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UNDoubtedly. What do you think Howells said when he spoke about one of his characters being a "hen-minded" man?

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CHINA'S RULING POWERS.

DOWAGER EMPRESS BOSSES THE SON OF HEAVEN.

Kuang Hsu Shut Up in His Purple Forbidden City with His Bow and Arrows. The Grand Council, the Ministry of War, the Fung-li-Yamen and the Men Who Constitute Them - Daily Diet of the Brother of the Sun.

There is a young man in Pekin who would be trembling just now in his skin if he were only able to realize properly the danger that is threatened to him and his empire by some of those very kind friends who have come to him down ferretes.

THE SUPREME BODIES which, by the grace of the Empress Dowager and the favorite eunuchs have the direction of the country's affairs, are the Grand Council, the Ministry of War, and the Tsung-li-Yamen.

PURPLE FORBIDDEN CITY. The walls of this last pen are rigidly guarded. They inclose the quarters of the Emperor, his family, the ladies of the royal harem, and the thousands of eunuchs who make up the servants.

A BOLD FRONT to foreign aggression. The Tsung-li-Yamen consists of Prince Kung, Prince Ching, Weng, Tung-ho, Kang Yi, and Jung Lu, in addition to our estimable old friend, Li Hung Chang and Ching Hsin.

RESPECT AND FEAR HER. She is a stickler as to form, and insists that all business shall be done through the young Emperor, though she really directs what he is to do.

A CHARITABLE LOVE said the politician, I said I was working man's friend.

isters, who, on being ushered into his presence, go down on their knees and perform the seven faced "Ko-tou"—that is, bump their heads again and again on their knees while before him.

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VICTORIA IS LIMITED IN POWER.

She is an Autocrat, but There Are Many Things She Cannot Do.

Considerable as are the powers of the queen, they are not unlimited, says London Tid-Bits. There are some very curious restrictions on the royal prerogative.

The queen could sell or give away the royal navy or declare war with Russia; but she could not spend a single farthing of public money without the consent of parliament.

A curious curtailment of the royal prerogative is effected by an act of parliament passed in the reign of George III. This act deals with Sabbath breaking, and in it is distinctly stated that the monarch cannot pardon offenders who have been convicted of a certain form of Sabbath breaking.

Though the queen could recall any subject from abroad, she cannot compel a subject to leave this country. This disability does not pass to operate even in time of war, and, though at such a time the queen could call upon every able man to take up arms, she could not force a single civilian to leave the country, even to carry on a necessary war.

Her majesty could not set up courts such as the star chamber, the child of Henry VII.'s misguided genius, nor could she invest a spiritual court with temporal power.

INQUEST ON A HEN. An analysis of the contents of the gizzard of a hen killed at Opalopolis, N.S.W., revealed one three-penny-bit, one bone overcoat-button, six metal trouser-buttons, two brass-headed tacks, 3-4 in., about 5 dozen metal springs (for boots), and sundry opal chips.

DANGERS OF MATRIMONY. Mrs. De Peck—Since I married you I am losing all my good looks. Mrs. De Peck—Doctors agree that

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precluded from making an arrest, as, supposing the prisoner were innocent, no action for false imprisonment could be taken against her majesty.

Dr. Schwenger, Bismarck's physician, is going to lecture at Vienna on a novel plan. He will appear on the stage with a Berlin editor, who will put questions which the doctor will answer.

Cash System Adopted by N. G. & J. McKechnie.

We beg to inform our customers and the public generally that we have adopted the Cash System, which means Cash or its Equivalent, and that our motto will be "Large Sales and Small Profits."

We take this opportunity of thanking our customers for past patronage, and we are convinced that the new system will merit a continuance of the same.

N. G. & J. McKECHNIE