

IN THE CHINA SEA

A NARRATIVE OF ADVENTURE.

By SEWARD W. HOPKINS.

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CHAPTER V.

[CONTINUED.]

I could not give up. With the most scrupulous care I inspected the rocky walls around me...

steadily glow that was very brilliant. The perfume of incense and the odor of the burning oil were heavy and sickening...

Down, war down at the very bottom, I found a small niche that was cut from under so that it was hidden from view...

If this was a place of worship, the choice of gods was liberal indeed. Upon a raised dais of marble there was a great Chinese god, or Joss, made of precious woods inlaid in blocks...

I placed my finger on the little wooden button and pressed it. I exerted all my strength on that bit of wood without even knowing what I attempted to do...

A tongue of coral, upon which the light of the lamp reflected strongly, threw myriads of bright rays of color from the gems that surrounded it.

I groped along the walls, for the only light came from the mysterious door I had opened, feeling, as I had done in the pit, for another niche.

On the side of the large idol, opposite the dragon, was a huge and hideous Buddha.

I was blinded by a glare of light. My eyes could not stand the sudden rush of sunlight in my weakened condition.

Profane the sanctity of the heathen's temples though I should, here were life and sustenance for a time at least.

I was in an oriental garden. To the right, to the left and before me were handsome blooming trees and shrubs.

From what seemed to be the rear of the temple, another arch, hung like the first with rich curtains, led into a large room carpeted with velvet.

Through the center of this garden a wide wall extended, the floor of which was alabaster or porcelain.

Two more Chinese men appeared, coming between them a burden.

I pitched myself to make sure that I was awake. I was awake, most decidedly so, and my lunger was as acute as ever.

Two more Chinese men appeared, coming between them a burden.

Now I was in what must be a temple. It was much smaller than the garden, and was lighted by several perfumed lamps clustered about a large fountain in the center of the chamber.

My condition was so much improved over the predicament I had been in, that I was disposed to accept the situation as at least fortunate.

Good Roads Notes

A Good Roads Era.

THE question of the improvement of the American roads has been for a long time agitating the minds of the people who take a pride in the welfare of the country.

The Department of Agriculture has a little road office by which a few thousand dollars a year are spent along the lines of both educational and practical work.

These experiments have caused such a demand to be made for further and more extensive experimentation to decide the best plan for road improvement.

To begin with, it is proposed to locate the agents in the Eastern States and the Southern States, one in the prairie States, and one in the mountain States of the far West.

It is proposed that these agents shall send specimens of good road material to the chemical division of the Department of Agriculture for analysis.

The first thing an agent will be expected to do when he arrives at his district will be to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the material at his command.

Only two-sevenths of the people of the United States are church members.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Best Saucepans For Cooking.

Cheap enameled saucepans which have become chipped inside should not be employed for cooking.

A Hint as to Tea. Cups of strong brewed tea are not to the taste of the majority of guests.

Artistic House Furnishings. Pictures brassy is the latest fancy for hanging lamps, vases, jardiniere and other decorative objects.

Words of Wisdom. Tyranny is always weakness. - Lowell. Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet. - Rousseau.

Gasoline as a Woman Killer. It is probable that, if the statistics were gathered and compared, it would be found that the gasoline stove is more deadly to the women of this country than the campaign in the Philippines is to the men in the army.

Causes of Seasonal Mortality of Late Wars. The lessened mortality in recent wars is due especially to the "first-aid" package with which the combatants are supplied.

Peach Custard. - Make a soft custard of the yolks of four eggs, one quart of milk and two-thirds of a cupful of sugar and flavor to taste.

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OUR BUDGET OF HUMOR

LAUGHTER-PROVOKING STORIES FOR LOVERS OF FUN

The Pupils' Supposition. - No Encouragement. - Patched. - Kept a Cool Head. - Not All Settled. - No Chance to Escape.

Not All Settled. "When I grow up, Gracie," the little boy said, "I'll marry you."

No Chance to Escape. Newjewed. - "What is the right thing to do when your wife asks you for money and you haven't got it?"

Too Big a Task. "George," said Mrs. Ferguson, "for God's sake, straighten up! You're worse hump-shouldered than ever."

Never Known to Fail. Anxious Mamma. - "Little Dick is upstairs crying with the toothache."

Mitigating Circumstances. "Your Honor," said the lawyer, "my client acknowledges that he struck the book agent with a piece of gaspate, but she pleads that it was a case of mistaken identity."

She Did the Collecting. "You say your wife is worth her weight in gold?" "I do, sir."