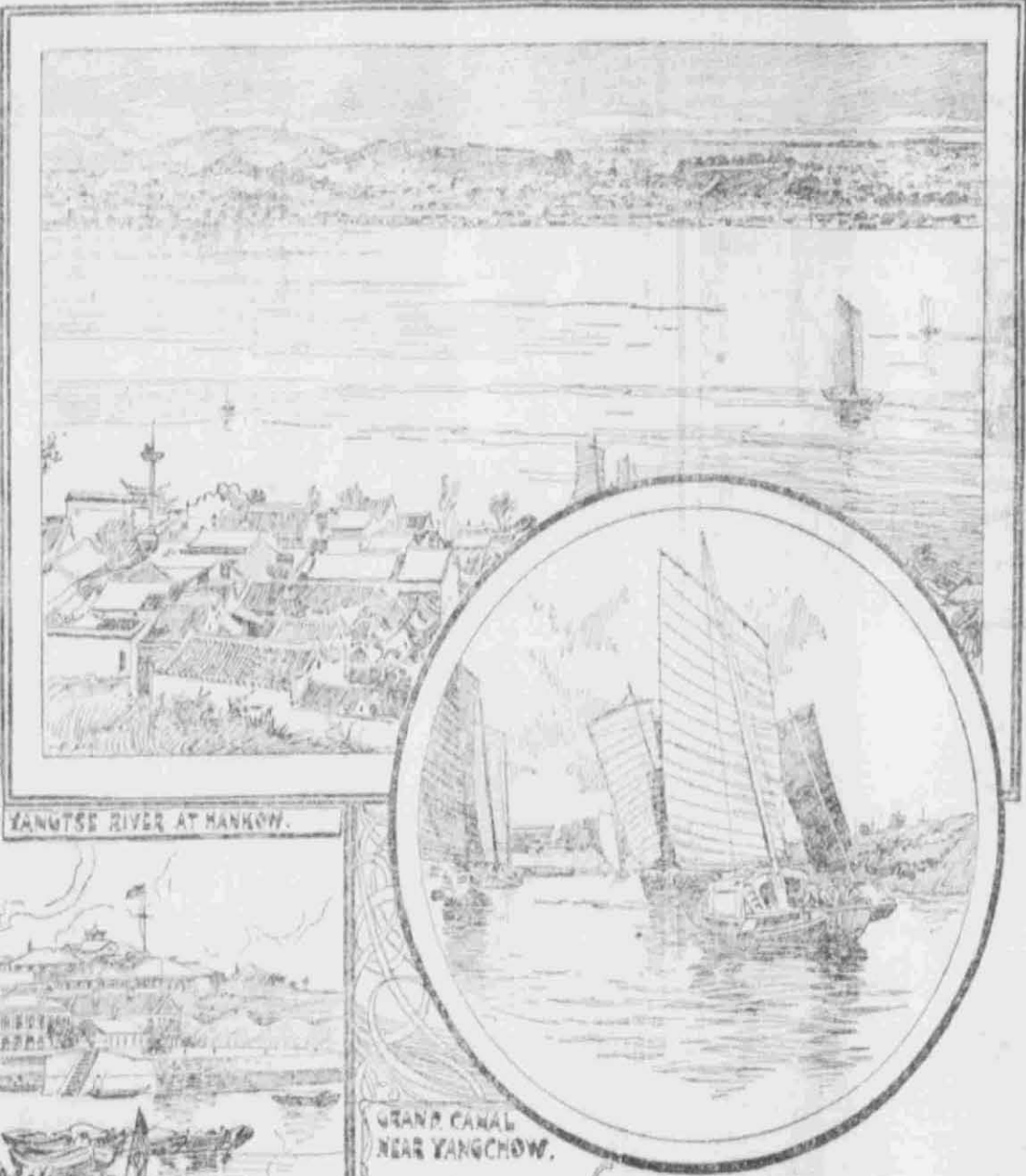


The duplication of animate objects by nature in the form of trees and rocks is of comparatively common occurrence, as, for example, the famous willow portrait of Napoleon at St. Helena and the "Old Man of the Mountain" in New Hampshire. The most recent find in rock portraiture comes from the British coast at Torquay, where there is a striking profile cut in the red cliffs which, when brought into relief against the sky, looks as if it had been chiseled by human hand. Everybody who has seen it declares it resembles in outline the profile of Sir William Vernon Harcourt, the veteran parliamentarian; but if it has been found in America it might, with equal reason, have been called that of General Washington, whom it seems to resemble quite as much as Sir William.

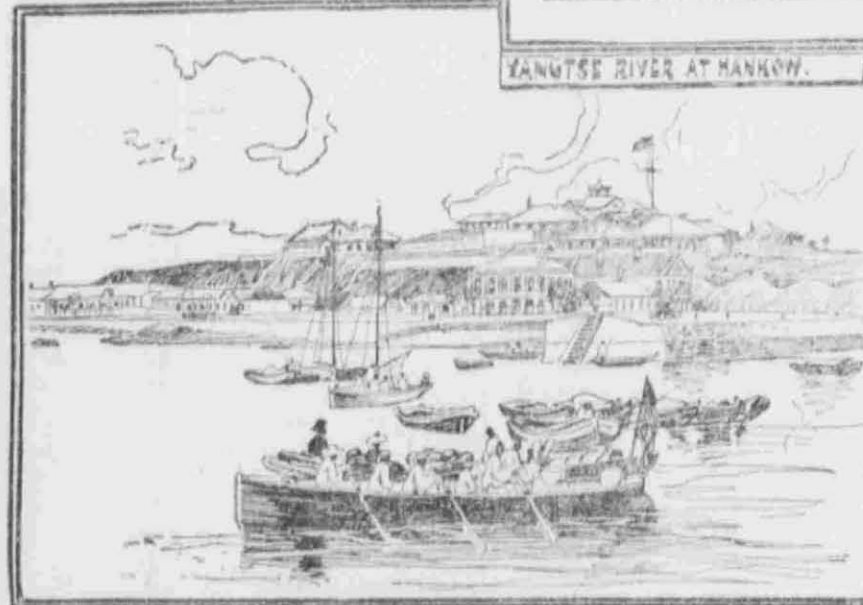
It is reckoned that the household and personal refuse of all kinds and street sweepings of a town amount to about half a ton annually per head of the population, or in London to 1,500 tons per week.



WUCHANG PAGODA.



YANGTZE RIVER AT HANKOW.



GRAND CANAL NEAR YANGCHOW.

U.S. CONSULATE CHEFOO.

the people how to make fire and cook their food, also how to keep a record of events by tying knots in strings. Then came Fuh-hi, who originated written characters, and from the fact that he was assisted by a dragon that came out of the Yellow river arose the use of that figure in Chinese art and history.

It was about 2697 B. C. that the first dynasty ruler was elected. He took the title of Hwang-ti, or the Yellow Emperor, and with great detail the various dynasties are chronicled up to the present time. There, for instance, was the Chow dynasty, which reigned

by the Tartar Manchous, who founded the imperial house which has reigned continuously ever since. The Manchous overran the land and established military garrisons in every portion, descendants of those same "banner men" occupying the posts at which their ancestors were stationed more than 200 years ago.

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high cheek bones, the receding foreheads, the broad noses and yellowish complexion. But the ruling Manchous are of lighter complexion and heavier build than the Chinese, and some of them have beautiful noses and heavy lips, though all possess the oblique eyelids and stolid countenances. The Manchous are the dominant people, dispersed throughout the country as rulers and military men in

CHINESE PACK CARRIERS RESTING AT A SHRINE.

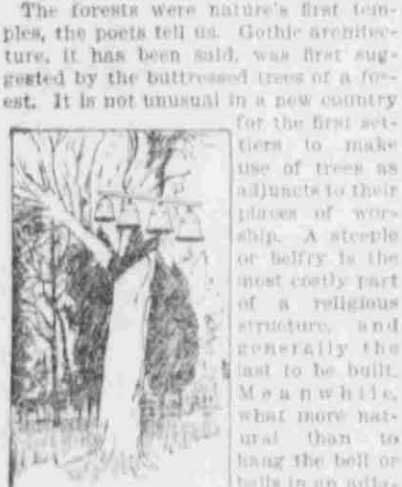


As to the religious proclivities of the Chinese, they are said to be something like those of a certain old gentleman universally exasperated and taken off in the following lines:

When the devil was sick, the devil a monk would be;
When the devil got well, the devil a monk was he.

So long as things go well they pay little attention to their gods; but when anything evil happens they hurry to placate their deities if they have any on hand, and if they do not they borrow a few from their neighbors. These Chinese carriers, shown in the illustration, have improved the occasion of their noonday halt to pay their devotions at a shrine of the war god, supposed to be in favor of the proceedings recently instituted by the Boxers. They have stacked their wheelbarrows in a row, piled high as they are with goods for Tien-tsin, and have taken turns in visiting the shrine, leaving a portion of their company on watch. These barrows, by the way, are universally used in China.

A TREE USED AS A BELL TOWER.



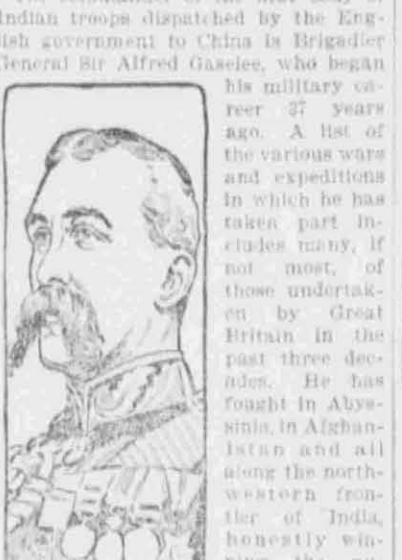
The forests were nature's first temples, the poets tell us. Gothic architecture, it has been said, was first suggested by the buttressed trees of a forest. It is not unusual in a new country for the first settlers to make use of trees as adjuncts to their places of worship. A steeple or bell tower is the most costly part of a religious structure, and generally the last to be built. Men a new world, what more natural than to hang the bell or bells in an adjacent tree? The mission fathers of California did it, in Mexico it was frequently done, and this illustration shows how a chime of heavy bells was hung in a tree at Pictoumaritzburg, Natal, and hangs there yet, one of the sights of the town.

THE INSATIABLE MONGOOSE.



There are always some impracticable philanthropists who want to spend the great scheme of nature and introduce into our country creatures that are totally unfit for it, as, for instance, the English sparrow. Another business animal is the mongoose, a native of India about as large as a hawk and as voracious as a lion, which it was supposed to bring in from Jamaica, but which in its own land has been found to be a pest. It was introduced to the United States to control the snake, which it was supposed to eat, and it has done so, but it has also eaten the eggs of the snake, and it has also eaten the eggs of the snake, and it has also eaten the eggs of the snake.

GENERAL SIR ALFRED GASELEE.



The commander of the first body of Indian troops dispatched by the English government to China in Brigadier General Sir Alfred Gaselee, who began his military career 37 years ago. A list of the various wars and expeditions in which he has taken part includes many, if not most, of those undertaken by Great Britain in the past three decades. He has fought in Abyssinia, in Afghanistan, in the north-western frontier of India, honestly winning the numerous decorations which have been bestowed upon him. He was made a knight commander of the Bath in 1898 and lately has acted as an aide-de-camp to Queen Victoria, proceeding to join his Chinese command direct from London.

It is estimated that Persians spend \$125,000,000 every year on coffee.

MILITARY CAMP AT TIEN-TSIN.



Every visitor to the section of China containing Taku and Tien-tsin, on the Pei-Ho, now so prominently in the world's eye, comments upon the dreary and monotonous scenery. The river itself is shallow and crooked, winding about like a great serpent through a level plain, where the highest hills are the graves of the Chinese who have gone to the happy hunting grounds.

The journey from coast to city reveals little except mud, everywhere and all about, mud walls, mud houses, muddy water and mud colored men, women and children, the last named wearing scarcely any other covering than a thick coating of mud. This native city is within a wall of mud faced with stone, while the foreign concession is separated from it by a mud wall extending from the outer barrier to the river.

HOW THE MANDARINS TRAVEL.

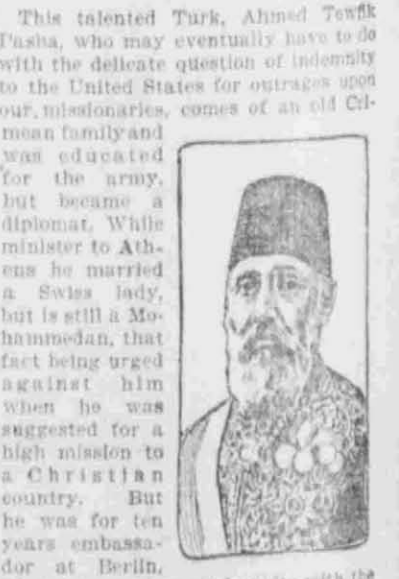


Some one has called the mandarins the curse of China, they are as a class so consequenceless and lacking in patriotism. The government has been repeatedly shown by foreigners how to collect its revenues and drill its armies, how to make powder and cast cannon, but has not availed itself of the full measure of their teachings owing to the obstinacy of the mandarins.

While Sir Robert Hart had for 40 years administered the imperial customs so efficiently that he had full swing and was valued by the Chinese government implicitly, yet he could not induce it to institute reforms in other branches of the government or the mandarins as so strong. Sir Robert was himself raised to the rank of mandarin, but he remained an Englishman to the last.

Though their perfect system of espionage the Chinese officials are kept well informed of what is going on all over the empire, and the mandarins themselves make journeys to different parts on tours of inspection. The illustrations show a military mandarin on a visit of inspection to an outpost, riding a Tartar pony, and the palanquin or sedan chair, in which calls of state are made. These chairs are carried by two or four men, and the bearers wear a uniform. Altogether this mode of conveyance is the most comfortable in China and always employed where practicable.

TURKEY'S MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.



This talented Turk, Ahmed Tefik Pasha, who may eventually have to do with the delicate question of indemnity to the United States for outrages upon our missionaries, comes of an old Cyprian family and was educated for the army, but became a diplomat. While minister to Athens he married a Swiss lady, but is still a Mohammedan, that fact being urged against him when he was suggested for a high mission to a Christian country. But he was for ten years ambassador at Berlin, where he was a great favorite with the kaiser. He presided over the peace conference which settled affairs between Turkey and Greece and there displayed a great deal of tact in smoothing down the asperities of the proceedings. As he has also served in Russia and is well versed in the school of Russian intrigues, he is expected by the Sultan to be able to beat that country's diplomats at their own game.

NUGGETS FOR BUSY READERS

Red bananas are coming into the market again. Very few have been shipped to the United States during the past five years.

General Miles is the first non-West Pointer to be promoted to the rank of lieutenant general in the United States army. General Winfield Scott was not a West Pointer, but his lieutenant generalship was only a brief rank conferred for special services.

Tien-tsin, the center of so many exciting scenes in China just now, is one of the largest cities in the empire, having fully 1,000,000 inhabitants. It is the port of Peking and stands on the tortuous and muddy Pei-Ho, 85 miles below Peking and 35 miles above the Taku forts at the mouth of the river. Within the past 20 years the number of American and English female physicians practicing in Asiatic countries has increased from 10 to 220.

Each of the 13 provinces of the Celestial empire is ruled by a governor or governor general, who is responsible to the emperor for the entire administration—political, judicial, military and naval. Each province is subdivided into departments, ruled by prefects, and each department into districts, each with a district ruler.

A Bulgarian journalist named Sargoff recently wrote an article in a Sofia paper on the subject of the relation of the nose to character. After discussing the various shapes, he came to the conclusion that persons with long noses are often bad characters. The public prosecutor regarded this as a case of lese majesty, because Prince Ferdinand has a long nose. Sargoff was arrested, tried and sentenced to three days' imprisonment.

A Pierpont Morgan, while a student at the English high school in Boston, took the mathematics prize for three years in succession. The eighteenth Hussars, a British regiment serving in South Africa, is now known among soldiers in that region as Kruger's Own. This nickname has been given to the regiment because of the large number of its men made captives by the Boers.

Kangaroo, which used to be a plague in Australia, are now getting so scarce that it pays to raise them in herds. Albert, king of Saxony, is said to be seriously ill from cancer of the stomach. He is over 70 years of age and is

a person appealing strongly to the sympathies of his fellow men. He returned from the siege of Paris in 1870 as popular a man as Chester Frick. Enforced cleanliness prevails in the public schools of Copenhagen. Three times a week the pupils have to bathe at the schools, and while they are disporting themselves in the swimming baths the clothes are purified in steam ovens.