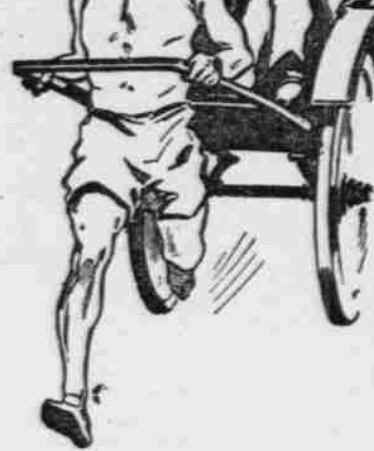


Winter in the Orient



(Copyright, 1900, by Frank G. Carpenter.)

CANTON, Nov. 14.—If the power is to modernize China, they must, in some way, bring about the abolition of slavery. China is now the great slave country of the world. It has, perhaps, more slaves than all the rest of the world put together. There are, I should say, at a low estimate, 10,000,000 human beings who are in servitude here. China has 400,000,000 inhabitants. It has 20,000,000 families, and this makes one slave to every eight families. The average is greater in South China. Here nearly every one owns slaves. There is scarcely a Chinese family of means in Hong Kong, Canton, Macao or Amoy but what possesses one or more slave girls. Slave boys are less common, but the girls are found in every block and in almost every house.

I was offered a beautiful Chinese girl in Shanghai for \$30. I did not see the girl herself, but her photograph was among some I was looking over at Yuen Ming's shop, and I admired her. Yuen Ming said: "Yes, she is pretty and she is for sale. She is a slave girl, but her master will part with her, and his price is \$30 silver in cash."

Girls bring from \$10 to \$100 and upward in this part of China. They are sold at any age from 3 to 15, and most commonly at 7 or 8. The prices range from \$10 upward, according to age and beauty. The prettiest girls are the most desirable, as in case of marriage or sale they will bring more to the family which buys them. The most of the girls are bought to work about the house. It is cheaper to buy a servant than to hire one, for if you take a girl of 8 you can have her services until she is 15, getting eight years of work for nothing but her board and clothes, and then sell her for perhaps 10 times your original price. In such sales a clause is often put in the agreement that the girls are not to be resold for improper purposes. It is not, their masters can do as they please.

Slaves in Hong Kong.
Theoretically, there are no slaves in Hong Kong, as it is British territory, but in reality the fact is full of them. They are the maid servants and nurses of the Chinese. Every small-footed lady needs slaves to help her about, and in the houses of the rich, where there are many daughters, it is not uncommon to find from 20 to 30 slaves in a single family. When I called upon How Qua, the millionaire, two slave girls brought his mother in to see me. The old lady weighed about 300 pounds, but she had feet not bigger than the end of a baseball bat. In going through the streets here you often see a gaily-dressed woman riding out to call on the back of a slave girl. The woman's arms are thrown about the neck of the slave, and her bound legs and little feet peep out of her petticoats behind as she is thus toted to the house of her neighbor.

Female slaves are often presents from one man to another, and not infrequently they form a part of the bridal outfit. They are commonly bought as secondary wives and often as teachers. I heard the other day of a Mandarin who is looking out for an English-speaking slave. He wants her as one of his secondary wives, in which case he can sell her again if he chooses. This man is connected with the Viceroy of Canton, and his income is nominally \$50 a month, although it is probably 10 times that in reality. He has four wives, 15 children and 21 slaves. He keeps his family in another province, and recently wrote his mother to send down two of his wives to him, as he was lonesome. The old lady replied that she needed the wives to take care of his 15 children, and that she had better buy two more where he was. The Mandarin has decided to do this, and inasmuch as he is anxious that his boys should learn English, he is now looking after an English or American girl to act as his companion and at the same time prepare his little ones for the new Chinese era. How much he will pay I do not know, but I suppose he would consider \$100 a high price.

Chinese Beauties.
There is as much choice in girls here as anywhere in the world. There are localities in China where the girls are noted for their beauty. The cities of Yang Chow and Suchow are as famous for rearing handsome young girls as is Georgia, in the Caucasus, where the Sultan's harem is replenished. There are persons in these cities who make a business of raising slave girls. They drum the country about for outstanding young females and put them through a regular course of training. They have farms where the slaves are taught to sing, play upon musical instruments and to acquire the other accomplishments which a harem girl should possess. These girls are chiefly the daughters of poor people, or the daughters of slaves. The slave girls of Shanghai are good looking, and there are thousands of right pretty slaves on the flower boats of Canton.

It is common here for a man to purchase his wife. Indeed, there are more wives acquired in this way than in any other. Every man in China has a right to as many wives as he can maintain, and as I have already said, a secondary wife is cheaper than a hired girl. The first wife is the legal one, but the others have their rights, although they are practically slaves. Indeed, the largest class of slaves here are these secondary wives or concubines. I have seen it estimated that there are millions of such slaves in the empire. All men of all classes have one or more of them and men with means a number.

Such women are usually well treated, and if their masters are rich, they may have slaves of their own. The standing of the secondary wife in the household is largely at the caprice of the master, although she is supposed to have no voice in the management of affairs, and cannot even control her own children. Sometimes her lot is a sad one. Persecuted by her husband's mother and his other wives, she eats her heart out in discontent, for, although well dressed, she is still a slave.

Husbands Sell Them.
It is not a common thing for a Chinese husband to sell his wife or his concubine, especially when they have given him children. There are cases, however, in which wives are sold, but the act is considered disgraceful, and is usually confined to

opium fiends, gamblers and the poorest classes. The man who is addicted to the opium habit will sell his children and, not infrequently, his wife, to supply his appetite. Wives are sometimes sold by gambling husbands, being put up on the turn of a card or the rake-out of the cash at a banquet.

A case of this kind recently happened at Pekin. An inveterate gambler there, having squandered all his ancestral property at a banquet, arranged to cover his losses and get a new capital by dealing away his better half. He made all arrangements, but before the sale was consummated the wife forestalled his brutal design by taking her own life. She swallowed opium, and when the gambler came home to tell her that he had sold her, she was dying. He called in a doctor, but it was too late.

Doctor Colman, one of the professors of the University at Pekin, tells the story of a Judge Yuan of the District of Chian-fu, which gives some idea of the standing of women in China. This judge was somewhat of a Dr. Parkhurst in character, and he attempted the reformation of his district. He ordered all the gambling-houses and other improper places to be closed, and demanded that all the questionable women of the town should be brought to his palace. When they came he told them that he intended to make honest wives of them, by selling them at auction to the highest bidder. He sent forth a proclamation that they would be for sale only to bachelors and that no one could buy more than one.

There were several scores of females in the party, and the sale attracted a great crowd. When the hour for the auction came, the Judge and the Chief of Police acted as auctioneers. They announced to the assembly that the would-be purchasers could each select a wife from those in the yard, and that she would be put up and sold by weight. The men hung back, but at last an old farmer walked up and picked out a stout, hearty woman of 40.

Sold by Weight.
"Weigh her," said the Judge, and, screaming and kicking she was put on the scales. "Ninety catties," said the weigher. "But how much a catty," asked the farmer, rather scared lest his money should not be enough to pay for so much woman. The sale stopped for a moment, for, curiously enough, nothing had been said about the price per catty. The old Judge, however, immediately asked:

"What is the price of pork today?" "Ninety cash a catty," replied the police officer. "Then sell them at 90 cash," ordered the Judge, and at that price she was sold. Ninety cash, at the present valuation, would not be more than 5 cents in gold, so that the farmer really paid about 40 for his wife. After the first sale the women were off rapidly, and by night the last one was sold.

I am told that there are slave brokers in all the large Chinese cities. Their business increases in times of famine, and starvation which now prevails in North China will cause many parents to sell their children. With some it will be a question of allowing them to starve or selling them, and the chances are that girl babies will be a drug in the market. Think of buying a baby for 20 cents. This is the price which one of the infant asylums of Shanghai pays for them. The asylum is a missionary institution, and the children are bought as a matter of charity and religion. They are reared surrounded by Christian influences, and taught all sorts of domestic duties, and when they arrive at the proper age, are given respectable husbands.

The brokers, as a rule, do not buy babies. The cost of rearing them and the risk of death is too great. They prefer to have girls or boys of 8 years and upward. The prices vary in different localities. I am told that in Pekin a girl of 10 or 12 is worth from \$25 to \$35, while young women will bring from \$150 to \$200. Girls as a rule sell higher than boys, except in a family wanting a likely boy for adoption.

Taken on Trial.
In buying slaves the broker often insists on them being left with him for a while before concluding the deal. He takes them on trial, just as you would take a horse. He wants to find out if the animals are healthy and sound. The greatest danger is leprosy. There are many lepers all over China, and in the first stages the disease is hard to detect. One method is to examine the slave in a dark room under a blue light. If this shows that the skin is of a greenish tinge the slave is all right, but if the tinge is reddish it is a sign of leprosy.

Slavery is sanctioned by Chinese laws. It has existed from the earliest period of Chinese history. When Charles Denby was United States Minister to China, he sent the Secretary of State a report on the subject, in which he mentioned some of the laws. He said that slaves who strike their masters and thereby kill them are sentenced to death. If they kill them accidentally, they are strangled, and if they accidentally wound them, they are subject to 100 blows and banishment. On the other hand, if the master beats the slave to death for committing a crime, he suffers no blow. He has the right to inflict certain punishments upon the slaves. He can buy and sell the children of his slaves, and he can sell his own children.

There are labor slaves in China. They

of this condition, and it has taken some steps to put a stop to the abuse, but I am told that it still exists.

You see in nearly every Chinese city a class of women who go from house to house mending clothes. They come to the families of foreigners and do their darning and patching, sitting in the halls or on the doorsteps as they work. Some of these women are practically slaves. They have been first or second wives, but their husbands have grown tired of them, and have sent them out to work for themselves and for them.

Imperial Eunuchs.
Among the queerest of Chinese slaves are the men who wait upon the Emperor and Empress Dowager and their court. These are eunuchs bought at a fixed price. A special report was made upon them some years ago, but for obvious reasons it was not allowed to get into the hands of the printers. This report states that every fifth year certain princes of China are each required to furnish for the use of the palace eight young eunuchs, for which they are to be paid \$300 apiece.

There are about 300 eunuchs connected with Emperor Kwang Su and his court. He can have as many as he pleases and the number for the Empress Dowager is not limited. The laws provide, however, that persons not of royal blood cannot use such slaves. It provides that Princes and Princesses who are the sons and daughters of the Emperor may have 30

enormous sum of money, or his house would be confiscated. He could not raise it and in despair he hanged himself. The house afterward became the property of the eunuch.

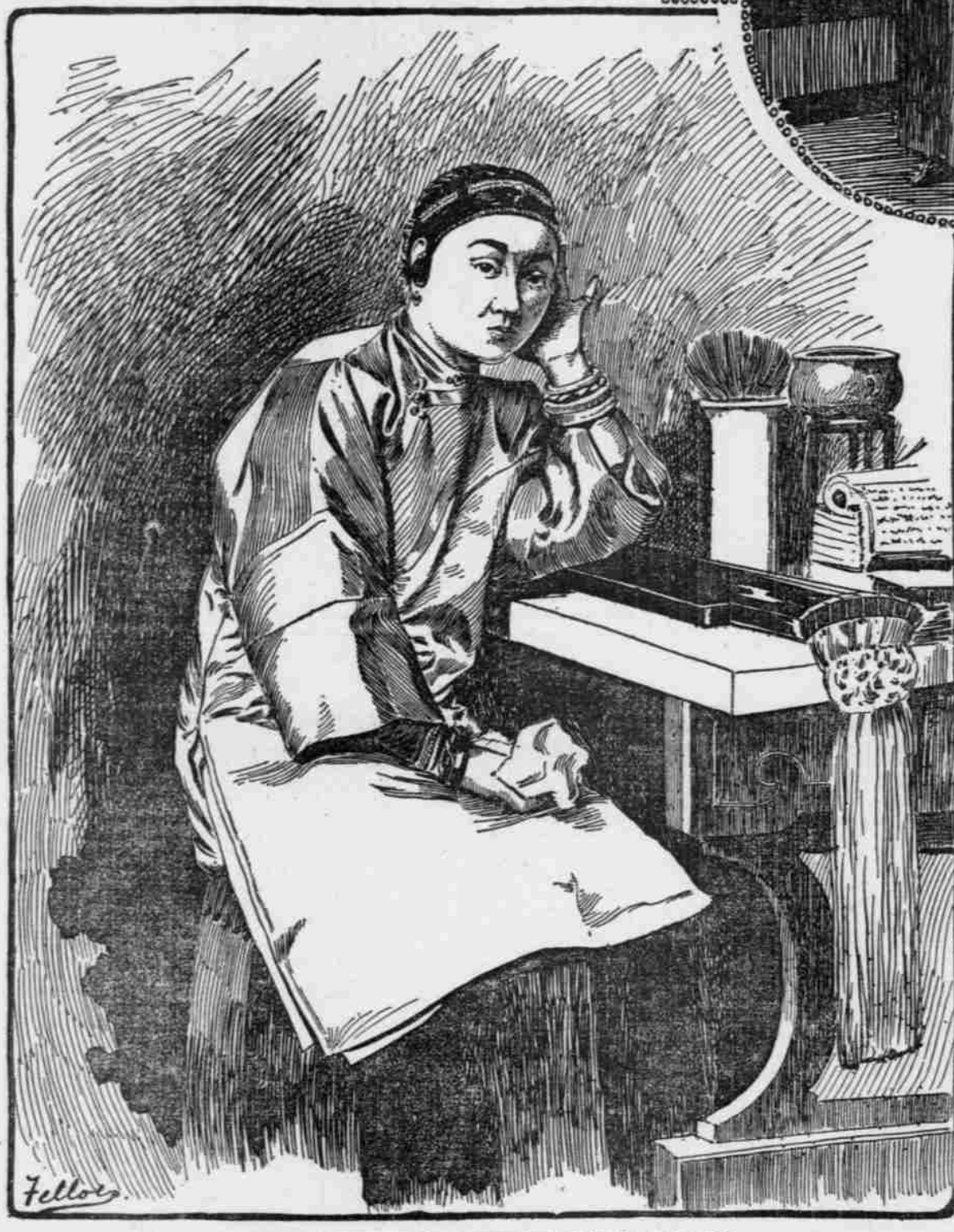
FRANK G. CARPENTER.

OFFICIAL SPELLING.

What Authority Should Be Recognized in Geographical Names?

PORTLAND, Dec. 18.—(To the Editor.)—To settle a dispute, will you kindly advise whether it is proper to spell the word "Long Beach," or two words (Long Beach)? I have written to the Postmaster, Mr. Crossman, in regard to this, and he advises that the Official Postal Guide gives it thus: "Longbeach," and that "Longbeach" is given the preference. Some of the clerks here claim that the Official Postal Guide is not reliable. Will you please advise me also in regard to this? V. J. O.

This is one of the few cases wherein The Oregonian is compelled to abdicate the office of referee. There are few questions of public importance on which it has not decided opinions, and even in minor matters it often takes a hand, but in the dispute over Long Beach or Longbeach it prefers to pass. To begin at the end, it is free to say that the Official Postal Guide is the Official Postal Guide, trustworthy or untrustworthy. Who is its authority on orthography, anyway? If your daughter spells it "Edythe," who has the right to write it "Edith"? If you write it "Smytha," who dare address you as if you were a descendant of the man saved by Pocahontas? If the people on the shores of Pacific County, Washington, call their settlement "Long Beach," by what right does bureaucracy at McKin-



SECONDARY WIFE OF A CHINESE LORD OF CREATION.

enuchs apiece, but nephews and young sons only 30. All of the Buddhist priests who minister to the spiritual wants of the Imperial harem are of this class. Indeed, of the 300 connected with the court every one has his own grade and rank. Some are paid salaries, or rather expense allowances, ranging from \$2 a month upward.

It is said that the Empress Dowager was ruled by one of her slaves, and that others had great influence with her. Shortly before the war broke out one of

ley's illies, knock out the space and reduce the rank of "B"?

It seems that the Postoffice department, for the sake of uniformity and to prevent confusion, arbitrarily decided on the spelling of certain disputed names; for example: Bering Sea, which formerly carried an "h." But the department is very often inconsistent.

Forest Grove is an incorporated town, and its corporate name is as here printed.

County, was named for the beer-manufacturing city of Wisconsin, and the name of the postoffice is "Milwaukee," but Oregon has become in this way a place of storied for the most indiscriminate and various lot of old junk that can be imagined.

This Christmas, as usual, Mrs. McKinley will have three or four young nieces and cousins at the White House to help make things jolly, but the day will be spent quietly. When there are children in the Executive Mansion, things are livelier, of course.

THE TAX ON BEER.
This and the Canteen Held to Be Useful.
CONDON, Or, Dec. 18.—(To the Editor.)—The reduction of the war tax on beer and the abolition of the canteen or post exchange seems to be worrying Congress, or at least its committees. It does seem, as you intimate, that there are politics in the war tax reduction on beer. Possibly the large brewing concerns have considerable influence in the lobby, or there might be an understanding that if certain Senators and Representatives will vote to reduce the tax on beer that the advocates of the brewers will support a measure of these certain members of Congress. But why should there be a reduction on beer? The price of beer to the consumer remains the same as before the tax. Liquor has been decided by the courts to be a luxury. Why would it not answer as well to reduce the tax on leases, deeds, mortgages, checks, bills of lading, or those things that the public use and which are not luxuries? The tax on beer affects only the makers, and as they are generally men of means, their influence is felt by the members of Congress. Possibly there are things that we do not understand in connection with the tax on beer.

As long as I have the floor I would like to say a word about the canteen of the Army. All proceeds arising out of the sale of beer, tobacco, etc., at the canteen, goes to the companies' mess fund, which enables the companies to buy on the outside food that is not is-

sued by the Government, such as eggs, milk, chickens, fruit and hundreds of other articles. Without this mess fund the men have to live on "Government straight," or food which, if the Representatives who voted to abolish the canteen had to eat, they would think that life was not worth living for. Where there are no canteens at a post there are always saloons just outside of the post where the men spend their money for doctored whisky, and instead of the profits going to the company mess fund it goes to the saloon-keepers' mess.

It does not seem right that a man because he is a soldier should be denied liquor if he cares for it. A soldier's life is not all sunshine and glory, and what enjoyment he can get out of an exchange, where no strong liquor is sold. Should not be taken away by men, some of whom must save money to live on when they are discharged? The men who are trying to abolish the canteen, the less said about them the better. Probably they would not be prudent to tell them to their face that they did not know what they were talking about, but they surely do not, as I don't suppose one of them ever was in a canteen and saw the workings of it and how the money was used.

CIRVERA WANO.

GIFTS FOR THE PRESIDENT.

Many Christmas Presents Arriving at the White House.

Santa Claus' most appreciated gift to President McKinley this year will be a renewal of the lease of the White House for another four years. But he will have for the Presidential stocking an immense number of other presents. They have already begun to arrive, and a special postman who delivers the mail at the Executive Mansion is daily loaded down with bundles and packages, while many more are coming by express. The gifts comprise everything imaginable, from silver paperweights to typewriter desks, and from slippers to boxes of oranges.

Doubtless, most of the people who send these gifts believe that the President opens them all himself, and they figure to themselves in imagination the pleasure he will experience in disclosing the contents of their own particular parcels. The fact is, however, that the packages all go to Mr. Cortelyou, the private secretary, and are unwrapped by a messenger. Those of them which are identified as articles of domestic usefulness, such as clotheboxes or coffee-pots, are transferred to the steward, while such things as patent tires for carriage wheels or improved can openers are consigned to the quartermaster at the executive stables. Perhaps one present out of a hundred, which happens to be of especial interest, or from a personal friend, is seen by Mr. McKinley.

Many cases of wine and jars of whiskey are sent to the President at Christmas time, but they invariably are refused, unless they come from personal friends. Gifts of large amounts of money are declined, in accordance with the rule established at the White House. On one occasion a brooch set with gems, worth about \$1000, was sent to Mrs. Cleveland by a lady who had been in the army and returned. Cigars Mr. McKinley accepts, and the good ones he smokes. Presents of other kinds are consigned mostly to the other end of the Executive Mansion, which has become in this way a place of storage for the most indiscriminate and various lot of old junk that can be imagined.

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Chinese Slave Girl—Price, \$80 in Silver.

During the past two or three years the musical world has been on the qui vive to hear something concerning the opera that Paderewski has been so busily employed in creating, but every detail has been sedulously withheld from the over-curious public. At last, however, the secret is out. It is now practically completed, and would have been ready for production a year ago last Winter had not the pianist's appearances as a virtuoso kept him too much occupied. He was, of course, profitably engaged at that time, and much of the loss entailed by the purchase of his estate at Morges has already been made up. It looked several years ago as if this enterprise would involve him in serious financial trouble. He did lose so much in his efforts to make the place productive that his last American tour was a necessity.

Mme. Paderewski's interference in the pianist's business affairs is said to be altogether due to her feeling of responsibility over his losses at Morges, as she had persuaded him to purchase the property. "I have made him lose one fortune," she has frequently said, "and must do all in my power to help him earn another." The Morges estate has recently begun to yield their proper something, and it is likely that the pianist will not be another victim to an attempt at farming on a large scale.

Mrs. Paderewski is to call his opera "Maurice." The libretto was written by one of his compatriots named Nossig, and is in three acts. Nossig is not only a literary man but an artist and sculptor as well.

Struggle of Slave Race.

The opera is in a measure typical of the struggles of the Slave race, and takes its name from the hero who naturally sings the tenor role. He meets his travels a beautiful Slav (the soprano), whom he has carried away and married in accordance with the practice of his race at that time. The first act passes in the Slave village, from which the mother has been stolen. She comes to implore her mother's pardon for marrying a member of a vagabond race, but her mother refuses to forgive her unless she desert her husband and return to live. The music allotted to the mother is written for a mezzo-soprano.

A village soothsayer named Gobbo, a deformed dwarf who has long cherished a passion for Huma, joins her mother in her entreaties to the girl to leave her husband and return to her. The dwarf is unsafely in love with Huma, and capable of any deed for her, but so selfish is his affection, she is touched by his feeling for her, and begs him to give her a charm that may restore the affection of her husband, as she believes that cause is once for all settled. The dwarf grants life and desires to leave her.

The first act closes with the arrival of the hero, who has come in search of his wife. The villagers, who are returning from their work, see the dwarf and attack him. Only when his wife throws herself before him is he allowed to escape without harm.

In the second act, Huma and Huma are seen in their lonely home in the mountains. He is working to support his wife there, as they have been driven from the village. He is weary of this quiet existence, and is already planning to change his life of his people. The tranquility of his existence tortures him. When she learns that his wife gives him Gobbo's philter, and the effect is instantaneous. He is an impassioned duet with Huma his love for her.

Years for His Own People.

But its influence is not enduring. He hears the music of a violin, and knows that his people are near. When a gypsy appears with the news that he is wanted as the chief of the tribe and the beautiful Asa, its Queen, will marry him, he is about to desert his wife, and is only prevented by her entreaties. The third act passes in another part of the mountain. The hero is more than ever weary of the life with his wife and child. He longs to rejoin his own people. He hears a gypsy march. Gradually the gypsy comes, led by Asa, their Queen, and beg Huma to return to them. He is to be Asa's husband, and only Asa, the chief of the tribe, and also in love with the Queen, denounces him as a traitor and refuses to admit him again to the tribe. The others overcome his wishes, and Huma, urged by Asa, consents to return to the tribe. Then Asa, who has been awaiting his opportunity, springs upon Huma and throws him from the cliff into the valley. The opera closes with the death of the hero.

The delay in the production of the work is said to be in part due to the librettist, who insisted on changing the text from time to time. It will be given during the International Exhibition, under Ernest von Schuch's direction. It is probable that Pauline Wittich will sing Huma, while the role of Gobbo, the dwarf, will be played by the gypsy, who is said to have been the composer's chief clerk, although the instrumentation is said to be rich and glowing with color.

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SOUSA'S MOVEMENTS.

Sued for \$15,000—Extensive Tours Arranged For.

John Philip Sousa is being sued in the Supreme Court by his former Manager, Everett R. Reynolds, who seeks to recover more than \$15,000. Sousa has obtained from Judge Fitzgerald an order directing that the complaint be more definite, says the New York Herald.

Reynolds alleges that he was engaged to manage Sousa's concerts for three years, from January 1, 1898, and was to receive one-third of the net profits. Sousa, he complains, broke the contract last September, refused to occupy the conductor's office in the Astor Court, but hired quarters elsewhere, and took up his dates arranged for by Reynolds, fulfilled the engagements and pocketed the proceeds.

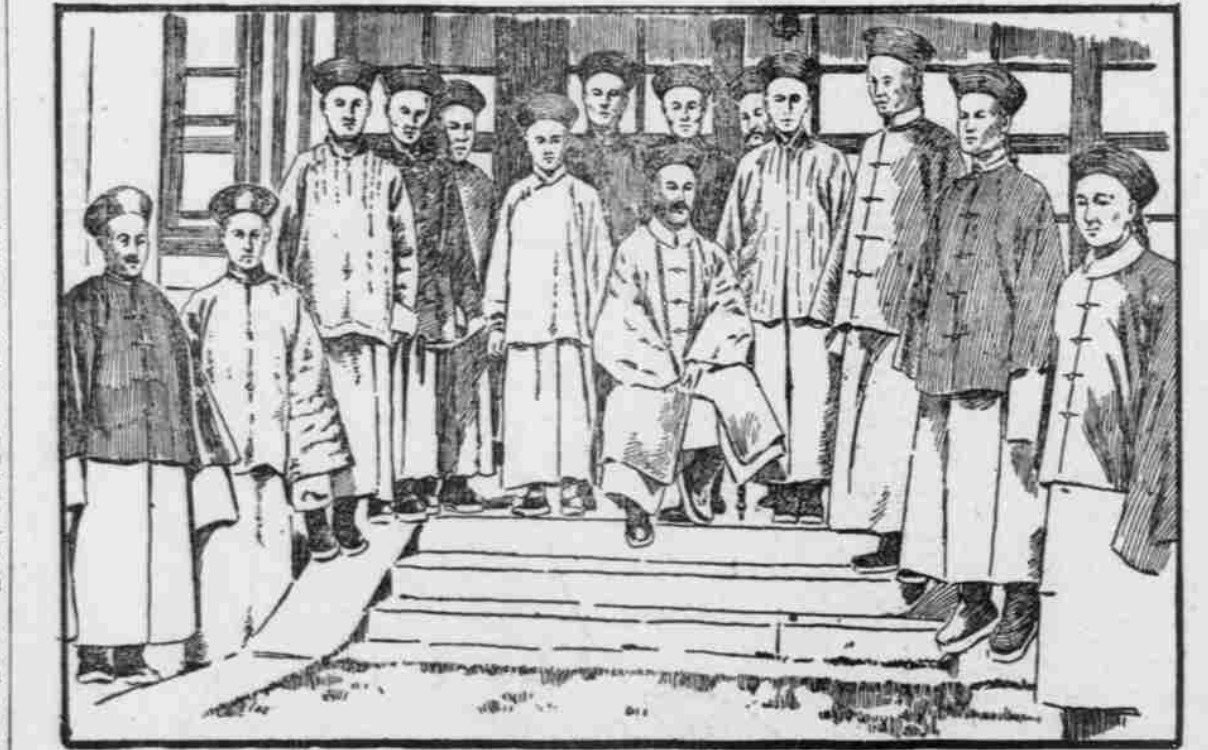
Sousa has just signed a contract for a four-weeks' engagement of his band at the International Exhibition to be held at Glasgow, Scotland, next year. The Sousa Band will sail for England in the latter part of September, opening at Glasgow on the last day of some of the most beautiful music in the opera is said by those who have heard it to be duets between the two lovers in the second act, the violin music played by the gypsies, and the effect is instantaneous. He is an impassioned duet with Huma his love for her.

Sousa's band will start on a seven-teen-weeks' concert tour on January 4, during which 100 cities in various parts of the United States will be visited. In June the Sousa Band will be the musical attraction at the Pan-American Exposition, at Buffalo.

Erratic Calve.

It is reported in Paris that Calve has erratically changed the plans for her India tour. She has been in Athens and Constantinople doing all kinds of odd things. She was finally received by the Sultan, but refused to sing for him.

Easy Methods.—Yesterday I tried some of these "Simple Diets for Larders." "How did they come out?" "I got them done in time for dinner."—Chicago Record.



EUNUCHS OF THE EMPRESS DOWAGER OF CHINA, FOR WHOM SHE PAID \$300 APIECE.

have been worked within recent years in the coal mines west of Pekin. There is a systematic scheme in that region to involve men in gambling debts and then take them to the coal mines to make them work them out. Once in the mines, they are subjected to fines and other charges which make them slaves for life. The Chinese Government recently learned

her eunuchs became angry at a wealthy Chinaman living not far from the palace. He concluded to be revenged, and, taking the old Empress to the top of one of the Imperial buildings, persuaded her that she ought to have this man's house for a certain purpose. The result was that a notice was sent to the Chinaman that he was to immediately raise an

but the department spells it "Forestgrove." Clearly the official designation is wrong. Dallas City is the corporate name of The Dallas, but the Government spells it according to custom. The O. R. & N. Co. has dropped the "The" and prints it "Dallas" in its literature. Sometimes the public is wrong. Milwaukee, Chickamauga

PADEREWSKI'S OPERA

COMPLETED AT LAST, AND WILL BE PRODUCED IN DRESDEN.

It Symbolizes the Sorrows of His Own People—Slave and Gypsy Themes Interwoven.

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SOUSA'S MOVEMENTS.

Sued for \$15,000—Extensive Tours Arranged For.

John Philip Sousa is being sued in the Supreme Court by his former Manager, Everett R. Reynolds, who seeks to recover more than \$15,000. Sousa has obtained from Judge Fitzgerald an order directing that the complaint be more definite, says the New York Herald.

Reynolds alleges that he was engaged to manage Sousa's concerts for three years, from January 1, 1898, and was to receive one-third of the net profits. Sousa, he complains, broke the contract last September, refused to occupy the conductor's office in the Astor Court, but hired quarters elsewhere, and took up his dates arranged for by Reynolds, fulfilled the engagements and pocketed the proceeds.

Sousa has just signed a contract for a four-weeks' engagement of his band at the International Exhibition to be held at Glasgow, Scotland, next year. The Sousa Band will sail for England in the latter part of September, opening at Glasgow on the last day of some of the most beautiful music in the opera is said by those who have heard it to be duets between the two lovers in the second act, the violin music played by the gypsies, and the effect is instantaneous. He is an impassioned duet with Huma his love for her.

Sousa's band will start on a seven-teen-weeks' concert tour on January 4, during which 100 cities in various parts of the United States will be visited. In June the Sousa Band will be the musical attraction at the Pan-American Exposition, at Buffalo.

Erratic Calve.

It is reported in Paris that Calve has erratically changed the plans for her India tour. She has been in Athens and Constantinople doing all kinds of odd things. She was finally received by the Sultan, but refused to sing for him.

Easy Methods.—Yesterday I tried some of these "Simple Diets for Larders." "How did they come out?" "I got them done in time for dinner."—Chicago Record.