

CHINESE OPIUM FIENDS.

The Immense Quantity of the Drug Consumed in New York.

It was for the purpose of giving an accurate and interesting account of how 9,000 Chinamen spend \$468,349.75 annually just for the pleasure of "hitting the pipe," that the Chinese reporter of the World made a thorough canvass of the various haunts of Chinatown.

There are at present about twenty-five Chinese firms that deal in refined opium, both wholesale and retail. There are eleven private Chinese joints, where opium is sold at \$2.25 per ounce. These joints do not now admit white smokers, on account of the frequent raids made upon them by the police, but the stores sell to both Chinese and whites, although the latter must be well-known smokers.

Six pills or pipes, about the size of a green pea, would restore him to his natural condition of life, which would last him for about as many hours. A regular "fiend" will consume about an ounce per day, which is \$2.25.

The sensation while smoking is, indeed, soothing. No matter how fatigued or oppressed in mind, a few whiffs of the pipe would put a man in the best of social spirits. It has strange medicinal properties, and is said to cure all kinds of fevers and ague, consumption and palpitation of the heart.

It takes just about the same length of time to get the opium habit as to get the drinking habit. The latter destroys the mind, and makes a man irresponsible for his actions, while the former destroys the body but makes a keen thinker of the victim. It is estimated that there are something over one thousand Americans in the city of New York who are now using opium in the same manner and form as the Chinese.

These places calculate to make from \$2 to \$3 on each can of Chinese imported opium, but they are able to make more when they mix the Victoria in with the pure. This it can easily be seen how nearly \$1,000,000 changes hands for opium per year.

According to Chinese San Francisco papers they paid over \$800,000 for custom-house duties for the Chinese year just ended on opium alone. But one very curious fact is that a Chinaman is frequently deceived. When he pays for the real imported Chinese opium he gets Victoria (B. C.) opium, which is sold in several Chinese stores at \$5.50 per can, but since the recent custom-house trouble it has gone up to \$6. The same article can be had in Canada for \$4.25 to \$4.50.

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

Cornelius Vanderbilt's income from his capital is said to be in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000 a month, while that of William K. is not far behind.

THE HOOSAC TUNNEL.

One of the Most Wonderful Triumphs of American Enterprise.

The Hoosac mountain stretches across the western part of Massachusetts, and forms a natural barrier between that State and New York. How to make a direct line of communication between these neighboring States was a problem that it took half a century to solve.

The excavation of the tunnel, chosen for the ridge is 2,500 feet above the level of the sea, and is approached on the east by the valley of the Deerfield river, and on the west by the Hoosac river, a tributary of the Hudson.

The tunnel project was abandoned. The building of a tunnel, however, was embraced in the plan of the Troy & Greenfield railroad, which was incorporated in 1818, but no work was done on it for some years, owing to the difficulty of obtaining assistance from the State.

In 1854 the State Legislature passed an act providing for a loan of credit to the amount of \$2,000,000 for the construction of the Hoosac tunnel, but the gift was hampered by conditions which made it not directly available by the company, and thus the work was greatly hindered.

Several contracts were made for the excavation of the tunnel, but all fell through by failure of the company to meet payments when due, and the work was not begun with vigor until 1857. It was then carried on until July, 1861, up to which time the State had advanced nearly \$800,000 for the work, but as the State officials then refused to longer certify the bills of the contractors, work was suspended, and the project was entirely abandoned by the railroad company.

HAPPINESS AT HOME.

The True Art of Living is to Live Without the Least Friction.

There are innumerable books that teach us how to behave in society, how to demean ourselves at the church, the theater and the lyceum. But the place above all others where a man or woman should know how to conduct themselves with propriety is at home.

Not Much of a Girl.

An Austin mother was very much discouraged at the dirty condition of her boy's cap when the children came home from school.

TERRORS OF THE SEA.

Cyclonic, Volcanic and Other Dangerous Types of Waves.

A wave is a thing of beauty, but it is only a joy to those who watch it marching in splendor and foam from the safe refuge of the shore. It is a very nauseating condition of voyaging. It makes the bones of ships creak as if they were full of rheumatism. It fills the brain with a sense of chaos, and one moment swings the moaning traveler to the stars and the next plunges him into an abyss hideous with gloom and the hissing of millions of snakes.

The people of Tokio, Japan, have taken to eating horsehairs, and there is quite a demand for it.

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To get these buy a box of the genuine Dr. C. McLANE'S CELEBRATED LIVER PILLS, price the cents, at mail order.

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REF JELLY.—Take about one pound of lean, juicy beef, cut it into small pieces, put into cold water and let soak for one hour. Then put on the fire with one pint of water, seasoning with salt, pepper and a little celery seed, and let it stew until reduced two-thirds; strain on a few blades of mace.

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