

**PEOPLE AND PLACES
HERE AND THERE.
VOL. IV. CHINA**

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People and Places Here and There. Vol. IV. China by Mara L. Pratt

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MARA L. PRATT

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VOL. IV.

CHINA

BY MARA L. PRATT

Author of "American History Stories," "Young Folks' Library of American History," — Etc.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES HERE AND THERE.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

I wonder if you would not be glad now, to leave these islands which, in their general features, are so much alike, and rest yourself by a visit to a genuine city on the continent once more.

I hear no reply; and as it is said that "silence gives consent," we will pack up our belongings, board the steamer, and make our way northward to the Yang-tse-Kiang river, then a few miles up the Moosung — to Shanghai.

Here we are! Now, tell me, isn't it refreshing, once more, to see real buildings two and three


stories high, buildings that look as if they had been built to stay, buildings that show on their very outsides that in them we shall find real civilized, European people?

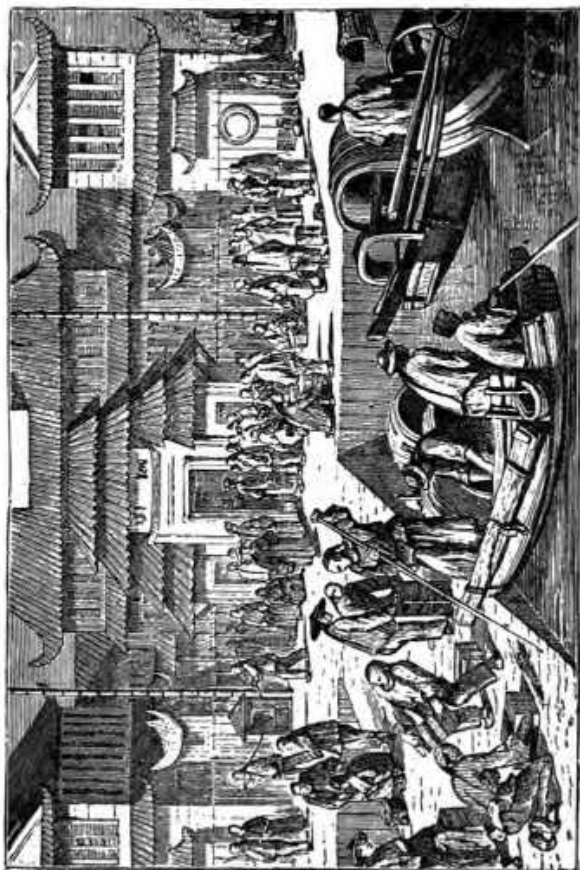
And see! There is a hotel with our own red white and blue flying from its cupola!

Certainly we will take our trunks there. Astonishing how dear to one's eyes the sight of the "red, white, and blue" is in a foreign land! One who has not traveled can have no idea how dear that flag does seem! And it is such a beautiful flag! No other national flag on the whole earth can compare with it for beauty.

But what about the city of Shanghai? Sure enough; I had forgotten all about it. But I am sure the boys will forgive me, for flags are always objects of delight to boys.

Shanghai is very pleasantly situated — just at a bend in the river, so that it seems as if the city were on a point of land extending out into the river.





THE CUSTOM HOUSE, SITANGHALI.

Usually in approaching a city from the water, one sees nothing but old rickety buildings, clumsy looking grain elevators, old wharves, and dirty, dingy coal stations; but Shanghai presents no such tumbledown appearance as that. All along the water's edge is a beautiful park with grass and flowers and beautiful shade trees.

Back of this park stands an imposing row of fine looking buildings. These houses and public buildings have plenty of space about them—hardly one but has a neat garden in front or around it.

In this city it is the Europeans that live near the water, while the farther back into the city you go, the more Chinese you see.

The "foreign quarter" as it is called, is divided into three parts—the Americans living by themselves, the French by themselves, and the English by themselves.

The French, English, and Americans all mingle together in their social life, and in their business life too, as to that matter; for they know well

enough how necessary it is for them to band firmly together in harmony against the jealous Chinese.

The Chinese part of the city, is, as we have said, quite distinct from the European part. Indeed the wall, or the ruin of it, that once shut in the old city of Shanghai, the city as it stood before the coming of white men to the port—this wall separates the Chinese from the "foreign quarter."

No sooner do you step within this wall, than the whole scene is changed. The streets, no longer wide and straight, are now nothing more than miserable little alleys; the houses, crowded close together, are dingy little dens, and the people swarm in and out like bees — and very disagreeable, dirty bees they are, too.

All over China, in whatever city we may visit, you will find the Chinese quarter like this in Shanghai. No matter how fine the land is, no matter how broad the city limits, they will still crowd and push their houses up close together in