

JUST LIKE IN PEKIN.

THE CHINESE PLAYERS ARRIVE—THE OPENING PLAY, WITH CAST AND PLOT.

Mott street is in a ferment and the Bowery is preparing to be paralyzed.

Twirl the chopsticks, twist the pig tail and beat the tom-tom.

The Chinese players have come to town and on Monday will make their debut in Gotham at Manager Murtha's temple to Thespis, the Windsor Theatre.

At three o'clock yesterday afternoon the Swenteen Lok Company, fifty in number, arrived from Philadelphia, to the astonishment of the outgoing passengers and the Pennsylvania depot employes.

At the Chambers street ferry the company was met by the representatives of Mr. Tom Lee, the Chinese merchant and deputy sheriff. The players of the Flowery Land were then driven in carriages to their hastily prepared quarters in the old Joss temple at No. 10 Chatham square, the stars of the company, headed by Mr. Taka Wing, said to be the greatest Chinese female impersonator, being entertained by their friends or old acquaintances in Chinatown.

The company had over a hundred pieces of quaint baggage with them, which was all carted to the ancient Joss house.

THE PLAY AND THE PLAYERS.

If native theatre-goers who mingle with the crowd of Chinese residents which will flock to the Windsor on Monday expect to see anything in any degree resembling what is usually seen upon the boards of an American or European theatre they will be much mistaken.

The Chinese drama, like the Chinese people, is the opposite in every way to the Caucasian, and, therefore, the performance of the play of "Shi Lon Tan Moo" ("The Loyal Slave"), which will be the first production of the Swenteen Lok Company, will be a novelty of the most decided kind. The author of the piece is Koong Ming, a distinguished descendant of the great Confucius.

THE CAST.

The following is the cast:—

Sean Nean Goon Joo (the Princess Koon Joo)...Taka Wing
Prince Yung Zoon Pow, Chinese general Moo Sung Fek
Zoon Yaeng (the loyal slave), Tartar general..... ..

Chow Loon Yin
First vivandiers. Way See Woo
Second vivandiers. Ma Ki Wing

Genii—Nam Chi Wo, Han Cheon Li, Chow Kwo Kin, Ju
Knee Low, New Toon Been, Teah Kwi Lee, Way Chong
Chi and Ho Sean Koo.

THE STORY OF THE DRAMA.

The following is the story of the play, the time being 10 B. C. :—

Act 1. Conference of the genii, who determines to aid the Chinese in their combats with the Tartar barbarians of the North. The Chinese General, Yung Zoon Pow, departs with his army after marrying the Princess Koon Joo.

Act 2. Prince Yung Zoon Pow is captured and solaces himself by marrying the daughter of his Tartar captor. She bears him a son and he lives with her for five years. He is then allowed to go back to China to see his dying mother. He learns that an insurrection has broken out in his native country and that all his family are slain save one, and that fate has left him his first wife.

He finds the Princess, who has been saved from the general slaughter by her own faithful slave, Zoon Yaeng, at the cost of the latter's life, is about to destroy herself. There is naturally an affecting meeting.

Act 3. In this is set forth Prince Yung's complete triumph over the Tartars and restoration of Tong Tai Zoon to the Chinese throne and the Prince's charming reunion with his two wives.

The preceding is but a sketch of the elaborate action. Then there must not be forgotten the comic part of the performance when the clown makes merry between the acts.

There is a highly important and indeed inseparable adjunct to the action of the drama in the music which accompanies its whole course. All the dialogue is either sung or chanted. The costumes, many of them very costly, are in the well authenticated styles worn by the Chinese and the Tartars at the time.