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JOSIAH TURNER, Jr., EDITOR.

TRA AND ITS ADULTERATION.

THE EFFECTS OF TEA.
The physiological properties of tea are similar to those of coffee; it is slightly astringent and tonic, and when used without milk or sugar is a simple remedial agent in nausea and indigestion; but if sugar is added it is converted into a thin syrup, which is more apt to produce indigestion than the consumption of many times its weight of pure candy, since sugar is more digestible in the concentrated than in the dilute state. It is a mild stimulant to the skin and kidneys, prevents sleepiness, counteracts the effects of alcohol, and reduces the rate of waste of the tissues, an action supposed to be due to the theine, or peculiar principle of the plant, the quantity of which is variously estimated from one half of one to four per cent, and which closely resembles caffeine, or the principle of coffee. It is also an aphrodisiac of considerable power, and the rapid increase of the population in China is, by some, attributed to be due to its universal use by all classes. In addition to its other properties, the Chinese regard it as a preventive of goit and calculus. It no doubt has the power of preventing the latter; but this action is probably due to the fact that, if water is boiled, the greater part of the carbonate of lime it contains, and which would enter into composition of a calculus, is precipitated, therefore the drinking of boiled water would be equally effective in influencing the prevalence of this disease. It is also narcotic and sedative, like opium; but like it, its action varies with the individual and the dose. To some, it is exhilarating to the nervous and calming to the vascular system. In the words of Waller,

The Man's friend, tea, doth our fancy aid,
It drives those vapors which the head invade;

To others, on the contrary, it is highly deleterious, producing headache, and sometimes even causing paralysis and diabetes, especially when used to excess, as in tea tasters.

ITS ADULTERATIONS.

The second method of adulteration by the admixture of foreign leaves is, as we have already stated, practised to a large extent by the Chinese, and Hassall says that in England the leaves of the laurel, elm, horse chestnut, plane, oak, willow, poplar, hawthorn, and birch have been used for this purpose. These are doctrinal with rose pink, Dutch pink, catechu, chrome of lead, sulphate of iron, Venetian red, saffron or saffron color, carbonate of magnesia, carbonate of copper, chromate of potassium, Prussian blue and indigo, all made to assume the appearance of black or green tea, according to the demand. Here we have a series of poisons that would satisfy a Borgle. Arsenic, copper, lead, etc., some of which even in minute doses are emetic in their effects, and ultimately produce such appalling results as paralysis and other profound nervous disorders. May we not suspect that the prevalence of nervous diseases among the women of the Northern States is in a measure due to the universal use of tea by them? And since there is no good reason for supposing that our green teas are any better than those sold in England, is it not probable these troubles are owing, not to the injurious action of the tea leaf itself, but to the poisons that are introduced for the purpose of imparting to various new species similar to those presented by green tea? If this view is correct it is evident that we should avoid the green tea, in the preparation of which such poisons as arsenic are employed for the purpose of imparting an enticing green color, and use the black tea, in which the want we can only introduce into the system a little sulphate or tannate of iron, some catechu, and other less harmful substances.

The third form of adulteration in which the tea of the Chinese is employed resembles to a certain extent, that of which we have just spoken. It is made of the dust of tea-leaves and sweepings of the warehouses, to which portions of foreign leaves and sand are added, and the whole made up with gum or paste into small masses, which are colored green or black as circumstances require. Considerable skill is shown in the manufacture of this article, and Hassall states that he has met with a dozen different varieties.

The forth method, by the resuming of exhausted and damaged leaves, was at one time carried on to such an extent in England, that in 1853, there were eight establishments devoted to this purpose in London, in addition to others scattered throughout the country. Agents bought the leaves at the coffee-houses, and delivered them to the factories, where they were treated with gum, sulphate of iron, and catechu, to restore the astrigency and color; and then dried and roughly cured. If a black tea was to be made, the requisite gins or flocks was imported by the judicious use of rose pink and black lead. If a green was required, the leaves were submitted to a dyeing similar to that employed by the Chinese, into which the use of Scheele's green, carbons of copper, and other poisonous compounds often entered.

In the examination of a number of specimens of tea obtained from the better class of shops, I have thus far found that the green tea was all more or less colored with pigment in exceedingly minute particles.

In the black tea the leaf is generally free from such foreign substances. As regards the proportion of tea leaves to dust and fragments of tea and other leaves, my examinations have shown that, in the majority of cases, even when the tea was highly-preserved, the proportion of perfect leaves was very small, and even where they were from tea plant, as is the case with the gunpowder, they were nearly all fragments of the large leaves of the tea plant. These are results that any man who takes sufficient interest in the subject can readily substantiate for himself, since the examinations are simple and easily made.—The Galaxy.

It is said that Chinese lawyers have been employed to a considerable extent in the trials of the Louisiana juries, and have given good advice.

Few men were buried over the Rapid City, 20 feet high, in St. Francis river, Colorado, and covered.

The thermometer in Duran, Colorado, on the noon of the 2d instant, indicated ninety degrees of heat.

PETERSBURG ADVERTISEMENTS.

DRUGS!

JORDAN & CARR,

(Successors to G. H. Jones & Co.)

Sycamore, corner Washington St.,

PETERSBURG, VA.,

MAKE PLEASURE IN ANNOUNCING TO THE

Markets of Petersburg, South Carolina and

Montgomery, that they have one of the most extensive and complete stocks of

DRIED MEDICINES,

PAINTS, OILS, VARNISHES,

DRY STUFFS,

WINDOW GLASS, BRUSHES,

PERFUMERY, COMBS,

FANCY AND TOILET ARTICLES,

SPICES,

TOBACCO, SNUFFS,

To be found South of New York. Being ex-

served for CASH from first hand only. THEY

SELL FOR CASH FROM THE LARGEST AND

GREATEST HOUSE NORTH OF SOUTH CAR-

OLINA, AND EXAMINING THEIR GOODS AND

PRICES. WALTER B. JORDAN,

March 24-14

JOSEPH CARR.

TO THE

WHOLESALE TRADE

OF

NORTH CAROLINA.

—

IN INVITING THE MERCHANTS OF NORTH

Carolina to an examination of our

SPRING STOCK,

we desire to inform them that, owing to the rapid

increase of our

WHOLESALE BUSINESS,

we shall be prepared to offer them, this season,

a stock of

FOREIGN and Domestic Dry Goods

AND

YANKEE NOTIONS.

not equalled in the State of Virginia, embracing

every article needed by Virginia and North Car-

olina Merchants, all of which we intend to sell at

the lowest prices. Those are doctrinal with

rose pink, Dutch pink, catechu, chrome of

lead, sulphate of iron, Venetian red,

saffron or saffron color, carbonate

of magnesia, Prussian blue and indigo, all

made to assume the appearance of black or

green tea, according to the demand. Here we have a series of poisons that would satisfy a Borgle. Arsenic, copper, lead, etc., some of which even in minute doses are emetic in their effects, and ultimately produce such appalling results as paralysis and other

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stances.

DAVIS, DRAKE & CO.,

JOBBERS OF DRY GOODS,

Corner of Bank & Sycamore Streets,

PETERSBURG, VA.

Feb. 14-14

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS.

We have just received a large stock of BURSTS

OF GREEN GARDEN Seeds, embracing

nearly every kind of

ARTICLES

Asparagus

Beets

Brussels Sprouts

Cabbage

Carrots

Cauliflower

Celery

Collards

Corn

Cress

Corn Salad

Endive

Radish

Spinach

Leeks

Tomato

Turnips

Herbs

ALSO, Clover, Timothy, Orchard, Hardy,

Horticultural and Mixed Grass Seeds

which we warrant fresh, and will sell very low

for cash.

JORDAN & CARR,

Wholesale and Retail Druggists,

PETERSBURG, VA.

Jan. 24-14

Just received by

April 24-14

DOUGLAS BELL.

—

HARDWARE.

BEST 10 COTTON CARDS.

Coffee Mills, Spice Mortars,

Hand, Tumb & Cross Cut Saw,

Claw, S. on and T. on, 24, 30, 36,

36, 42, 48, 54, 60, 66, 72, 78,

84, 90, 96, 102, 108, 114,

120, 126, 132, 138, 144,

150, 156, 162, 168, 174,

180, 186, 192, 198, 204,

210, 216, 222, 228, 234,

240, 246, 252, 258, 264,

270, 276, 282, 288, 294,

300, 306, 312, 318, 324,

330, 336, 342, 348, 354,

360, 366, 372, 378, 384,

390, 396, 402, 408, 414,

420, 426, 432, 438, 444,

450, 456, 462, 468, 474,

480, 486, 492, 498, 504,

510, 516, 522, 528, 534,

540, 546, 552, 558, 564,

570, 576, 582, 588, 594,

600, 606, 612, 618, 624,

630, 636, 642, 648, 654,

660, 666, 672, 678, 684,

690, 696, 702, 708, 714,

720, 726, 732, 738, 744,

750, 756, 762, 768, 774,

780, 786, 792, 798, 804,

810