

# ON THE TRAIL OF THE AMERICAN MISSIONARY

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## Eye-Witness Describes Famine Scenes in China

Tsing-Kiang-Pa, China, Jan. 16, 1917.—It depends upon the bumps on a man's head what he will think of a great famine. If his scientific bump be large, he will point out, dispassionately and learnedly, that famine is one of the agencies of beneficent nature to keep down the surplus population, and to insure the survival of the fittest. They are perhaps the surgeon's operations, but they are really a wise provision for the health of the whole mass of mankind.

"Why do you worry that baby?" asked my missionary friend of an aged, withered old woman in one of the famine refuge camps in central China, pointing to a starving child the trembling of whose body "There is no one else; the father and mother have both died." And plainly, the infant waned soon follow them within the portals of starvation gate, through which so many hundreds are daily passing. The death of the parents, and the survival of that old woman and the babe, were famine parades; for most of the victims at this stage are the very old and the very young. In still another instance, I saw a wrinkled, half-blind old grandmother seated on the bare and frozen ground, her only home in the camp, dividing with a wee child the thin rice gruel which she had managed to secure at the relief kitchen. Now she ever made her way through that jam of voracious wild creatures. I cannot tell; on the same day, at the same place, I saw a man so crushed by the jam that he could not get to the

poration, in which all the foreigners within reach may perish. If so, he remembered that pots and self-restraint are qualities scarcely to be expected of men in the throes of actual starvation.

These famishing Chinese are, as a matter of observation, displaying a respect for law which could be expected of no western people similarly situated. I have been amazed to see heaps of rice and other food-stuffs freely exposed for sale on the sidewalk, and I saw the same daily pass hundreds of men, in the indescribable grip of the primitive passion of hunger; yet not a grain was stolen. At Tsing-kiang-pa, a city of about 150,000 inhabitants, not a grain of rice was displayed, and all the restaurants open to the street, while outside the city wall were encamped 300,000 famishing refugees driven from their homes by want and many of them dying daily from actual starvation. Yangchow has an encampment of 80,000 refugees, of whom the Chinese governor said that 1,000 died in a single night of cold and starvation. Nanking has three camps of these miserable mortals, with about 100,000 people in them, and Chinkiang has 20,000. These, moreover, are the strong who are able to pile their meager goods on the family wheelbarrow and travel south from the North River famine district; of the other hundreds who are perishing in their homes, nothing can be said. No body has ever written a description of the death-throes of a rat in its hole.



From photographs, copyright by Underwood & Underwood, N. Y. A Chinese Cemetery—Thousands of Famine-Stricken Persons Are Piled in the Ground and Covered with the Earth.

mission hospital without help. The cruel, crowding selfishness of the Chinese in the scramble for daily bread, in such ordinary circumstances is more elemental and unconcealed than anything known in the West; add actual starvation as a motive, and you unchain all the savage beast that lurk in the recesses of human nature.

A few days ago a missionary at Soochow thought to alleviate a modicum of the distress that surrounded him by distributing 100 work tickets to unemployed men, using relief funds for payment. When the hour of distribution arrived it was very early in the morning a mob of 1,000 men, each determined to receive the chance for work, no matter who might get left, surged around the missionary. They crushed him and finally bore him down—all with no evil intention—and trampled him under foot, until he was rescued, unconscionably, with great effort, and his life barely saved.

That is the sort of thing, and worse, which the authorities fear when they refuse to allow delivery of relief supplies into the camps and disburse relief. It is more than a little trying to a white man's nerves to have starving people churning at his coat, or falling on the ground before him, or holding out their hungry children for his pity, while he dare not ease his feelings by scattering the few coppers that are flung in his pocket. But the rule is rigid, and doubtless wise, that not a copper penny or a brass cash may be given out directly.

In fact, the officials, as well as most other observers, rather anticipate some such outbreaks as a consequence of the famine. Let nobody delude himself into the belief that the Chinese are the abject sort of an autocratic government; the hundreds of men and women who have been driven in huge lars of silk, covered with mud, stoned and otherwise ill-treated by mobs, know far different. The Chinese are nearly always in a rage. At any moment the big world which has been so callous to the starvation of the famine that has swept away the entire population of 2,000,000 persons, may be started into action by a great outbreak of mud, mud, mud

many recent graves along the main highway to Peking. On one side of it crowded a writhing, bent and tattered old mother, who curiously watched vitality to make her mourning heard. After a time she arose and with her bare hands heaped clods of earth upon the conical grave mound. The widow, who could afford no mourning except a small square of white cloth the size of a handkerchief upon her head, wept and wailed so only an oriental woman can do. Her body shook with shuddering sobs. All the grief of the ages seemed embodied in her mourning. This famine means more to those two lonely women than it does to my scientific friend.

Near the same spot a middle-aged man, with some mourning rags of white upon him, fell on his knees as we approached, and clutched at our clothing. Finally, he had gone to pieces. He was a nervous wreck, as well as a starving man. He had just been out burying his old mother, and grief, combined with hunger, had been too much for him. He, in an almost delirious frenzy, he besought the honorable foreigners with noble hearts to help him. Our only possible course was to shake him off and pass on.

In an attempt to save the lives of this, between man and hunger, with existence itself as the stake at issue, it is scarcely surprising to find vengeance to head-achings. So, when I saw with two little children, one of them suffering from small-pox, living in a mat but three feet high, three feet wide, and four or five feet long, I was not astonished to learn that her husband had deserted her; that has been the way of some husbands in every such disaster. The astonishing fact is that so many parents and husbands are loyal; it is really common among these uncoupled famine victims to find the parents and emaciated and the little children comparatively ruddy. True, many parents are driving away their children, and even driving them, but this is usually an expression of solicitude for the child's welfare. Even the sale of little daughters into slavery to the other side of the sea, at the standards. Several mothers have begged me to buy their children, or to accept them as a gift. This morning I had pressed on me by a forlorn mother as heavily as a specimen of Chinese babyhood as one would care to possess. Having been driven from the refuge camp, with her family and possessions on a wheelbarrow, she was on her way back to the country to starve, she said, and I fear she spoke truly.

Practically the entire famine district has been almost wholly cleared of its stock. The few that remain are either eating "beast's food," in the way one farmer succinctly put it. He meant that the people are living on grass, bark, roots, leaves and such things. I have seen a specimen of a house of almost an entire village, looking for food—and such bare, crude, filthy and comfortless homes they are—and nowhere did I see a grain of rice and a half cent, American currency—the Chinese government pledged to give every sufferer in the famine district north of the Yangtze river. It really seems as if the higher officials in the government and extrajudicial efforts are being made to prevent "queuing" by the other officials through whose hands the money must pass. This is one of the manifestations of a "new" China which abound these days. Of course, the attempt is not wholly successful, and myriads of starving people have not received a single cash. Most of those who have succeeded in passing outside of the walls of several cities have been helped; for the officials fear them. Now, with force and fair promises, the larger part of these refugees are being driven back into the misery. All of these distress the official protest of help. The assistance that is at present extended is not expected to hold out for a month, since a cent and a half a day given China's government is a sum to tax any treasury.

Foreign relief is being distributed in the form of flour to bring down the price. "Famine prices" is no more than the least of the relief. It has been 200 per cent. or more. The missionaries, who have been chosen by the general relief committee at Shanghai to bring the world's bounty, are busy dotting the relief regions with depots for the sale of food, thus making every dollar given count. His work throughout the entire famine region is to get the world's bounty not be used until July.

Girl Seeks Marital Outfit.  
Agneta Troy, a 16-year-old girl of Madison, Wisconsin, at Uta, N. Y., sought her father in law business in a matrimonial office. She had been married to a man who had been a convict, and she had been living with him in a small room in a tenement house in New York City. She had been married to him for three years, and she had been living with him for three years. She had been married to him for three years, and she had been living with him for three years.

# Illinois State News

## Recent Happenings of Interest in the Various Cities and Towns.

**CONSTABLES LEVY AMID RIOT.**  
Taking Bed from Sick Baby Arouses Citizens of Joliet.  
Joliet.—Riot marked the attempt of two constables and their helpers to remove the furniture from the home of Mrs. Aurora Peterson, 225 Comstock street, following an attack by them upon Mrs. Peterson, who protested against their taking the bed on which her sick baby lay. The woman defended that the bed was her own, but was not heeded by the constables. They put the infant on the floor, striking Mrs. Peterson when she attempted to interfere. Neighbors heard her screams and surrounded the house. A riot call was sent in and a patrol wagon, filled with detectives was hurried to the scene. When the police reached the house the constables had completed their levy and had left, taking all the furniture with them.

**NAPERVILLE GIRL WINS.**  
Rivalry Between Illinois Towns in Beauty Contest.  
Wheaton.—The county fair of 1917 is now a thing of memory only, but it left behind it results far more substantial. The Chicago-Loyola hospital, in the interest of which society of the western suburbs has been busy itself for several weeks, in the richer to-day by approximately \$15,000.



Miss May Cooper.

**CAIRO GIRL KIDNAPPED.**  
Gypsies Carry Away Child Who Was Playing With Friends.  
Cairo.—Great excitement was caused in Cairo by the kidnapping of Mary Williams by three gypsies. A number of persons saw the kidnapping, including many children with whom she was playing. The girl was standing in front of the court house when a wagon driven by a gypsy woman approached. The woman suddenly snatched the child up into the wagon, and at the same time two men ran up from behind, and leaping into the wagon, drove off at a rapid rate.

**DELEGATES TO METHODIST CONFERENCE.**  
Bloomington.—Delegates to the general conference to be held in Baltimore next May were chosen at today's session of the Illinois conference sessions of the Methodist church as follows: C. M. C. Hamilton, Saybrook; J. C. McKinney, Barry; Judge W. O. Cochran, Sullivan; Fred Edmund Kamp, Champaign; F. T. D'Wine, Quincy; Samuel A. Ballard, Springfield; W. C. Ross, Rossville; Joseph R. Harker, Jacksonville. The ministerial delegation were not completed. Those chosen are: The Rev. Christian Harker, Champaign; the Rev. W. H. Davidson, Decatur, and the Rev. Theodore Kemp, Bloomington.

**Big Price for Cattle.**  
Carlinville.—James Walker, prominent stock dealer, of Scottsville, Macoupin county, made a sale of 400 head of cattle of the United Dressed stock company of New York, through the Brainerd & Horton of East St. Louis. The cattle weighed 148,923 pounds, and were sold at \$7.10 per hundred, with a slight reduction, making the total sale \$2,901,151.70. The cattle were of the fine Aberdeen Angus breed, and brought the unusual average of \$104.51 per head.

**Put Off Train; Ask Damages.**  
Bloomington.—Clarence Wilson was compelled to tender cash fare to a Big Four conductor because the agent at Champaign had not called the Brainerd & Horton of East St. Louis. The conductor demanded 3 cents a mile, but when Wilson refused to pay more than 2 he was ejected from the train and forced to walk three miles. He filed suit for \$100. The case will be the first in Illinois as a result of the new way.

**On Second Honeymoon.**  
Cairo.—After many years of happy married life Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fulton English of this city, left on their "second honeymoon," which will embrace a visit to the home in the park country, Ky., where they will be the guests of the Rev. W. C. Hagan, who performed their marriage ceremony. Both are 60 years old, having been married when only 19 years of age.

**Fish Tugs Go to Illinois.**  
Waukegan.—Owing to the more liberal fishing laws of Illinois than in Wisconsin, five Milwaukee fishing tugs have come here to fish during the closed season in Wisconsin.

**Married Fifty Years.**  
Edinburg.—Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Spilde of this city have issued invitations for the celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary, Tuesday, October 1.

**Made Gift of \$40,000 to City.**  
Harvard.—By provision of the will of the late DeWitt T. Diggins of Cadillac, Mich., this city, his boyhood home, is given \$40,000 for a free public library.

# KIDNEY TROUBLE

Suffered Two Years—Relieved in Three Months.  
C. B. FIEZL.  
I had suffered with kidney and other trouble for two years and had been in the hospital for three months. I had not used it since, nor would I fail a pain.

I believe that I am well and I therefore give my highest commendation to the curative qualities of Fernet-Bruna.  
Mrs. Geo. H. Smezer, Grand, Ontario, Can., writes:  
"I had not been well for about four years. I had kidney trouble, and, in fact, felt badly nearly all the time. This summer I got so very bad I thought I would try Fernet-Bruna, so I wrote to you and began at once to take Fernet-Bruna and Manalin.  
"I took only two bottles of Fernet-Bruna and one of Manalin, and I now feel better than I have for some time.  
"I feel that Fernet-Bruna and Manalin cured me and made a different woman of me altogether. My kidneys are now in good shape and I feel as if I had a new lease of life."  
It is the business of the kidneys to remove from the blood all poisonous materials. They must be active all the time, else the system suffers. They are tired, they are weak, they are in need of assistance. Fernet-Bruna is exactly the sort of remedy. It has saved many people from disaster by rendering the kidneys service at a time when they were not able to bear their own burdens.

# WESTERN CANADA

New Districts Now Open for Settlement  
FARMERS WESTERN CANADA FREE  
The Government of Canada has opened up new districts for settlement in the West. These districts are now open for settlement in the United States. The Government of Canada has opened up new districts for settlement in the West. These districts are now open for settlement in the United States. The Government of Canada has opened up new districts for settlement in the West. These districts are now open for settlement in the United States.

**FREE**  
To advertise your business in the West, you need a medium that will reach the people who are most interested in your business. The West is a vast territory, and you need a medium that will reach the people who are most interested in your business. The West is a vast territory, and you need a medium that will reach the people who are most interested in your business.

**PAXTINE**  
Paxtine is a powerful medicine for the treatment of various ailments. It is a powerful medicine for the treatment of various ailments. It is a powerful medicine for the treatment of various ailments. It is a powerful medicine for the treatment of various ailments.

**KEEP POSTED**  
Balance on crop payment, \$7 on acre plus 100, three times of value, 120 acre under plow. Stable, well, windmill and granary. Rural route, telephone. Lewis, Minner, North Dakota.  
**A Few Dollars Down**  
Balance on crop payment, \$7 on acre plus 100, three times of value, 120 acre under plow. Stable, well, windmill and granary. Rural route, telephone. Lewis, Minner, North Dakota.  
**TEXAS**  
Balance on crop payment, \$7 on acre plus 100, three times of value, 120 acre under plow. Stable, well, windmill and granary. Rural route, telephone. Lewis, Minner, North Dakota.