CHINESE BOY AT HOME.

Long Hours in School and Sports of the Vacation.

Among the representatives of the celestial kingdom in this city are Lee Way and his cousin, Ah Foon. They are bright and intelligent, and are interesting characters. Of their earlier life in China they give very lucid accounts.

Lee Way has been in the United States about twenty years, first locating in New York City. In his native country he has a wife and son, and he has made frequent visits to them since he first came to America. Lee received instruction in English before he crossed the Pacific, and he also attended school in New York. Both he and his cousin receive weekly instructions at the hands of teachers of the Baptist Sunday school, and Lee especially has become proficient in his use of the English language.

Ah Foon has been in America only a few years, and has resided in Ogdensburg about a year. He is married, and his wife was left behind in his native land. Before coming to America Ah Foon was in school until he was 16, with English tutors, but his knowledge of the language is meager. Until a few years ago there were no woman teachers in all China. Now there are many, and students are received until past the age of 35. There are many native teachers, as well as the missionaries, who come from foreign lands. The scholars sit on high stools at desks and study aloud. At 10 and 12 years the Chinese scholars can read and write very well. Every lesson is learned by rote. The teacher always retains possession of a punishing stick, and occasionally lazy or tardy scholars receive a few sound raps with it.

The scholars are at school early in the morning, and it is not uncommon for boys to study ten hours a day. That would seem a long time for American boys to devote to study in a single day, but, acording to Ah Foon, the juvenile Chinaman never grumbles at the long hours, and he and his companions climb upon their stools and sing out their lessons all at the same time as loudly as they can. Vacation is always during the rice harvesting season. Then the boys fly kites and enjoy many other pastimes which are similar to those seen in America, such as walking on stilts, playing hide and seek, blind man's buff and leapfrog.

"We have great fun fighting beetles, too," said Ah Foon. "In China there are no bad boys like here. All boys are respectful to all older than themselves. They do not think it fun to hurt other people's feelings. One thing I have seen here is a very old trick in China. You see boys place a package on the sidewalk, and when some one stoops to pick it up it is gone, for there is a string tied to it, and a little boy at the other end of the string."—Ogdensburg Journal.

RECENT INVENTIONS.

By a new opera glass attachment the focusing of the glass is made easier, the spindle being rotated by a rack bar, which is pivoted on the frame and has a serrated knob projecting over the top, to be reciprocated by the finger and open or close the glass.

Buttons are easily cleaned without removal from the garment by a new machine, which has a slotted base, in which a slide is arranged to open and receive the button, with a brush suspended above the opening to be revolved by a crank and scrub the button.

Liquids will not spill over in filling bottles if an improved funnel is used, the tube being inserted in a rubber stopper to fit tightly in the neck of the bottle, with a small tube inside to exhaust the air and an internal stopper which cuts off the flow when the bottle is full.

Housekeepers will appreciate a new griddle-greasing device, which has a hollow handle to contain the liquid, with an opening leading into a flat pocket at one end, the face of the pocket having a felt pad to distribute the grease and being covered by a metal cap when not in use.

A Frenchman has designed a neat disinfecting device for purifying rooms, comprising a cup to be suspended over the top of a lamp chimney or gas jet, in which the liquid is placed for evaporation, with a horizontal fan above the cup to be revolved by the heated air and spread the disinfectant.

An Iowa man has patented a storm front for buggies, having a steel frame extending upward at the rear of the dashboard, provided with a spring controlled window, which can be raised above the dasher, the remainder of the frame being covered with a waterproof curtain extending to the buggy top.

Shortened His Sentence.

A man charged with bigamy was once brought before Judge Gary, of Illinois. The accused had lived two years w.... the second woman, and he concluded to plead guilty on the understanding with the State's Attorney that his sentence would divorce him from No. 2. When he stood before Judge Gary the little man looked over his desk and asked in a voice of kindness:

"You fully understand what the plea of guilty means?"

"Yes, your honor."

"And do you understand if you so plead it will be my duty to send you to the penitentiary? Do you understand that?"

"Yes, your honor. Anything to get free."

The judge looked at the man for a moment and then said in his inimitable manner:

"I suppose there are some things beside which prison would be a relief. Any relative or friends of the defendant in court?"

A woman in black stood up on a bench, and said in a voice which sounded like a rip of cambric:

"I am his second wife, judge."

Judge Gary replied immediately, with no change in his voice or face:

"Some things beside which prison would be a relief. You ought to be willing to take three years."

The prisoner nooded an assent.

Judge Gary looked over at the woman in black. He seemed to read her in a second. He turned to the man who had pleaded guilty and said:

"I will give you one year. You seem to have had the other two before they arrested you."—Green Bag.

FALLACIOUS PROFITS.

Mistake of a Bookeeper in a Yearly Balance Sheet.

It is doubtful if any modern promoter has hit upon a simpler scheme to swell the assets on his balance sheet than that which has been employed by a humble bookkeeper of this city while the century was young.

The year 1801 had been a very prosperous one for the merchants of New York, and all looked forward with interest to the first month of the new year, when they would be able to ascertain how much better off they were then than at the same time twelve months before. Notwithstanding his high expectations, it was with a feeling of grateful surprise that the frugal Scotch bachelor, John MacIntosh, received the news from his bookkeeper that he was £2,000 richer by the transactions of the year. That was a large sum in those days, and MacIntosh thought the increase in his income warranted a change in his mode of living. Accordingly he engaged more commodious lodgings and invested in many long-desired luxuries.

Still he could not make out how he had succeeded in accumulating such a large surplus. He ran over the figures again and again to convince himself that they must be right, and every time checked his bookkeeper's totals. Yet the doubt haunted him with a persistency as truly Scotch as himself.

He was about to retire one night in early March, when he took out the balance sheet, which he kept handy, and once more endeavored to convince himself of his good fortune. Without waiting to put on his hat, with balance sheet in hand, he hurried to the lodgings of his bookkeeper.

In those days all the good folk of the town retired at the stroke of 9. But MacIntosh's pounding succeeded in awakening the blissfully unconscious clerk, who threw up the window and demanded:

"Who's there?"

"Who's here, you dunderskull?" exclaimed the irate merchant. "Do ye ken what ye've doone? Ye've added the year of our Laird to the credits!"—New York Mail and Express.

HOW CHINESE ARE ARMED.

They Have Great Faith in Lanterns, Which They Carry Everywhere.

A large part of the success of Chinese armies in times past has been due to their ability to strike terror to the hearts of their enemies, so every corps has its regiment of "terror strikers," dressed in the most preposterous costumes and drilled in outlandish poses, acrobatic feats and facial grimaces.

Another peculiar part of a Chinese soldier's equipment is his lantern. It is not to be supposed that they could see their way by night unless each carried a light, and in one of the recent attacks on Tien-tsin the Chinese forces advanced, each soldier carrying his lantern. The allies waited until the Chinese were within easy distance and then opened on them with a rapid-fire gun, whereupon the Chinese fled, leaving their lanterns on the field.

Still others of the Chinese forces are armed with their ancient gingals, the first of firearms invented, loaded with powder and shot and touched off at the vent with a stick of lighted incense. These old guns have been in use among the Chinese for upward of 1,500 years.

But alongside of these same regiments are others using almost every known kind of modern arms and drilled in the tactics of all the great military powers. Over fifteen makes of modern rifles and muskets are known to be in use in the Chinese armies, and great demoralization has frequently occurred by the dealing out of ammunition for one kind of gun to a regiment that used another. In the main, however, the Chinese have been apt pupils, and whether trained by Russians, Germans, French or English officers they have come to use their weapons with deadly effect.—Leslie's Weekly.

"She's My Mother."

It was at the close of the Knights Templar festivities in Denver, and the depot was crowded to its utmost capacity—the platforms were packed with humanity like sardines in a box. It was impossible to move a foot in either direction.

Suddenly a through train backed in, and what a scramble and rush there was. It resulted, of course, in a solid wall of humanity.

At once a lane began to open up in that almost impregnable wall, and the wonder of those there was how such a seeming miracle was possible.

Looking to his right, the gentleman who related the incident, told me that he saw coming toward him a handsome, rosy-cheeked, full-bearded young fellow, at least 6 feet 2 in height, broad-chested and a giant of healthy young manhood. In his arms, held close to his heart, was a thin, gray-headed old woman, in the last stages of the dread monster—consumption. As he came along, he kept saying:

"She's my mother, boys; she's my mother."

Caps were off; laughter stopped.

"Stand back, boys; stand back; it is his mother," passed from lip to lip.

That's what opened the lane for this big boy and his mother, as he held her to his breast, where in the years gone by she had held him and nursed him when he was as helpless as she was now.

Maybe she's gone by this time, and if she has, I'll wager that she's up there near the gates of pearl, and when that big, young fellow approaches it she'll say:

"Lord, please let him in; he's my boy and he didn't forget 'his mother.'"—Denver Times.

Did She?

There are certain attractions for which a kind-hearted person would, perhaps, rather not be responsible.

It is said that some one remarked to Count d'Orsay, concerning his wife:

"What a charming, pensive expression Lady Harriet has!"

"She owes that to me," was the reply.

Golf and Profanity.

McJigger—The last time I saw Niblack he spoke of swearing off golf again, but that looks like him going over the links now.

Thingumbob—Yes. There he is, off swearing again.—Philadelphia Press.

This is the time to select the seed corn, as the growth of stalk, number of ears on stalk and other advantages can be noticed. Every farmer should grow his seed corn in rows separate from the regular crop, and from selected seed, so as to improve. If this is not done the seed corn should be marked in the field by tying strips of muslin to the stalks, so as to harvest it when matured.

French railway cars as now constructed, with most of the metal parts of aluminum, are 3,000 pounds lighter than old ones.

Young Engineers

In all scientific branches are in such demand now, so as to be far beyond the supply. The reason of this is because never in the history of the Pacific Coast has there been such activity in Mining, Electric, R. R. building and general Engineering Work. The Van der Nail en School of Practical, Civil, Mining, Electrical Engineering, Assaying Cyanide, etc., which has been established since 1864, being the oldest practical school of today, having machine shop, electric plants, and all necessary apparatus, admits students of all ages, at all times, regardless of their present education. Illustrated catalogues are mailed to any address by mentioning this paper and addressing 933 Market St., S. F., Cal.

Experiments show that a frog deprived of his brains will live and eat and purse existence in a sort of automatic manner.

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

A Milwaukee florist thinks he has succeeded in producing green carnations by the use of chemicals while the plants are growing.

Dr. Wilde, the new Argentine minister at Washington, says that more daily papers are published in Buenos Ayres than in New York City.

For some reason a young tree or vine does not seem to thrive where an older tree or vine of the same kind has been removed. If a pear tree has died put a cherry or peach tree in its place. If this is not desirable it will be of advantage to remove as much dirt as possible and fill in with soil from some other location.

A Joke That Is Not a Joke.

Mrs. Short—Oh, dear! I do wish we were rich. Just think of the good we could do if we only had lots of money.

Mr. Short—True, my dear; but we can do a great deal of good in a quiet way now.

Mrs. Short—Yes, of course—but no one will ever hear of it.

At Orotava, off the west coast of Northern Africa, grew the famous dragon tree, said to be the oldest in the world. It was destroyed by a hurricane in 1867. Hundreds of years ago its huge, hollow trunk was used as a temple by the Guanchis. Later the conquering Portuguese dedicated it to Christian worship.

The Other End

About the time of the collapse of the confederacy, ex-Senator Wigfall was crossing the Mississippi, making his way to Texas. He assumed the character of an ultra-union man. On the ferry-boat with him was a federal officer, with whom Wigall got into conversation. The officer confided to him that he was chasing Wigfall. "If I fall in with the trator, I'll hang him to the first tree." "Yes," vehemently remarked Wigfall, "and I will be pulling at one end."

Our Scotch Soldiers.

"To preserve the jewel of liberty in the framework of freedom," is the inscription beneath a statue of Abraham Lincoln erected on Scottish soil and sacred to the memory of the Scottish-American soldiers who died for our union in the civil war. Such monuments as this should typify eternal friendship.

A reaction has set in against women removing their hats in church, and Rev. W. D. Holly, of Christ Episcopal church at Hackensack, N. J., forbids the women of his flock to take off their headgear. He quoted from the Bible thus in support of his stand: "But every woman that prayeth with her head uncovered dishonoreth her head."

The announcement that Peking is pronounced "Peh-king" will be apt, says the Cleveland Plaindealer, to pique paragrahpers.

When bouillon is served in cups a spoon is laid in the saucer, and it may be eaten either from the spoon or drank directly from the cups. Covered cups are very seldom used for this purpose, but when they are, each person removes the cover and places it just at one side of her plate, and when the course is removed the servant takes away the covers.

"All the world loves a lover" is an old proverb. But all women love a wedding. And the bride's dress is more important than the music, or the decorations, the bride's father, the bridesmaids, the ushers or the clergyman.

The practice of taking arsenic in minute doses is very prevalent among the peasantry of the mountainous districts of Austro-Hunagry and France. They declare that this poison enables them to ascend with ease heights which they could not otherwise climb.

A state lunch in China consists of 140 dishes.

THE DEWEY HOMESTEAD.

The above picture shows the house where George Dewey was born December 26, 1837. It was occupied by the Dewey family until after the death of the admiral's father. It then came into the possession of Captain Edward Dewey, who sold it to its present owner and occupant, T. R. Gordon, Esq., in the summer of 1889. Mr. Gordon moved it to its present site in the following February 1890, and has occupied it until the present time. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon are unfailing in their courtesy to the thousands who visit this shrine, the birthplace of Admiral Dewey.

EXPOSITION AWARDS.

The McCormick Company Favored at Paris Exposition.

Paris, August 29.—The McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, of Chicago, has been awarded the grand prize on harvesting machines at the Paris exposition. This is the highest award.

The McCormick Company also received the highest award, a gold medal, on binder twine, for the superior quality of its product. Special twine machinery from the celebrated McCormick twine mill was exhibited to the jury and awarded a medal.

The McCormicks have received the largest number of awards, as well as the highest awards made to any American exhibitor. In addition to the grand prize on machines and gold medal on twine they have received two medals in the department of metallurgy for superiority in forming metals into special parts for machines; in the department of machinery a medal for factory machinery, and also silver and bronze medals in other classes, six medals in all, besides the grand prize.

The international juries of the exposition have recognized the great revolution wrought by McCormick machines and this large number of awards is a great triumph for America.

In addition to winning these awards, the gold medal and 200 francs, the single highest award for binders was won easily by the McCormick Binder at the field trial at Coulommiers on July 19, against all comers. This is the greatest and most important trial held in France during the exposition year.

An odd excuse for burglary was given by a one-legged boy, aged 14. He broke into a hardware store in Kansas City, Mo., and was captured. He pleaded he wanted to steal some tools which would enable him to make a wooden leg for himself.

British Guiana has a cannon ball tree that grows to a height of 100 feet, its straight, unbranching stem being only 18 inches thick. When the cannon balls are ready to drop the tree is avoided as a battery might be that was about to engage in a bombardment.

The most curious street pavement in the wolrd is that which has recently been put down in Lyons, France. It is of glass, the blocks being about eight inches square, each made up of 16 smaller blocks. The glass blocks are so tightly fitted together that water cannot pass between them. As a pavement glass is said to have greater resistance than stone.

Experiments made by Professor Joly show that quartz at the temperature of 800 degrees becomes plastic, and at 1500 degrees is a thick fluid. This softening point is much slower than has comonly been supposed, and the discovery gives encouragement to the hope of a wide use for quartz in scientific apparatus.

People marvel at the mechanism of the human body, with its 92 bones and 60 arteries. But man is simple in this respect with the carp. That remarkable fish moves no fewer than 4,386 bones and muscles every time it breathes. It has 4,320 veins, to say nothing of its 99 muscles.

A simple cement for broken china or earthenware is made of powdered quicklime, sifted through a coarse muslin bag over the white of an egg.