

NEWS OF THE SPORTING WORLD AT HOME AND ABROAD

WILL JEFFRIES EVER BE BEATEN.

W. W. Naughton, Sporting Authority, is of the Opinion He Will Not.

CHAMPIONS ARE VERY SCARCE.

Dearth of Prize-Ring Recruits Is Remarkable in View of the Enormous Amount Attacked to the Game.

It may be, that the men who handle pugilistic attractions do not bother about taking stock at the end of one year or the beginning of another. If they do follow this useful mercantile custom it must have dawned on them by this time that there is a very thin array of wares with which to carry on business. What is worse, there is virtually no material—either raw or manufactured—to replenish from.

On this subject, W. W. Naughton, a sporting writer of authority on the coast, has the following interesting comment:

This dearth of prize-ring recruits is remarkable in view of the enormous which attach to the practice of flatu- cious. It is evident, in fact, that the old axiom of supply being regulated by demand doesn't hold good in pugilistic pursuits.

It has frequently been shown that a capable fighter can command an income that makes the salary of a bank president look like a miserable pittance. Jimmy Britt, in all probability, has cleared \$50,000 by his ring achievements during the past year. His last fight— that with Battling Nelson—brought him \$12,000. There were 20 three-minute rounds, so that Britt received \$200 per minute for the services rendered. Jimmy may demur to this way of figuring, on the plea that the one minute's rest between the rounds caused him to spend an additional 15 minutes in the ring, but in all conscience he shouldn't expect to be paid for the time when he wasn't working.

Nowhere is the scarcity of championship timber more marked than in the heavyweight division. James J. Jeffries became king of this class nearly six years ago by defeating Fitzsimmons at Coney Island, New York, and he has defended his title successfully on six occasions since then.

It can safely be said that no known heavyweight has triumphed as often as Jeffries in bona fide championship events. Jim Corbett, the first of the Queensberry champions, carried his laurels safely through an engagement after defeating John L. Sullivan. Reference is made to his affair with Charlie Mitchell in Florida. Fitzsimmons, who took the title from Corbett at Carson, lost it to Jeffries at his first attempt to defend it.

In order to maintain his prestige, and incidentally to keep the hot boiling, Jeffries has been compelled to give turn engagements to the majority of his opponents. Sharkey, Kublin, Corbett and Fitzsimmons have each faced the hammerman twice in the ring.

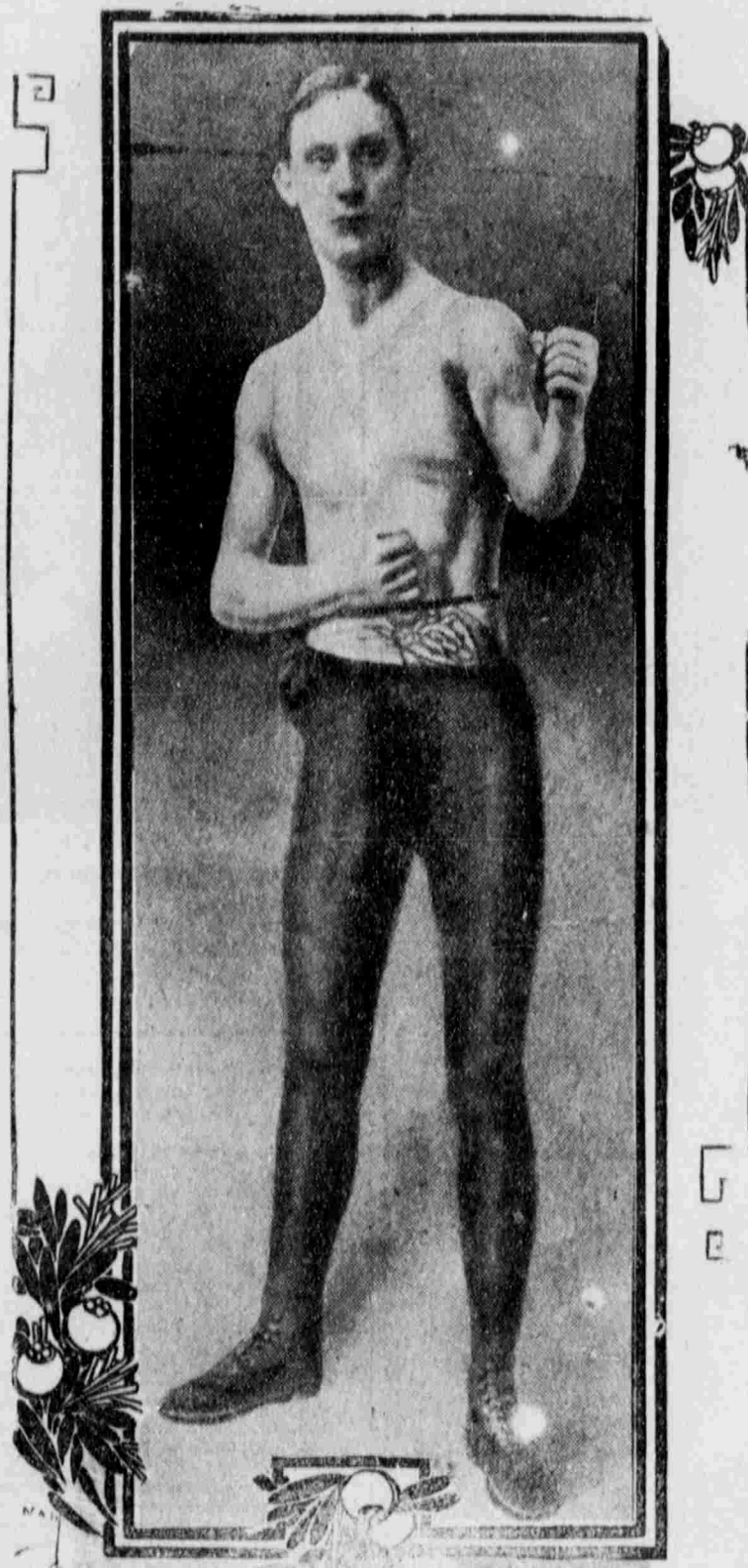
The only new man Jeffries was called upon to meet since defeating Fitzsimmons in June, 1895, was Jack Munroe. Poor Jack was a championship candidate of mushroom growth, and he proved the most helpless of Tumble Tom Jeffries was ever called upon to smash at. The Munroe incident is still fresh in the minds of the sporting public, and it also stands as a warning to the promoters not to be too ready to lead incompetent heavyweights up to Jeffries' shambles for slaughter.

There is no doubt that a wonderful physique has had much to do in enabling Jeffries to retain his fighting powers. It can hardly be claimed for him that he is a clever fighter, yet he is still at his very best as a ringster, while following who started out as a fighting game about the time that Jeffries made his debut are on the shelf. The two most noted instances are Sharkey and Kublin. They were rivals of Jeffries, and formidable ones, too, but they are now in virtual retirement, while Jeffries is still daring the world.

There is evidence to show that Kublin and Sharkey have been sent to the wall by much better fighters. Jeffries' body punches at Coney Island went far toward unfitting the sailor for active service, while it was the Fitzsimmons left shift which was the cause of injury to Kublin at Madison Square. Another right here is where Jeffries' marvelous physique comes in. No one supposes for a moment that the big champion has escaped all the blows of the famous fight he has been a party to. He has felt the Fitzsimmons flits, the Kublin flits and the Sharkey flits on both face and body, but his massive jaw and his powerful frame seem to be a little susceptible of injury as in his 'preliminary days of the hammering.

We chose a referee and Battling Jabez White, the English lightweight champion, is anxious to try conclusions in the roped arena with Jimmy Britt of 'Prisco. White is said to be a hard fighter, but somewhat slow, and a contest between him and Britt should prove interesting to the followers of the sport.

ENGLISH PUGILIST.



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HOW NELSON WHIPPED TOM TILDEN.

During the week a number of Chicago sporting men were discussing the Britt-Nelson fight and the trouble between Murphy and Battling, when the conversation suddenly shifted to the startling manner in which the 'Durable Dane,' as 'Wally' Munroe calls him, has climbed to the top of the pugilistic ladder. His victory over 'Spider' Welch, in this city, was stalked of, and then some of his early fights were discussed.

'Billy and I knew Nelson was a high fighter a year and a half ago,' broke in Al Flynn, a great friend of the ill-used Dane.

'Let me tell you how we made the discovery. You remember big 'Dare Devil' Tilden, the bike rider? Well, Tilden's friends were blowing around that the cyclist could lick half the prizefighters in the world, and although a clever boxer had never earned any fame with his fists. They said he could whip Jeffries rough and tumble, and when we suggested that we had a tough little fighter that was not afraid to put on the gloves with big Tilden, they laughed at the mention of Nelson's name, and said: 'Why, 'Dare Devil' would wipe the earth with that poor kid.'

'So one word brought on another and we went ahead and arranged a private match. We let only our immediate friends in on the bout, and when it came off there were about ten of us present, and of the lot fully half were theatrical people.

'We chose a referee and Battling

and 'Dare Devil' agreed to go six rounds to a decision.

'When they stripped, 'Bat' looked just about one-half Tilden's size. The bike rider weighed 165 pounds and his muscles stood out like a Hercules. Nelson weighed about 127 pounds, and he certainly seemed in for a good beating. I kind of weakened myself when I saw them strip for action.

'I'll never forget that fight, nor will I ever forget the little Dane's game-ness. For four rounds Tilden nearly murdered him. The floor was slippery and the big fellow had provided himself with tennis shoes. Nelson wore fighting shoes and every time Tilden hit him Bat would slide about three feet.

'Oh, what a grueling that boy took. Tilden was clever and could hit a fierce wallop. With his long arms he kept pumping them into Nelson until he had his face a sight. But Bat kept coming for more all the time and managed to land a few good blows himself.

'At the end of the fourth round we begged him to quit when he came to his corner. I really thought he would go to the hospital, but he merely smiled through his half-closed eyes and blood besmeared features and said: 'Why, I'm just getting good, boys, watch my next move.'

'So we let him have his own way and just before the fifth round began some thoughtful person threw a few handfuls of sand or ashes. I've forgotten which, but the effect, gave the Battler a foothold and you never saw such a wild cat in your life. Biff, bang and bang again in the same way he went at the 'Dare Devil,' who by the way, was now not half so devilish as at the beginning of the fight.

'Tilden fought back gamely, but the

title of battle had turned in the Dane's favor and the bike rider wore a worried look. This only egged Nelson on, and at the end of the round he had the fellow pretty nabby.

'They both went to the center of the ring, which was only a chalk line affair, fairly fresh for the last round, but Nelson looked as though he had been run through a thrashing machine. 'At it they went like a pair of game cocks, with Tilden still playing for the face and Nelson boring in and landing any place he could get on the stomach.

'At once Nelson braced himself, and, as Tilden raised his guard to protect his face, Battling let go a right swing. It was a haymaker for Tilden, and it landed squarely on the pit of the stomach.

'Dare Devil's feet went up and down he went clean on his back, his head striking the floor with a thump. Nelson stood over him, expecting him to rise, when he might put on the finishing touches, but 'Dare Devil' was dead to the world, and did not come to until we were half scared to death. 'And still they say Nelson does not carry a knock-out punch.'

GREGGAINS HAS TROUBLE.

Newspaper Man Tells Him He Cannot Have Fight, and He Can't.

Poor Alex Greggains is certainly up against it in San Francisco when it comes to making matches. No sooner has he one arranged for his club than it falls through. Greggains holds the January date for his club and unless he brings off a fight in this month he will lose his date, as Morris Levy holds the date for February, which, by the way, has already been given to Corbett and Nelson.

Greggains seems to wait too long before securing his attractions, and at the last moment all kinds of straws are laid in his path. He had hoped to get the Corbett-Nelson bout and that failed, then he secured Martin Hart to meet Jack Johnson. A sporting editor of a San Francisco paper who was 'sore' on Billy Pierce, the manager of Hart, sent word to Greggains that he would 'knock' the match as long as Pierce had anything to do with it, and Alex was forced to declare that fight off.

Then he turned to Gans and Gardner, and the fight has been steadily signed, and kept his date with Gans, and now Greggains is endeavoring to match Nell and Murphy. Whether he will succeed in pulling this bout off remains to be seen. He has been so very unfortunate of late that not until the day of the fight is there any certainty of the same taking place before his lease on the city expires.

He's a pretty busy fellow that the Gans bout dropped through, says Otto Fito, for, despite the warnings from experts all over the country, just as sure as I am writing this article, just so sure the day is fast approaching when Gans and Hartford will kill the game in San Francisco if allowed to carry on their work out there.

Just how Hartford manages to get matches in a place like San Francisco, where his record is as well known as it is in another city in the country, has been a mystery for a year or two. What power he has behind the scenes makes it possible for him to secure engagements. Then, too, the Frisco public seem to turn out to his fights, and nine out of ten are pre-arranged affairs. The day is fast approaching when Gans and Hartford will kill the game in San Francisco if allowed to carry on their work out there.

GOOD RACING PROMISED.

Gentlemen's Driving Club to Promote Driving Events Here.

The week's doings among horsemen developed some matters of interest and importance to local lovers of the sport of horse racing.

Unless plans sadly miscarry, we are to have four days of events under the auspices of the newly organized Western Racing Association. The dates for this city, through the earnest work of W. S. Jones of this city, are July 15, 17, 18 and 19.

Mr. Jones, who has leased the state fair track for the coming season, stated that some of the fastest animals in this part of the country would be here to enter the races, and local turf devotees will see some of the best events they ever witnessed.

Ever since Mr. Jones secured the track he has worked diligently in the interest of the new association and the turf generally, and his efforts have not been in vain. The whole system of racing has been brought to the front and the sport has been given the same way after contests with him.

Sutton says the San Francisco player in a local tournament of 500 points, averaged over 15. Runs of over 200 he has often made. He plays close billiards.

Sutton tells interesting stories of the French billiardist, among whom he played not long ago. He says in Paris one rarely sees a good game of 15-inch ball-line after dark, as the Frenchmen go to much dinner they are incapacitated for good play.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Inward and Outward.

The inward effects of humors are worse than the outward. They weaken all the organs, inflame the mucous membrane, cause catarrhal troubles, and render the whole system more susceptible to the curative power of Ballard's Sarsaparilla eradicates all humors and cures all their effects.

It's the great alterative and tonic medicine whose merit has been everywhere established.

Accept no substitute.

GODBE PILLS.

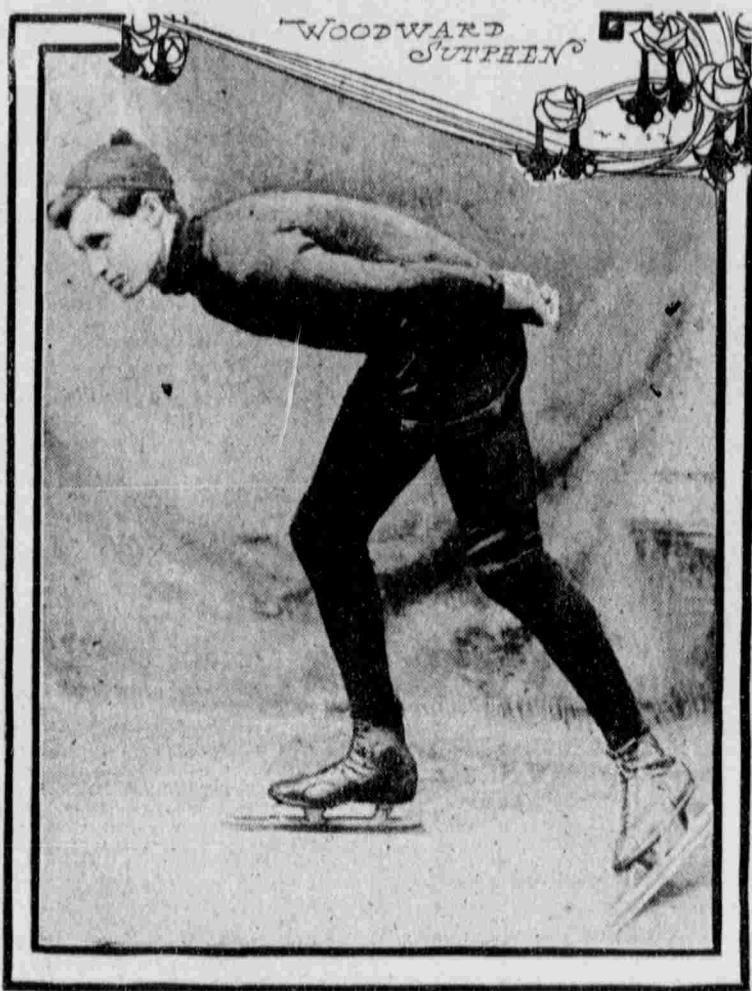
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And see how much your fuel cost you. If you've been using 'That Good Coal' you may feel that you've reached the lowest possible price of economy. If you are using something else, just remember that we have our four yards well stocked up.

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FAST YOUNG SKATER.



That Woodward Stuphen is a 'comer' as a speed skater has been demonstrated by the improvement he has shown in his races this season.

This boy, who is a protégé of Morris Wood, the amateur champion, is rapidly coming to the front. Until this season all his skating was confined to lakes and ponds in and around New Jersey.

This year he has competed in three or four races in Brooklyn, and each time he has shown an improvement. At present he is eligible in the class B events, but it is only a matter of a short time, skating enthusiasts say, when he will be fighting the class A men for supremacy.

STARS WILL COMPETE.

In the Amateur Billiard Championship Contests This Month.

Official entries for the national amateur billiard championship tournament, which is to begin at the Chicago Athletic association Jan. 30, have begun to come in, and already more names have been received than is necessary for the successful carrying out of the tournament plans.

The list of entries now in the hands of Chairman Louis M. Hamburger of the tournament committee establishes the representative character of the coming contest. Four of the leading eastern stars, Champion Poggenburg, Gardner, Norris and Stark, have been heard from, and the entry of Wilson P. Foss is expected daily. Wright and Sigourney of San Francisco and Conklin of Chicago are among the number.

The matter of prizes is occupying the committee's attention just now. Two eastern firms have asked to be allowed to offer challenge trophies worth in the neighborhood of \$1,000, which should be the property of the successful entrant until another wrests it from him in contest.

The offer savors too much of an advertisement, and the C. A. A. will turn them both down, in all likelihood. A challenge cup offered under proper conditions would be accepted.

The present emblem, the gold cup offered by the Brooklyn Eagle, must be won three times before it becomes anybody's property, and as a new winner of the cup is discovered every year, it is doubtful if anyone ever succeeds in carrying off the trophy.

George Sutton, the armless billiardist, who was in the city last week, says unreservedly that if Wright of San Francisco is on his stride during the amateur tourney he will carry away the honors with the greatest ease. Wright has been causing Spink, the well known professional, to lose his wits over the table in disgust at losing to the amateur expert, and other topnotchers have felt the same way after contests with him.

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Pleasant and Most Effective.

T. J. Chambers, Ed. Vindicator, Liberty, Texas, writes Dec. 2, 1902: 'With pleasure and unhesitatingly I bear testimony to the curative power of Ballard's Horehound Syrup. I have used it in my family and can cheerfully affirm it is the most effective and pleasant remedy for coughs and colds I have ever used.'

Sund and \$1.00. Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept.

EARLY HISTORY OF NATIONAL GAME.

Its Origin and Evolution to Its Present Standing Reviewed.

BEGAN IN NEW YORK CITY.

The Game is as Thoroughly American As Cricket is English—First Rules in 1845

Lovers of baseball, the national game, will find it interesting and instructive to peruse the review of the great game by A. G. Spalding. He says:

'The American game of baseball is distinctly an American sport, of American origin, and peculiarly adapted to the temperament and characteristics of the American people. From time immemorial, games of ball of different kinds have been played, and nearly every country has adopted some ball game, suited to its needs and conditions.'

'While there is more or less of a family resemblance in all games of ball, I consider baseball quite as much American in its origin, development, and evolution, as cricket is of English origin, both being recognized as the national games of their respective countries. Some authorities claim that baseball came from the old English juvenile game of 'Rounders,' but I am decidedly of the opinion that it was a natural evolution from the old colonial game of One Old Cat. One Old Cat was played by three boys—a thrower, catcher and batsman. The latter, after striking the ball, ran to a goal about thirty feet distant, and by returning to the batsman's position without being put out, counted one run or 'tally.'

After referring to the game of One Old Cat, Mr. Spalding says that New York City is really the home of the game.

In 1845, the first baseball club was organized in New York City, known as the Knickerbocker club. This club formulated and published the first rules of the game in that year. Five years later the Gotham club of New York was organized, and in 1854 the Eagles and Empires of New York came into the game and matches between these clubs were played on the Elysian fields of Hoboken, N. J., and attracted considerable public interest. The Knickerbocker club continued to make the rules of the game until 1857, when a convention of ball players was held in New York City, which resulted in the permanent organization, in 1858, of the National Association of Base Ball Players, consisting of twenty-five charter club members, all from New York City and immediate vicinity. This original association made the playing rules and governed the game until 1871, when the first National Association of Professional Base Ball Players was organized, and since that time the professional element has formulated the playing rules and governed the game.

After going into minute details of the game's early history; how it grew and extended and flourished first in one city, then another, until many strong leagues were organized, Mr. Spalding concluded by saying:

'Baseball is the father or forerunner of athletic sports in the United States, which were practically unknown to this country before the Civil war. Forty years ago it was a discredit for a man to be seen with any kind of athletic implement, but now it is a badge of honor. Baseball was the spark that brought into action that natural, inborn Anglo-Saxon love of all kinds of athletic sports, and today the youth and young men of the United States can hold their own with the leading athletes of the world. There is today no greater moral and uplifting force influencing the youth of this country than athletics, when kept within reasonable bounds.

'Wellington said that the battle of Waterloo was won on the cricket fields of England; and President Roosevelt is credited with a somewhat similar statement that the battle of San Juan Hill was won on the baseball and football fields of America.'

'The spirit of the baseball has permeated into every part of our strenuous life; it exists in all business enterprises; it is seen in our president, in the cabinet, in Congress, in the pulpit, in the counting house, and factory, and if renewed energy is sought, fresh enthusiasm or inspiration required is any of these places. It can always be aroused by the utterance of these two well understood words—'Play ball!'

Uncle Sam's Growing Trade in the Orient

THE increase of the foreign trade of China has been marked in recent years, and in the opinion of the Rev. Dr. Arthur J. Brown of the Presbyterian board of foreign missions, is likely to play an important part in changing the attitude of the Chinese towards the western peoples. Dr. Brown made a careful study of the subject during his recent trip around the world, and talks interestingly of the Chinese foreign trade and of the part enjoyed in it by the United States. Year by year, he says, this foreign trade has increased, with the exception of the time of the Boxer outbreak. In 1899 the total foreign trade had reached 400,000,000 taels in half-wan tael equals 62 cents in American currency. In 1900, Boxer year, it dropped to 270,000,000 taels, but the following year it sprang to 438,000,000 taels, and in the two following years it advanced 310,000,000 taels.

The share of the United States in this business is larger than at first appears, because no inconsiderable part of our trade goes to China by way of England and Hongkong, and is credited to British totals, but American trade with China has vastly increased since 1900. We now sell the Chinese more cotton

goods than all other countries combined, and our sales of herons and oil and flour have also increased greatly in the past few years. There is corresponding increase along other lines also. The utility of the American locomotive has led to large sales in China. Dr. Brown deduces from his study of Chinese conditions that when American business men establish their own houses in China, instead of dealing as now through European and Chinese firms, it is not unreasonable to expect that the United States will outstrip its larger rivals, Great Britain and France; though it is one thing to ship foreign goods to China and quite another thing to control them after their arrival, for

the Chinese are disposed to manage that trade themselves and they know how to do it.

The influence of Japan is having more and more effect on China, and it has been recently said by the Rev. Samuel Cochran, who is stationed by the Presbyterian board at Hwai Yuen, in central China, that the Chinese are turning to Japan for their knowledge of western literature, science, history, politics, etc. In medicine, for example, Chinese textbooks are few and poor, but with a few months' study of the Japanese language, Chinese medical students gain access to the medical works of Japan, which are very good. Japan is a pivot point, says Mr. Cochran, and it is easy to see how a Christian Japan might Christianize the whole of eastern Asia. There is also to be noted a new movement among the young men of China, which corresponds in some particulars to Nihilism in Russia. It is spreading revolutionary doctrines throughout China, and may be heard from in startling fashion before long. Christian missionaries are careful to hold aloof from the movement, which is political and in no sense religious.

Another Good Man Gone Wrong.

He neglected to take Foley's Kidney Cure at the first signs of kidney trouble, hoping it would wear away, and he was soon a victim of Bright's disease. There is danger in delay, but if Foley's Kidney Cure is taken at the first signs of kidney trouble, the kidneys are strengthened and you are soon sound and well. A. R. Bass of Morgantown, Ind., had to get up ten or twelve times in the night, and his face was covered with a severe headache and pain in the kidneys, and was cured by Foley's Kidney Cure. For sale by F. J. Hill Drug Co.

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