

## THE CHINESE BARON

### BELIEVED TO BE A MONGOL HUMBUG.

**Circumstances Which Indicate That He Is Nothing More Than a Democratic Editor.**

A recent dispatch from New York announces the arrival in that city of a Chinese baron named Li Yang Pang, who is stated to be a merchant of Southern China and possessed of \$40,000,000. The baron, says the dispatch, is a cousin of the Viceroy, Li Hung Chang, and is alleged to have uttered dire threats against the people and commerce of the United States should the present Exclusion act be maintained.

From inquiries made among the Chinese merchants here, and also from Consul Bee, it appears that this Great Mogol is unknown to them and that no such person has interests in any New York Chinese firms, which are simply branches of mercantile houses here.

The theory advanced by Chinese merchants and Consul Bee regarding this so-called baron is that the New York papers have been gulled by a wily heathen named Wong Chin Foo, who ran a paper in New York during the recent campaign in the interest of the Democracy. This fellow has repeatedly given untrustworthy news to Eastern journals.

This Li Yang Pang being a native of Can oo, cannot be a relative of the great Viceroy, Li Hung Chang, whose family belong to the province of Anwhet, a district of Central China. Furthermore, as by the Chinese law persons having the same surname cannot intermarry, and this man's name is said to be Li, it follows he can be no relative of the Viceroy. As to the title of Baron, it is only borne in China by a few high officials, the brother of the Viceroy Li, who is Governor-General of the Hupeh and Hunan provinces, being one of the favored. The grades of nobility in the Celestial Empire are Duke, Marquis, Earl and Baron, and are conferred upon imperial relatives and very select officers. Minor grades of rank can be purchased by any one, as well as bestowed by the Emperor.

It is believed that Li Yen Pang, who came to Victoria, B. C., and thence traveled East, is simply a merchant connected with some Chinese house in Victoria, and that he wily Ching Foo has drawn upon his imagination for his facts and given his own ideas to the New York journals upon the workings of the Restriction act, alleging that they emanated from the so-called baron. The whole dispatch is regarded by the Chinese here as a fabrication on the part of Chin Foo.