GOVERNMENT OF CHINA.

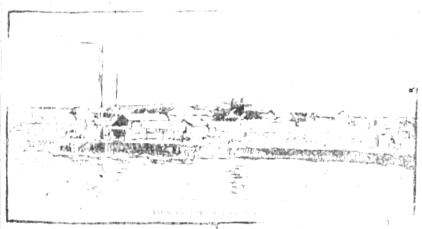
China is an absolute monarchy, but the emperor spends his life inside the sealed walls of the Forbidden City, and not one Chinaman in a hundred thousand ever looks upon the imperial face. Again, in spite of the absolute character of the monarchy, there is according to the Chinese law a body called the Tu-cha-shen, or board of censors, which is responsible directly to the emperor for the entire system of government and those administering it, and has the power of impeachment. Theoretically, again, the censorship is a check upon the actions of the emperor himself, and the censors are privileged to remonstrate with him even to the extent of threatening to resign their offices unless he mends his ways. Practically, however, the censorship is the most corrupt and unscrupulous in the world.

wives and children the practice opens opportunity for an endless amount of intrigue and chicanery. The manner in which the present emperor, Tsai-tien, came to the throne is an example in point.

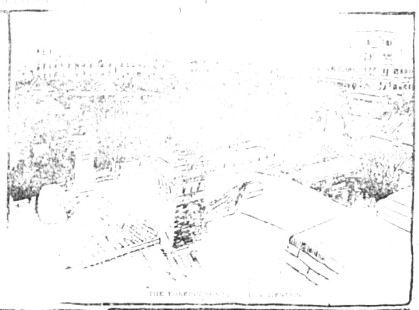
The whole Chinese empire is divided into eighteen provinces each ruled by a governor-general, who is responsible directly to the emperor for the entire administration of affairs in all the provinces. Theoretically again, the governor-general is a check upon the actions of the provincial treasurer, who is also known as the "fan-tai," and who is responsible for the collection of the taxes. The governor-general is also known as the "tsung-tu," and the provincial treasurer as the "fu-tai."

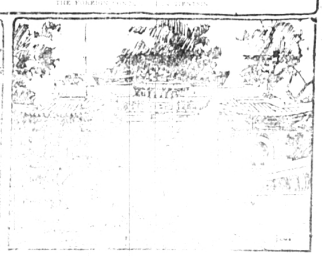
Prince Ching.

Prince Ching, leader of the counter conspiracy in Notes, China, and political rival of the ambitious Prince Tuan, is said to be the type of Chinese statesman in Europe. Each of the eighteen provinces of the empire is governed by a viceroy, who is called the "tsung-tu," or governor-general, and who is responsible directly to the emperor for the entire administration of affairs in all the provinces. Theoretically again, the governor-general is a check upon the actions of the provincial treasurer, who is also known as the "fan-tai," and who is responsible for the collection of the taxes. The governor-general is also known as the "tsung-tu," and the provincial treasurer as the "fu-tai."



Native Fortune Teller.





TALMAGE'S SERMON.

DRAWS A LESSON FROM A NOBLE WOMAN'S LIFE.

To Those Engaged in Alleviating Human Distress—Self-sacrificing Work Assured of a Rich Reward Hereafter—Praise for the Needle.

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Dr. Talmage, who is still traveling in northern Europe, has forwarded the following report of a sermon in which he there helpful words to all who are engaged in alleviating human distresses and shows how such work will be crowned at the last, text, Acts ix. 36: And all the widows stood by him weeping and showing him the coats and garments which Dorcas made while she was with them.

Dorcas was a woman of wealth, social position and Christian character. She lived in the city of Joppa, on the Mediterranean coast, and was one of the first converts to Christianity. Her name in the Greek language was Dorcas, and in the Syriac it was Tabitha, and both mean a gazelle, which is the most graceful and beautiful animal of the forest. Dorcas was a fit name for her, for she was graceful in her movements, graceful in her benefactions, graceful in her whole character. She was also a woman of great usefulness. She had a genius for helpfulness. She was a rare and precious woman. Her friends were numerous and devoted. Her death was a great bereavement. Her funeral was largely attended. Her obituary was written in the hearts of many who could not write. Her epitaph was in the mouths of all the poor. Her resurrection was a miracle.

Dr. Talmage's text suggests the following points:

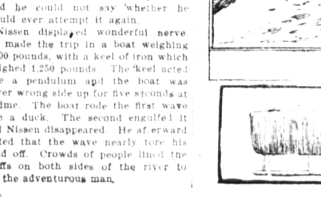
Praise of the Needle.

Further, we see Dorcas the benefactress. History has told the story of the crown, epic poet has sung of the sword, the pastoral poet, with his verses full of the redolence of clover tops and a rustle with the silk of the corn, has sung the praises of the plow. I tell you the praises of the needle. From the fig leaf robe prepared in the garden of Eden to the last stitch taken on the garment for the poor the needle has wrought wonders of kindness, generosity and benefaction. It adorned the girdle of the high priest, fashioned the curtains in the ancient tabernacle, it cushioned the chariots of King Solomon, it provided the robes of Queen Elizabeth and in high places and in low places, by the fire of the pioneer's backlog and under the chandeliers everywhere it has clothed nakedness. It has been the angel of the home. Your dearest friends have found a resting place in and through it. Your children have been kept warm and sweet and well with the needle. Your garden statuary and your paintings have found a fitting frame in the needle. Your sofa pillows and your carpets have been wrought out by the needle. Your table linen and your bed linen have been fashioned by the needle. Your children's clothes have been made by the needle. Your own clothes have been made by the needle. Your husband's clothes have been made by the needle. Your pocket handkerchief has been hemmed by the needle. Your shirt bosom has been stitched by the needle. Your wedding dress was made by the needle. Your shroud was made by the needle. Your grave clothes were made by the needle. Your resurrection robe will be made by the needle. Praise the needle.

Resurrection of Dorcas.

I speak to you of Dorcas, the resurrected. The apostle came to where she was and said, "Arise, and she sat up!" In what a short compass the great writer put that "She sat up!" Oh, what a time there must have been around that town when the apostle brought her out among her old friends! How the tears of joy must have started! What a clapping of hands there must have been! What laughter! What laughter! Sound it all through that lane! Shout it down that dark alley! Let all Joppa hear it! Dorcas is resuscitated!

You and I have seen the same thing again a time, not a dead body resuscitated but the deceased coming up again after death in the good Lord's room. If a man labors up to fifty years of age serving God and then dies we are apt to think that his earth work is done. No. His influence will continue till the world is over, rendered to Christ. A Christian woman in Joppa



lars of the city and through the lonely huts of the mountain glen there will be mourning, mourning, mourning, because Dorcas is dead. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

THE VALUE OF CHEMISTRY.

Manufacturing and Construction Companies Employ Chemists.

Among the various indications of progress in American manufacturing is the alliance, daily growing closer, between the merchant and the chemist and physicist. "Twenty years ago," said a well known New York foundryman to a New York Mail and Express reporter, "chemistry was almost unknown in its practical relation to business, but today there is hardly a manufacturing or construction company that does not employ from one to fifty chemists. Railroads, coal companies, gas companies, iron and steel works, brass, copper and iron foundries, powder mills, paper mills, ink, glue and bandage factories, oil companies, tobacco companies, soapmakers, cloth manufacturers and dyers almost all of them have their own laboratories, where a few years ago they would have scouted the idea. Take for instance the Pennsylvania railroad. Its continent. It has a splendid laboratory and employs, I have understood, some thirty men in this one department. Certain it is that this company would not maintain such a laboratory unless it was economical. The Carnegie Steel company employs some three hundred chemists. Steel companies employ a number, and I have known of one instance where a few years ago they would have scouted the idea. Take for instance the Pennsylvania railroad. Its

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Shooting the Whirlpool Rapids.

Peter Nissen of Chicago, under the assumed name of P. M. Bowser, successfully shot the whirlpool rapids in his boat, the "Pool Killer," last week. He was taken from the water at the whirlpool by Howard Lake, the body catcher. Nissen lost fully twenty pounds during his trip, and was thin and shrunken when rescued, although he was uninjured. Before the awful ride he stated that he would make the trip again if he was successful. After being taken from the whirlpool he said he could not say whether he would ever attempt it again.

Nissen displayed wonderful nerve. He made the trip in a boat weighing 4,500 pounds, with a keel of iron which weighed 1,250 pounds. The keel acted like a pendulum and the boat was never wrong side up for five seconds at a time. The boat rode the first wave like a duck. The second engulfed it and Nissen disappeared. He afterward stated that the wave nearly tore his head off. Crowds of people lined the bluffs on both sides of the river to see the adventurous man.