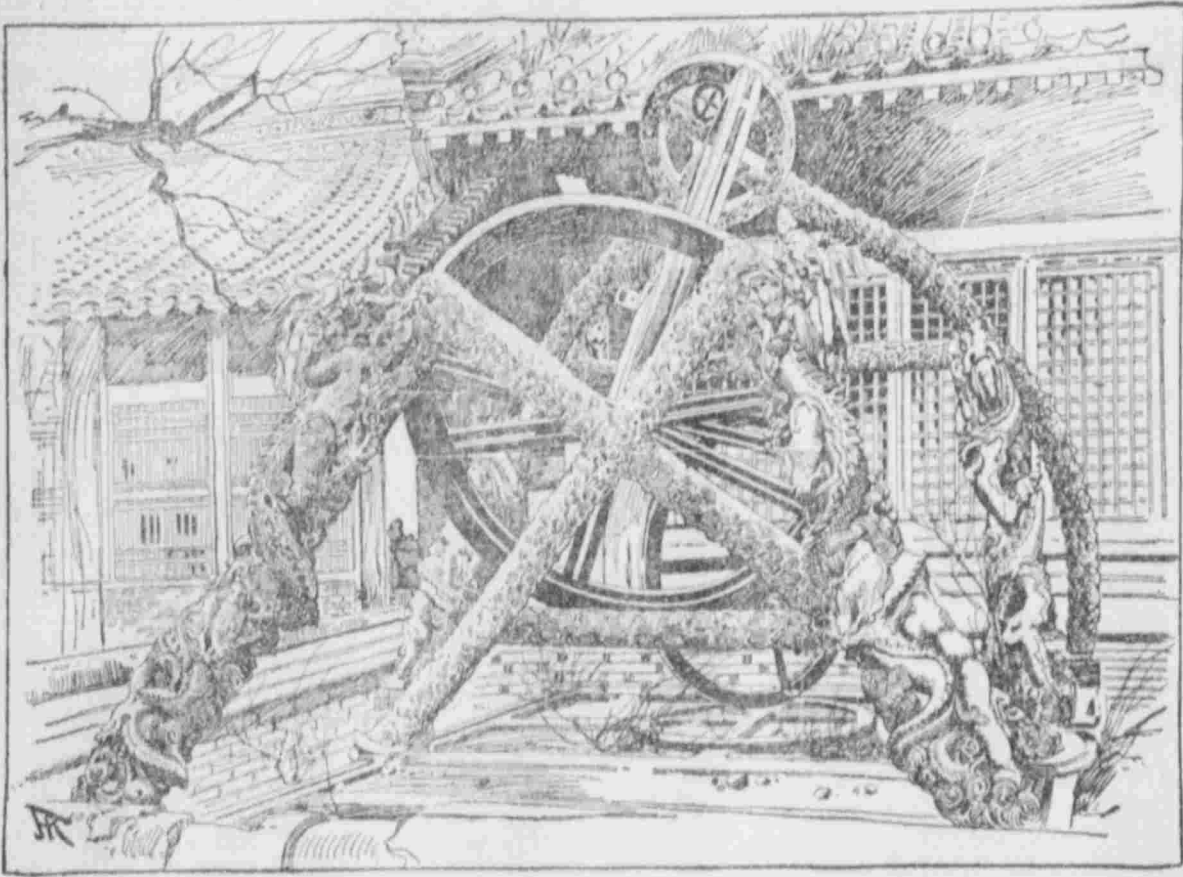


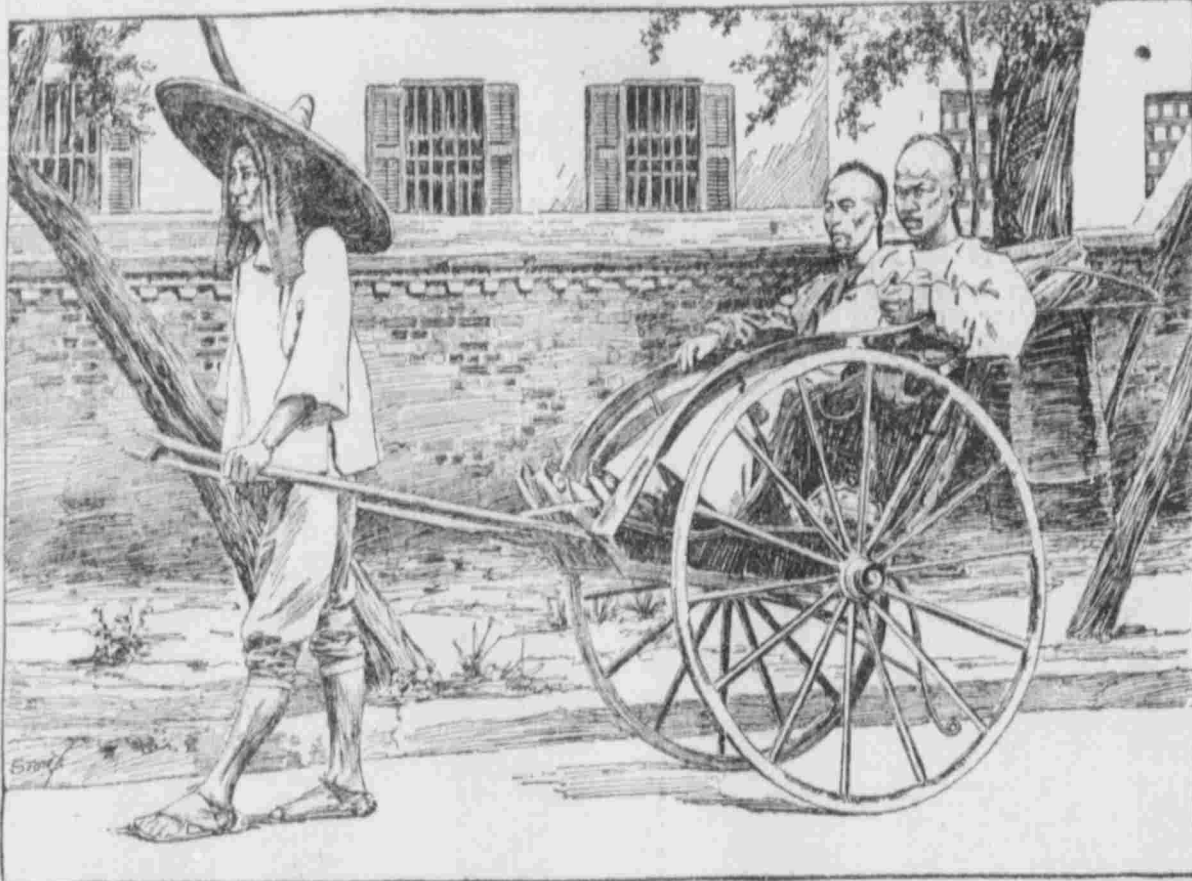
A PAGE OF PICTURES FROM CHINA.

AN ASTROLABE AND ARMILLARY SPHERE.



The great antiquity of China is impressed upon one by the collection of astronomical instruments in the old and disused observatory at Peking, which was founded more than 600 years ago. It is supposed, during the reign of the great Kubla Khan. The astronomer whom Kubla Khan brought with him at the time he conquered Peking declared that some of the instruments were more ancient than any they had ever observed and indicated great attainments by the Chinese astronomers.

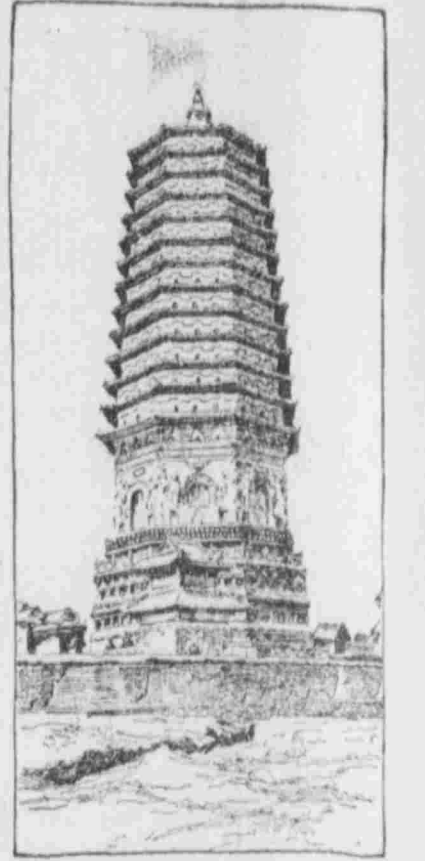
RIDING IN THE JINRIKISHA.



The customary conveyance in China varies according to the necessities of the occasion. When a mandarin is on a visit of ceremony, or when the foreign diplomats make their annual calls on the emperor, the palanquin is brought into use. The jinrikisha as a means of conveyance has been introduced in comparatively recent times, but is winning its way into popular favor. It might astonish many to be told that this man vehicle is the invention of an American, but such is said to be the case.

MAGNIFICENT MARBLE PAGODA IN PEKING.

The inner courts of Peking's Forbidden City are rich in marble palaces, bridges, pillared porticoes, corridors and fantastic pagodas, but few structures



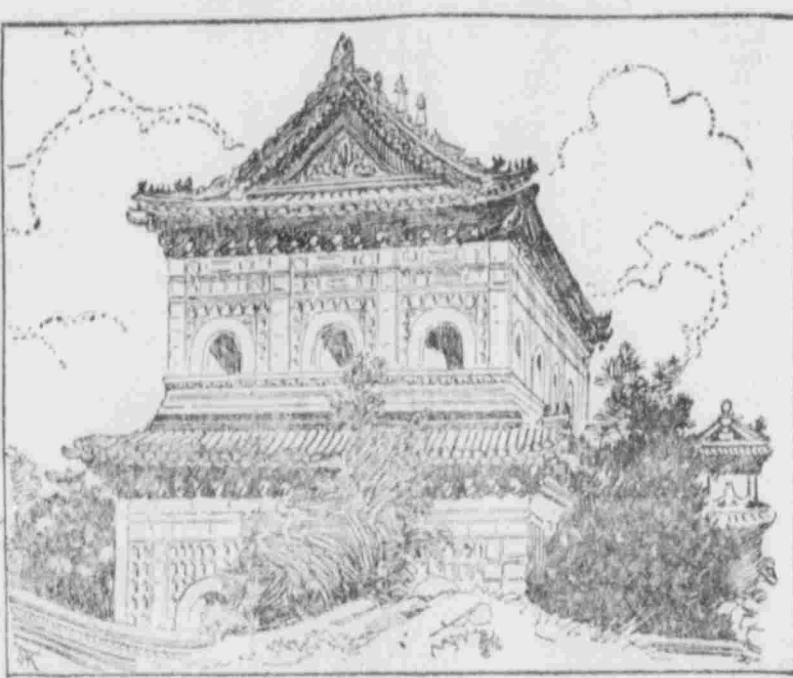
of ancient or modern times can surpass the beautiful marble pagoda of the Yu-chuan-shan, or Jade Spring Hill. From its summit and various outlooks extensive views are obtained of the city with its many walls and temples.

CHINESE PUNISHED BY THE CANGUE.



One of the most common punishments, usually used for the mildest offenses, is that of the cangue, which is a kind of portable pillory, as shown in the illustration. A square board about four feet across and two or three inches thick has a hole in the center, into which the culprit's neck is fitted. It opens with a hinge and is closed with a lock.

THE IMPERIAL PORCELAIN PALACE.



There are several magnificent structures in Peking within the wall that incloses the Purple Forbidden City, such as the Tranquil Palace of Heaven, into which no foreigner is allowed to enter, and not far from it the Palace of Earth's Repose, where the empress rules her little court and the Imperial harem is concealed. But none excels in beauty either the great Imperial palace or the Imperial Porcelain palace, both of which are fine buildings.

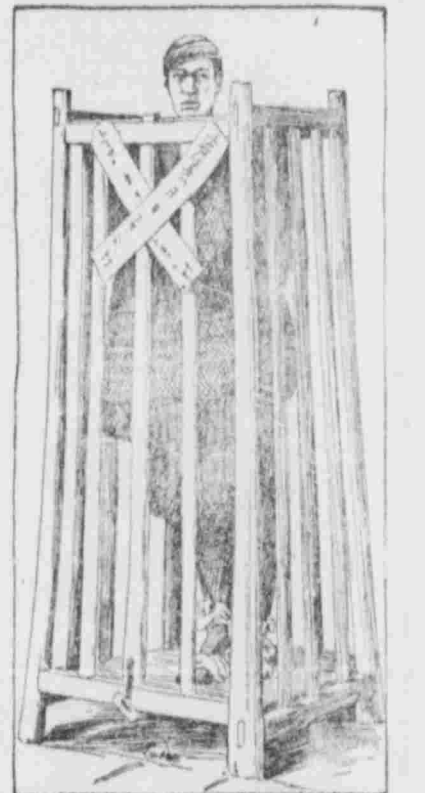
A GROUP OF CELESTIAL BEGGARS.



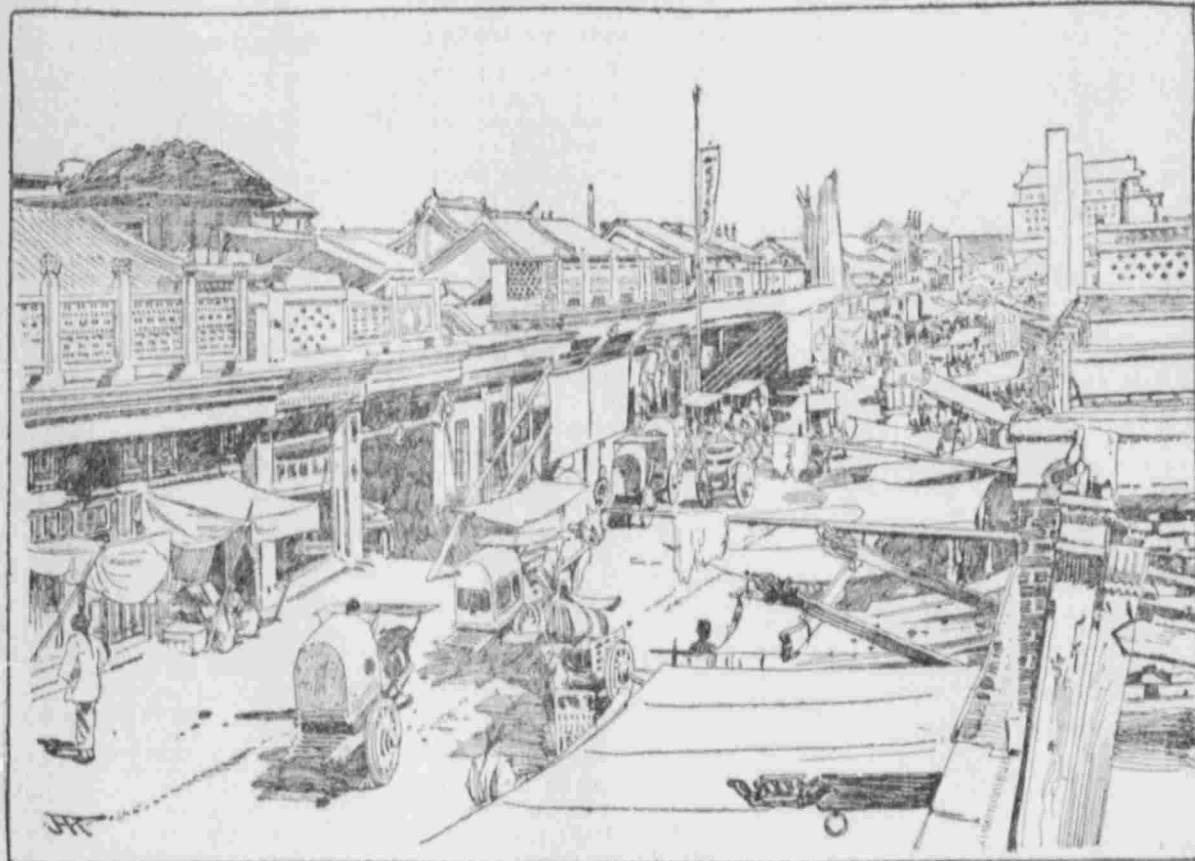
The professional beggar is an "institution" in China and may be seen everywhere. If there be a country where he is more of a nuisance than here, it is yet to be discovered. Children are maimed and blinded in infancy in order to render them objects of compassion, and the older sinners practice every art to extract from natives and strangers the coveted cash.

THE HEATHEN CHINESE IN A CAGE.

Always acting upon the supposition that an accused prisoner is guilty until proved innocent or until a pretty large bribe is forthcoming, the Chinese judge is very certain to administer punish-



THE "GREAT GATE" STREET OF PEKING.



All the gates of Peking are closed from sunset to sunrise, but from sunrise to sunset they are completely blocked with traffic of every description. There are long processions of creaking carts piled high with goods from the coast, caravans of camels, mules and horses from the Tartar country and the great trade routes that center here from Siberia and Mongolia. The main thoroughfare is by way of the Ch'en-meu, or great gate, in the outer wall.

A JOSS STONE NEAR NINGPO.



In China, it is said, the poorer the people of a village the more gods they have, as in this country the poorest man keeps the largest pack of dogs. The joss, or family idol, is universally represented to the number of millions, but sometimes a family is so very poor that it cannot afford an idol of its own, and when any calamity threatens or a death occurs it borrows a god of a neighbor. The josses are supposed to be very jealous of each other.

ment quite out of proportion to the crime. He will not err on the side of mercy at all events, and if the victim escape with no heavier infliction than the "cage," which permits him only to stand upright, he is remarkably fortunate. Some of the cages are so small that the miserable wretch inside can neither stand, sit up or lie down, but has to crouch, like a frog, in a position not at all conducive to comfort.

ONE OF THE "FINEST" IN CHINA.

The Chinese policeman is nothing if not insolent, as a glance at his stolid countenance will indicate. He is inferior in physique to his brother "cops" of other lands and is said to be coward-



ly; but when armed with the majesty of the law is very valiant in arresting those who have been so unlucky as to offend the judges and drag them like dumb cattle into court.

CHINESE CRUELTY.

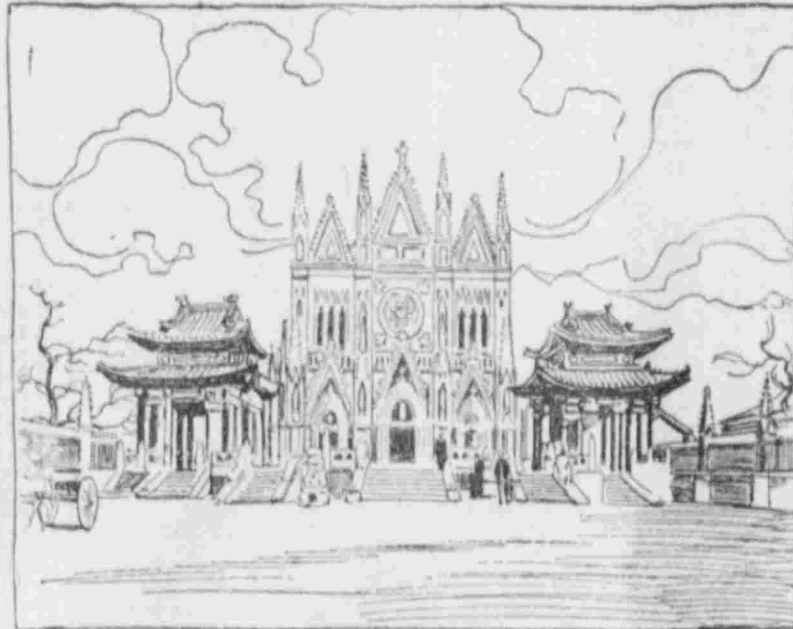
If it may be said that the Chinese are a mild and inoffensive people, patient and long suffering, it must also be admitted that they are insensible to suffering and cruel in their punishments. Even the slightest infractions of their laws are met with terrible severity and, as, contrary to the American code an accused person is always believed guilty unless the judge can be convinced by heavy bribes of his innocence, it goes hard with the one who falls into the clutches of the law courts. The Chinese still practice those horrible tortures of the middle ages, such as thrusting lighted splinters into the flesh, breaking the bones with clubs and crucifixion.

THE FRENCH LEGATION AT PEKING.



A plan of the city of Peking shows a vast exterior wall intersected by several interior ones, dividing the space into four well defined sections. The exterior wall is pierced by 13 gates, and it is near the south gate of the Tartar City that all the foreign legations are located, each surrounded by a wall. The French embassy is quartered on Legation street, which bisects the square between the postoffice and the Peking club.

CATHEDRAL AT PEKING DESTROYED BY BOXERS.



The Catholic cathedral at Peking, which has been reported burned by the Boxers, was one of the most imposing of the foreign buildings in the Chinese capital. It was located in a slightly elevated situation and flanked by two Imperial pavilions, which served to draw upon it the fury of the mob, already incensed at the great success of the missionaries in converting their fellow countrymen to the Christian faith.

ENTRANCE TO THE BRITISH LEGATION.



The largest of the foreign legations, where the ministers accredited to the court of Peking resided, was that of Great Britain, which also occupied the most commanding situation and is reported to have afforded a temporary refuge to the unfortunate foreigners who at the latest uprising were caught within the walls.

POINTS FROM EVERYWHERE.

The new motor fire engine of the Paris municipality is doing excellent work. It carries six men and travels at the rate of 15 miles an hour. Moscow has the largest hospital in Europe, with 7,000 beds. There are 96

napkins are changed frequently, and this undoubtedly serves to keep the mouthpiece of the transmitters in good sanitary condition. Cuba is the greatest sugar producing country in the world, and its normal crop is about 1,000,000 tons. Speaking of queer names, the Kansas

City Journal notes that Holington, Kan., has a well known citizen who signs himself Vest Coats, and who ought to lay himself aside during the hot weather. Mention is also made of the marriage in Grundy county of Miss Fickle and Mr. Coy. In the little town of Lee, Conn., are

five citizens whose ages aggregate 411 years. They are Captain Norton, who will be 104 years old in August; Edwin Sturges, 85; E. P. Tanner, 88, and John McLaughlin and E. L. Melins, who are 82 years old. An English paper relates that the rector of Oxford university recently re-

ceived the following inquiry from a resident of Plymouth: "How much would I have to pay for the education of my son in your university? Let me know if I shall have to pay more in case my son, besides rowing, should wish to learn to read and write." A novel method of trying to escape

paying rates was described by Major Skinner to the London school board recently. Any person, he said, could form a religious sect of his own family, call it by any name he liked, get his house registered at a cost of half a crown, and he would then be quit of all rates while the sect lasted.