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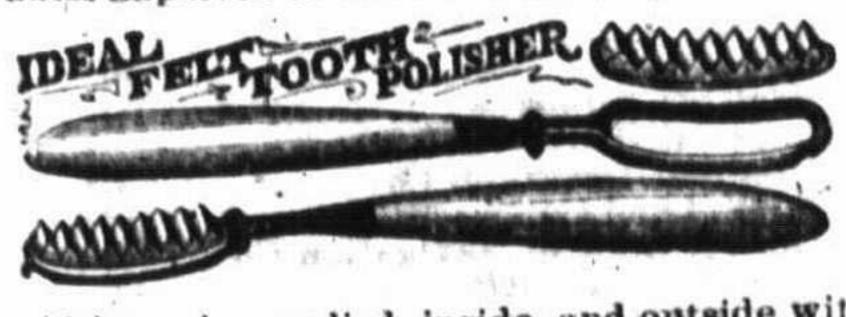
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KINGSTON, ONT.

A Tale of Life in New York's Chinese Quarters.

Burglary-The Burglar, However, Was Not the Man Scutenced to Suffer, It Was the Burglee-How the Matter Came Out.

Charley Lee and Charley Toy were two brothers, who, in 1874, had come to San Francisco from the Flowery Kingdom to to gather a little of the unspeakable wealth for which the United States is famous in the east. Toy had good luck from the first. A tea merchant in Sacramento took a fancy to him, and gave him a good position in a large store. He rose rapidly, and began to accumulate money. With one portion he finally bought a partnership interest in his business; the other he sent home to his father, a poor scribe in the province of Chi-li. In 1880 he crossed the continent and settled in New York city. His fame had preceded him, and was elected treasurer and cashier of the tures largest Chinese mutual benefit societies on the eastern side of the Rocky mountains, and besides these honors had the pleasure of owning \$3,000, which he kept in a money belt

around his waist. Lee had not done so well in worldly affairs. Unable to obtain the mercantile posi- street announcing the unpleasant event. At tion for which his education and tastes fitted him, he finally accepted an offer from a railroad contractor, and became a "navvy" on the Central Pacific. When that great highway was finished he found himself again out of employment. For two years he supported himself as best be could, now as ironer in a laundry, then as professional poet, at one moment a waiter in one of the great San Francisco restaurants, and at another an agent for one of the stores of the metropolis of the Pacific coast.

THE SMILES OF FORTUNE.

Fortune at last smiled upon him, and he was appointed a highbinder by the great societies. The office of the highbinder closely corresponds to that of deputy sheriff or constable. The highbinder serves legal processes, collects debts, delivers society notices, and when required by that strange mixture of law and custom which makes up Chinese jurisprudence, executes criminals. His intelligence, bravery, physical strength and endurance soon made his name a household word among his fellow countrymen. Toy had of course made enemies in his commercial career, and of these Ah Kwong was the bitterest and most vindictive. Fate, in some malicious mood, had apparently made the two men rivals in everything, and had "hippodromed" each race in Toy's favor.

They had been competitors in their school days in the Middle Empire, and Toy had carried off every prize. Ab Kwong had been an eager aspirant for the position in Sacramento which was given to Toy. When in 1877 Kwong, having accumulated a little money by privation and ceaseless work, made a corner in sharks' fins, birds' nests and culinary spices, Toy broke the market and almost ruined the speculator. In 1879 Ah Kweng organized a bok-a-beh (Chinese policy) company, in which he was the heaviest stockholder. At the first drawing Toy won \$3,000 on a ten combination and broke the bank. Ah Kwong with the few dollars left from his reverses went to New York. When Toy followed his example, the flo d of disaster began again. The three positions to which the latter was elected had been occupied the previous term by Ab Kwong, and the change was an implied reflection on the former incumbent. Then, to cap the climax, Toy fell in love and was accepted by Mary Sullivan, a pretty Irish girl whom Kwong had long and

assiduously courted. This was too much for even the patience of a Chinaman. Kwong swore an awful oath of revenge, and began to plot his successful rival's ruin. Cautiously and by degrees he learned that Toy kept the funds of the three societies in a stout safe along with the money belt mentioned; and that the safe, though heavy and very strong, was old fashioned and easily opened. Here he saw the opportunity to obtain the satisfaction that now had become a perfect monomania. Toy was very careful, however, and extremely regular in his habits. When he went out, which was seldom, he invariably left another officer of the societies in charge of his room. Kwong watched and waited for the rooms to be unoccupied. Days passed into weeks, and weeks into months, without anything occurring. It seemed as if he were always doomed

to disappointment. THE TURNING OF A LONG LANE. But it is a long lane that has no turning, and one afternoon the Chinese consul gave a formal dinner in the joss house to all the leading residents of Mott street. The society officials were invited and accepted the invitation. Toy, who lived in a huge tenement.

house in Pell street, locked up his room with no misgiving, and with the other residents of his floor strolled around to Mott street, and thence leisurely to Chatham square, to take part in the feast. He had hardly reached the first corner before Kwong was in the building. He hurried up the single flight of stairs and paused nervously before Toy's door. Silence in the halls and silence in the rooms within! With a duplicate key he had made he opened the door, entered and closed it behind him without a sound. The place was neat and exquisitely clean. Over the mantel hung a great portait of Joss, and before it slowly burning were the joss sticks and prayer woods left by the devout. Near the bed stood the safe. Kwong hurried to it, and, kneeling, began to pick the lock. As he shot the bolts the bells the Church of the Transfiguration began to toll slowly for some poor man's funeral. Kwong did not believe in Fah-Kee mummery, as he called it, but nevertheless shivered. With his heart thun-

There lay the money, done up with Mon-

dering in his ears he pulled back the beavy

golian neatness. And there lay the money belt.

With a wild thrill of exultation he transferred the packages of bills and the rolls of gold and silver to the pockets of his blouse. He opened the money belt with a trembling hand and emptied it with almost fiendish delight, throwing all the small coin upon the floor. Then leaving the doors of both safe and room wide open, he ran rapidly down the stairs into the street, down Pell street to Chatham square and was in the Joss housy talking reverently to the consul a full minute before Toy appeared in the ante-room.

The dinner passed off pleasantly. Thirty courses of foods, and at least twenty of those rare stimulants for which the Orient is celebrated, kept the company till late in the evening. Toy left at about 9 o'clock, but Kwong remained to the very last, a quarter and then, deliriously happy. home and laughed himself to sleep, waking now and then to find himself convulsed with langhter in his dreams.

THE BLOW FALLS. Poor Toy arrived at his house, climbed the

black eyed Neapolitan child, who put a silver finds money in your room; keeps for you. Dam boys getta some and run away."

He was about to reply in his courteous way when his eyes fell upon the safe. door was open and the interior empty. What Kwong had not taken had been pilfered by ter who had done the deed, the robbery meant his ruin and death. Under the Chinese law the embezzlement of trust funds is a capital offense, while the embezziement of those upon which the poor, starving or sick depend is even a more serious crime-the one being punished by the ax or the garote and the other by a more horrible penalty. As his excitement cooled he began to think of how he might save himself. He could borrow perhaps enough money to replace the trust funds. He set to work, and before morning had written fifty letters to as many friends and relatives reciting all the facts and imploring their help.

When most people are in bed he was at the postoffice mailing them with his own hands. He was back in Chinatown before

the breakfast hour. draft signed by the committee on charities was 'presented to him and its payment refused. The astonished holder ran hurriedly to the society rooms and made the news known. At noon a scarlet bulletin was posted on the second telegraph pole in Mott 3 o'clock a full meeting of the heads of the societies was held at No. 16 Mott street. The 1 proceedings were brief and characteristic, What was said will never be known, but early in the evening a white banner, written across with a vermillion pencil, was delivered to Toy, which in simple English read:

"In thirty days-Restitution or death!" At the same moment a Western Union telegraph operator in San Francisco was taking from the wares this message;

Charles Sing, Dupont street: Come here four weeks from today. Have written you by this mail.

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT. The month passed-swiftly to Toy, but at a snail's pace to Kwong. The former had been disappointed everywhere. Some believed be had robbed himself, but nearly all declared that his carelessness had been inexcusable and merited death. All that he had been able to borrow was \$225, and this was nothing in the eyes of the law. Kwong. on the other hand, could neither eat nor sleep for joy. He began to drink hard and to smoke opium until his friends and neighbors considered him on the road to ruin. Before he had been parsimonious to the last degree; now he became wildly extravagant and treated and threw away money until people legan to whisper and to suspect that he knew more of the missing money than an innocent man should.

THE CLIMAX AT HAND,

The last day came. Toy had gone over to the Pennsylvania depot to meet two cousins who had kindly volunteered to come on and attend to his funeral. The train was delayed by some cause or other, and the broken hearted man sat alone in the corner with his eyes upon the ground. The cars finally speeded into the depot and the two relatives alighted. It was an hour past sundown, the time when by law the condemned must take the fatal opium or be executed by the highbinders, and the trio went in silence across the riverand the dusky streets to the scene of Toy's death.

Kwong that day was in the seventu heaven. At an early hour he had treated the crowd at Jerry Hartigan's, and had followed it up by a round of visits to the saloons in the neighborhood. At 5 o'clock he suddenly determined to go round to Toy's rooms and witness the suicide. He proceeded there and found only an officer of the society present. The latter, disgusted with the liquor fumes that came from Kwong, excused himself and went out. Kwong gave the departure no thought, but lay down on a bunk and producing from his blouse an ivory box of opium, began to absorb the spirit of the drug. Exquisite pictures floated through his disordered bran, endless and unspeakable. Then they began to change under the influence of the alcohol and morphine in his system. He was in some quarrel with Toy - i some awful struggle to the death. There came a tapping on the door.

"Who's theref" "It's I, Charley." He knew that voice. Half delirious and half awake he sprang from the bunk with the heavy pipe in his hand and opened the h door. Through the dense smeke he saw, or thought he saw, a familiar face and form, and struck at it with all his strength. Be BAY OF QUINTE STEAMBOAT ROUTE. fore the blow reached its destination a muscular figure sprang swiftly forward, a long, thin, steel needle was driven through the drunkard's leart, and Kwong fell heavily

upon the floor a corpse. A half hour afterwards Toy and the two cousins catered the place. The room was dense with smoke and the light was burning low. They opened the windows, turned up the light and saw the body. The face was calm as if a leep. They unbottoned the blouse. There was a small red blot on the At the same moment a silk underslint. heavy roll of coin fell from a pocket. Toy picked it up, beked at it and gasped. It was one of the stellar colls, and the thief lay before them. A search revealed the remainder of the lost meney. That yery evening the societies were called together at midnight; the verdict was rescinded, and notices contaiting the truth sent to every part of the

Charley Lee is still treasurer of the socie eties, and will, it is said, soon be their manager and president, And of course Mary Sullivan is now Mary Lee, and a little black eyed Lee just able to sit up may be found any day in Charley's room. / There's a new safe there, a dog and a modern burglar alarm, which doeses mything as well as a policeman. except to talk, walk and refresh the inner i

And so it wasn't our lecturing, big story telling newspaper man, Eli Perkins, who was thrashed in Lentucky after, all for having a row with a restaurant waiter, but quite another fellow. Our friend Eli was in New York all the time. But he says he sympathizes with the man who was hit, and wishes be had been there to see the fun at least.

When baby was sick, we gave her Castoria, When she was a child, she cried for Castoria, When she became Mics, she clung to Castoria. When she had children, she gave them Cas' oria.

the bell ringing for ? - Saltonstall (concisely) Miss St. Clare-I don't see why they have to ring a bell to tell there's a fog. Look at my bangs.

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