

The Portugal of Asia

All About Macao, the First Foreign Colony of the Western Pacific.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

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Macao, Dec. 1, 1900.—Macao is the smallest and eldest of all the European colonies of the Far East. There were Portuguese traders here sixty-five years after Columbus discovered America, and from then until now this little peninsula, lying off the coast of South China, has practically belonged to Portugal. It is the father of the colonial Pacific, and, although worn out with vice and old age, it is one of the interesting spots of Asia. The Portuguese possessions altogether are not more than four square miles. You could crowd them into sixteen 100-acre farms. They consist of some small islands and Macao. Macao does not cover more than a thousand acres. It is a rocky point of land jutting out from the mouth of the Pearl river, within forty miles of Hongkong and eighty-eight miles of Canton. There are steamers from Macao to these places every day except Sunday. The boats are about as good as those of the Ohio river, and they do excellent business. Every boat has a guard of Portuguese soldiers to defend the vessel if it is attacked by pirates, and to prevent the third-class passengers from taking possession of it in case they should be pirates in disguise. The docks are so arranged that the third-class passengers can be cut off from the first and second-class by a network of iron bars.

ON THE MACAO STEAMERS.

I came from Hongkong on the steamer, traveling first-class. During the voyage I went below to have a look at the third-class and found myself in the midst of as rough people as I have seen on this side of the world. Some were gambling, others were smoking one another this way and that, and the faces of all were those of rowdies. Macao is the most vicious city of the Far East. It has three great specialties: Its opium factory, its lotteries, and its gambling halls. Many of our passengers were Chinese on their way to buck the tiger in the fan-tan houses and to indulge in the other vices which are forbidden by law in the English settlement of Hongkong. There were rich gamblers as well as poor ones. Among the Europeans on the upper deck were a few Chinese in gorgeous silks, and with them flashy dressed Chinese girls, who, I fear, were not so good as they should be. The powder and rouge on their faces was one-sixteenth of an inch thick, their eyebrows were painted and I could see from their little satin shoes, with toes as sharp as a needle, that they had the celebrated "golden lotus" feet. Clad in the finest silks they hobbled about over the deck, the rude wind blowing their long sarong skirts to and fro and wrapping their full, rich silk pantaloons about their bandaged legs.

IN THE PORTUGAL OF ASIA.

A ride of four hours brought us into the city of Macao, one of the most beautiful of the bay of Naples. The harbor is a crescent, walled with houses which might have been lifted up from the streets of Lisbon and dropped out here in China. They are built in Portuguese style, and painted in all the colors of the rainbow. The walls are bright red, sky blue, rose pink, gray, yellow or glaring white. The roofs are of red tiles. The buildings are constructed with arcades or colonades separating their walls from the roadway, so that you can walk almost anywhere and avoid the tropical sun. Many of the houses have bars over their windows and doors. They look like the houses of the East, but they were originally so arranged to keep the girls in, after the idea of Portuguese seclusion. I have seen similar windows in the cities of Portugal, Spain, South America. They are to be found in Pernambuco, Bahia and Rio de Janeiro. Macao is as old as any of the Brazilian cities, and it has all the Portuguese customs of centuries ago. It has communicated these to the Chinese parts of the town, so that even the celestials bar their doors, the most ordinary door being made of a potted ladder which moves back and forth into the walls and is locked there by pins at night. These ladder doors are black and so are the bars to the windows.

BOLDIERS, PORTIFICATIONS AND PIRATES.

Macao is built upon hills. The whole peninsula is a mass of rocks with a thin coating of earth, a part of which is covered with houses. The houses run up hill and down, and the tops of the hills are guarded by forts. Macao has as many hills as Rome and more forts. The forts were built to keep off the pirates. Piracy is common in China today. There are pirates operating near here now and one of the wealthiest of the Portuguese residents told me the other day that he hoped I would ask the official of Canton to send his men and drive them out. The Portuguese and Chinese are at odds.

ALL EYES ON HIM INAUGURATION DAY.

Fight for Leadership of the Line Ends in Choice of General F. V. Greene.



General Francis V. Greene will be the most prominent figure in the parade at Washington on inauguration day. General Greene, who worked hard in the campaign that resulted in McKinley's re-election, has accepted the post of honor in the parade and the entire responsibility for the success or failure of the national procession to the scene of the inauguration ceremonies will rest on his shoulders.

order. The city is as clean as a new pin. The roads are smoother than the asphalt streets of our national capital and as beautiful as those of Central Park. About the harbor runs a wide boulevard shaded by banyan trees, the branches of which interlock overhead. The water is kept black by waste oil from the ships, and there are no seats in the water. The roads leading up the hills into the city are paved with stone, and there are no seats in the water. The roads leading up the hills into the city are paved with stone, and there are no seats in the water. The roads leading up the hills into the city are paved with stone, and there are no seats in the water.

CHAFFEE'S BOMB AROUSES KAISER.

Actions of the American Commander Bitterly Resented by German General.



Serious complications are likely to arise through the stern refusal of General Chaffee to countenance the German method of looting in China. Count von Waldersee has appealed to the Kaiser against the interference of the American leader and Washington has been asked to instruct Chaffee to mind his own business. As Chaffee has the support of the American people in his action the Germans are trying to unite the rest of the allies against the Americans and the oft-predicted split in the allied camp once seemed imminent.

dam, over which you glide in your jinriksha as on a pair of velvet shoes. There is not a stone nor a rut to be found anywhere. The roads are made and kept in order by human labor. Horses are as few in Macao as in Venice. The chief animal employed is the human animal, that queer two-legged bird without feathers. The dirt carts are pulled by men, the jinrikshas have human drivers, and every day is pushed or pulled by men or women. Much of the dirt for the roads is carried in baskets. The most common carriers are the women, each of whom is loaded with two half bushel baskets full of stone or earth, which she bears along upon the ends of a pole which rests on her shoulders. The average wages for women are about 5 cents a day, and an old man told me human muscle is cheaper than mule muscle. The stamping and pressing down of the road, in done by the women, each of whom is loaded with two half bushel baskets full of stone or earth, which she bears along upon the ends of a pole which rests on her shoulders. The average wages for women are about 5 cents a day, and an old man told me human muscle is cheaper than mule muscle. The stamping and pressing down of the road, in done by the women, each of whom is loaded with two half bushel baskets full of stone or earth, which she bears along upon the ends of a pole which rests on her shoulders. The average wages for women are about 5 cents a day, and an old man told me human muscle is cheaper than mule muscle.

THE OLDEST CATHEDRAL IN ASIA.

Macao was for centuries the center of Christianity in Asia. The troubles which the missionaries are now having with the Chinese, and especially the Roman Catholics, call attention to the fact that right here was where the Christians began the first work. They had missionaries here before there was a church on the North American continent. I spent an hour the other day in wandering through the ruins of a great cathedral which was constructed here 15 years before the Pilgrims first set foot on Plymouth Rock. This was the church of Saint Paul, founded in 1602 and burned down by a fire in 1865. The church was a masterpiece of architecture, with a wide leading up granite steps to a platform 100 feet high brings you to the site of the cathedral. There is a court in front of it flanked with stone columns, and the whole is covered with a mosaic of the most beautiful of the church, adorned with life-sized statues of the saints in bronze and with the carvings of angels and devils in granite.

AN INCENSE FACTORY.

I wandered for some time about the court. It is now grass grown and given up to the Chinese. Indeed, its condition is such that it is hardly fit for the missionaries have had in Christianity since the Christian worshipers of 300 years ago passed are trays filled with incense sticks spread out to dry, in order that they may be used in worshipping the heathen gods in the Chinese temples. The platform was covered with these yellow sticks, some as big around as a lead pencil and others as large as a knitting needle. Some are straight and others are spiral shape, with a pin wheel on one end. On the fourth of July, there is an incense factory beside the church, and its workmen use the platform as a drying ground. Next to the church rises the great fort of Saint Paul, an enormous mass of stone masonry, so built that it commands the city for miles. It, too, has seen its best days. The many soldiers which it once held have passed away, and it is fast crumbling to ruins.

A CATHOLIC CITY.

The Macao of today is a Catholic city. It has a number of good churches and one large cathedral. I attended church in the latter one Sunday. The structure covers more than a quarter of an acre and its audience room has a beautifully arched ceiling at least seventy-five feet above the floor. The interior is finished in white, the woodwork being beautifully carved. The confessionals are black, trimmed with gold, and the altar is a mass of silver virgins and angels looking out over Im-

mense silver candlesticks, each of which has its blazing light. Crystal chandeliers hang from the ceiling, their hundreds of prismatic pendants shining like diamonds under the rays of the candles, as the Chinese collide moves from one to the other with a splendid lighting them. There were no seats in the church. The floor was filled with kneeling figures. Hundreds of women in dark gowns with dark shawls draped like cowls about their heads knelt there like an audience of nuns. Among them were Portuguese men, dressed in black, and in and out, going to and fro through the crowd and later

TOBACCO WOMEN OF MACAO.

Later on I visited the tobacco factories. Some of these in Macao are large employing hundreds of women and girls. Everything is done by hand. The women squat on the floor and pull the leaves from the stems and sort them into round baskets. I asked about wages, and found that a good, likely girl could make 6 cents in eleven hours.

THE CHINAMAN'S CUE.

He Always Shaves, but Why Does He Do So?

Why does the Chinaman wear a queue?

Can anyone answer offhand why, or give any reasonable answer to the question?

A few, indeed, might vaguely murmur something about "a badge of servitude to the Manchurians," but the limit of their information would be quickly reached.

To answer the question properly one must go back into the history of China and even of the world for many centuries.

When primitive man first discovered that the weak could rule the strong—and that was very early, indeed, in the history of the race—was possessed of more hair than was conducive to his comfort.

He had just learned to wear the skins of animals as a protection against the cold, and perhaps it was more utility than vanity which caused the desire to rid himself of his superfluous hair.

That hair had a habit of twining itself about the branches of the trees and impeding his movements as he sought safety from wild beast or human foe. Clearly he must rid himself of that hair or take the consequences. Primitive man began to think.

The result of thought upon the question was the use of sharp stones. The strong man of the community set the fashion; he simply cut away the hair from his forehead and made the rest of it into a patch at the back. So pleased was he with his improved appearance that he permitted his friends and allies to imitate him, compelling the weak to shave off all their hair as a token of their servitude to their stronger brethren.

As time went on the strong men shaved a larger surface and merely allowed a tuft of hair to remain. The slaves were allowed to do the same, but instead of a tuft, their heads displayed a long queue, which hung far down the back. This practice prevailed in central Asia, although the Chinese did not follow it, while their proud neighbors the Tartars, compelled all their subjects to yield to it.

As early as 907 the Tartars had conquered a part of China, and in 1644 they again entered the empire and conquered it to its core.

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it. Then was inaugurated the Manchu or Ta-tsing dynasty, which still prevails in China. When the Tartars were in the possession of the empire they collected the Chinese women, tied each one in a bag and compelled a soldier to marry the contents of the bag before it was opened. The queue was then made compulsory, and strangely enough became eventually a source of pride to the Chinaman. This was largely through the efforts of the priests to curry favor with the ruling powers. They assured the people that no Chinaman could hope to enter heaven without the queue, which marked him as one of the elect and thus the badge of serf came to represent the certainty of heaven—Philadelphia North American.

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