BRHAIANT DEFENSIVE SCHEMES OF THE CHINESE.

Nation Too Corrupt to Have an Army and Too Bigoted to Know Its Helplessness.

A Tien-Tsin letter to the New York Times says: At last I am able to write you an epistle from this distressed country. and though I cannot recount to you any eads of Chinese arms-military ones-per-aps the state of affairs may interest and

You know how it has been the fashion to speak of China with bated breath as a sleeping leviathan, which it was dangerous to stir; how she has been given way to for fear she might close some source of wealth and profit to the traders; how the over-weening self-conceit of the people has been fostered and sustained by the cringing attitude of all the powers except Russia

The world owes a debt of gratitude to Japan for having shown so unmistakably on what a pedestal of corruption, barbar-ism and ignorance totters the decaying monster which we have hitherto wor-

shiped as "that great China."

No man of influence in China ever has yisited Europe, and so been able to give a modern tendency to Chinese politics. The Chinamen who go abroad are of low origin for the most part, and without any in-fluence in China; all they learn is a super-ficial knowledge of Western thought and method, combined with an appreciation of more extravagant modes of living. Re-turning to China and attaining to office, though they are excluded as much as pos-sible, their extravagent tendencies almost invariably lead them to the most dishon-

No Chinese official receives a salary of which he can live, and it is the practice to supplement salaries by embezzlement and "squeezes" up to a certain point fixed by rustom. Beyond that point commences offi-ial dishonesty in a Chinese sense. Take the case of the Taotal here. He is really a coolie; his salary is but 200 taels

year, not enough to support the crowd of yame runners and secretaries which he is obliged to have, and, to keep up his position, he must take something out of the public funds passing through his hands. It is same with the army; the generals have no standing or influence among the and embezzling, and do It.

The introduction of modern arms, fortications and railways have been hailed as fruitful source of peculation by Chinese Meials. All the old rifles and ammunition which foreign firms could induce them, or rather bribe them, to buy, they have taken. They also have bought much good stuff in the way of big guns; but even in their purchase the trail of bribery and corruption is over them all.

There is, however, a work which is pa-triotic, and reflects credit on Li Hung Chang, the viceroy. This is the Tien-Tsin-Moulden railway. Designed as a strategic mounten railway. Designed as a strategic railway, to assist the transport of troops to the Russian frontier, it has been made extremely well by the engineers employed. The long bridge at Lanchow, over the river, is a triumph, the foundations had to be sunk 68 feet below the normal water level, and the bridge this year withstood a flood of 55 feet.

Shan-hal-Kuan is a naturally strong po stion, guarding the high road from Peking to Moukden, and the raliway. The high ground six miles from the town closes the seven and a half miles between the mountains and the sea, but of course the Chinese generals refuse to take advantage of this; their old forts certainly do pro-tect the great wall and the town from the sea, but their new camps, mud forts and breastworks are badly placed in low ground. Von Hanneken wanted the man-darins to build a new fort in a good posi-tion, but these worthies decided that it should be built in a hollow, so that the Japanese should not be able to see it until quite close, when they would all be killed by the fire from it! All along the railroad from Shan-hai-Kuan, as far as Lanchow, there are numerous good positions for delaying an advancing enemy, but these, of course, are useless to the Chinose troops, who openly say they in-tend bolting should the Japanese attack

Magnificent schemes have been prepared by the military managins. One is to engage two determined men, one of whom must be a good swimmer and diver. These heroes, when the Japonese fleet shall anchor off Shan-hai-Kuan, are to go off in a junk with a torpedo, and, while one man enemy in conversation, the diver is to go down, fix the torpedo to the ship's propeller, explode it and escape by

scheme is to fill a junk with dynamite, covering it over with fresh vege-tables. A devoted here is to take this alongside the flagship, and blow it and himself to amitiercens! The rewards for these will be a family pension and the en-nobling of ancestors to three generations. Yet another scheme is that each soldier

shall carry a bag of pepper, and at a given signal throw it in the air, and, while the enemy is blinded and sneezing, the valiant Chinamen will slaughter the helpless Jans It is assumed, of course, that the Japanese will time their attack so that the wind may be right for this, and also that the Chinamen will stand within pepper range! Newspapers in China assert that the are 75,000 men at Shan-hal-Wusn. I made a careful estimate, confirmed on good au-thority, but there are not more than 12,000 to 13,000 men there. The guns in the per-manent forts are manned by infantry and a "camp" or battalion of the latter con-sisted of 13 men with rifles, 88 with ban-hers and 200 corrying bangage. Assuming all battalions to be similarly made up, we get about 3800 rifles, 2150 banners and 550

get about 3000 rifles. His banners and 5500 soldiers carrying baggage.

A good many men have gone beyond the great wall, toward Kin-chou; the Chimese estimate the number at 15,000, but you can salely knock off To per cent. Strenuous efforts are being made to enlist recruits from the coolier, and many of the railway men have been taken. The bounty is 150 cash, and I saw 160 of these recruits at Tongshamg station the other day, and a more minerable lot of ruffians could not be Imagined.

If it was possible to properly arm these

If it was possible to properly arm these fellows and give them any kind of train-ing there is still a total absence of disci-pline. So bad is it that the officers have given up visiting their men in some of the camps near Taku, or asking them to do

any duty at all.

The soldiers behave with the atmost license and brutality to the country people. Is Manchuria they robbed everybedy and everything, and ravished the women. An Englishman told me he saw some soldier ravishing a girl of 5 years old outside Pe-king a week ago. Here they walk into the eating-houses, take what they want and refuse to pay.

As for respect to their officers, it does not exist. The other morning a troop train was starting for Shan-hai-Kuan. A first-class carriage had been put on for the officlass carriage had been put on for the offi-cers, but there, coming late, found it oc-cupied by soldiers, who, on being told to get out, said: "No; we are quite com-fortable berse, and don't intend to move." Thus the officers had to travel in an open coal truck, with the beggage! What can you expect, however, from the men, when they are paid most irregularly, and their wants nitrance is "contend." scanty pittance is "equeezed" as much as costble by the mandarin who is in charge." Rumors of a Japanese landing either north or south of Taku have been persist-

ent for the last fortnight, and the agonof suspense has induced the Chinese to try to gather information. This is how it is done. One of the directors of the railway ordered the station marter at Lanchow to send two coolies down to the seashere to look for the Japanese. Again, a Chinese torpedo-boat was sent out from Taku a few days ago to reconsoiter, but only went outside a little, and then the captain returned in a hurry, saying he had seen fou Japanese torpedo-boats and a huge column

RED PEPPER WARFARE of smoke off the bar; this was a pure invention, but the intelligence had the effect of causing the respectable natives in Taku to leave the place and 400 soldlers to quit their camp. The latter were quite polite; told their officers that it was no place for them, now that the Japanese were coming, and so they were off. When first there was any idea of a landing about Shan-hai-Kuan, Von Hanneker, wanted the generals to have cavalry patrol: along the seashore, but they would have none of it!

I had almost forgotten to tell you about

I had almost forgotten to tell you about Taotal Sheng. The steamship Fel-Ching in crossing the bar rar into and damaged a torpedo. Sheng made a complaint against the captain for damaging one of the contact torpedoes hild in defense of Taku. Useful typedoes! This is the same gentleman who made a corner in rice, and were it not that the season is unusually

were it not that the season is unusually open there would not be enough rice for the soldiers for the southern provinces.

I was at Port Arthur a week after its capture. When I was there I saw Chinese soldiers working as coolies for the Japanese and dragging guns up the hills. The captors said many of the soldiers who had fled were coming in to be employed, the civil population was bringing in provisions and had reopened the Chinese theater for their amusement. Before boiling. ater for their amusement. Before bolting, ater for their amusement. Before boiling,
the Chinese troops killed their wounded,
and they also tortured to death some of
their prisoners. The exasperation of the
Japanese at the sight of the mangled
bodies is quite intelligible, and their giv-

Chinamen do against such idiots as these? Hime successfully, to spray against the Besides, they fought so unfairly; they got into one of the end forts, and actually turned the guns on the Chinese soldiers! It is most unfair! The guns were never meant to do that!" Delicious idea of tactics, is it not?

this solution with excellent effect. Dr. J. The ordinary Chinamen here are divided into two parties. One contends that Port Arthur has not yet been taken by the Japanese, and that it is impossible for them to do so. The other says the viceroy is now really angry with the Japanese, and they had better look out. Also, in order to prevent useless slaughter of Chinamen, he has ordered the salities to remark of the salities to the true of the various insects that have annoyed him base no standing or influence among the civil and educated class, their salaries are ditterly inadequate, and they are expected to increase their incomes by faise returns ent goes rather more quickly than a china

dinner service!

Hitherto the attaches to the Chinese army have not been able to see the fighting. The Tsung-Li Yamen says it is delighted that these officers should be in China, but that they must not go near the soldiers, who are only recruits, and who do not know one foreigner from another, and would kill them at the first opportunity. There is reason in this, for a German officer, who for years has been training the Chinese troops, has more than once had to ride for his life from his own men. A Chinaman, and an educated one, too, thus summed up the war the other day: summed up the war the other day:

"All the foreign peoples are rebelling against the emperor; all the foreign peo-ples too much strong, China too much weak; so what can do? China must pay." Allowing China 36,000,000 inhabitants, and out of these, if they have any knowledge that there is a war, 38,95,000 will tell you that the enemy is a "foreign devil." but what sort of a "foreign devil." he does not know. As soldlers have been drawn from all parts of the empire, many of whom have never even seen a "foreign devil," it is hardly surprising if the hatred among these rufflans by indiscriminurder. of the foreigners should find a vent

IN THE COMMONS. Payment of the Award of the Behr ing Sea Tribunal Expected.

LONDON, Feb. 19.-In the house of com mons today, replying to questions, Under Foreign Secretary Grey said he had reason to believe that the present American congress would vote money for the payment of the award of the Behring sea tribunal as a compensation to Canadian sealers. Also that an agreement existed between Russia and the United States regarding sealing in the North Pacific ocean similar

LONDON, Feb. 19.-The Daily News to morrow will comment as follows on the results of the divisions in the house of commons last night:
"We need scarcely say that there is not

the slightest truth in the rumors which connected the cabinet with the divisions.

Unable to Agree.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.-A committee of the employes of the Southern Railway Company, which has been in session in Washington nearly a week, has been unable to come to an agreement with representatives of the railway company in the matter of an increase of wages demanded by the men, and the grand chiefs of va-rious trainmen's brotherhoods have been summoned to adjust the matter if pos-sible. They are expected to arrive to-

The Duchess of Montrose's Will. LONDON, Feb. 19. - The will of the Duchess of Montrose, which was made public yesterday, disposes of an estate with a gross value of ISI, 25. It directs that her stud go to her son, and that her jewels he sold. Of the proceeds from the sale, (2000 will be given to the poor of

Giolitti to Return to Italy. ROME. Feb. 18.—Signor Giolitti, who was recently summoned to appear to answer to a charge of slandering Premier Crispi, will return to Italy tomorrow, and will be examined by a magistrate in this city February 23.

The Khedive Married His Slave. CAIRO, Feb. 18.—The khedive signed a marriage contract with his favorite slave today in the presence of the Egyptian This act constitutes a marriage to the slave. There was no public

The Colliery Fire. ASHLAND, Pa., Peb. 18.-After 24 hours' continuous labor workmen fighting the flames at West Bear Ridge colliery, where five men were killed and seven injured by the explosion of gus yesterday, succeeded in quenching the fire.

An Anti-Oleo Bill. LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 19. - The anti-oleomargarine bill was on in the house today, hot, fast and furious. It was finally passed. If it become law, it will suppress a big industry in Nebraska.

On Eastern Trucks.

At New Orleans - Six furlongs, Billy White, in 1:2815; five and a half furlongs, St. Pancras, in 1:20; seven furlongs, Footrunner, in 1:40; five furlongs, Kindera, in 1:12; six furlongs, Bob Holman, in 2:284.

A Wenlthy Stockbreeder. FRANKPORT, Ky., Feb. 18.—Colonel Relieft Pepper, a wealthy stockbreeder, and owner of the famous stallion Onward, died today of Bright's disease.

Irving Quite III. LONDON, Peb. 13. - Henry living is severely indisposed, having influenza.

PRUNING, SPRAYING

SUGGESTIONS AS TO TREATMENT OF TREES IN FEBRUARY.

Active Orchard Work Should You Begin and Be Stendily Kept Up.

The feeling of spring in the air calls to mind that all the buds will soon burst and leafage and bloom put forth the lux-uriance that nature pours upon the beau-tiful springtime. Already the snowdrops peep lovingly through the rifts of fallen eaves in my door-yard to tell of co ing warmth and sunshine, and this re-minds me that it is full time for fruit-growers to be spraying with the wanher and solutions that shall clean their dormant trees of pest and fungi, and give them power to produce luscious fruits. If trees have not been pruned up to this time, and apraying is necessary for the destruction of pests and fungi, the spraying had best be taken in hand first, as it is possible we may have warm weather to cause ouds to burst, and the spray Japanese at the sight of the mangled bodies is quite intelligible, and their giving no quarter was justifiable. This accounts for the 2000 Chinamen killed.

Taotai Kung, who was a great man at Port Arthur, and escaped from there during the fighting—to do him justice, he is not a military official, but a civil one—has a lovely theory to account for the success of the Japanese. He says the latter did "not fight like men at all: the Chinese soldiers were all standing up ready to receive them, but the Japa separated into small bodies, an on a few yards, then lay down; then got up and advatced, and lay down; the second the first part of the first part of the first part of the part of th needed for dormant trees is too strong t with myself, also has successfully used this solution with excellent effect. Dr. J destroy the moss on his apple trees, the fungi on all his fruit trees, also the various insects that have annoyed him n the past, are destroyed by the use of

this simple but effective remedy.

The ingredients of this spray are: Un-stacked lime, 20 pounds; powdered sulphur 29 pounds; and ordinary stock sait, 15 pounds; to be used with 60 gailons of water, The way they prepare it is to place 10 pounds of lime and 20 pounds of pounds; to be used with @ gallons of water. The way they prepare it is to place 19 pounds of time and 20 pounds of powdered sulphur in an iron kettle, with 29 gallons of water, and boll in a lively way for at least two hours, or until the sulphur is all dissolved. Then put the other 20 pounds of lime in a barrel, or large tub that will hold all, and water tupe is powerful. other 20 pounds of lime in a barrel, or large tub that will hold all, and water enough to slack all the lime, then, when dissolved, add the salt, and water enough to make the 60 gallons. The prescription maker says it must be applied luke warm, but that is not so easily done. If you have a sled to haul it about the orchard on, and work rather lively, you may be able to get it on before it gets really cold, but in a wintry sort of a day, such as we have when the trees are dormant, the solution won't reach the tree in a very warm state after being reduced to a spray and passing through the chill air. It might be possible to make this more deadly by adding bluestone to it, but those who know say lime, sulphur and salt answer all necessary purpose.

There are summer remedies to use when foliage is out that will not prove hurtful to tender vegetation. Dr. Reynolds says his apples are excellent, scarce 2 per cent scabby or wormy, but, to make sure, one or two applications of the Bordeaux mixture in a weak state, during the growing season, will reduce matters to certainty. So much good is accomplished by the use of this spray that no one can afford to neglect it. There is not a tree it will not benefit, in some way, either by killing pests, or removing moss, or destroying the spores of scab, mildew, blight or removing the cause if it exists on the tree. moving the cause, if it exists on the tre

or shrub Last year many orchards of sliver prune were rulned by the decay of the fruit when trees were loaded with it. It looked somewhat as if this was due to the overit was a fact that, while British mails, carried by German and American steamers from Southampton to New York, were paid the postal union rate of I shilling by pence per pound, the Liverpool mail steamers, calling at Queenstown and bound to sail on fixed dates, received 3 shillings per pound for carrying the mails.

Press Co. trees. So great was this loss in Umpqua valley that A. Riddle & Son, as well as John Hall, scarce saved any, each losing tens of thousands of pounds of cured fruit, or that would have made tens of thousands of pounds could it have been cured; so we rather reluctantly concluded that it must be the decay was due to a fungus, especially as the same was pr by a red spot that seemed fatal. At my suggestion some affected fruit was sent to the secretary of the board, but he either had not time to attend to it or did not know how. It would have been better to have sent it to the experiment station at Corvallis, where they have science, as well as sense.

As no conclusion was come to on this

As no conclusion was come to on this important matter—for it was of importance, as Douglas county lost 100,000 pounds of silver prunes thereby—I consulted my friend, C. E. Hoskins, of Newberg—or near there—who has never been obliged to attend the state's horticultural kindergarien, but goes it alone manfully, and Cy told me it was probably fungus. He remembered that the wiid plums of the wild West—when he was a boy—some years were lost by decay of the trees. Especially the light-colored ones went that Especially the light-colored ones went that way. He felt certain it was something of a fungus nature that made such wreck of silver prunes. It was not only silver in the Umpqua, for in some places the Italians had a slight touch of the same complaint. A. Riddle & Son lost a great crop of Hungarian prunes they were about to ship green to Portland, when they found they were rotting on the trees. Under these circumstances, it will be well enough for people to spray their entire orchards with the lime, sulphur and salt wash, as a healthy compound for the tree, and the lime is very excellent for the soil. Pruning should be done now, if not done before. Some object to cutting the tree too early, as it may leave dead wood if cut in the fall or early winter; whereas, if cut back now, it immediately heals and leaves no scar. It is important to hurry t, so that the work will be finished before it, so that the work will be finished before the bloom buds open. I have thought trees received harm if pruned too late. Let me say, the object of pruning a young tree is to give it body and form. You prune an older, bearing tree, to have it possess symmetry and have wood to produce fruit, to keep it from towering too high or bending too low. A man who has instinct in these things will catch on to all there is to learn and to do, while one who may not be so quick can still master.

who may not be so quick can still master the science of horticulture with a little patience and a good deal of perseverance and reading the experiment station bul-Another matter of importance in winter time is to supply to your trees something to encourage them in well-doing. After the roots of a tree have pumped the virtue out of the soil for twenty years it may be necessary to replace in it some of the lost ingredients. Barnyard manure combines all the excellence that the soil needs for its recuperation, and many a time it goes to waste for want of use. The time is gone by when the eld Oregon farmer moved his barn to get away from the manure heaps, but still there are some who do not fully appreciate the good that the barnyard waste can do his farm. If the ground is rew, just redeemed from woods or brosh, it will need no stimulant; but if you are planting necessary to replace in it some of the loss

orchard on some old, wern-out field, it must be enriched to enable the land to do well; or underdrained to enable the roots of the tree to reach down after new

roots of the tree to reach down after new and dreper soil.

It is worth more to a man to have his orchard well underdrained, if on clay land, steep hill, or level prairie, than many have an idea of. Instead of having only a few inches of surface soil to feed on, your trees with have three feet of deep mellow and life-riving soil it is deep, mellow and life-giving soil. It safe to say that underdraining will I longer than you will, and that it will a ually repay the cost of putting it in every year thereafter. If well done it equalizes condition of heat and cold, of wet and drouth, and will give you insurance of good crops to the greatest extent that is estble. It will enrich the soil, enrich the fruit, yes-and enrich you. S. A. CLARKE.

Suffering From Micotine Polsoning. MASSILON, O., Feb. 13.—President Mc-Bride, of the American Federation of La-bor, has been ordered to go to Hot Springs for his health. He is suffering from nicotine poisoning, caused by smoking when he had a cold sore.

The Drayton Divorce Suit. TRENTON, N. J., Feb. 19.—Chancellor McGill today dismissed the rule to show cause why defendant in the Coleman-Drayton divorce case should not be permitted to amend her answer.

President of the College of Surgeons. LONDON, Feb. 19.—Dr. Hulke, president of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, is dead.

Colonel J. P. Martin Dead. CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—Col. J. P. Martin, adjutant-general of the department of Missouri, died today of kidney disease.

Another Elbe Victim LONDON, Feb. 18.-Another Elbe victim picked up at Deal last evening, is sup posed to be A. Heckman.

A Ship on Rollers.

M. Bazin, a French civil engineer, is in a fair way to overthrow the old adage that "there is nothing new under the sun" by an invention intended to con Bazin breaks altogether with the estab-lished form of ships. His vessel consists of a large platform, supported by im-mense hollow rollers, whose buoyancy is to keep it above water. The rollers are not only intended to hold the ship in the air, but will also be used to propel her. Bazin has not been satisfied with drawing his plans on paper, which is proverbially patient. He has already made some trials with a model of his invention. His model is over five meters long, and the experi type is projected. It will be 130 meters long and have rollers of 22 meters. The inventor hopes to attain a speed of 32 nau-tical miles with his vessel, and claims that it will be much safer than the ships now in use. That he is not regarded in France as a mere dreamer is proved by an article in La Marine de France, in which Admiral Coulombeaud discusses the invention. However, the circular Russian ironclads, the popowkas, were also at first regarded as a great advance, but their feme did not last long.

"Back!" she cried wildly, and in a voice coarse with emotion. "Back, sir, back!" hoarse with emotion. "Back, sir, back!" And the villain did as requested, and backed the turnout onto the sidewalk and through a plate-glass window before she could gasp, "Git up!" She had never handled the reins before.-Judge.

"Jones, why don't you go to work and earn a living?" "My dear Smith, what's the use. I tried it once for a little while, and no sooner did I earn a dollar than I had to spend it. So I gave it up."-New York Recorder.



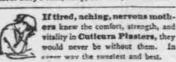
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Beecham's pills are for biliousness, sick headache, dizziness, dyspepsia, bad taste in the mouth, heartburn, torpid liver, foul breath, sallow skin, coated tongue, pimples, loss of appetite, etc., when caused by constipation; and constipation is the most frequent cause of all of them. One of the most important things for everybody to learn is that constipation causes more than half the sickness in the world, especially of women; and it can all be prevented. Go by the book, free at your druggist's,or write B.F. Allen Co., 365 Canal Bt., New York. Pills, toe and 25¢ a box.



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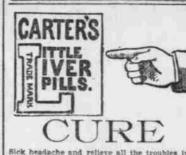
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TRAVELER'S GUIDE.

AND

VIA

Trains leave and are due to arrive at Portlant LEAVE FROM JAN. L 1891 *6:15 PM Salest, Reseburg, Analiand Surramento, Ogu'n, Scrot All Salest, Reseburg, Analiand Surramento, Ogu'n, Scrot All Salest, Reseburg, El Pato, New Orleans and East, Via Woodburn for M. Patigranes, Scrot Salest, Salest, Salest, Salest, Patigranes, Salest, Sa

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Arrive at Fortiand 7:10, 8:30, 11:25 A. M., 1:30, 4:15, 8:20, 7:40, 9:50 P. M.

Leave for SHERIDAN (week days) at 4:30 P. M. Arrive at Portland 9:30 A. M.

Suntay trains for OSWEGO leave at 7.30 9:00, 11:00 A, M., 12:40, 2:00, 3:20, 5:20, 6:20 I M. Arrive at Portland at 8:40, 10:20 A, M 12:10, 1:50, 8:10, 4:40, 6:30, 7:25 P, M. Petry connects with all trains for Sellwood. R. KOEHLER, Manager,

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