# THE EMPEROR OF COREA

Ruler of the Hermit Kingbom As a Host.

AUDIENCE AND BANQUET

A Traveller's Impression of the Emperor and the Crown Princes .--The Coreans Did Not Offend the Rules of "Good Form" of the West.

Dr. Hagen, who has travelled in red, recounts in a most interesting his impressions of the country its people. Of especial interest is Hagen's description of an audience of a state banquet at the Court Corea: "When the time fixed for 1 : audience arrived we entered into a very lofty room, the curpets of which were by no means costly. Behind a table sat the Emperor with the Crown Princes and the eunuchs. The Emperor Li-Hsi thanked us for our visit and asked us how our trip was progressing and whether we intend to remain a long time in Corea. The Crown Prince asked us exactly the same questions. He is about 30 years old, has an inert look, a beardless, fleshy face, thus not giving one the impression of being healthy and capable of doing much. He has several wives. but no children; he himself is the son of one of Ll-Hsi's concubines. He certainly will not ascend the throne without a great deal of trouble; the Japanese already have another Crown Prince in readiness at Yokohama; 1,200 checks an hour. this latter prince has joined the Japanese, and he will be supported by them when the proper moment comes. The Crown Prince joined but very little in the conversation; even the simple questions that he asked were New York World. suggested to him by the leader of the eunuchs. It is scarcely to be supposed that the Crown Prince will ever think of shaking himself free from the influence of that powerful and feared caste, whose rule in Corea, as in China in olden times, is noxious. At the end of the audience, which had lasted understand his body is en route. scarcely twenty minutes, the Emperes took his leave of us in a few amiable

"Before the dinner we were offer ed a glass of vermouth in the next room. The dining-room was well heated and furnished with European furniture; the table was decked out richly with cutlery, glass, linen, flowers and fruits: the cooking was exquisite and the wines were many and good. For some years the Imperial usehold has been managed by a lady

m Alsace, and she knows her duty well. Formerly the dinner would cost the Emperor 20 pounds per prest; now each guest costs only out 4 pounds. Corean servanta,

aring the national garb, waited non us attentively and noiselessly. It seemed amusing to us that the Emperor remained invisible behind a curtain during the dinner. He kept himself informed of all that happened at table and asked repeatedly what impression the foreigners were receiving. The Coreans present were fully acquainted with the manners of the West, and they did not offend either the rules of etiquette or those of wood form.' After the dinner the room was turned into a concert hall for the entertainments that were to be given. At first appeared two men elad in very rich garments to represent a lion and a tiger. They danced around to the music, rubbed together their noses as they uttered all kinds of weird sounds and then they vanished

"Thereupon about a dozen female dancers appeared in beautiful goldshimmering colors, and with their hats and other head coverings decked with flowers and with sandals and well fitting white stockings on their small feet. Although they were young and pretty their faces were much painted Round their necks and on their fore heads they wore pendants and their dresses were covered with filigree. A first they entered in pairs, went through various movements and each crowned her partner with flowers Then a large screen was opened in the room and a dancer took her place on either side of it. Near the top of the screen a rather large hole had been made, through which a dancer had to throw a flower to be eaught by her partner on the other side. There were fixed rules for this pastime; if the thrower missed the hole but could pick up the flower be fore it touched the ground, then she could begin again and go on until she managed to throw it through. When she had done that a flower was stucin her hair, but she at once pulled It out to present it to one of the audi ence. If the flower falls to the ground then the thrower has to pay a penalty The evening came to an end with dan cing and singing by the soldiers of the Pingyang Regiment. To their bravery in the war between Japan and Chins these soldiers owe the permission to wear Corean national costume-that is, the national hat and the broad white robe-instead of the cap, trous ers and shoes that are worn by Euro pean soldiers. Eight soldiers danced to an accompaniment of a chorus and of tambourines, while others gave some scenes in burlesque of a rather free nature. At midnight we took our leave."-London Globe.

Largest British Land Owner.

There are a number of famous es tates in England, but the man who probably owns more land than any other one inhabitant of that country is the Duke of Sutherland. The duke is said to be the largest landholder in the British islands, owning about 1258,000 acres.

WORLD'S CHAMPION TALKER.

Fastest Talker is Ready to Meet All Comers.

The greatest talker in the world has been discovered in Baltimore-not a woman, but a man in the employ of the auditing department of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad office. He is Ellored Conway, who boasts of being able to talk 65,000 words an Bour, or Twenty-three Years of Patient Labor 18 words a second.

"I am at any time ready," says Mr. Conway, "to meet any person in the world in a talking or reading contest for any amount of money. I am positive that I have no peer in the world at rapid reading, and am willing to back my opinion well financially.

"The great thing in my favor is that all my work is done from sightthat is, sight reading. It makes but little difference to me if I have ever seen what is placed before me or not.

In fact, fast reading is my daily work. "As to how long I can read (no matter whether checks with intricate names or not) I really cannot say, but I know one thing-I can do it as long as any one cares to listen to me, and my throat gives me no trouble at all.

"How I happened to have the power to read so fast and accurately I really am unable to tell. But one thing I can say, and that is that it has not been acquired by practice or in any other way, but has simply come natural. There is no shorthand writer who can follow me if I 'turn loose,' "

He is almost indispensable at the Baltimore & Ohio office in his work. The proper reading of each check involves the pronunciation of from 20 to 24 words, and Mr. Conway can read

The reading of the checks also re quires great care and accuracy. Recently the pay checks for one month read by him numbered 32,123, and this was done without a single error .--

From the Corean Weekly Courier. Sergeant Stitchsky is putting a new flap on his tent.

The smiling face of Wahai Nipponfi the well known Japanese scout, was seen in our midst Wednesday. We

Hiram Buttinsky paid ye editor a hurry call yesterday. Hi says there is heavy firing up North, and he is hurry ing South. General Kuropatkin and best girl Sundayed at Che Foo. The general never looked better.

Admiral Skrydioff is confined to his bed with a touch of la grippe. His Japanese friends hope for a speedy relapse.

Private Sapolio, of the Thirteenth Japanese Rookies, was seen on our

streets Thursday with a shine. Dannie Deeveroff was hanging

around our burg this morning. A few of our estcemed patrons re cently started to cross the Yalu and forgot to land. Now is the time to

Captain Kinksky, who gave us a want ad. not long ago, lost one of his legs in vesterday's ckirmish. Cap says it pays to advertise.-Milwaukee Sentinel.

## Getting Back at V/histler.

The late James McNeil Whistler had a French poodle of which he was extravagantly fond. This poodle was seized with an affection of the throat, and Whistler had the audacity for the great throat specialist, Mac-

Sir Morell, when he saw that he had been called in to treat a dog, didn't like it much, it was plain. But he said nothing. He prescribed, pocketed a big fee, and drove away.

The next day he sent post haste for Whistler. And Whistler, thinking he was summoned on some matter connected with his dog, dropped his work and rushed like the wind to Mackenzie's.

On his arrival, Sir Morell said gravely: "How do you do, Mr. Whistler? I wanted to see you about having my front door painted."-Collier's

## England's Coal Supply.

A careful survey of the local deposits of England has been made recently with the result of discovering that there is coal enough in the United Kingdom to a depth of 4,000 feet, sufficient at the present rate of output to last 371 years.

This estimate does not take into consideration the fact that with improved machinery and skill it might be possible to carry on mining at a depth of 7,000 feet. The supply may be still further extended by the eco-

nomical use of electricity. If England's fuel supply is assured for 371 years she need have no alarm By that time coal may have become quite obsolete as fuel.

## The Value of Health.

The working classes of England according to the bishop of Chester lose 3,000,000 pounds in wages through illness in the course of s

## Street Cleaning at a Profit.

The city of Glasgow makes \$7,500 ; year profit out of waste paper col lected in the streets. Liverpool has now decided to add to its income in the same manner.

# Better Late Than Never.

The schooner Joseph Hawthorns arrived at Portland, Me., recently hav ing consumed 137 days in making the trip from Fernandina, Fla.

The Waiter Knew. Guest-Waiter, bring me a tip-ton dinner. You know what that means don't you? -

Waiter-Yes, sah. It's one that you t:p off with a tip-Smart Set.

Soldered on a Large Copper Vase Valued at \$75,000.

#### A LIFE'S WORK FINISHED

Required to Complete It.—Spanish Coins of Pizarro's Time, Roman Coins of the Caesers and American Coppers.

After twenty-three years of patient labor Eduard Rausch, of Philadelphia, sits in the front parlor of his little home, nursing his rheumatic toe, and admiring the result of his toil all day

It is a huge vase completely covered by coins-coins of all nations and all ages and it is no idle boast of his that no similar work was ever completed or perhaps dreamed of by any man of the dead or the living.

If the fancy of the Gedman cornice maker should delve past the mere outward appearance of those 4,000 shiny scrapings of dead ages, wealth which he stinted himself through a quarter century to secure, he might see more than a remarkable ornament which he would be willing to part with for a good-sized fortune. He might find material in that contemplation for a greater elegy than that of the eighteenth century poet. Here are Spanish gold coins of Pizarro's time rubbing edges with American coppers; crude African money, bolts and bars, that might have been used by savages as weapons with good effect, soldered beside the fat silver coins of ancient Greece.

Other African coins there are in the shape of horse shoes, fashloned as if the more handily to permit physical strife for their possession which experience had proven unavoidable. Sicilian spoon money and Javanese oblong coins, the Nuremburg tiny speck of gold, the smallest coin in the world, only an eighth of an inch in diameter, and Japanese bars and forks that passed as bullion when the world was younger: Roman money that the Caesers may have touched, shell money of untutored seashore tribesnot one space of history has been left unrepresented on this unprecedented

Rausch has surrounded it by a glass case and a brass railing. People walk into the little front parlor of his home, and stand gazing in mute wonder. Then they look at its maker sitting with his foot propped on a chair and his pipe in his mouth, chucking at their admiration.

"Oh, it's never been done before," he said to-day, in his quaint semi-Bavarian patois, "there never was anything like it. Twenty-five years have I been, since I was a young man, gathering those. Slowly, slowly, you know. Why some of those coins tock big pieces out of my pay. There, that," pointing to one not particularly imposing specimen, "cost me \$116, and several others little less and others more."

Many of the collection have in-He started to collect in 1879 and was 1903, in the country at large. so fortunate in his bargains and exchanges that he determined to continue as a life work what had begun ceived the vase idea and constructed five feet in height and thirty-two He started to solder on his collection but it was not long before it had all been used and to decorate but a small portion of the surface. Then he cast about him to get more material.

But a wife and growing family interceded in the midst of this pastime and Rausch felt the necessity of finding coins that had to be used for other purposes than to ornament a copper vase. The recompense of his labor was not sufficient to permit much to be expended beyond domestic needs and some had to be laid by.

With the perseverance of his race, however, and the belief that he was making a good investment, Rausch put every available cent into the purchase of rare coins. Few he received as gifts. Many were hard to get, even with money. Sometimes work on the vase would stop for months before another metal treasure was obtained to hide a dull patch of sheet copper.

Last week he finished it, and bought a bunch of flowers to put in the top of his vase. Rausch says he ought to get \$75,000 for it. He was asked if the pieces could be taken off if the purchasing collector chose to have them detached, without injuring them The idea had not occurred to him.

"No, they would not be damaged if you pulled them off," said he, "But that would make bare patches on the vase."

## Age of Individualism.

This is the age of individualism We demand individual peppers, salts knives, forks, spoons, glasses, cupt and plates at the hotels, individua' sheets, individual towels, individua' soap; and at the barber's individua combs, brushes and pomades, razors scissors, clippers and lathers. Such as can afford it have individual palace cars and steamships.

New Prefixes for Americans. The London Express learns that "It is proposed in America that the prefix 'Mr.' should be abolished by acts of Congress, and every man should be known by his trade or profession, as 'Draper Jones' or

CLOCKS OF ROYALTY.

**Buckingham and Windsor Royal Houses** Contain Several Hundred.

There are nearly 250 clocks at Wind for castle, and about 170 in Buckingham palace. One of the most interesting of those at Windsor is in a gilt metal case given by Henry III. to Anne Boleyn on the morning of their wedding. It is ten inches high and is engraved with the royal arms of England quartered with those of France The lead weights are engraved with true-lovers knots and "H. A. Dieu et Mon Droit," at the base. This clock, which at one time became the property of Horace Walpole, was bought by Queen Victoria. It has survived four centuries, but four years only marked the duration of the royal love of Henry and Anne Boleyn.

A Louis XIV., buhl, clock in red shell in the Van Dyck room at Windsor castle is very fine, supported by four sphinxes, and exquisitely engraved by Marot, who was born in 1620. His son was architect to William III. A lyre clock in King Edward's audience room shows the pendulum encircling the dial, and a third hand indicates the date of the month. There are several other buhl clocks, one in the corridor, one in the vestibule and the forms and sizes are various. The truest clock over the state entrance goes eight days and strikes

the quarters, bearing the date 1827. At Buckingham palace the Augsburg clock on the equerries' stairs is among the earliest examples of the clockmak ers art and very beautiful is the clock in the state diging room. Hampton Court is also rich in historically interesting clocks, such as the old astronomical one made for Henry VIII. 1540, said always to stop when any one who has long resided in the palace

#### A Wonderful Vessel.

There was launched a short time ago at Lorain, O., the largest fresh water steamship affoat. The Wolvin is 569 feet in length and is designed to carry 12,500 tons of coal on her first trip and thus to break all cargo records on the lakes.

Some novel features have been introduced in the construction of this steamer, the chief being that the cargo space is one immense hopper, 409 feet long, with sloping sides and ends, and not an obstruction of any kind, the deck being supported by arched girders. This form was adopted to offer no obstruction to unloading ore through its 33 hatches by the clamshell scoop now in use at Conneaut and other ports.

Below and on each side of this hold are compartments for water ballast

to insure stability. The engines, bunkers and quarters for the crew are astern of the hold, while below the pilot house are the officers' quarters, and comfortable rooms are also provided here for the owners of the steamer.

Everything possible about the boat will be done by machinery, and she will acquire distinction by being painted yellow.-Scientific American.

## Fatal Fireworks.

Figures collected last year by the American Medical Association, shows creased in value since the time that 4,449 deaths and injuries result | ance of power was to consist of Eng-Rausch came into their possession. ed from the celebration of July 4, land, Italy-and Albania."

There were 406 deaths due to lockjaw, for which the toy pistol was responsible. Other forms of mortal inas a fad. Two years later he con- jury took sixty victims. There were ten persons who were made blind. one of copper, on graceful lines, over peventy-five who lost one eye, fiftyfour who lost hands, arms or legs, inches in diameter at its widest part. 174 who lost fingers and 3,670 who received other injuries.

At the battle of Bunker Hill, famous preliminary to the next year's first dawning of Independence Day, there were killed 145 Americans and 359 of the British-a total only thirtyeight greater than that in the celebration slaughter of this one Fourth of

## Voices and Climatic Effects.

Generally speaking, races living at high altitudes have weaker and more highly pitched voices than those living in regions where the supply of oxygen is more plentiful. Thus, in America, among the Indians living on the plateau between the ranges of the Andes, at an elevation of from 10,000 to 14,000 feet, the men have voices like women, and women like children, and their singing is a shrill monotone.

American Treasure Trove.

Unable to resist the promptings of a second dream telling him where to dig for hidden treasure. John Stonebrunner of Springfield, O., has found gold once supposed to have been buried by the French near Beatty, in 1745. Its value to collectors is estimated at \$1,500. All the coins bear cates of the 18th century.

An Engineering Feat. A remarkable feat of engineering was accomplished at the Narragansett brewery, at Cranston, R. I., when a 192-foot chimney, four feet out of plumb was straightened without cracking it. When its fall seemed imminent J. H. Gerhard, a local civil engi-

neer, by means of steel levers, raised

the chimney and backed it into place.

Self-Lighting Cigars. An Austrian inventor has applied for a patent for self-lighting cigars and cigarettes. These are tipped with a chemical mixture, and on being struck against anthing ignite like

matches. Object to Being Counted. The Boers resent an attempt to take a Transvaal census. They consider it an intrusion into the private affairs.

TURKISH DICIPLINE LAX

Army and Navy Are Almost in and habits of the British men of Completely Demoralized.

HUMOROUS INSTANCES

Escape Fighting Whenever Possible-Albanians' Suggestion of an Alliance of England, Italy and Albania Against Europe.

It is spid that the Turkish soldiery

is becoming demoralized to the point where displays of cowardice are common. Some extraordinary instances of this are related by a recent traveler there who declares that the Turkish troops have displayed their lack of nerve many times. When actual fighting is to be done many of the soldiers seek seclusion in the adjacent fields or escape the observation of their commanders by getting into streams or ponds and immersing themselves in water up to the neck. It was near Uskub that a resort to this method of avoiding trouble was actually observed. An engineer corps had been summoned hastily to the nearest bridge over the Vardar, where bombs had just been thrown, and found the guard especially placed there to protect the bridge conspicuously absent. It took the officers a considerable time to find what had become of their missing men. Apparently the demoralization of

Turkey's fighting forces extends also to its naval vessels. There is a guardship at Salonika, a fairly modernlooking small cruiser, lying year in, year out peacefully at anchor in the bay. One day an order came to the commander to take a cruise, and the consternation of that gallant officer was great because no screw steamer can move without a shaft, and that had been sold some time ago. But he was a man of resource, and had a shaft made of wood, praying that It would break within the first few minutes. The wooden shaft held by some miracle, and as the cruiser slowly steamed out of the gulf the captain's heart sunk, for he had no desire to go to see with a shaft that must break sooner or later. So he sent below and had the shaft sawn half-way through. A little extra steam and the desired result was accomplished and the guardship was towed back "dis-

Some of the Albanians whose insurrectionary operations have been an occasion for concern both to Turkey and to the powers which are trying to compel reforms in that region are curlously ignorant as to the conditions in the outer world. A writer who visited an Albanian monastery says: "The fact that I write impressed these worthy friars greatly, and Padre Gloacchino, politician as are all Albanians, made a wonderful suggestion. "Write a long article, my son, he exclaimed enthusiastically. 'Thou knoweth us and the bravery of my nation. Suggest an alliance against Europe that will assuredly destroy the balance of the powers." The alliance which the padre expected to overturn the bal-

## Intense Cold of Thibet.

The intense cold found at the high elevations over which the British troops lately marched into Thibet nearly disabled the Maxims and rifles. The officers of the guns had to clear the locks of the Maxims of oil and carry them in their breast pockets to keep them warm and dry, and the men took their rifles to bed with them. Otherwise the oil would freeze into a clogging mess which would cause misfires. The water jackets of the Maxims became a source of danger and even a mixture of one-quarter rum did not prevent the water from freez-

# King Cotton in Texas.

So far from being doomed as a cotton State, we have reason to believe that 2,100f, per annum, and who have three cotton production in Texas is in its infancy. New methods made necessary by the weevil result in larger production, even with the presence of of six, \$48; of seven, \$70; of eight, the weevil, and when these methods \$82; of nine, \$166. become universal in Texas, so far from going out of the business, we may look for still greater production. If prices range from 10 to 12 cents a pound for the next crop, grand old Texas will have the goods to get from \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 worth. Houston Pest.

## An Ancient Printing Press.

One of the oldest printing presses in existence was built at Boston in 1742 by Thomas Draper. It was the first press ever used in New Hamp shire. At that time It was owned by Daniel Fowler, but afterwards came into the possession of John Melcher, the first state printer. It is now owned by a firm of press builders in New Jersey who keep it as a curiosity.

## Electricity Duty Free.

The Royal Italian Minister of Finance has just granted an Italian firm permission to import free of duty electric power by wire from a power station to be erected in Swiss territory. In giving his decision the Minister of Finance said that no pro vision had been made in the Italian tariff for taxing imported electric of the timber. power.

An Insurance Novelty. An English firm Issues picture pos tal cards, the purchaser of one of the main street at Oakdale, L. I., the which can, by mailing it to the firm other day. They were not at all timid with his name and address on it, in sure his life for \$2,500 for 24 hours of them. against travel accidents.

MEN OF GENIUS.

Evidence Seems to Show Them to be

Long Lived. Havelock Ellis's studies of the origgenius show that most came from business life, many from "good famllies," so called, and few from the clerical profession. Of 163 men of eminence in ten centuries thirteen were the sons of carpenters, five of shoemakers, five of weavers and four of blacksmiths. Browning's father was a clerk, and so was Bradlaugh's; Turner's was a barber, Carlyle's a mason, Huxley's a schoolmaster, Keat's a livery-stable man, Knox's a

field's an innkeeper. Men of genius are long-lived. Of those on Mr. Ellis's list more died between sixty-five and seventy-five than in any other period. Those living beyond seventy-five numbered 230, those beyond eighty 130, and twenty lived past ninety.

peasant, Wolsey's a grazier and Whit-

A genius is not often an only son; he is more likely to spring from a large family. Nor is he often the son of a distinguished father. He is sometimes a tall man. Twenty-six instances are cited of great men who were six-footers and over. Among them are Darwin, Millals, Sir Walter Scott, Tennyson, Borrow, Thackeray and Fielding.

#### Grizzly Bear is Supreme.

It is a matter of interest, if not for patriotic pride, that of all the fighting animals America has in the grizzly bear the florcest and the most formidable. The lion, the so-called "king of beasts," is distinctly inferior in size and power to the Bengal tiger, but a first-rate grizzly could master both at once. He is far stronger, is better built for running in spite of his apparent clumsiness, and loves a fight for the fight's sake better than either of the great cats of the Old World, who keep well under cover when not

hungry. Like all other hunted animals, the grizzly has learned to shun men's firearms, but in his palmier days he never "side-stepped" for anything that walked, on two legs or four, as many an early Western hunter learned to his cost,

#### The Value of the Whale.

An American company has estabfished a plant at Balena, Newfoundland, for utilizing the entire carcasses of whales. Similar plants are being established by the government at twelve other points in Newfoundland and one in Labrador. Up to 1892 the business of utilizing commercially the carcasses was carried on by an Engfish syndicate, which employed a number of experts, but gave up the business after expending a capital of \$180,000. Every ounce of the whale is ased in the manufacture of oil, stearin, tone meal or bones and other articles of commerce, which are shipped abroad. This new industry employs a capital of more than \$1,000,000 and furnishes employment to over 1,000

## Medicine for a Dying Tree.

A very old tree was once rejuvenated in a remarkable manner. It was very ancient walnut that had for years shown signs of decay. But the keeper in front of whose house the tree stood took to slinging the carcass of each deer he killed on to one of its boughs for dressing. During the process all the blood dripped on the ground and was absorbed. The following spring this tree put forth an astonishing crop of leaves, and in less than three seasons it was making new wood and showing all the vigor which had characterized it thirty years before.-The Country Gentleman.

## Financial Aid to Racial Increase.

The latest scheme for the encouragement of population in France is that of the Paris, Lyons & Mediterranean Railway Company, which has adopted the following scale in the case of employes who have large families: Employes whose wages do not exceed children or persons to provide for, will receive a gratuity of \$6 per annum; for a family of four, \$16; of five, \$30;

## Uses for Old Parchments.

Quite a good price is paid by a French firm for old parchments of all descriptions. They have a process for removing the ink, and eventually the cleaned stuff comes back to us as the finest French kid gloves. The clippings left when the gloves are made are not wasted either. Mixed with pieces of vellum and leather, they are boiled down for size. And the coarse shavings, with odds and ends of seal and other skins, come in handy for filling cheap cricket, and tennis balls. -London Tit-Bits.

# Coreans as Wood Finishers.

When the palace at Seoul was burned the famous Hall of Audience was destroyed. Each of its many columns was formed from the trunk of a tree. Each was over 10 feet in height, and all were rounded to the same exact size. No paint or varnish had ever touched them. They were kept washed with clean water, and then polished merely by much rubbing with soft, clean pads. They shone like metal and yet showed all the beautiful grain

A herd of 37 deer were seen feeding in an open field within 100 yards of and several people took photographs