



HARVARD TRAVELLERS CLUB

A CHINESE BANQUET

Saturday, March 19, 2016
Commencing at 6 pm
and held at

JOYFUL GARDEN

1234 Soldiers Field Road, Brighton

China has been the subject of talks at no fewer than 59 meetings of the Harvard Travellers Club, beginning in 1904 (see over).

Among the speakers (*in chronological order*):

Ellsworth Huntington • Joseph Linden Smith

Harvard President Charles W. Elliot • Frederick Wulsin

Kermit Roosevelt • Terris Moore • Sir A. Frederick Whyte

Roy Chapman Andrews • Quentin Roosevelt • Owen Lattimore

H. Bradford Washburn, Jr. • Robert H. Bates

H. Adams Carter • Farouk El-Baz.



BANQUET MENU

Cold Cut Appetizers (mixed meats, jellyfish & pickled vegetables)

Salt and Pepper Tofu

Pineapple and Walnut Shrimp

Seafood and Vegetables in Nest

Seafood & Fish Maw Soup

Braised Black Mushroom with Vegetables

Mao Tai Liquor Toast

Peking Duck

Lobster Sauteteed with Ginger and Scallion

Steak with Chinese Greens

Steamed Fish with Soy Sauce

House Special Fried Rice

Braised Noodles

House Special Cake

Coffee

Pinot Noir & Châteauneuf-du-Pape wines courtesy of Peter Lou
Cash Bar Available



THE FIRST TALK at a Harvard Travellers Club meeting to focus on China was the 13th, held on May 27, 1904. It was given by Professor Edward S. Morse, was entitled “A Glimpse of China,” and was held at the Harvard Union in Cambridge. His knowledge of and association with Japan was what he was known for. Perhaps “his glimpse” was a brief stop going to or from Japan.

Morse was born in Portland, Maine. An unruly student, he was expelled from every school he attended in his youth—the Portland village school, the academy at Conway, New Hampshire, and Bridgton Academy (for carving on desks). He also attended Gould Academy in Bethel, Maine. At Gould Academy, Morse came under the influence of Dr. Nathaniel True who encouraged Morse to pursue his interest in the study of nature.

He preferred to explore the Atlantic coast in search of shells and snails, or go to the field to study the fauna and flora. However, despite his lack of formal education, the collections formed during adolescence soon earned him the visit of eminent scientists from Boston, Washington and even the United Kingdom. He was noted for his work with land snails, and before the age of twelve when he had discovered two new species: *Helix Milium* and *H. astericus*.

Morse was recommended by Philip Pearsall Carpenter to Louis Agassiz (1807–1873) at the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University for his intellectual qualities and talent at drawing, and served as his assistant in charge of conservation, documentation and drawing collections of mollusks and brachiopods until 1861.

Morse rapidly became successful in the field of zoology, specializing in malacology or the study of mollusks. In March 1863, along with three other students of Agassiz, Morse co-founded the scientific journal *The American Naturalist*, and he became one of its editors. The journal included a large number of his drawings. In 1870 he published *The Brachiopods, a Division of the Annelida* wherein he reclassified brachiopods as worms rather than mollusks. The work attracted the attention of Charles Darwin. In 1876, Morse was named a fellow of the National Academy of Science.

In June 1877 Morse first visited Japan in search of coastal brachiopods. His visit turned into a three-year stay when he was offered a post as the first professor of Zoology at the Tokyo Imperial University. He went on to recommend several fellow Americans as *o-yatoi gaikokujin* (foreign advisors) to support the modernization of Japan in the Meiji Era. To collect specimens, he established a marine biological laboratory at Enoshima in Kanagawa Prefecture.

While in Japan, he authored a book *Japanese Homes and Their Surroundings* illustrated with his own line drawings. He also made a collection of over 5,000 pieces of Japanese pottery. He devised the term “cord-marked” for the sherds of Stone Age pottery, decorated by impressing cords into the wet clay.

He returned on a third visit to Japan in 1882, during which he collected clay samples as well as finished ceramics. He brought back to Boston a collection amassed by government minister and amateur art collector Okuma Shigenobu, who donated it to Morse in recognition of his services to Japan. These now form part of the “Morse Collection” of Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. His collection of daily artifacts of the Japanese people is kept at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem.

After leaving Japan, Morse traveled to Southeast Asia and Europe. In 1884, he was elected a vice president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and became president of that association in 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889. During this period, he returned to Europe, and Japan in quest of pottery.

Morse became Keeper of Pottery at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston in 1890. He was also a director of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology in Salem from 1880 to 1914. In 1898, he was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun (3rd class) by the Japanese government. He became chairman of the Boston Museum in 1914, and chairman of the Peabody Museum in 1915. He was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasures (2nd class) by the Japanese government in 1922.

Morse died at his home in Salem in 1925 of cerebral hemorrhage and was buried at the Harmony Grove Cemetery.

I just love Chinese food.
My favourite dish is number 27.

Major The Right Honourable

The Earl Atlee EG, OM, CH. PC. FRS

(1882-1967)

Prime Minister of the United Kingdom 1945-1951