INAUGURAL BALT

Floral Designs and Bunting Draperies For the Event.

Eleven Car Loads of Flowers and Exotics Needed.

The floral decorations which have been designed for the inaugural ball at Washington promise to be more plentiful and elaborate than those of any entertainment ever given in this country.

The ball will be given in the now entirely completed Pension Building in the patio or inner court, which is probably the most spacious in the world, being 1300 by 450 feet. The roof is in three sections with a dome in the centre. From the celling will depend garlands of laurel six inches in diameter. It will take 5000 yards. At each end of the ballroom will be suspended huge globes of flowers fifteen feet in diameter, around which will be inscribed the words: "Inaugural Ball, '89." These globes are arranged to open in the centre, and by means of wires manipulated by the men stationed below on either side, as the Presidential party passes beneath the fragrant hemispheres will part, and a shower of blossoms will strew the path of the newly installed ruler and his suite. From the great dome will hang a ship of flowers chirty feet long—the Ship of State—fullrigged. completed Pension Building in the patro or

About the upper gallery are ranged terracotta vases, in which will be placed rare
palms. The 300 columns supporting the
gallery will be draped with garlands of
laurels and smilax. The eight large
columns which support the lofty dome
will be twined with laurel, having palm
leaves interspersed. All the galleries will
be festooned with laurel garlands and
flowers as will be the gas fixtures and chandeliers. Suspended from the lower gallery will
be a series of panels 5x10 feet, made entirely
of choice flowers, a panel being devoted to
each department of State, upon which will
be wrought in half relief some suitable device. The Navy Department will bear
upon a floral background a man-of-war;
the Department of the Interior, a pioneer
scene representing a log cabin, a newly felled
tree, a plow and a sheaf of grain; the Postoffice Department, a mail-bag and an envelope duly stamped, postmarked and addressed in a flowing hand to "Benjamin
Harrison, Washington, D. C."

Over each panel will be the name of the
department it symbolizes and a quill of
flowers.

In the center of the tesselated pavement

In the center of the tesselated pavement springs a fountain. It will be covered by a Japanese pagoda sixty feet high and two storied. In this will be placed the two bands of musicians. Palms, tropical plants and flowers will cover the entire structure. At one extreme end of the building will be a conservatory effect arranged with palms and growing plants, and overhung by the inscription "Inaughral Ball, 1889, Harrison and Morton," in gleaming gas jets. The reception rooms in which the Presidential party will receive are to be upholstered in Turkish stuffs and provided with rugs and hangings of the richest and most costly description. No pictures or ornaments will be introduced, but there will be flowers everywhere.

In the centre of the Pesidential room is to stand a large tate-a-tete chair made of rare blossoms. Upon the back of one will be written "Harrison," and upon the other "Morton," and a canopy of choice blossoms will hang overhead.

Mr. Neal, the New York florist, to whom In the center of the tesselated pavement

overhead.

Mr. Neal, the New York florist, to whom has been awarded the contract for all these decorations, says they will cost about \$7000, and it will require at least eleven carloads of flowers to carry out his very elaborate de-

THE LABOR WORLD.

TACK machines make 275 per minute THE coopers are to form a National Trade

AUSTRIAN cotton operatives get \$4.30 to \$9.60 per week.

PHILADELPHIA'S working people are contented and prosperous.

NEW YORK has a \$600,000 order from South America for locomotives.

THE Lehigh Valley Railroad has ceased almost entirely the use of soft coal. THIRTEEN cotton mills in and around Augusta, Ga., employ 4300 persons.

THE boot and shoe makers produce an

average of five pairs daily per operator ABOUT 150,000 carbons are burned daily in the electric lights used in the United States.

THERE are 350 skilled tack workers in merica. They make from \$150 to \$250 per NATIONAL DISTRICT ASSEMBLY 217 Knights

of Labor, which once numbered 10,000 iron workers, has collapsed.

THERE are 30,000 men in the Stationary Engineers' Association. The union was formed in New York in 1882.

CALIFORNIA fruit growers complain of the scarcity of fie d laborers since the Chinese restriction bill went into effect,

CARPENTERS in Toronto, Canada, get \$3.50 to \$5 per day, while bricklayers, plasterers and stone masons are paid \$6 per day.

THERE are about 70,000 lace makers in Normandy, and in all France there are nearly 200,000 women engaged in this industry.

THE Order of Railway Telegraphers is exclusively beneficial, and imposes expulsion upon any member participating in a strike.

An iron factory in Buffalo, N. Y., which has been shut down for over twelve years, will soon start up with a force of two hundred men.

THERE were three firms in the United States during 1888 which built over two hun-dred locomotives each, and seven which built

THE Chinese are getting lamp chimneys from the United States. A Pittsburg firm recently shipped to China 1000 boxes of them, or 6000 dozen.

PAUL MISONNE, a Belgian who recently died at the age of ninety, had been in the service of the coal mining corporation of Americaur for seventy-seven years.

PEACE has been secured for the year in the mills of Fall River, Mass, by the action of the Spinners' Union in accepting the new schedule drawn up by the mill owners.

HAMILTON & BROWN of St. Louis demand a deposit of \$50 from every workman as a guarantee that he will not leave without giving two weeks notice. If he has not that sum they hold back \$1 per week.

THE Rev. George Guirey, a Baptist clergy-man of Paterson, N. J., recently delivered a sermon in which he advocated the passage of a "general law fixing the minimum of a hard-working man at \$2 a day."

THE marine engineers have concluded at Baltimore the labors of their fourteenth annual convention. Charleston, S. C., was selected as the place, and the first Monday in January, 1830, as the time for the next annual convention.

THE Burbington railroad strikers have re-ceived an official copy of the agreement by which the strike was terminated, and were ordered by the Grievance Committee to re-port for work to the Burlington officials be-fore February 1.

The Workingmen's Society of New York city has hit upon a plan to aid poor sewingwomen and others. It will adopt a "fair wages latel," which will be furnished to manufacturers who pay wages enough to enable working girls and women to live happily. The society also proposes to encourage buyers to purchase goods bearing the new label.

LATER NEWS.

THE oldest oak tree in America, said to be 2000 years old, at Woodbridge, Conn., is being cut up into chairs,

MAJOR-GENERAL CHARLES P. HERRING, a Union war veteran, died in Philadelphia, in the 60th year of his age.;

EDWARD J. ANDERSON, an old New York lawyer of some prominence, blew his brains out at the Putnam House in New York city.

A MANUFACTURER of safes in Boston has received an order for a safe for a Philadelphia bank. It will cost \$100,000, and will be the largest and heaviest safe ever con-

SUPERVISOR WILLIAM HOWELLS and Assistant Supervisor Cox, of Division C, Pennsylvania Railroad, were arrested in New York city charged with stealing \$12,000 worth of property from the company.

ONE HUNDRED persons have been indicted by the Grand Jury at Parkersburg, W. Va., for illegal voting, bribery and intimidation during the recent election.

ADAM BERKELES, who was flogged by White Caps near Sardinia, Ohio, last November, has brought suit against sixteen citizens of Brown County, for \$10,000 damages.

GENERAL W. D. WASHBURN succeeds Senator Sabin to the United States Senate

THEY have been enjoying a cold wave in the Northwest. At Neche, Dakota, the thermometer registered forty-two degrees below zero; at Morris, Minn., it was thirty degrees below. A MEMORIAL to the President and Con-

gress of the United States has been adopted by the New Mexico Legislative Assembly by a unanimous vote, praying for the admission of the Territory to the Union of

THE collection of internal revenue for the first six months of the current fiscal year were \$63,312,565, an increase of \$868,957 on the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

THE President has vetoed four private

THE men-of-war Vandalia and Mononga hela have been ordered by the Secretary of the Navy at once to Samos, as the condition of affairs there is said to be critical.

THE fund to pay the expenses of Mr. Parnell in his litigation with the London Times amounts to more than \$150,000.

PORTIONS of Scotland have been visited by an earthquake.

Two men were blown to atoms by an explosion of dynamite at Sherbrooke, Quebec,

A Young woman and man from Lyons were found dead in a room in a hotel at Monte Carlo. In a letter to a friend they said they had suffered losses at the gaming tables, and intended to commit suicide to-

A PORTION of the Imperial Palace at Pekin China, has been burned down.

An explosion of fire damp occurred in the Hyde Colliery near Manchester, England. There were 107 miners at work at the time, and of these twenty-five were killed.

BEFORE help could reach her, Mrs. Anne Sullivan was burned to a crisp in her residence at Haverstraw, N. Y.

ISAAC BELL, JR., ex Minister Resident to the Netherlands for the United States, redied in St. Luke's Hospital, Ner York city.

MRS. MARY J. HALE, a lady aged sixty years, was killed at Riga, N. Y., by Chris. Burger, a boy aged sixteen years. The murderer killed his victim with a boot, pounding her head and face to pulp, breaking the frontal bones of the skull and crushing the nose and forehead.

CALVIN BLOODGOOD has been ki'led at the mining town of Sam's Fork, Wyoming, by

A BRIDGE over Green River at Spottsville, Ky., was wrecked, causing a loss of five

THE Territorial treasury of Dakota is said to be bankrupt, or \$65,000 worse off than nothing.

THREE colored men were killed in a race conflict at Ty Ty, Ga.

By a collision between a passenger and freight train at Elmwood, Mich., James H. Macdonald, Lieutenant Governor of Michigan; William S. Cochrane, of Escanaba, and one other man were instantly killed and five seriously injured. Macdonald leaves an estate of \$500,000.

THE House has passed the Fortifications Appropriation bill. An amendment appropriating \$25,320 for military paraphernalia and officers' quarters at Sandy Hook, N. J., was adopted. The bill, as passed, appropriates \$915,320.

THE Czarina of Russia is said to be insane. ADMIRAL MOSTS, Chief of the German

Admiralty, is dead, MR. ROBERT SEYMOUR, Vice-Consul of the United States at Queenstown, Ireland, is

A SCHOONER making a trip to Skidegate, British Columbia, sprung a leak and sank. Eight Indian passengers were drowned. The captain, a white boy and seven White Boy Indians escaped.

FIVE BODIES IN THE RUINS. A Woman and Four Children Killed

and Their Home Burned The house of Mrs. Minnie Hall, a young widow living four miles south of Brookfield, Md., was burned down on a recent night. When the neighbors gathered there they found the charred remains of the five occupants. The eldest child was nine years old and the youngest about two. There being fresh snow on the ground, it was discovered that hay had been placed around the house and fire set to. The tracks of a man's feet were seen leading toward the city. This clue resulted in the arrest of a young man named James A. Howell, at the Bobb Hotel. Howell held in his possession an unloaded revolver. He was going to take the early morning train, so he said, for Laclede and would walk from there south to the Prairie Mound school-house neighborhood, where he had been teaching. Md., was burned down on a recent night.

Mound school-house neighborhood, where he had been teaching.

Howeli is a cousin of the woman burned to death. Public opinion inclines to the theory that the woman died of malpractice, and that Howeli shot the four children and set fire to the house to cover his crima. Lee had for some time been spending Saturdays and Sundays with the murdered family. The prisoner is twenty-four years old. He says had a more and known nothing about the

WORK OF THE WIRES.

Some Notable Happenings Transmitted by Telegraph.

A Bill to Admit Five New States Passes the House.

The House has passed the bill for the admission of North and South Dakota, Montana, Washington and New Mexico, by a vote of 144 yeas to 98 nays. All the Democrats voted for the bill, as did also quite a number

It provides, in brief, for the admission of two new States, South Dakota and Montana,

two new States, South Dakota and Montana, and that North Dakota, Washington and New Mexico may be admitted after they have formed and adopted State Constitutions, and whenever Congress shall have passed special acts in their behalf—that is, at some indefinite date in the future.

The main provisions of the measure are as follows: South Dakota is to be entitled to two Representatives in Congress, and is to be admitted into the Union upon proclamation by the President, provided that at an election to be held on November 5, 1859, a majority of the voters of North Dakota and South Dakota, voting separately, shall decide in favor of division; and that the Constitution of 1885 shall be ratified by a majority of the voters of South Dakota. If either North Dakota or South Dakota shall vote against division, neither of them will have any separate status, and Dakota Territory is to be admitted as a single State, if at all, under this measure. In other words, Montana, in that case, will be the only actual beneficiary.

Montana is to be admitted upon proclamation, if a majority of the voters at the election on November 5, 1889, shall ratify the Constitution of 1884.

The Territories of New Mexico and Wash-

tion on November 5, 1889, shall ratify the Constitution of 1884.

The Territories of New Mexico and Washington are authorized to elect delegates and hold constitutional conventions and frame and adopt constitutions, but the fledgling States are to be kept out of the Union until Congress by special acts shall open the door and admit them. North Dakota is to have the same privileges, provided that both North and South Dakota vote for division, but not otherwise. It will be observed that the admission of Montana under the bill depends on a single condition—the ratification of the old constitution adopted five years ago, while the admission of South Dakota depends not only upon the ratification of the constitution of 1885, but also upon a majority in favor of division in North Dakota as well as in South Dakota.

Veterans in Politics.

Veterans in Politics.

A number of leading Republican ex-soldiers, members of the G. A. R. and Union Veteran Union, have organized themselves at Bloomington, Ill., into Camp No. 1 of a new organization, to be known as the Republican Soldiers' League of the United States, and have chosen Colonel John Reed President. The object of the organization is openly political. It is founded for the express purpose of concentrating the political power of the Republican soldiers of the Union Organizers will be chosen at once to introduce the Order throughout the State and the United States.

A dispatch from Fort Dodge, lowa, says: The movement for the organization of a society of Democratic veterans of the war is not confined alone to Indiana. Steps are being taken for the organization of a camp in this county, and eighty-one members of the proposed organization have already been outsined.

His Wife Was Petrified.

A remarkable case of what is alleged to be petrification has just come to light. Sixteen years ago a half-breed named Rolade buried his wife about twenty miles. his wife about twenty miles from Winnipeg, Manitoba. A few days ago he exhumed the remains, intending to carry them to another

the body was found perfectly preserved, the eyes and mouth being partly open and the hair quite black and natural. When an attempt was made to lift the body it was found quite impossible, as it was completely petrified. Examination showed that a small examination showed that been Examination showed that a small spring of alkali water had been running through the coffin, and the action of the water on the remains had caused petrification. Assistance was procured, and the body was raised to the surface and transferred to the city where it was weighed. The weight was found to be 700 pounds.

A Relie of the Revolution. The old blast furnace at the Oxford Iron Works, Oxford, N. J., is being torn down to give way to modern improvements. The furnace is one of the oldest relics in the county, and was erected over a century ago. It is the oldest stack in New Jersey, and rendered valuable service in manufacturing unition for the Revolutionary War.

New Panama Canal Company. The Banque Parisienne has assumed the entire cost of the issue and constitution of the new Panama Canal Company, but it stipulates that after the opening of the canal it shall receive annually one per cent. of the

A PALACE AFIRE.

Enormous Loss by the Burning of the Chinese Emperor's Home.

The fire which broke out in the imperial palace at Pekin, China, on the 17th was still raging three days afterward. The loss is enormous. The palace enclosure is a city in itself, and about a quarter of it is in flames. The great audience hall, with its elaborate ornaments and valuable works of art, is destroyed. The treasury building and most of its contents are in ashes. Whole streets of offices, storehouses and residences of officials of the court have been swept away. The quarter of the palace in which the Emperor and Empress Mother lived was saved, but the panic was terrible. Their Majesties were hastily conveyed to the fortress, at a safe distance from the flames.

The palaces and warehouses were heaped with costly stuffs and treasures, which had been accumulated in preparation for the marriage of the young Emperor. Immense quantities were destroyed. The loss far exceeds that of the looting of the summer palace by the English thirty years ago.

The calamity has had a depressing effect on the superstitious Chinese. It is regarded as an evil omen, having occurred in the midst of the preparations for the wedding festivities of the Emperor. The marriage will have to be postposed in consequence of the disaster. was still raging three days afterward. The

MISSIONARIES KILLED.

Tragic Scene at a German Station in East Africa.

The Arabs have destroyed the German missionary station at Tagu, fifteen miles west of Dar-Es-Salem, in Africa. A majori-

west of Dar-Es-Salem, in Africa. A majority of the slaves captured by the German man of-war Leipzig were lodged at the station. One missionary succeeded in escaping from the Arabs, but eight others were massacred. Three bodies, one of them that of a woman, were found mutilated in a barbarouz manner.

The Arabs carried off the servants and slaves at the station. The French missionary stations, especially those situated near Tugu, are in imminent danger. The Arabs who are now joining in the slave trade come principally from Kilwa and Lindi, and are richer and more influential than Bushiri, and are likely to overshadow him. These accessions to the ranks of the slave traders will have the effect of reinvigorating the revolt, which would have died out if the Germans had not retained Bogamoyo and Dar-Es-Salem.

SIGHTS IN COREA.

SCENES IN A FAR AWAY COUNTRY.

An Extra Horse A quired to Carry Your "Cash"-Corean Women -The Wonders of Scoul-Fat Corean Childre



PEAKING of Corea and the Coreans, Frank G. Carpenter says in one of his entertaining letters: The unit of poney is the coppo brass coin know five cents. It cost me in the neigh-

borhood of 50,000 "cash" to travel from the sea coast to the capital and back, and it is the custom in traveling in the interior of Corea to take an extra pack horse along to carry your money. The people outside of the three sea ports know nothing of silver and gold, and one of the common sights near Fusan, which is the only southern port of the country, is a coolie taden down with a bushel or so of these copper coins, which he carries upon his back. Each coin has a square hole in it, and the common way of putting them up is in strands of hundreds hung on straw cords of about the thickness of a clothes line. Ten dollars is a load for a man, and \$30 would break down a mule if the journey was long.

Considering the poverty of Corea one might suppose that the foreigners here had a hard life. This is far from the They have comfortable homes at Seoul, and their provisions, which come in large part from China, are plenty and good. They have a pleasant society among themselves, play tennis, have concerts, and as far as I can hear are the most free from social bickerings and strife of any of the foreign colonies of the Western Pacific. Their lives are reasonably safe, except in such outbreaks as that of last June, when some of the anti-foreign fanatics among the natives started the story that the foreign devils were feasting on Corean babies. Then for a time it looks squally and the troops had to be called from one of our men-of-war which usually lies in the harbor at Chemulpo. The foreigners keep indoors, the King sends out a proclamation, the Coreans quiet down and it is again all quiet on the river which flows by Seoul.

Speaking of the Corean baby-eating by the missionaries, the King in this case sent out a proclamation asking any one who had known of babies being stolen by foreigners to come forth and make his charge good. He called attention to the fact that foreigners were civilized and asked the question as to how civilized people could cat children. "But," the proclamation went on, "if children are being stolen, let the informa-tion be filed before the proper authorities and the offenders will be arrested, and if found guilty by evidence will be punished. A reward of 40,000 cash will be paid to the informant for each person so found guilty, but in case the information is not supported by the evidence informant shall be fined in a like sum for bringing the charge." This proclamation was signed with the royal seal and was pasted on the gates and on the great bell in the centre of the city. The selling of children is, however, not uncommon in Corea, and I am told that many are exported to China. Good, fat, well-disposed babies bring from \$5 to to \$20 apiece, and a father has a perfect right to sell his children. Babies are metimes bought for adoption. Slavery exists to some extent in Corea, but it is

more a seridom than slavery.

Corean society is divided into three classes, the King, the nobles and the common people. The latter live in common people. The latter live in that ched huts and they are the poorest of the poor. The nobles or yang ban are the curse of the country. They own all the lands and live by squeezing the people who till them for them. The better of them dress in gorgeous silks. They never go on the street without having a lot of retainers about them.

There is now one big American firm in Corea, and here at Seoul the foreign colony, which is made up of three or four scores of bright men and women, is almost altogether American. The business firm is at Chemulpo, the port of the capital. Its members are Morse and Townsend, two bright young Bostonians,



COREAN SOLDIERS

Corea and who possess the confidence of the native merchants. Corea does a large part of its buying through its merchant guild and in this way large sales are made at one time. Mr. Townsend tells me he has been shipping cotton here direct from Massachusetts, and that the people who have been accustomed to the poand cheaper English goods like our pro-duct much better. The average Corear spends all he makes on his back and his stomach, and the people according to his stomach, and the people according to their incomes, spend as much upon clothes as any people in the world. Business with them has to be done largely upon the credit system, and they think nothing of forgetting to meet their payments at the time they are due. Interest is here at the rate of from 2 to 5 per cent, a month, and the country is too poor to have banks. or to have banks. Corean stores are of the size of a large

large order should bring a much higher comparative price than a smaller one. Mr. Townsend wanted, not long ago, to export some small Corean mats to the United States. He asked a merchant the brass coin know as the "cash," of which it takes more than 1300 to make a Mexican dollar worth here seventy-

drygoods box. They are arranged around narrow courts with a little plat-

form two feet wide running around their

outside and forming a sort of shelf two feet high, going entirely around the court. On to this shelf or porch each store opens, and the merchant sits outside his store and not in it. He has a curtain in front of his goods and he brings out rice by nice around a for

brings out piece by piece as you ask for it. He keeps his hat on while he trades

and smokes during the whole transaction.

Sitting on his heels, he does not ap-parently care whether you buy or not,

and I am told that he considers that a

you want so many I shall have to charge you twenty cents apiece! It will be impossible to fill your order at less than twenty cents." And so it is with all businets. The more you want the more it costs, and a large order scares the merchant by the thought that you are taking all his stock and he may have trouble in but in or more. trouble in buying more. The coin used in shopping is, of course, the cash, and in buying you a ways take a servant with you to carry your money-bag for you.



A MAID OF THE QUEEN

None of the shops of Seoul are, howver, large, and the trade of this capital of 200,000 people is made up of what the Yankees would call a whittling business. The loudest-moutned and most enterprising persons in the whole city seem to be the venders of roasted chestnuts. They are little boys with their hair parted in the middle like girls and braided in one tightly-woven cord down the back. Their stock usually consists of about a quart of chestnuts, and they have a little pan of coals over which they roast them while you wait. Another thriving trade seems to be the cook-shops, where all sorts of Corean dainties, from raw fish to toasted liver, are served up on little round tables a foot high and about fifteen inches in diameter. These have four or five little legs, and if you order a dinner the boy servant of the cook-shop will lift up the table containing the dishes, balance it on his head and walk off with it, with the legs of the table hanging down about his neck. Such dishes as I saw were not at all appetizing, and everything was seasoned highly with red

The roofs of the country huts are now covered with red peppers, and I see them sold by the bushel in the markets near the wide street of the bell. Coreans may use them as appetizers. They have, it seems, an ever-present craving for food, and make their stom-achs their god. To eat, to smoke, to sleep and to squat is, to all outward ap-pearances, the chief employments of the people, and to be fat in Corea is a sign of wealth. A big stomach is an honor, and the very small children in the country districts are in nine cases out of ten pot-bellied. The skin of their abdomens is stretched like a drum-head, and a leading authority on Corean life says that mothers, in order to increase the size of the atomachs of their children, stuff them day after day with rice, paddling them on the stomach to press down the contents and make room for more.

Corean ladies have a place in the back of the house to themselves. Fashion in dress does not change with them and their lives are those of almost perfect desolation. Those you see on the street are the common women, or servants, and these have green gowns over their heads and their dresses, which, I am told, are cut after the same style as those of the ladies, and consist of a short wide. Over this comes a short jacket with sleeves. The only jewelry I see is in the harpins, which are in some cases twelve inches long and as big around as your little finger. They are made of silver and jade and sometimes have knobs on them as big as the hand of a two-yearold baby. The servants of the palace wear a peck of false hair on their heads coiled in thick rolls. The Corean ladies are very glad to see foreign ladies, but few of them are able to return the calls. One of them told an American friend of mine that she found it very hard to lead such a secluded life and she longed for the customs of our country. All Corean ladies smoke. They have their polite ways of bowing and their code of etiquette, and not a few of them rule their husbands. The laws of divorce are almost altogether on the husband's



side, and widows among the better class

do not marry again.

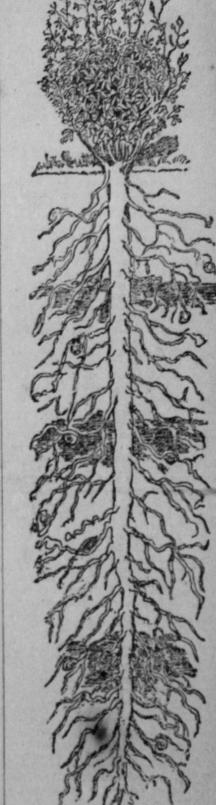
The only women who have the right to be seen by men outside their own families are the dancing girls, and these are much like the Geishas of Japan. They are called in at feasts and there are many famous dancers who are employed especially to appear before the King. These girls wear fine dresses of silk, and they whiten their skins with powder and paint. They sing in a sort of a chant, and their dance is a series of posturing, like that of the same class of girls in larger.

To-morrow we leave the capital and travel by inchairs, each borne by eight collies, to the seacoast at Chemulpo, where we take the Japanese steamer for

I feel that I have had but a taste of Corea, but that taste has shown me that there is here a rich meal for the man whose soul longs for things unknown and unwritten.

The Wonderful Forage Plant of California.

Many people, whose only acquaintance with alfalfa is through the medium of the newspapers, are a little skeptical as to many of the claims made for that wonderful forage plant. They do not understand how it can go on, year after year, producing such immense crops without fertilization, or, at least with no other addition to the soil than is furnished by the water used in irrigation. But if they understood the marvelous root development of the alfalfa plant some of their skepticism would be removed, and part of the mystery, at all events, would be explained. The accompanying illustration will serve to



explain to some extent the relation which the roots of the alfalfa sustain to the plant above ground. The proportion is certainly remarkable, but, after all, it is rather under than over the truth. roots of alfalfa have been known in this State to go forty feet in search of water. The writer has personal knowledge of at least one such case, and has no doubt but they are quite common. With such a power of draining sustenance from the skirt with a waistband about a foot depths of the soil, there is little wonder then, that crops should be produced which are far in excess of anything grown by a more shallow-rooted plant,-San Francisco Chronicle.

Part of a Letter.

DEAR JACK: Knowing what an ardent sportsman you are, old fellow, I send a box of very line gunpowder, extra powerful. Be

