EDITORIAL NOTES.

It is still impossible to say what are the precise relations between the Chinese Empire and those foreign countries which habitually maintain diplomatic representatives at Pekin. That it is generally assumed that, as yet, war does not exist in the eye of international law, is evident from the fact that not a single Chinese Minister residing in a foreign capital has been dismissed. It is incredible, however, that a state of things so anomalous will be suffered to continue much longer. We shall know exactly where we stand as soon as we hear directly from the foreign legations in the Chinese capital and learn whether the resistance offered to our attempt to deliver them from peril is or is not approved by the Imperial Government

What renders diplomats reluctant to assume that China has involved herself irrevocably in warfare with all the treaty Powers is the antecedent improbability that the Empress Dowager and her advisers would commit an act of suicidal folly. Upon no theory compatible with their sanity can it be supposed that they, remembering their flagrant inability to cope with Japan alone a few years ago, now believe themselves capable of confronting Japan, supported by all the great Powers of Europe and by the United States. It is, on the face of things, much more likely that the Empress Dowager and her reactionary councillors, while primarily not unwilling to encourage the outbreaks of the so-called Boxers against Chinese converts to Christianity, intend to disavow the acts of the commander of the Taku forts and of the forces which assailed Admiral Seymour and compelled him to retreat to Tien-Tsin. It is true that, according to Seymour's despatch to the British Admiralty, he was attacked not only by rebels, but also by Imperial troops. The latter, however, may themselves have revolted against Imperial authority, and, in any event, the Chinese Government may repudiate and punish them, thus relieving itself in one sense from responsibility.

The hypothesis that the Empress Dowager would not commit herself to any act which could not be explained away is consonant with common sense, but it is not easily reconciled with one remarkable incident, namely, that nearly three weeks have elapsed since any direct or trustworthy communication has been received from the foreign legation in Pekin. If the Chinese ruler has clearly recognized from the outset that the protection of the legations was indispensable to her own retention of the throne, it is hard to believe that she could not have found means to forward reassuring messages from them to Tien-Tsin or to one of the treaty ports. The mystery which still hides their fate can be made to harmonize with the exhibition of good faith and good sense on the part of the Empress Dowager only if we assume that she herself is the victim of coercion. In that event, the orders said to have been transmitted recently from Pekin to Li Hung Chang at Canton and to the Viceroys of other southern provinces while ostensibly issued by the Empress Dowager, must have emanated really from a reactionary committee now in possession of the capital.

If this be the true explanation of the prolonged silence regarding the foreign legations at Pekin, the worst is to be feared. If the diplomatic representatives of the treaty Powers have been massacred, or if they have been arrested and held as hostages, the authors of such a shocking violation of international law would naturally seek to hide the truth as long as possible in order to defer an overwhelming demonstration on the part of the countries wronged. At the same time, we do not understand how such an outrage could have been perpetrated without rumors of it quickly reaching all parts of the Chinese Empire.

One thing is certain, namely, that the treaty Powers cannot again permit their representatives at Pekin to be cut off for weeks from communication with the outside world. Even on the hypothesis most favorable to the Empress Dowager, the hypothesis that she herself is the victim of coercion at the hands of rebels, measures must be taken so to buttress her authority hereafter as to render a repetition of the present state of things impossible. If no guarantees of the future protection of foreign legations can be afforded at Pekin, the Imperial Government must be prevailed upon to remove to Nankin or to some other city where adequate precautions can be taken. It is preposterous to suppose that the great Powers of the world will submit a second time to be cut off for weeks from all communication with their representatives

Agricultural

IMPROVING RUN-DOWN FARMS.

The number of run-down farms is increasing in this country at a rapid rate, and the West will soon have its share of these farms along with the East. The cause of this is that there are so many engaged in farming who do not understand the primary principles of good farming that the land deteriorates without attracting their attention. This deterioration goes on slowly and gradually, and year by year the soil produces a smaller crop. After matters become considerably demoralized somebody wakes up to the fact that the land is exhausted and run down, and the farm gets a name that practically makes it unsaleable. Good money that was originally put in the land as an investment is thus lost. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are lost in this country through this deterioration of soil because of ignorance or neglect on the part of so-called farmers. In the same way, a similar depreciation of other business property goes on in towns and villages through the lack of good management. The farmers are not alone in having among their number poor members who fail to hold their own and keep their property from degenerating.

A good farm needs as much systematic attention as any business or city property. In order to keep up its renting or paying value the soil must not be allowed to degenerate or its buildings and other appurtenances to go to pieces. A good farmer will not allow this. The fertility of his soil is never sacrificed for some immediate gain unless, it is restored right away again by some return. Continual cropping without adding anything in return is never practised. But the most difficult thing in farming is to take hold of a rundown farm and restore it to its former standard of fertility. This is discouraging work and often drives the best of farmers to despair. It is like taking hold of a rundown business in a city and trying to build it up. Business men say that it is easier to start an entirely new business than to attempt to inject new life into one that has been run into the ground. So it is much more satisfactory to take a farm that is in fair condition and run it than to purchase a rundown one at half price and strive to improve it. But the latter can be done, and there are cases where it is necessary for a farmer to do this. To do this he must make up his mind to make haste slowly, and to make every step that he takes a progressive one. Grass must be made the foundation crop of the land, and green and barnyard manure must be continually added every year in excess of the amount taken from the soil. By a proper crop rotation, plenty of animals which can add fertility to the soil, the farm can in the course of years be returned to its first fertile condition. A man who can do this, however, is a farmer who is capable of making anything on the farm succeed. The long course of discipline he must go through will also prove of help to him, because he will learn more about intensive farming than the man who starts with a rich soil.

VALUE OF GOOD CITIZENS.

An honest and industrious man who moves into a farming neighborhood makes all the property there more valuable. One who is idle, dissolute and vicious depreciates not only farm property, but all property wherever he goes. The men who talk about population making property more valuable only look at half the truth. It all depends on what kind of population is referred to. A colony of lepers or those having any contagious disease will depreciate the value of land whenever they go. If it were not so the congested quarters of all our great cities would bring the highest prices. It is rather where most money is spent on buildings and improvements that land is the dearest. Nearness to commercial centres used to be thought all important. Now the same benefit is derived from the use of telegraphs and telephones and by steam and electric cars, which build up the suburbs at the expense of what used to be the old business centres. These same transportation and messags facilities are bringing city and country in closer accord than ever before. The time is, we believe, soon coming when a great proportion of business men in all our large cities will spend a large part of their summer vacation in the country, not merely boarding, as many of them do now, but spending their whole summer or year on places which they own. When this occurs there will be less isolation in farm life, for it will be so closely in touch with some nearby city that the newspaper and most other city advantages will be accessible in the country as they now are in the city. When this time comes it must make farm lands much more valuable than they are now, and the majority of those who work them will be satisfied with fewer acres and the intensive culture which can then be given them, Man's first home on this planet according to all tradition, in a garden of delights that in our Bible is called the Garden of Eden. After an experience of most varied sort, lasting many thousand years, man is again learning that to be a gardener and in close touch with nature is his happiest and safest position.

OLD CEREMONIES.

Every now and then an elderly married couple will be met who address each other with the stateliness that was customary thirty years ago. The husband is "Mr. Smith," to the wife and the wife is usually "Mother," to the husband, nothing less conventional is ever heard from them, indeed, neither might have a first name for all the use that his better half makes of it.

"I just couldn't call your father Charlie," a quiet little woman said the other day, in answer to her daughter's gibings, "why it wouldn't be respectful. I never did in my life, and I certainly wouldn't now, when you are all grown."

"But what did you call him when you were engaged," persisted her inquisitor, "You surely didn't go around then, calling each other Mr. Jones and Miss Smith."

"We didn't always," replied the little woman, evasively, "but I liked to give him his title even then,—it's more respectful, much more respectful."

"I'd rather have more affection and less respect," said the daughter, rebelliously. "It doesn't sound as if you had anything but a bowing acquaintance with him when you say Mister all the time. I'm going to call my husband Fritz whether it's his name or not, it has such a jolly air."

And the average married couple of this day and age with a fine disregard for respect and old-fashioned courtesy usually call each other by a nickname of varying degrees of beauty, and which has oftentimes a remote connection with the one given them in baptism. But after all one likes this way better than the stiff conventionality which led a woman all through a married life of thirty or forty years to address her liege lord as Mister Smith, or Jones, or Brown, just as though he were verily her master, and she were living in mediaval times when exaggerated politeness marked the intercourse between men and women.

POCKETBOOK TO MATCH GOWN.

No woman can have too many pocket-books, as the fad of this summer, to have everything to match about a costume, renders it desirable to have a purse to match every gown. Choose some pretty, delicate tint in the leather of the prevailing pastel shades, as her gowns will follow the vogue in color.

YEARS OF PAIN.

The Experience of Mr. William Smith, of Hawkesbury, Who Suffered for Many Years From Kidney Troubles.

From the Post, Hawkesbury, Ont.

Everybody in Hawkesbury knows Mr. William Smith. He came here when the town was yet in its village days, as one of the lumber company's staff of mechanics. In 1881 Mr. Smith was appointed town constable, and filled that position until very recently. As is well known to many of Mr. Smith's friends, he has suffered much from kidney trouble for quite a number of years past, and at times the pain in his back was so great that he was almost physically incapable of exertion. He doctored a great deal, sometimes getting temporary relief, but the cause of the trouble was not removed, and soon the pains, accompanied alternately by chills and fever, returned. At last he came to look upon his condition as one which no medicine could permanently aid. Indeed his condition might still have been one of much suffering had not Mrs. Smith ultimately prevailed upon her husband to give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a trial. "It seemed," said Mr. Smith to a reporter, of the Post, "that it was a useless experiment, and yet I was willing to do almost anything that would bring relief. I had not used the pill long before there was undoubted relief, more in fact than I had obtained from any other medicine. I continued their use, and soon all symptoms of the trouble that had made my life one of much misery for many years was gone. I feel that I am cured, and have no hesitation in saying that the cure is due to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I never lose an opportunity of recommending the pills to neighbors who may be ailing."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure by going to the root of the disease. They renew and build up the blood, and strengthen the nerves, thus driving disease from the system. If your dealer does not keep them, they will be sent postpaid at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for $2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, OOnt.

SOMETHING QUITE NEW—

SALADA

CEYLON GREEN TEA

Same flavor as Japan, only more delicious.

SUMMER BEVERAGES.

During the summer the system demands cold and refreshing drinks, and the housewife who appreciates this and regularly supplies a variety of good ones, does much to preserve, or restore, the health of the family, as well as to increase their immediate comfort. If one has an ice-chest, or refrigerator, and plenty of ice, only forethought is needed to keep a constant supply of cold water. Lacking these, water or any other beverage, can be kept refreshingly cold by wrapping the pitcher or other vessel containing it in several thicknesses of newspaper, placing on the floor of the coldest part of the cellar and covering closely with a heavy woolen blanket or carpet.

Cold tea and coffee can be served either plain or flavored. Lemon is the most agreeable and popular flavor, but one soon acquires a liking for a light one of ginger, and when drunk at intevals as one works, the latter is more desirable, because it tones up the stomach and goes far to counteract the coldness of the beverage. Use green ginger root, and slice a little into the pot when ready to make.

A cereal coffee is a better warm-weather drink than the genuine article, for, although rich, and finely flavored, it is less stimulating than the latter, and also lighter and more easily digested. Treat in the same manner as coffee, only boiling slowly for fifteen minutes. Cool as above directed.

Cocoa has everything to recommend it, and is deserving of more recognition than it receives. Cocoa shells—the thin outer covering of the beans, they come in one-pound packages—are milder than cocoa, and also less expensive. Either makes a refreshing warm-weather drink. Use plain or flavored with vanilla or cinnamon.

Chocolate Syrup is the basis of a delightful beverage. Put six tablespoonfuls of grated chocolate over the fire in two cupfuls of boiling water; simmer slowly, stirring occasionally until dissolved; add four cupfuls of granulated sugar, stir until dissolved, remove the spoon, simmer for seven minutes longer, strain, add two tablespoonfuls of vanilla extract, and seal in glass fruit jar filled to overflowing. When ready to serve, allow one and a half gills of ice-cold milk and two tablespoonfuls of syrup for every glassful, put them in a cold glass fruit jar, shake well for three minutes, pour into chilled tumblers, and put a tablespoonful of whipped cream in each.

Strawberry, raspberry, and other fruit syrubs and shrubs are delightfully attractive and refreshing, when simply served in ice-cold water, the proportion varying from two to four tablespoonfuls of the syrup to each glassful of water; they also make a pleasing change from plain lemonade, and are a decided addition to oatmeal, flaxseed tea, toast-water, and various other drinks for the invalid.

No other easily made summer drinks are so wholesome and nourishing, and at the same time inexpensive, as the old stand-bys, oatmeal water and-ginger-ade, and by giving the former a flavour of lemon, or any one of the various fruit syrups, and making ginger-ade, of ginger, lemon juice and simple syrup, instead of ginger, vinegar and molasses, as formerly, both are decidedly improved.

Ginger Pop is not a particularly pleasing name, but when well made is indeed invigorating on a hot sultry day in midsummer. Add two cupfuls of granulated sugar to four quarts of tepid water and stir until dissolved. Put one ounce of finely sliced white ginger root and the grated yellow rind of one lemon and one orange—or one large lemon over the fire in a cupful of water, and simmer for fifteen minutes; squeeze the juice from the lemons, remove the pulp from the rind, strain out the seeds, add all to the boiling liquid—let stand five minutes strain, add two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, and pour into the sweetened water. When lukewarm, pour into a stone jar, add half a cupful of soft yeast, set in a warm place for 24 hours, then bottle and wire down the corks; lay bottles on the side in a cool place and in 24 hours longer they will "pop."

AHEAD OF SOME OF THEM.

I regret to say that my daughter can't sing a note.

But does she think she can?

No, she knows she can't.

Then there's no reason why you should regret it. If she doesn't become a social favorite I miss my guess.

LASTING QUALITIES.

The Chinese Would Accomplish Much If Turned to Good.

The Chinese have many traits which, if properly developed, would cause them to assume a leading place among the nations of the globe. The people are industrious, hospitable, temperate and devoted to learning. They are strong and wiry. They have lasting qualities. The Chinese can live anywhere, eat everything and believe anything. They outwear the tribes of Southern Asia, are more conservative than the Japanese and less poetical than the Hindoo. They are possessed of much common sense. Their religions and superstitions enter into everything, even their cheating and lying. Gambling is the national sin. The little children on the street throw dice for the candy with the salesman. The missionary from the Occident, outnumbered by the opium vender and the whisky peddler, has been unable to keep the vices of the West from being introduced along with the virtues, and, after five centuries of contact, the Caucasian has done the Mongolian more harm than good.

THE THREAD TOOTH.

"Some day I'm going to get up a lecture and advertise it to be delivered before women only," said a dentist. "In that way I'll be sure to draw a big crowd, and when I get a whole grist of femininity within hearing distance I'm going to preach at them for all I'm worth. My text will be "The Thread Tooth." Why you women will persist in doing such senseless things when you know the result is going to be more or less harmful is something I can't for the life of me understand, but it is a fact that nine out of ten of you who use the needle, be it much or little, will go on biting as if nothing better than teeth had ever been invented for the purpose of severing thread. I verily believe that if a woman had a dozen pairs of shears within reach she would bite her thread instead of clipping it, which really doesn't take a second longer.

"But I don't bite hard," my callers always protest when I expostulate with them. Great Scott, what an argument! Just as if a person had to bite clear through a millstone to break the enamel on a tooth. A thread is a fine, delicate thing, to be sure, but so are some saws and files, and all are sure to cut their way through almost any substance if applied persistently. When I get my lecture ready, I'm going to say all this and a good deal more, and I'm going to wind up with the advice that I'm giving now to every woman who handles a needle. Don't bite your thread. Cut it or break it, but don't, if you value your incisors and your cuspids and your bicuspids, saw it off with your teeth.

Neuralgia

is Rheumatism of the face. Uric Acid left in the blood by disordered kidneys lodges along the nerve which branches from the eye over the forehead, and across the cheek to the side of the nose. The cause is the same as in all Rheumatism— disordered Kidneys. The cure is likewise the same—

Dodd's Kidney Pills

Hats of all kinds, shapes and conditions are in fashion, but the latest thing from Paris is a modernized poke, trimmed wiht a large bow of ribbon, silk or velvet and one, two or three small bunches of roses well forward on the brim. The crown is medium high, tapering a little toward the top and the brim, drooping in the back, is manipulated in curves to suit the face and raised a little underneath at one side with a short band and small bow.

"You can mould opinion, you can create political power"— says John Bright— But you cannot find a Tea equal to Blue Ribbon Ceylon.

Large increase in Sales. What does this mean? Why, it means only one thing - that the quality of

LUDELLA

CEYLON TEA is suiting the tastes of the people. Lead Packages. 25, 30, 40, 50 and 60c.

QUEER CUSTOMS.

The Chinese eat rice three times a day. They ply their chop sticks as dexterously as we do knife and fork. They say our use of the knife is barbarous. Men shave their heads and grow pigtails. The "pigtail" is the badge of servitude forced on the Chinese by their conquerors, the Manchus. Women, that are married pull out the hair over the forehead. Some finger nails are six inches long, and are protected by bamboo and silver tubes generally worn over the third finger. A coffin is a fine present to either father or mother. It is often kept in the bedroom. Incense burns around it night and day to keep away evil influences. When a person dies the body is elaborately dressed and paper money is piled in the coffin. This pays the way to Nirvana.

CUBA'S SUGAR.

Cuba is the greatest sugar producing country in the world, and its normal crop is about 1,000,000 tons.

In Penetrating Power

No remedy in the world equals Nerviline—nerve-pain cure. Neuralgia and rheumatism are relieved almost instantly, and the minor aches and pains are cured by a single application. Nerviline—nerve-pain cure — is sure to cure.

The latest thing in handkerchiefs is a very tiny square of cobweblike lawn edged with lace. The absence of a pocket in gowns is the incentive for this change in size, which makes it possible to wear the handkerchief inside of the glove.

WHAT IS NEEDED.

By every man and woman if they desire to secure comfort in this world is a corn sheller. Putnam's Corn Extractor shells corns in two or three days and without discomfort or pain. A hundred imitations prove the merit of Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor, which is always sure, safe and painless. See signature of Polson & Co. on each bottle. Sold by medicine dealers.

Worry Your Friends with This.—What is it that is round and sound, and just a pound, and yet does not weigh an ounce?

A sovereign.

SO INTERESTING.

A recently published book is entitled "Half-Hours with Insects." What a lively half-hour one can have with a bee!

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MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used by mothers for their children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhœa. 25c. a bottle. Sold by all druggists throughout the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup."

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"That's nothing! We've got a girl in our flat who has no voice and who sings!"

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Black is very fashionable this season and the most popular materials include figured velour, bayadere striped crepon, figured and bayadere corded poplin, novelty bayadere striped velours and crepons.

The oldest banknote in the possession of the Bank of England is dated December 19th, 1699, and is for £555.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that contain Mercury.

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.

Sold by Druggists, price 75c per bottle.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

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