

THE KOREAN REPOSITORY.

SEPTEMBER, 1892.

A VISIT TO THE MONT BLANC OF KOREA.

II.

CHANGJIU, whither our pony-men had agreed to bring us, was reached in due time, but here we experienced some difficulty in getting ponies to convey us thence, the natives declaring that none could be had. We appealed to the Pansa who caused them to change their minds.

We had occasion here as at other places to make a formal visit to the yamên. The ceremony to be gone through is utterly ridiculous considering the surroundings of the place. Every yamên has a large wooden gate, with a smaller one on either side,—the entrance to the court yard. On state occasions, such as the arrival of a shabby, wayworn, and not altogether clean-looking traveller, the huge doors are thrown open and the visitor enters, heralded by a blast from a couple of horns which make the most discordant noises, the populace in the meantime streaming in from all directions to get a peep of the show. Then there is a yell and a rush towards the yamên itself, which stands at the farther end of the court, a miserably dilapidated, tumble-down structure of wood, divided, as is the case in the majority of instances, into three compartments, the centre of which forms a sort of entrance to the

rooms on either side of it. The Panssa is to be found in one of these rooms seated on the ground, and one is obliged to follow suit. I had the misfortune while sitting on the ground in one of these yamêns to find myself suddenly transferred to the outside of the building—I had leaned too hard against the wall.

On the whole our two days' stay at Chongjiu was rather pleasant. A deer drive was arranged for our especial benefit which however was carried out so badly that we got nothing, but were highly entertained by watching the professional hunters in their queer but serviceable skin dresses and camel hats. Fine, tall, handsome young fellows they were too, agile as cats, and very keen-sighted. We found we had something to do in trying to keep pace with them over those awful hills though one might suppose that after so much tramping we were ready for anything. We also had a friendly shooting-match with these young fellows, and considering the antiquity of their arms, they really showed much skill. They use smooth-bore muzzle-loading weapons which carry a small bullet. The powder is ignited by a quick match, the lighted end of which is carried in a notch in the hammer. They generally go about with some five yards of stuff wound round one arm which burns all the time. At the critical moment it is slipped into the notch and the trigger pulled—a somewhat lengthy process to us.

Our trip from this place to Nungwee, on the main road from Kapsan to Hamheung, was pleasant indeed. There was any amount of wild fowl on the rivers and streams. The scenery was lovely. The mountains were clothed away up to their summits with maples, and stunted oaks, all in their autumnal tints. The climbing was terrible at times and so delayed us that we were compelled night after night to travel by torch-light. Twice in one day our route rose from 3300 to 5700 feet.

For the first time since starting out we experienced difficulty in obtaining lodgings for ourselves and followers. We found the people strongly prejudiced against entertaining strangers, possibly because they were continually being imposed upon by unscrupulous officials. On one occasion we came to a small farm, barricaded, as is usual in northern Corea, by means of very high boardings, against any attack of evil spirits or tigers. It was getting late and no one knew when we might chance upon another human habitation, so we endeavoured to persuade them to let us in, but in vain. All manner of excuse was offered and eventually a man, bearing a number of torches, was sent to conduct us to a farm, a mile away, we were informed. It proved to be five miles, over roads that are only such in name, and when we arrived at ten P. M. we had to storm the place as everybody was in bed and very loth to accommodate strangers at that time of night. We were so angry at our guide that on our arrival we attempted to catch and beat him, but he evidently surmised our intentions from our manner towards him, and gave us the slip.

On the 30th. Sept. Nungwee, about 105 miles from Changjiu, was reached. Next morning we started for Kapsan, where we arrived in due time. Here it was that Mr. Campbell received such rough treatment. Nothing could have been more cordial than the manner in which Mr. Hung, the Panssa received us. He placed a very rickety house at our disposal and paid us an official visit. He also, after a great deal of urging cashed a shoe of silver worth \$80.00, giving us 41,000 cash for it.

The 3rd. of October found us at Pochunne. The last seven miles of travel before reaching this little hamlet was weird indeed, travelling as we did by torchlight, through the pine forest described by Mr. Campbell. There were no less than twenty torch-bearers, and not even this number sufficed to dispel the

gloom of this dense forest. Coreans abhor travelling by night as they are in deadly fear of mountain and wood spirits, which may be kept at bay only by continual shouting and waving of torches, and this they indulged in to their utmost. Had we been the observed of observers we should certainly have been booked as a gang of lunatics. The day after our arrival we climbed the hill overlooking us for the purpose of finding out whether any snow had fallen on the Paktusan, having been informed by the head man of the village, in whose house we were staying, that it would be impossible to reach the summit on account of a recent snow-storm. From this hill we saw, about sixty miles due north of us the snow-capped Paktusan. It had snowed, but not enough to seriously affect our plans, we thought, as the steeper slopes of the mountains were evidently quite bare. We were somewhat disheartened and almost determined to return, our host having declared that no man would at that time of year venture to accompany us on so hazardous an enterprise. It would take ten days more to reach the mountain, the natives said, and Captain Cavendish, finding that he would miss his steamer at Wonsan if he continued his journey, determined, though very reluctantly, to abandon his project. I managed to get five coolies to carry my kit, no more were to be had, so after all it would have been impossible for us both to go on. I agreed to pay each 200 cash (about 30 cts.) per diem, which I thought very reasonable, considering that two of the men were guides who also assisted the burden-bearers. My outfit consisted of a sextant and other instruments, a gun, some fifty cartridges, a change of boots, some extract of meat and a little brandy. I took no tinned provisions as I did not fully comprehend the situation before starting out. My ship biscuits had become so full of weevils that not even the Coreans would eat them and they had to be thrown away. Wheat and

millet therefore constituted my chief diet, and more abominable stuff can not be imagined. I am sure an ordinary linseed poultice would be more palatable. My coolies of course brought all their food, enough to last three weeks, with them, which, estimated at about one and a half pounds per diem for each man, amounted to quite a load. In fact they could carry but little else.

I must say a word about these coolies in whom I became quite interested. In appearance they were very unlike those of the metropolis, having long aquiline features and neither the almond-shaped eye nor high cheek-bones. They also had beards deserving of the name, and not a mere make-shift such as most Koreans display. Their clothing was either of deer-skin or hempen, and their hats—like that of the typical witch in the fairy tales—conical, with a generous brim. Everything they had on, from their shoes to their hats, was home made. These northern Koreans differ from those in the southern part of the peninsula in other respects—in their religion, for instance. In fact I do not think they have any religion worth talking about. They are certainly not given to ancestral worship, as graves are nowhere to be seen, with the exception of officials' graves north of Hamheung. I have not been able to ascertain how they dispose of their dead. They are superstitious in the extreme, and are continually propitiating either the wood, water, or mountain spirits. On every eminence, in every hollow, and at every cross-road is a shrine dedicated to the local spirit, and no one may pass any one of them without having made his obeisance. This ceremony consists in making a low bow at the same time expectorating. They also make offerings of money which any poor beggar may appropriate to himself. More often their offerings consist of rags, dead chickens, and even stones. My pony-man generally gave the latter, on ac-

count of cheapness I suppose, but my "boy" invariably gave to the extent of two cash. I more than once argued with him as to the utility of these offerings but never succeeded in convincing him. On one occasion I removed the offerings of stones and cash given by my retainers to see what would be the result. It caused consternation. They explained to me that not being an absolute beggar, I had greatly insulted the *sansin* and that my expedition was predestined to failure. The offerings were consequently replaced by them with much expectation and all was well. I afterwards discovered that the offerings of cash were in every instance charged to my account. I at once proceeded to draw the line as we often passed as many as twenty shrines in one day, though I have no doubt the boy recouped himself in some other way.

Captain Cavendish, having gone as far as the Yalu, returned, and our expedition pushed on. Having proceeded about three miles on our journey we came to the last habitation we should meet before reaching the Chinaman's hut in the Long White Mountain on the slope of the Paktusan, which is mentioned by Mr. James. Here there was much delay as the men purchased rice, in small packets, for sacrificial purposes. The price of rice in this mountainous region of country is exorbitant, as none is grown within a hundred miles, there being no arable ground, and moreover the climate is much too cold at an elevation of 4000 feet above sea level. The Yalu at this point is perhaps forty yards wide, rather swift but not deep, its greatest depth probably not more than five feet. It forms no obstacle as at that time of year one may easily wade through. An old man ferried our party over in a "dugout" and we were on Chinese territory. We continued our march down the river for a short distance and then, turning due north entered a dense pine forest which stretches up to and beyond the Paktusan. At

the house where the rice was bought we also purchased a few eggs and potatoes. We had before this passed some Chinese log huts with gardens round them but the occupants refused to trade with us. Perhaps their surliness was due to the shyness of Koreans in the presence of Chinese. The former detest the latter as the Chinese on the Korean frontier are allowed to beat and ill-treat the natives with the utmost impunity, the Korean officials having no jurisdiction over them. Murder is often the outcome of this state of affairs as they retaliate upon one another till eventually some one is done to death. There are very few Chinese within the Korean borders nowadays but those who do cross the borders are of the worst possible type. Their chief occupation is felling trees, gold-digging, or—loafing. They are not of the meek and puny Canton description, but are bellicose, broad shouldered, unwashed scoundrels with faces that would give them six months in any decent police court.

About six o'clock P. M. it was quite dark and the cold was intense, so I suggested to the coolies that it would be advisable to reach the hunters' hut, which by the way I had been looking for all along, as quickly as possible. Imagine my surprise on being told for the first time that we had left the last house far behind us and that we should be obliged to bivouac by the first water we could find. We came shortly to a boggy piece of ground where we could get water by sinking our drinking vessels in the soft moss, so here we made our first camp. In the course of an hour three trees had been felled and cut into lengths of twenty feet and the fire lighted. Very grateful it was, as there were eleven degrees of frost and we were cold and hungry. All there was to eat was millet, of which I could not partake. The Koreans had a kind of sauce, quite solid, which they carried in a birch-bark box, and this too, hungry though I was I found it impossible to swallow. Chopsticks are not used

in the northern part of the peninsula, but instead a large, flat spoon of brass, which is carried on the person together with the inevitable tobacco pipe, which is quite as indispensable to the Korean as the former. Excepting a few woodpeckers and a partridge not a living thing was to be seen all day. The latter we found as hard and tough as leather. No sooner had we lighted our fires than jackals and other beasts of prey, none of which however came within view, set up their hideous din, which they kept up until the small hours of the night, when I rolled myself in a blanket and fell asleep. My followers brought nothing with them but an extra pair of deer-skin breeches and these they now proceeded to put on over their others. Having finished their supper they began repeating incantations to the spirit, making so much noise about it that I could not sleep, so I moved my bed some distance from the fire. I had not been sleeping long when my boy awakened me saying that the tigers which were very numerous would certainly pay me a visit unless I had a fire. Next day we continued our march very vigorously; never stopping till nearly noon.

This stage of our journey, through a marshy forest, was monotonous. We could see nothing of the surrounding mountains. We halted but an hour and then plodded on till dark and camped beside the Little Amnok, a tributary of the Yalu. The weather had been threatening all day and at last down came torrents of sleet which wet us through and through. We dried ourselves by the fire and tried to sleep, but in vain. About midnight the sleet subsided and then it froze hard, so much so that our clothing was quite stiff by morning. We were now at an altitude of about 4600 feet above sea level, in latitude 40°42' and gradually rising from plateau to plateau by gentle ascent. Four days after this we found ourselves at about 6200 feet on a large plain entirely devoid of trees, and for the first time

since leaving Pochunnee in full sight of the Paktusan, which was due east of us, though we had been approaching it from the south. In fact the track which the guides had been following leads through the mountains into Manchuria leaving this mountain on the right. It is much frequented during the summer and early autumn by cattle-jobbing Koreans who take this route into China, where they get better prices for their beasts than is the case in their own country. We were constantly overtaking droves of twenty or more remarkably fine animals, all bulls of course, as they never sell their cows. In shape they are much like our shorthorns but considerably larger, and carry more flesh. As a rule they are of a black colour and quite docile, even around white men. Round about Pochunnee it was amusing to watch them being grazed. There being no pasturage proper each animal is bestridden by a small boy or sometimes even by a grown man who by means of a halter attached to a large wooden ring in the beast's nose, guides his mount to any convenient scrub where there may be anything to graze upon. I have seen as many as fifty spread over a very small area each with his jockey who is generally lying down on the animal's back fast asleep. They are kept only as beasts of burden, though occasionally the natives kill them for their flesh. The Koreans are such indifferent butchers, that to a European the flesh is so revolting, he would rather do without it.

H. GOULD-ADAMS.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

KOREA—A PLEA AND A GROWL.

(CONTINUED.)

POPULATION.

THERE is great diversity of opinion as to the population of Korea and in my efforts to ascertain the facts, I have been given estimates varying from 5,000,000 to 29,000,000; some of the persons however making these, seemed to have been governed by no theory or rule but to have indulged in the rather dangerous fallacy and misleading practice of guessing when statistics and cold facts and figures were required. The subject is discussed in a Symposium in the April number of the *Repository* (1892) and several different estimates are there made, but I think these put the population at less than it actually is.

If I understand the participants in this Symposium correctly, the Rev. Mr. Appenzeller, who gave many interesting and instructive figures, put the population at 7,200,000; a writer under the *nom de plume* of "Subscriber" at from 8,000,000 to 12,000,000, and the Rev. Mr. Gale at less than 10,000,000, but the latter seems to have based his calculation upon the statements of Dallet made fifty years ago, with the idea, as I think, undoubtedly erroneous, that the population has, within the last fifty years, decreased rather than increased.

Griffis, writing in 1882, placed the population at 12,000,000 but at the same time thought it proper to call attention to a Japanese statistician who in 1881 gave the number of

houses as 3,480,911, and the population as 16,227,885, and it is evident that Griffis' calculations were based upon estimates made long before he wrote his very interesting and instructive history of this kingdom.

Dr. H. N. Allen, who, I think, is the best informed foreigner respecting Korea, in a publication made several years ago gave the population in round numbers as 16,000,000, while on the other hand the Koreans claim much more. I, through an unofficial source, obtained the totals of the Korean census made some years ago, and they agreed with the figures given by Rev. Mr. Appenzeller in the Symposium mentioned. They were as follo.

Males	15,004,292
Females	13,003,109
<u>Total</u>	<u>28,007,401</u>

It will be noticed that the proportion of males to females is somewhat large and this may cast some doubt on the accuracy of the figures, but this discrepancy may be perhaps explained by the fact that the females are kept in seclusion and therefore would not be so accurately counted as the males.

I do not know of any reason why these apparently official statements of the population of Korea should be wholly ignored. The information, in the natural order of things, must have been obtained from the governors and magistrates of the eight provinces, and as the rate of taxation or services to be rendered to the Central Government is somewhat dependent on the population, there was certainly no reason why the governors or magistrates should have overstated the population of their respective territorialities.

I have talked with a number of intelligent Korean officials with whom, so far as I was concerned, there was no desire to

deceive and they stated that in their opinion the population was over 24,000,000 and I feel quite sure that they honestly think such is the case.

I think the estimates in Mr. Appenzeller's paper of 4.25 people to a house too small, and from inquiries made by me would put it at a much higher figure. The number of persons who occupy even a single room is remarkable and the numbers who manage to dwell in a house are much greater than would be thought possible in America or in European countries.

It is true that isolated and perhaps exceptional instances do not prove much, but a fact which came under my personal observation several months ago, is at least suggestive. A house in Seoul—the ordinary one storied structure—was sold, but there was some delay in delivering possession, the excuse being that it took time to make provision for the forty-five people who were living in the house. I thought this statement untrue, as it seemed incredible, but upon investigation was convinced of its verity.

Endeavoring to obtain some approximate idea on this subject I have made some investigation as to the little hamlets and villages which are scattered through the country, getting as nearly as possible the number of houses and occupants, and found that the average was from seven to ten persons to a house. A number of Koreans with whom I have talked believe that the general average will reach ten. I think this however too great and would not place it much higher than seven.

There is no reason why more credit should be given to statistics made years ago, some compiled by persons who had never been in the country, than to the so-called official statistics of the present day. If however we take Dallet's estimate, as stated by Mr. Gale, in the Symposium mentioned, that fifty years ago the population was 10,000,000 it may be safely

assumed that within the fifty years the population has increased enough to bring it up to over 20,000,000 now.

I understand that Malthus demonstrated that under the most favorable conditions a population will double in twenty-five years and it is safe to say that it will do so in fifty years. In the first fifty years of this century the population of Great Britain about doubled although the country was involved in wars and there was a large emigration to America and the Colonies. Other nations may be cited; for instance, the United States shows a much larger per cent of increase but this is due to exceptional circumstances and we can perhaps arrive nearer the truth by taking the statistics of some other country nearer Korea. A recent publication of a Japanese statistician shows that Japan has doubled within the last fifty years, and I think it altogether probable that the increase in Korea has been as great or greater than in Japan.

Indeed, if the death rate be eliminated from the subject, there seems to be no reason why the natural increase of population of Korea would not be as great as that of any other country under the most favorable conditions, and I am by no means certain that the death rate is any greater than in most countries, certainly not more than in Japan; there is no reason why it should be greater except the unskillfulness of the native doctors and their unscientific and empiric methods of treatment. On the other hand, during the last fifty years, there have been in Korea no wars, no great plagues, no wide-spread famines and indeed none of the deterrents to a natural increase of population.

Marriage is, we may say universal and the proportion of marriages is much greater than in any occidental country. We all know here, that an adult is treated as a boy, to whom but little consideration is given, and must as a rule wear the plaited hair of a boy and cannot aspire even to the dignity of a hat until he has become a Benedict.

The very religion of the people—ancestral worship—which makes it the highest ambition of every man to have descendants to worship and offer sacrifices at his grave, must not be ignored.

Taking everything into consideration, I think the estimate of Dr. Allen may be safely adopted, and is perhaps below rather than above the true figure, and for the purposes of this article I shall treat the population as given by him viz: 16,000,000.

I have not before me any accurate charts from which the area of Korea can be determined and I find that the estimates and approximations at hand vary greatly.

“Subscriber” in the Repository’s Symposium roughly estimates the area at 120,000 square miles: some of the encyclopaedias at much less, but here I again adopt Dr. Allen’s figure of 100,000 square miles, which if the numerous islands, some of them quite large, are taken into consideration, I think to be approximately correct.

We have then here a consolidated, homogeneous nation, speaking the same language, having the same religion, divided into no clans hostile to each other, occupying a country favored as to climate and exceedingly rich and productive in agricultural and food products, and above all loyal and devoted to its king and country, with 100,000 square miles of territory and 16,000,000 of people.

It is the habit, I may say fashion with foreigners here, to regard and treat this country in every respect as among the weakest, and entitled to but little, indeed the scantiest consideration. I have neither the space nor the desire to enter into an analysis of what I believe are the reasons for this, but with no intention of giving offence to any one I venture to say that I think this disposition to minimize everything Korean has been car-

ried too far, and may in the future bear unexpected and unpleasant fruits.

I am aware that the extent of territory or the number of people comprising a nation, are but two of the many factors which unite to make a country powerful and strong, and respected at home and abroad. If mere territory were the chief factor, that tight little island, Great Britain, with only 59,643 square miles would be but of little consequence as compared with Brazil possessing 3,287,964. If population alone is to be taken into consideration, Germany, or France, or the United States would count for but little as against the teeming millions of China, but at the same time extent of territory, its capacity for supporting the people, and the population of a country are elements which deserve consideration and which ought not to be overlooked. Upon this basis we find that Korea with respect to European nations has a larger area than Great Britain and three quarters as large as that island with Ireland and the other islands making up the United Kingdom, combined; that she has nine times more territory than Belgium, about eight times more than the Netherlands, more than six times that of Denmark or Switzerland, five times that of Greece and nearly three times more than that of Portugal, besides being nearly, perhaps as large as Italy; turning to the Western Hemisphere we see that Korea has more than thirteen times as many square miles as Salvador, about four times more than either Costa Rica, San Domingo, or Hayti, and about twice that of Nicaragua or Honduras.

Comparing the populations it will be found that Korea has eight times more than Denmark or Greece, five times more than Switzerland, over three times that of Portugal or the Netherlands, and nearly three times that of Belgium; she has more than double the population of Norway and Sweden and nearly double that of Turkey in Europe and it may be added

that there is but little difference between the population of Korea and that of Spain. Coming to the American Hemisphere we find that there is no nation except the United States which exceeds her in population; of the others, the only two approaching are Brazil, the largest and most populous nation in South America which has 12,333,000 inhabitants, and Mexico having 10,400,000. Grouping the five Central American states she has some six times as many inhabitants as all combined, and dividing the hemisphere (if the United States be excluded) she has more people than all of North America and much more than one half as many as in all of South America.

I suppose my readers are already wearied with these comparisons but I venture to give a few more. When the great Commoner Cromwell, with distant colonies to protect and with a formidable revolution in Ireland to crush, compelled all the nations of Christendom to recognize him the regicide, and with Blake swept the seas as with a broom and made England the then Mistress of the Oceans, the population which he had at his command was never greater than half of that of Korea at the present time.

When the English colonies in America revolted against England their combined population was less than 3,000,000—that is to say, not a fifth of the population of Korea, and in coming down to more modern times, we may note the successful wars which Chili has recently waged; that within the last year she seemed ready to cross swords with the United States and that in fact great apprehension was felt in that country that she would catch it unprepared, and be able to bombard and levy tribute on its western ports and yet, this doughty and peppery little nation of Chili has, including Indians, only a population of some 2,600,000 or about one sixth the population of this country.

As I have said before, the population and area of territory

are by no means all the elements constituting the strength of a nation. I do not propose to discuss the question further but have given these figures and comparisons as at least suggestive.

That there is good material here for soldiers and that, with discipline, and leaders in whom the men have confidence, the Korean can be made an efficient soldier, I do not doubt. They are not lacking physically, or in endurance or courage and no one who has seen them drilled by their foreign instructors, (who have I think done good work,) can doubt that they are capable of a high degree of discipline. I have seen companies drill on several occasions, and can state that their bearing, step and general appearance, as well as the earnestness, determination and proficiency, with which they went through their various manoeuvres, gave me at least, the idea that the requisites for good fighting and effective soldiers were by no means wanting.

I think Korea could enlist and raise by levys not less than 1,500,000 soldiers and that the country would with the usual seasons be able to furnish sufficient bread-stuffs to feed them.

It would be manifestly improper for me to enter into a discussion concerning the governmental affairs of Korea, but this I venture to say, that the most persistent and pronounced pessimists, I have met, admit that His Majesty, the King, is humane, just and enlightened, earnestly desirous of promoting the welfare of his nation and devoting all his time, energy and attention, most industriously and conscientiously, to the accomplishment of this laudable object; indeed about the only criticism, I have heard, is the unusual and under all the surroundings the very complimentary one, that he gives too much time and attention to the details of the vast business which as absolute ruler he controls.

G.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

MISSIONS IN KOREA.

KOREA has had a place on the maps of all civilized countries for many years, but few people in these countries have either known or cared very much for Korea or the Koreans. Of late there has been a great change and the minds of statesmen and especially christians have been turned towards this long neglected land. The position of Korea geographically makes it, in these days of steam and electricity, an object of great interest to the English, Russians, Japanese, and Chinese. Just what its future relations will be to these countries or to any one of them in particular is a problem that the most far-seeing politician can not certainly foretell. It is manifest that the attitude of these nations is one of the surest pledges of the continued autonomy of Korea. The people of this land seemed to be out of the drift of the great missionary movement of modern times, and this together with the fact that the authorities of the country refused admittance to foreigners will account for the late entrance of christian missionaries into this exceedingly needy field. But all things are subject to change. China, Japan, and Korea, that were formerly inaccessible are now largely open and the work of evangelization may be undertaken and prosecuted in all their borders.

The Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church is only eight years old and yet it has already accomplished much good, and its influence has been and will be a permanent and abundant blessing to Korea. It has given especial attention to education and to hospital work. A few of those who have attended its schools have found honorable and lucrative employment to which they could not have aspired without the mental culture they have received at our hands. But the medical work has been emphasized from the first. This has been the case both with our Missionary Society and with the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. Medical science has been at a very low ebb among the Koreans, and the sick have not had the care and treatment they have needed. The people have not been slow to discover the superior facilities and abilities of the foreign physicians, and they have come to them, and they are coming to them by the thousands. The cures that have been wrought on some has tended to spread the fame of the christian doctors, so that they are known and honored almost without exception throughout the kingdom. As in the days of Christ the sick are everywhere and they all wish to be made well, and also as in the times of Christ it is easier to see the material good conferred in the restoration of health than in the bestowment of spiritual blessings. Hence it is of the utmost importance that this department of christian work should be greatly increased, and made as efficient as possible with the application of abund-

ant means. So far as our own Mission is concerned our physicians do excellent evange.istic work, and there can be no better opportunity to offer the precious balm that cures the sickness of the soul than when relieving the pains of the body. It will be wise if the methods of the past are continued, and even larger appropriations be made to the medical work than has been granted heretofore.

For some years I have watched the work of our own and other Christian Missions in Korea and I am especially glad to be able to express my profound gratification at the progress that has been realized, and this is true for the most part of the locations secured, of the hospitals and dispensaries established, of the Press that is sending forth tracts gospels, epistles, books and various publications that must be a great blessing to the whole people. We have not toiled in vain, for already God has given a measure of prosperity and converts are coming to the fold of the Good Shepherd. It only needs faith and work, patient earnest toil and the gift of the Holy Ghost and results will surely follow that will greatly rejoice all real followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. May God bless all workers for the enlightenment, uplifting, and salvation of the Koreans.

W. F. MALLALIEU.

THE TRUE FOOSANG.

Dr. E. BRETSCHNEIDER in his article on Foosang, written in 1870, has pronounced on the whole story a most unfavourable judgment. It will be well to consider his reasons in respect of the Chicago Exposition of 1893, and the anniversary (the 400th) of the discovery of America commemorated in the present year 1892.

In last month's *Messenger* reasons were given for the belief that the spread of Buddhism described by Hwei Shen, was that which took place in Corea. He probably never was beyond that country. The whole story of Foosang has been elaborated out of what Hwei Shen saw and heard in Corea. Buddhism, with paper-making and other arts, spread rapidly there through the agency of native Buddhists from the central provinces of China at the time when their religion had attained its acme of prosperity in that country. Hwei Shen applied as a high flown poetical name the Foosang of Hwai-nan-tsi's myth to the country from which he came.

Dr. Bretschneider says the kingdom called by Hwei Shen Ta-han must have been in Siteria, because the account mentions other Siberian regions by name, and the reindeer is described as being harnessed by the people

to sledges. The Japanese think Foosang means their country, and Klaproth and Bretschneider incline to this view. Last month I stated that the word Tai-ro slave is mentioned in old Chinese accounts of Corea and also in Hwei Shen's account of Foosang, and I drew the conclusion that Corea must be the country he was describing. Now I note that the proper Japanese word for slave is Dorei, which is so nearly the same as the term said by the Chinese historian to be Corean, that we may extend the signification of Foosang so as to embrace Japan. This then is the view which I now advocate, viz., that Foosang is Corea and Japan, which were described by this flowery name, because Buddhism was successfully propagated there in the fifth century by Buddhists from Central China. I am very satisfied now that Japan is Foosang, occurring in a solar myth, because of the connection of sun worship with that country. Dr. B. translates from the Tang-shu—"Ji-pen is of the same origin as Wo. It lies on the boundaries of the sun* and hence the name." The honour paid to the sun by the Japanese justifies the identification of Japan with Foosang.

Japanese scholars, during the last fourteen centuries, have read all ancient Chinese books, and among them Hwai-nan-tsi. Nothing would please them better in the writings of that philosopher than the poetical account he gives of the progress of the sun commencing with Foosang on the east. Very gladly they appropriated the beautiful name "Leaning Mulberry." This tree is identified by Dr. Bretschneider with the Hibiscus Rosa Sinensis of the Mallow order common in China. Buddhism taught the Japanese much of their love of nature. The true Buddhist is a lover of nature. In their hours of ascetic contemplation many a tree and flower, many a mountain and river, absorb their thoughts and take a religious significance as a part of the kingdom of Buddha. So it is that one name of Foosang is Buddha's mulberry. As an ancient name for Japanese, a casual acquaintance of that country at Kobe who spoke English told me, that he understood it not as the special name of any tree but as simply the leaning mulberry and a favorite name of his country. The Buddhists in Japan spread the name because of its attractive character. It suited themselves and their island disciples equally well. There is no doubt that in Japan Buddhism has felt peculiar pleasure in aiding to perpetuate the use of this name during the period when their religion was triumphant in Japan.

Yet the tree is known to the Japanese as the Chinese Hibiscus. So Hepburn tells us. Other names given by Bretschneider are Chu-kinj, Ch'ih

在日邊

朱槿

kin*. Both mean "the red Hibiscus." The red colour denotes good luck and this will partly account for the fondness of Buddhist nations for the name. Its leaves resemble those of the mulberry tree or *sang*.

On the whole it must be decided that Hwei Shen and his Buddhist friend had never any idea of America. They meant countries in the east where Buddhism was received in a friendly manner by the people, and where, monasteries were erected in valleys favourable to the cultivation of their favourite trees.

Dr. J. Edkins in the "Messenger."

EXTRACTS FROM THE DAILY GAZETTE.

Sept. 12th. MIN YONG KEW† and Kim Myong Kew‡ are appointed vice presidents of the Home Office.

His Majesty expresses his desire to personally examine the sacrificial viands.

Sept. 13th. The To Seng Chi inform His Majesty that the officer in charge of the Royal Ancestral Temple and his servant should be imprisoned for their carelessness in causing the incense-burners to be overturned, and burning the mats.

Sept. 14th. The Crown Prince will confer the highest titles upon His Majesty the King and the Queen early to-morrow morning.

His Majesty orders the release of Kim Kun Saw, the officer of the Royal Ancestral Temple.

Sept. 15th. His Majesty orders the release of all prisoners for minor offences, it being a propitious day.

His Majesty orders that the shop-keepers (merchants) of Seoul be exempted from taxation for three months and that the taxes of the butchers be reduced during the space of twenty days.

His Majesty orders the promotion of all officials who participated in the conferring of titles of honor on his parents, deceased. He also orders the promotion of all officials who assisted the Crown Prince in conferring honorary titles on himself and the Queen.

Sept. 17th. The office of Chung Won recommends the promotion of Yun Pyeng Kwan§ the magistrate of Chongsong to the rank of Pang Eu Sa for valuable services rendered to his country. Granted.

* 赤槿
† 閔泳奎 민영규
‡ 金明圭 김명규
§ 尹秉寬 윤병관

Sept. 20th. His Majesty ordered Kim Su Hyen* to offer sacrifices at the Confucian Temple.

Sept. 21st. His Majesty ordered the release of all prisoners for minor offences, this being a month of rejoicing.

Sept. 22nd. The governor of Kyongsang announces that the magistrate of Kichang, Soong Chai He, died on the 8th of the last moon.

Sept. 23rd. The governor of P'yengsan announces that the magistrate of Chyolsan, Yun Yung Eun, died on the 11th of the last moon.

His Majesty ordered that the salaries of the chief of the War Office and the Head of the To Seng Chi be withheld for three months for not having prohibited the common people from approaching too near the royal procession on the 5th inst.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

WE recently had the pleasure of witnessing a sunset from the "Peak" at Chemulpo. It was grand beyond description. If there is a finer site in the East for a sanitarium than the "Peak" we have not heard of it.

THE MOVING OF THE MINT TO CHEMULPO from its old quarters at Seoul has been the chief event of the month and the noisiest affair the capital has witnessed for many a year. The means and methods used were somewhat primitive, but this need not be emphasized now that the work is well under way.

THE *Sin Po* (Chemulpo) complains against the continued issue of the light, Pyengyang copper coin as a violation of the spirit of the agreement entered into with Mr. Omiwa the head of the new Mint at Chemulpo. It claims that the new venture cannot succeed so long as this debased currency is forced upon the people and that it is the cause of the high prices and hard times of which so many complaints are heard all over the land. We could wish that Korea's currency problems were solved once for all.

OUR SUPPLY OF PAPER having run short we can give only 24pp. this month. We trust our subscribers will bear with us and that we shall never have to repeat this apology.

DR. MCGILL and Mr. Ohlinger started on a tour across the peninsula on the 12th. The latter made his appearance at the editorial sanctum in time to

* 金壽鉉 김슈현

report the season as most favorable for traveling in the interior. The streams are fringed with wild chrysanthemums, pinks and astors, and the mountains are gradually assuming their gorgeous autumn colors. The crops are fairly good and the song of the reapers is heard on every hand.

He reports well of the little Wonsan community and predicts that it will not remain the smallest foreign community in Korea much longer. Missions, consulates and business firms will be doubled in number within the next few years. Dr. McGill was enjoying a brisk medical practice when Mr. Ohlinger left him.

THE NINETEENTH BIRTHDAY OF CROWN PRINCE YE, only son of his Chosun Majesty, the King of Corea, was celebrated last night by the first state dinner ever given at the Korean legation. The charge d'affaires and Mrs. Ye arranged the details of the banquet, which will long be remembered by the guests present as a notable one in the cleverness with which the national colors were carried out in the decorations of the rooms and table. In the dining-room the mantel was banked with smilax, which also twined the mirror. The green was studded with American Beauty roses. On either side of the fireplace were tall growing plants, among the branches of which were artificial birds of the vivid blue and red peculiar to Corea. The central lamp suspended from the ceiling was covered with a wide-spreading red silk shade garlanded with smilax. Down the center of the table, over a white damask cloth, were three squares of white silk, the borders bright with native embroidery. On the middle one was a circular centerpiece of American Beauty roses and ferns arranged to represent the middle figure of the Korean flag, and on either side the silver candelabra were capped with scarlet shades.

A pretty idea of Mrs. Ye, who honored the occasion by wearing a gown of the national colors, was to have at each place for the ladies, instead of a bouquet, a single American Beauty rose. Tied about the stem in a rich bow was a broad white satin ribbon, on one end of which in red lettering was the name of the guest. On the opposite end was the striking blue-and-red device of the Korean flag, beneath which were the letters "C. P.—19—B. A.," signifying the "Crown Prince's nineteenth birthday anniversary." The letters were in blue and the numerals in red.

In addition to the decorations already described at the legation were two large screens of nearly a dozen sections, each resplendent with native embroidery, the gift of the King to Mr. Ye. On the west wall of the dining-room hung the great white flag of Corea with blue and red decorations.

Mrs. Ye, wife of the Korean secretary has not been well for some months past and will leave the city September 5th. for a visit to her home in Corea, to which country she will be accompanied by Miss Davis, of Abingdon, Va.

who will go as a missionary. They will sail September 17th. from San Francisco, to which city they will be accompanied by Mr. Ye, who will return to Washington in time to celebrate His Majesty's birthday at the legation. Mr. Ye's official duties will not permit him to accompany his wife to Corea. Last month they visited the Natural Bridge and Luray Cave.

The Washington Post.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR AUGUST.

Chemulpo. Much fine weather.

Highest Temp. (29-30) 89.0

Lowest " (7th) 19.0

Wonsan. Light variable winds prevailed.

Rain, 15 days; rain-fall, 11.6 inches. Fog, 1 day.

Highest Temp. (14th.) 93°.2

Lowest " (7th. and 22nd.) 60°.8

Fusan. Highest Temperature 87°.

Lowest " 69°.5

RECORD OF EVENTS.

BIRTH.

Sept. 22nd. at Seoul, the wife of C. C. Vinton M. D., of a son.

ARRIVED.

Sept. 9th. The Hon. W. C. Hillier, H. B. M's. Consul-general, returned from leave of absence in Japan.

Sept. 9th. At Chemulpo Miss Josephine O. Paine of Boston U. S. A. to join the Methodist Episcopal Mission.

Sept. 18th. At Seoul, from Wonsan, the Rev. M. C. Fenwick.

Sept. 18th. At Chemulpo Gen'l W. McE. Dye returned from leave of absence in Japan.

Sept. 19th. Mr. Octavius Johnson, of H. B. M's. Consular Service to take charge of H. B. M's. vice-consulate at Chemulpo.

Sept. 20th. At Seoul, to join the American Presbyterian Mission, the Rev. S. F. Moore and wife, Miss V. C. Arbuckle, and the Rev. Graham Lee.

DEPARTED.

Sept. 8th. Bishop W. F. Mallalieu and W. E. Mallalieu Esq. for Chefoo.

Sept. 29th. The Rev. M. C. Fenwick for Fusan.

Sept. 30th. For Shanghai per steamer "Yehsin," Mr. and Mrs. James Scott.

GENERAL.

Sept. 18th. a slight earthquake was felt at 8.30 P. M.

Cash changed at 3230 per yen during the month.