

A GREAT STATESMAN

STEP BY STEP HE HAS CLIMBED FROM LOW TO HIGH ESTATE.

Li Hung Chang's remarkable career in public life which began at his thirty-ninth year—Rebellion put down by his strong arm.

Write the careers of all the great statesmen living to-day and probably none will be so thrilling as that of Li Hung Chang. The world may credit other men with richer deeds and hold their names in higher esteem, but these are not the points of comparison. The great achievements of most men of history were under conditions that did not exist in China during the many years that Li Hung Chang has been putting his name on the scroll of fame. Statesmen of other countries have had the people behind them. If not the people then the bolstering power of government. Li Hung Chang has had



LI HUNG CHANG.

the people against him and he has felt at the same time the deadly enmity of the advisers of the throne, and even of the throne itself.

Li Hung Chang rose from a clerk in the civil service, and the blood of a noble ancestry did not flow in his veins. Any Chinese may become a nobleman of the highest rank through a series of graduations. Regular civil service examinations permit him to advance step by step. Even a Coolie may become a prime minister, and, though highly improbable, it is not impossible, that a prime minister, with the powers and a cruel fate against him, might become a Coolie.

Li Hung Chang fought his way up in the face of the bitterest opposition, and as he forced his way up he forced China up with him, compelling her to adopt improvements that have given the country her present standing among progressive nations.

Romantic literature doesn't furnish a stronger story than that which covers the rise of Li Hung Chang from obscurity to fame. He was born February 11, 1823, and his biographers have failed to find any great names in his pedigree.

When twenty-five years old he was locally known for his erudition, and was appointed to a small office. It was in 1851, when 28 years old, that he demonstrated what kind of metal was in him. He had reached the position of tactical or prefect of the district of Kiangsu, which was then a hotbed of revolt. His success in putting down the rebellion there was so remarkable that a year later he was appointed acting general of the forces about Shanghai and Sung Kiang. There is where his masterful knowledge of European affairs showed itself. He was the one man in China who recognized the inferiority of the Chinese arms and the incompetency of its military code.

He engaged European generals and made the army learn the tactics of modern warfare. It was during that period that "Chloras" Gordon, afterwards killed in Khartoum by El Mahdi's troops while defending the British garrison there, was engaged. So also were the French generals, Bungeoivre and Giguet. This was what is known as the Tai-Ping rebellion, perhaps the largest and bloodiest of Chinese history. More than half the entire country had risen, the purpose being to restore the Ming dynasty, which the Tartars had turned out.

It is on record that 20,000,000 persons were killed during this rebellion. But it was put down finally by the directing arm of Li Hung Chang, and in recognition of that invaluable service he was made governor of Kiangsu, imperial commissioner for foreign trade, general of all the Chinese forces, and supreme adviser to the throne.

Have You Large Thumbs?
Experts on character and the hand declare that the thumb should be large and well shaped. If smaller at the base than anywhere else it denotes insanity, often criminal instincts. From the nail to the first joint is found will power; from second joint to base, logic and reason. The money-making hand has a thumb well developed and hard. The short thumb denotes selfishness and weakness. The large thumb shows justice, evenness and generosity also lacking.

Shows the Tongue.
If a tongue's mouth be forced open and held so the tongue will suffocate. This is because he has too ribs and cannot dilate his chest; therefore he swallows the air as though it were food, taking it into the stomach instead of the lungs.

The Oldest Love Letter.
The oldest love letter in the world is in the British Museum. It is a proposal of marriage for the hand of an Egyptian princess, and it was made 1,500 years ago. It is in the form of an inscribed brick.

Do You Have Hair?
The Emperor of China has to cut his hair every year for the

A WISE COMMANDER.

Lord Howe's Campaign Against the French and Indians.

Lord Howe, who, in 1758, accompanied Gen. Abercrombie in the attack on Fort Mifflin, did not, like the foolish Braddock, insist on fighting Indians and Frenchmen according to the military rules of European armies. While his army was encamped at Albany he forbade all display of gold and scarlet in the march, and ordered the barrels of the muskets to be blackened, that the soldiers might not be seen at a distance by the glinting of their arms.

He himself set an example by wearing a soldier's coat shorn of its tail, and leggings made of cloth. The hair was, in those days, worn in a top, or queue by the officers. Lord Howe's hair was abundant and fine, yet he cropped it, and ordered the officers to do the same. The amount of personal baggage and camp equipage then carried by the officers was enormous.

One day the officers were invited to dine with Lord Howe in his tent, when they arrived they were surprised to find no chairs or tables, but bear skins spread on the floor like rugs. Lord Howe sat down on a small log, and the officers followed his example. Presently the servants set down a large dish of pork and peas.

Lord Howe took a sheath out of his pocket, drew from it a knife and fork and began to cut and divide the pork. The officers sat in silence, which he interrupted by asking if they were not provided with similar portable instruments. Then he distributed to each a case like his own.

On the march he ordered that each soldier should be provided with powdered ginger, and that it should be mixed with the water with which they brewed their canteens.

The simple prescription saved the lives of many while marching through malarial swamps, the water of which thirst compelled them to drink. The wise and gallant commander was shot while leading his men against an advanced guard of the French.

Some Big Houses.

The Sultan is said to have nearly completed the largest hotel in the world at Mecca. This establishment is to lodge 8,000 pilgrims at once, with, presumably, their camels and other beasts of burden, and promises to be one of the most picturesque places to stay at in the world, although, of course, "infidel dogs" are not allowed to approach it. Its vast size has drawn attention to monster residences. The largest dwelling-house in existence is in Vienna, where there is an apartment-house with 1,500 rooms in it, occupied by more than 3,000 people. This building has thirty-two staircases, thirteen interior courts and 850 windows on the street.

Good Things.

Starting with one car, and a funeral car at that, the Pullman Palace Car company in 33 years laid aside a surplus of \$24,000,000, which was divided between the stockholders. How curious it all seems. Pullman's hearses on the rail brought him great fortune, yet he disinherited his two sons. It has always been a superstition that hearses brought ill luck. Another amazing success was Edison Electric, which went begging at 45. A broker bought 20 shares for \$900, and sold 10 of them a year later for \$30,000. Bell Telephone stock started at a low price, but went to 200, and made many rich. There is no end of these good things.

Missionary Travel in Africa.
This scene represents an episode in the journey of Mr. Painter, an African missionary, to Mankompu. In the foreground on the left there is the man who does the cooking, and on the right the



CARRYING A MISSIONARY.

shikaree or huntsman, who provides the meat of the caravan. Some of the native converts have come down to meet the missionary and are carrying him across the river in sedan chair fashion.

Shoes Must Creak in Burma.
The march of civilization in Burma is full of interest and amusement, even to the most casual observer. Young Burma cannot now go forth as his father did, in loose but comfortable sandals; he must have fancy colored socks, held in rigid order by fancy garters worn about the swell of the calf, while Cromwellian shoes with large steel buckles have caught on famously. A young student who purchased his first pair on a Saturday wore them to church on Sunday, but took them back to the store on Monday, to be changed because they did not creak!

Man-Faced Crabs.
The man-faced crabs which swarm in the island seas of Japan are queer creatures. The body is only about an inch in length, but it is crowned with a head which has a face closely resembling that of a Chinese coolie.

Twilight Erect on Colors.
It is frequently observed that as twilight comes on red objects lose their color sooner than others, finally appearing black, while other colors are still visible.

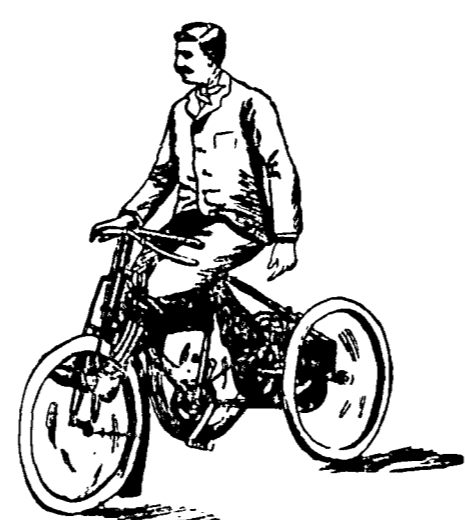
A SPEEDY TRICYCLE.

HENRY FOURNIER HAS SUCCEEDED IN MAKING 45 MILES AN HOUR.

The Machine is Light, Easy to Manage and Powerful, But the Speed is Dangerous and No One Else Cares to Try It—Future Improvements.

Like the question of reducing to three days the time it takes to cross the Atlantic, the increase of the bicycle's speed to a point where the rider can travel as speedily and as safely as on a railroad train, is one of the things that seems bound to be attained. It is as surely a coming achievement that awaits us in the future as is the perfecting of the machinery of the ocean greyhound, so that the present speed of the marine flyers can be doubled. In the days when bicycles run at a speed of forty-five miles an hour a clear track will be absolutely necessary, so that with locomotive engine pace will have to come a special track for the wheelmen, a desirable improvement that will be welcomed by all lovers of the wheel. The attainment of the speed named by the bicycle seems to be in the hands of Henri Fournier, who has become known as the king of automobiles. What Fournier does not know about the petroleum tricycle may as well be omitted from the wheelman's education.

At present he uses the petroleum tricycle of the Dion-Bouton kind, with a 1 1/2 horse power machine, averaging forty kilometers an hour. The machine is comparatively light, easy of manipulation and powerful. It is fitted with a motor of from one to three horse power, its hill climbing and speed capabilities being gauged thereby.



HENRY FOURNIER AND HIS TRICYCLE.

Fournier is in deadly earnest in his determination to attain a speed of forty-five miles an hour. To see him on one of his test trips is a sight never to be forgotten. He flies along with bulging eyes fixed on the ground over which he is flying, hair streaming in the wind and the puffing motor working at such a speed as to make one tremble to think of the fate of the rider should any untoward accident cause a spill. He seems to know no fear when going like the wind on these risky trips. By constant practice he has become an expert in the manipulation of the petroleum tricycle, and will turn a curve while going at a dizzy speed of forty-five miles an hour with all the recklessness of a boy.

His performance suggests the grave danger that would accompany trips such as his on a road where similar machines are dashing along. Fournier alone on a level, smooth road, with no one to kill but himself, and no machine to smash but his own, is a sight sufficiently thrilling. Multiply the sight by ten, and imagine that number of Fourniers mounted on flying automatic tricycles, and the spectator cannot help thinking that this would make a novel and sure method of committing suicide.

No Silent Clocks for Them.
Pearson's Weekly. A clock manufacturer of Birmingham found that a rival was doing a large trade in cheap clocks sent out to the wilds of Africa. He got hold of a sample clock, and, finding that there was a heavy profit in the enterprise, invested a large sum of money in making a still better clock, thousands of which were shipped to the same market.

Strange to say, sales were slow, while his rival, turning out a cheaper and far less accurate timepiece, was selling all he could make. Investigation showed the cause.

Savages like noise. The clocks made by the original exporter had a particularly loud and aggressive tick; his imitator made a better clock, but it was almost noiseless, and the savages would have none of it. The remedy was simple. The next shipment of clocks to the Guinea coast ticked more loudly than anything previously heard there, and all went well.

Floral Weather Foreteller.
The marigold is a little weather prophet. If the day is going to be fine the flower opens about 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon; but if wet weather is in store the marigold does not open at all.

Electric Magnets.
Electro magnets capable of picking up a load not exceeding five tons are used by one of the great steel companies to transfer steel beams or plates from one part of a shop to another.

High-Priced Papers.
Dawson City now has two newspapers—the Yukon Midnight Sun and the Klondike Nugget. Both are weeklies and are sold at 50 cents a copy.

Prisoners Need Air.
It is said that 40 per cent. of the prisoners of Austria die of consumption, caused by the dark cell mode of punishment.

Air Syringes.
In many European galleries the pictures are dusted by means of air syringes.

INEBRIETY AMONG ANIMALS.

Monkeys, Rats, Birds and Even Insects Love Intoxicants.

It is a curious fact that there are to be found innumerable in the animal kingdom. Biped and quadruped alike are fond of alcoholic drinks and although some display aversion when first tasting liquor, they soon acquire a craving for it.

Chickens and ducks, after having once tasted brandy, become absolute slaves to the drink. They refuse to eat, grow thin and exhibit symptoms of dejection when unable to obtain their favorite tipple.

Monkeys and apes are passionately fond of spirituous liquors. Of these, Buffon's wine-bibbling chimpanzee was a shining example, and Brehm, the German zoologist, owned several mandrills that drank wine regularly and did not disdain brandy.

Herbivorous animals frequently become intoxicated, innocently enough, through eating decaying fruit. In orchards axen and cows, after eating overripe apples, have been seen to display all the symptoms of drunkenness. They stagger, their eyes lose expression, and they grow sleepy.

It seems that animals are susceptible to alcoholism in proportion to the development of their intelligence. Elephants are fond of wine and rum, and even gnaw the staves of wine casks to get at the contents. Cats, however, rarely exhibit a fondness for intoxicants.

Among birds the parrot takes first place as an habitual toper. Insects have many opportunities to become intoxicated, and it is the most active that most frequently avail themselves of the chance. There is an aromatic, intoxicating fluid in linden blossoms for which bees show an especial fondness.

Instances have been observed where swarms of bees regaled themselves with the poisonous linden nectar until they exhibited all the signs of intoxication. Hundreds fell helplessly to the roadside to be trampled under foot.

The Ladrones.

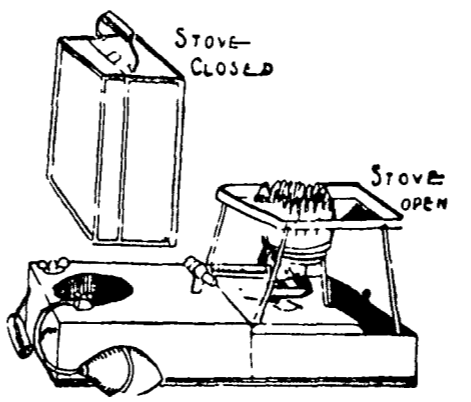
Discovered in 1521. Pure water abounds. A chain of volcanic islands. Spain took possession in 1658. Mountain range from 1,000 to 3,000 feet.

Eight thousand five hundred inhabitants. Chief products coconut and bread fruit.

The account given by Dampier of the remarkable bread fruit tree follows: "A certain fruit, called the bread fruit, growing on a tree as big as our large apple trees, with dark leaves. The fruit is round and grows on the boughs like apples of the bigness of a good penny loaf. When ripe it turns yellow, soft and sweet, but the natives take it green and bake it in an oven till the rind is black. This they scrape off and eat the inside, which is soft and white like the inside of new baked bread, having neither seed nor stone, but if it is kept above 24 hours it is harsh.

A Stove That Folds.

A Western genius has devised a gasoline stove for hunters and tourists. It



THE FOLDING STOVE.

A Life of Uncertainty.
When a person builds a house in Manila he must decide first whether he prefers death and destruction by earthquake or typhoon. If he wants to die by the earthquake method he builds a masonry house, which tumbles down on him when the earth quakes. If he prefers death by typhoon, he builds a bamboo house. The earthquake doesn't affect it, but the typhoon moves it over into Mindanao. As Manila gets both typhoons and earthquakes the choice is imperative.

A Miner's Luck.
An extraordinary piece of luck has come to a miner at Usworth Colliery, near South End. It appears that a mattress was bought some years ago from a person who had bought it second-hand, the price paid being 6s. The mattress was recently discarded and put outside the house. Recently, however, a string was observed to be hanging by the mattress side, and on examination a bag was drawn out containing \$600.

Restoring Spoiled Fens.
When a pen has been used until it appears to be spoiled, place it over a flame (a gaslight, for instance) for a quarter of a minute, then dip it into water and it will be again fit for work. A new pen which is found too hard to write with will become softer by being thus heated.

Seeded Raisins.
In California there were experiments in sowing raisins so as to have them as free from seeds as the ordinary current. Success has followed, till now seeded raisins are becoming an important item among the fruit industries of California.

The Average Number of Horses Killed in Spanish Bull Fights Every Year Exceeds 5,000, While from 1,000 to 1,200 Bulls are Sacrificed.

ON DEVIL'S ISLAND.

A SAILOR'S ACCOUNT OF HIS VISIT TO CAPTAIN DREYFUS.

Life of the Convict—He Cannot Go Anywhere on the Island Without Two Guards at His Heels—Copies of His Letters Are Forwarded and Originals Retained.

Karl Weinbecker, cook of the Netherlands steamship Andalusia, gives this account of a visit to Devil's Island.

The captain sent me to the island, and while busy in the little kitchen instructing a soldier in the mysteries of broiling lamb chops and cooking pork, I had plenty of opportunity to question Captain Dreyfus' guards. The men, who at first seemed disinclined to speak, became quite loquacious after a while. "He" was not so ill-treated as those in the world seemed to think. "he" is not confined; "he" can go everywhere on the island. Of course, two men are always at his heels. "He" gets up between 6 and 7 in the morning, and his first breakfast consists of a cup of chocolate. If the weather is good "he" goes for a walk soon afterward, and winds up his promenade by a bath.

But are you not afraid he might swim away or commit suicide?" I asked.

"Not at all," said the soldiers, "for a rope is fastened to both his wrists, and the ends of the rope are in the hands of the guard. After the bath he takes his second breakfast: butter, bread, ham or eggs and a bottle of beer. Then he goes in for study. He reads and writes for several hours."

"What kind of books has he got?" The soldiers looked at each other. After a while one of them said: "He is only allowed to read technical works. But he can write whatever he pleases."

"Must he show you what he writes?"

"No; we read only the letters he desires to have forwarded. These are sent to the commander in Cayenne."

"And does the commander send them off as received?"

"No; they are copied, and the originals are retained at Cayenne."

"What does he do besides reading and writing?"

"We received permission from the commander to play cards with the prisoner, and he has become an inveterate gambler. After dinner—he has always soup, a roast and dessert—about 2 o'clock in the afternoon we always play baccarat together."

"What are the stakes?"

The soldier laughed. "He has not got a sou, and there are probably not three francs on the whole island. We play for shells. The prisoner gets his supper at 6 in the evening—roast or ham and a bottle of beer. Soon afterward he goes to bed. He is not allowed to have any light, you know. Only the guard at the door keeps up a wood fire."

"Is he allowed to smoke?"

"No; that is I think he is not, for the commander does not furnish him tobacco."

"May I leave some cigars for him?" The soldier did not answer. I emptied my tobacco pouch and my cigar case on the table. I hope he got what I left for him.

As I was about to return to my ship, I saw a man, followed by two soldiers, approaching from the strand. Dreyfus' He seemed to have heard of my presence, and measured me with questioning looks. His lips moved, but he did not speak. He is a middle-sized man, cadaverous and of a yellow complexion. His eyes are deep in their sockets, he walks with a stoop, and his forehead is furrowed. He is growing old rapidly, no doubt.

Malay Shark Hunting.

The Malays have a peculiar way of hunting the shark. A man will remain stationary on the water to invite attack. As the creature rolls over to bite, the wily Malay glides out of his way with a few deft strokes of the left hand, while with the right he deliberately plants a pointed skewer between the open jaws of the expectant shark. The result is simple, but surprising. The shark is, of course, unable to close



RIDING THE DEAD SHARK.

its mouth, and the water just rushes down his throat and drowns him. It requires the greatest possible coolness and nerve to kill a shark in this way, but the Malays look upon it as a favorite recreation and an exciting sport. When the monster is dead its slayer dexterously climbs on to its back saddlewise, and then, digging his knife into the shark's head to serve as a support and means of balance, the Malay uses his own legs as paddles and so rides the carcass back to the boat.

Spain's Railroads.
Spain has only 7,548 miles of railroad in her whole territory, or a little over four miles to every 10,000 inhabitants.

Cafe Not Closed in 150 Years.
There is a cafe in Venice which has never been closed, night or day, for 150 years.

A NOVEL DIVER'S SUIT.

Rigid Enough to Withstand Pressure, Flimsy Enough to Insure Freedom of Action.

A new diving suit, recently constructed by the Gordon Brothers, two Australian engineers, is sufficiently different from diving apparatus of the older type to deserve widespread interest.

The principal innovation consists in the fact that the suit is all in one piece, rigid enough to withstand outside pressure, while pliant enough to insure freedom of action to the diver. The suit consists of a metallic cuirass, covering head and body down to the waist, weighing alone over 250 pounds; attached to the cuirass is a pair of spring steel trousers, made in sections and pliable, covered on the outside with a very solid and waterproof material. The garment is further strengthened by solid metal rings about the abdo-



THE NEW DIVING SUIT.

men and the ankles connected by steel rods. From the lower rings the heavy leaden soles are suspended so that the suit is practically in one solid unit. The sleeves are similar to the trousers, protected against pressure, but pliant and easily moved.

The great advantage of this suit is that the diver need not work under an atmospheric pressure exceeding that on the surface, for the escape of air is provided through a floating tube, the valve of which is kept at any height to suit the diver. The diver whose photograph is reproduced in our picture went to a depth of 185 feet the first time he tried the new suit and remained below for 50 minutes, but felt as well as in thirty feet of water with the old apparatus. This does not necessarily mean the limit of the depth for the new apparatus.

Longevity in Fish.

There seems hardly any limit to the age of fish of many kinds. Carp are known to have lived 200 years and over, while the case of the Russian pike that was caught a few years ago with a gold band around its tail on which the date 1546 was imprinted is well known. There are gold fish that have belonged to one family over 60 years, and do not now appear much larger than when originally placed in the aquarium, though they are every bit as lively as ever. In the royal aquarium of St. Petersburg there are fish to-day that are known to have been there at least 100 years. Some of them are five times as big as when first captured; others have not grown an inch.

The Philosophic Glutton.

"I suppose," said a philosophic glutton, "that I ought to be, and as a matter of fact I am, grateful that I have never had very much money. If I had plenty of money I should doubtless long ago have killed myself with rich food. As it is, I am still living to enjoy my corned beef and cabbage; saved from myself by circumstances that seemed cruel, but that were really kind, as I suppose may befall in the experiences of any of us."

"What we need most, indeed, is protection against ourselves."

One Man's Luck.

Fortunes come to some men almost against their will. Mr. Herbert Molyneux tried hard, but could not dispose of his share in the Rivas diamond mine for £100. He now asks \$225,000. The De Beers Company is negotiating for the mine's purchase, and the price they are prepared to pay, should the test prove satisfactory, is variously estimated at from £1,000,000 to £2,000,000.

The Laughing Plant.

A flower known as the laughing plant, which grows in Arabia, is so called because its seeds produce effects like those produced by laughing gas. The flowers are of a bright yellow, while the seeds resemble small black beans.

Smoke Clouds.

Smoking a pipe of medium size, says a statistician, a man blows out of his mouth every time he fills the bowl 700 smoke clouds. If he smokes four pipes a day for twenty years, he blows 20,440,000 smoke clouds.

Excess Baggage.

The elephant, we are told, has forty thousand muscles in his trunk. We are not informed as to how many are carried in his chest, probably from fear that he will be charged for extra baggage.

A Vulture's Eye.

The eye of the vulture is so constructed that it is a high-power telescope, enabling the bird to see objects at an almost incredible distance.

Royal Trumpeter.

The State dress of a trumpeter of the Royal Horse Guards, "the Blues," costs over \$600.

Our Madrids.
In the United States there are no fewer than eight towns named Madrid.

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The Fur...
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MUNN...
Branch...