

CHINESE RASCALITY.

Heavy Defalcation by a Leading Merchant.

HE LEAVES WITH \$27,300.

Arrest of His Partners for Fraudulently Conceal- ing Goods.

A sublime piece of Chinese rascality cropped out in Chinatown yesterday, and the enormity of the offense caused a violent sensation throughout Consul Bee's dominion.

Tom Sue was a merchant of high degree, and was the gilt-edged manager and member of the firm of Song Wo Tai & Co. of 903 Dupont and 820½ Washington streets. There were various and sundry other members of the firm, but Sue was working more for himself than for the others. He was reputed rich, and all of the Celestial maidens knew that he was gallant and gay. He had the faculty of making himself at home in any society. He could cope with the jobstruse dialect of the mandarins, was at his ease in the Cantonese parlance, could make himself at home in the imperfect lingo of the ignorant masses, and was a giant in clean-cut American, swearing if it were necessary to place him on a proper footing with the parties whom he had to deal with.

He was a prince in the way of spending money. Champagne was his favorite beverage. If the Bun Sun Low menu did not suit him the Maison Riche was his favorite resort.

He never met a "little foot" woman whom he did not capture, and he loved none other. Money rolled in and began to overflow the pockets of Sue, such was his prosperity. It should have gone into the coffers of the firm, but it did not.

Suddenly this exclusion-bound coast became wearisome to the high-bred Mongol, and his native land of the sun, and the Temple of Heaven struck upon his vision like a beautiful mirage. He bought tickets for China, and they called for first-class cabin berths on the Arabic. He did not leave the shores of the white man penniless. There was bullion in his trunks. He is now happy and serene in the land of his fathers, with \$27,300 that belongs to his firm.

The fact became painfully apparent to the members of the concern a few days ago when several large notes began to mature and there was no way of meeting them. They did not rush into the streets and proclaim the disaster. There was at least \$10,000 worth of stock left in the store. They simply began to pack up the goods quietly at night in order to move them at a moment's notice. Sam Yuen, a prominent Chinese merchant and a very shrewd man, who has stores at 23 and 805 Dupont street and 811 and 815 Washington street, was one of the principal creditors. He suspected that something was wrong. On Saturday he put a watch on the stores of the company, and his suspicions were confirmed. He notified other creditors immediately, and applied to the Chief of Police for aid.

As a result the stores were attached and a Sheriff's keeper was placed in possession of each of them. It was found that the goods had been packed and were ready to be removed at a moment's notice. None of the partners could be found.

Detectives Cox and Glennon were detailed to wait upon some of them with warrants.

Tom Young was found sauntering along Dupont street and was arrested. He was charged with concealing goods with intent to defraud his creditors.

Woo Yook was the next man wanted. It was the work of half a day before his quarters were located. They were finally discovered to be in a large building on Waverly place, near Washington street, in one of those Chinese tenement houses with an unlimited number of small rooms and a large quota of vile odors. The family of Mr. Yook was found, but the head of the household did not respond. A clothesline was, however, noticed hanging across a small door so loaded with clothes that it attracted the experienced eyes of the detectives.

"Open this door or I will have to break it in," said Mr. Cox.

His order was not obeyed and he was compelled to execute his threat.

In a remote corner, hidden by a dense lot of covering, was Woo Yook, the merchant who was being sought for by two detectives, two reporters and Sam Yuen. On being pulled out he hurled several Chinese maledictions at Sam Yuen and asserted that he, too, had been robbed by Sue, and there was no occasion for his arrest. He was taken to jail, however, and had the same charge placed against him as against his partner.

The Anglo-Californian Bank and several Chinese firms are losers by the failure of the Chinese firm.