

The Flowery Kingdom.

The price of Chinese carts in Pekin is very generally fixed at ten cents an hour.

If one is taken without previous agreement as to price, and at the conclusion of the service the driver will be offered the driver, he will invariably demand more.

A wealthy American gentleman, being in Pekin in his journey around the world, complained to me of the high prices charged by Chinese inn-keepers for rooms.

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The lack of laws or of their enforcement, for standard weights and measures goes far to facilitate tricks of trade in China. Cloths of all sorts, whether of silk, linen, wool, or cotton, are sold by the foot.

Steelyards are regularly made and sold in the markets having two sets of pounds measured on them, one for buying and one for selling.

Words were given us to conceal our thoughts, eh! Just listen to the man who steals down stairs in the still night and catches his bare toe in the upturned corner of zinc that lurks near the freight's ruddy glow.

One gets a varying number of ounces to the pound. For the coarse grades one gets sixteen, a full pound; for medium qualities but twelve, while for the very finest twenty-two ounces are called a pound.

Of course such variations, regularly established by custom, practically counterbalance themselves, the price varying in accordance with the weight. At the same time it is quite impossible to find either reason or sense in such practices.

I have often been trapped into the purchase of articles which I did not want in the following manner. A dealer in "curios," as they are called, old porcelains, cash, bronzes, etc., would come in and offer some object for sale, making a little speech about its rarity, beautiful form and color, and close by saying that the price was only five dollars.

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"Yes, it pays," said a big, fat physician, with a name which is known throughout the medical world.

"I have a practice worth \$40,000 a year," "Women?" "Yes, you've guessed it first time. They pay \$10 every time they come into my office.

The greater our dread of crosses, the more necessary they are for us. Shocking Accident. So read the headlines of many a newspaper column, and we peruse with palpitating interest the details of the catastrophe, and are deeply impressed by the sacrifice of human life involved.

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. No man has learned anything rightly until he knows that every day is Doomsday.

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To Policy-holders on surrender of Policies 88,656 90

To Policy-holders for Cash Profits (including those allocated and being paid) 42,514 92

To holders of Annuity Bonds 16,967 84

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A life long study. I WARRANT my remedy to CURE the worst cases. But if you have failed no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a FREE BOTTLE of my INFALLIBLE REMEDY. Give Express and Post Office. 15 cents you nothing for a trial, and it will cure you. Address Dr. H. G. ROOT, 37 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont.

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