

young as many a man of fifty. He has both an English and a Chinese physician with him, and it is probable that the English physician will continue to administer the electric baths to his cheeks to which Li has been accustomed for some years. He had some time ago paralysis of the face, and he has cured this by the use of electricity. During my stay in Tien Tsin he was taking these electric baths, having them administered something like an hour a day, and he often said electricity acted upon him like a tonic and gave him new life.

In Li Hung Chang's face you may still see the mark of the bullet with which he was shot by the Japanese crank during his recent stay in Japan. The ball went in just below the left eye and left a marked scar. The bullet is still in his face, and was, it is said, recently photographed by means of the X rays. Li Hung Chang's great bravery during this shot has never been in print. He showed wonderful nerve during the time that the doctors were probing for the bullet. He allowed them to dig around in his face, and at one time when one of the doctors had driven the probe into the bone and was tapping away at it, saying he had found the bullet, Li replied that he was mistaken and that he was digging at the bone and not at the lead. After the bullet was found the question as to whether it should be extracted was raised. Li Hung Chang's son, however, refused to allow this without he had special permission to that effect from the emperor. He said that if it was a question only of the life of his father he could permit it, but that in this case Li Hung Chang was the messenger from the throne. He represented the emperor, and that he could not venture to have his life put in danger without first telegraphing to Peking. The situation was critical at this time, and to have telegraphed would have meant a delay of thirty-six hours. The doctors thought it best not to wait. They concluded to risk leaving the bullet in his cheek and the wound was sewed up. It rapidly healed, and the viceroy has now entirely recovered from its effects.

The above information was given me by General John W. Foster, immediately after he had returned from Japan. He told me that Li Hung Chang was much worried by the shot. He thought that it might lessen his reputation in the eyes of the people of China, or as the Chinese say, that he might "lose face" with them. Said General Foster: "I told the viceroy that he had a wrong idea of the character of his wound; and that he should be proud of the shot, and that instead of 'losing face' he had 'gained face.' I said that the wound had been received in the service of his country, and that in the United States we considered such things honorable. It was no use, however, he would not be comforted."

"Did he think that the attempt to take his life was intentional on the part of the Japanese?" I asked.

"No," replied General Foster, "or if he did it was for only a short time. The Japanese showed such a great anxiety about it, the emperor took the matter so much to heart and the great men of Japan came in and expressed their regrets so earnestly that Li Hung Chang soon saw that the action was that of a fanatic, and he did not blame the

Japanese government for it. After he was shot the Japanese could not do enough for him. They wanted to send him all kinds of presents. He would accept only those having no value. He took, for instance, such things as chickens and vegetables, but he would not accept works of art or anything that cost much money."

Speaking of General Foster, I heard a story the other day of how he persuaded Li Hung Chang to allow him to leave China. The Chinese viceroy became very fond of Foster, and he offered various inducements to get him to stay in China and act as one of the foreign advisers of the government. General Foster, however, did not want to stay in China, and he told Li Hung Chang that it was impossible for him to do so.

"But why is it impossible?" said Li. "Is it a matter of salary? If so I think we can fix that."

General Foster is a diplomat. He did not want to tell the viceroy that the real reason for his not wishing to remain in China was that he liked America better, so he thought a moment and then evaded the question. Said he:

"Your excellency knows I would like to stay. I like you and I am fond of the Chinese people, but I have an imperative engagement in the United States for this summer, which was fixed before I came out here, and which I am bound to meet."

Here General Foster stopped. He knew the curiosity of Li Hung Chang's Chinese nature would not let him rest until he was told what that engagement was. He was not disappointed. In a moment the viceroy asked:

"What, general, is your imperative engagement?"

"It is with my grandson," replied Secretary Foster. He is just seven years old. I have promised to take him out fishing on Lake Ontario this summer, and if I do not carry out my promise I will lose face with him. He will think his grandfather is not a man of truth, and I will set a bad example for him. Now, your excellency, according to the doctrines of filial piety and as a disciple of Confucius, knows the duties which a parent or grandparent sustains to his child, you must see that I cannot break that engagement."

Earl Li reflected a moment. No matter how bright a Chinese is he is slow to appreciate a joke, and the viceroy at first took the matter in sober earnest. He said that if General Foster wanted to fish he could give him plenty of opportunities in China. "Why," said he, "there are beautiful lakes inside the palace grounds. They are full of all sorts of rare and gamy fish. If you will stay I will get you permission to fish there."

"Ah?" said Secretary Foster, "but how about my grandson and the doctrines of Confucius?"

"Oh," replied Li Hung Chang, who by this time had come to see that General Foster was joking with him, "if you don't want to, we can't make you stay, but we would like to keep you just as long as possible." He did keep General Foster as long as he could, and he was especially anxious because he thought that Foster's staying in China would make the path of his own son, Lord Li, more smooth, and might possibly save him from death. Lord Li, the viceroy's son, you remember, had been ordered by the emperor to go to

Formosa and hand over the island to the Japanese. Li Hung Chang feared that his boy might be hurt or killed during the journey to Formosa and he asked General Foster to go along and protect him. General Foster replied that he could do nothing in such a case, and that Lord Li was amply able to take care of himself. But Li Hung Chang answered: "No, general, he is not. Li is but a boy and he has not had the experience you have had. You have been a general in your army and you would know how to advise him. Now, won't you go as an especial favor to me?"

A request of this kind, of course, General Foster could not refuse. He acceded to it, but only on the condition that if he took Li's son to Formosa that he should have the right to go back to the United States and keep his appointment with his grandson as soon as he returned. To this Li Hung Chang agreed, and both men were happy.

Frank G. Carpenter

NOTES FROM KANE COUNTY.

GEORGETOWN, Kane Co.,
Utah, July 14, 1896.

I thought a line from our little village might not be amiss. Our little burg is located in the northeast corner of Kane county, just over the line from Garfield county. We are surrounded by high hills covered with dwarf cedar and pine. I hardly know how to describe our situation better unless I quote from a toast given by a citizen of one of our sister towns at a Pioneer celebration a few years ago; referring to the town in which he lived he said: "Cannonville among the hills; people industrious and owe no bills; they take no medicine but Johnson's pills."

Our climate is mild; the season thus far has been dry and windy; our hay crop is good but other crops rather light.

Our village is small and inhabitants few but we have many of the conveniences enjoyed by larger towns, viz., day and Sunday schools for the children, Sunday meetings for all, as well as other organizations for the instruction of the young.

We also have a semi-weekly mail which brings us the DESERET NEWS regularly. I have been a continuous subscriber to it (as your books will show) for nearly forty years and have not become tired of it yet. When the political storm burst upon our people, quite a few thought they would give up the NEWS and subscribe for some other paper that was more radical or had more fight in it, but the more sensible ones soon tired of that and came back to the NEWS again. My sentiments and views so accord with those expressed in its columns that I don't feel like I could do without it, and while there is so much hurrahing for this man, that and the other, I say hurrah for the old DESERET NEWS, which has so nobly defended our rights and has visited our homes constantly for nearly half a century.

By the by we have room in this part of the country for a few more families if there are any who are tired of hustle and city life and would like to retire where they would not see or be seen very often.

SHIOP.