

TWO OF COREA'S SEAPORTS

Masampo and Fusan and Their Importance as Commercial and War Centers.

Dr. William B. Sargison, of East Hartford, who was for 17 years a missionary in Korea, talks interestingly about the strategic importance of seaports in the southern extremity of the Hermit empire, says the Hartford Times.

In the south of Korea, the port of Fusan, he said, has been occupied more or less by the Japanese for trading purposes and political intercourse for more than a century, and for several centuries imperial affairs of Japan, such as the death of a Shogun or the election of his successor, have been deemed of sufficient importance for communication to the neighboring country of Korea and has been done by the route of Tushima and Fusan.

Tushima, or Twin Islands, lie midway in the Korean strait between Japan and Korea. They are two beautiful islands, with abrupt and precipitous shores, beautiful in the flora peculiar to Japan, and having a harbor. These islands, or Tushima, are used for strategic purposes and have been extensively fortified by the Japanese with the purpose of controlling the straits of Korea, and in time of war, the very approach of the enemy's ships to Japan itself.

A few years since some dissatisfaction arose in regard to the port of Fusan, which, although it is excellent in itself as a port and for shipping, yet has no near river of entrance into the country for the purpose of traffic. Hence the port of Masampo, lying further west along the southern shore line of Korea, has been chosen, having some features in common with Port Arthur as a place easily fortified and near the mouth of a river leading to the interior.

The place was, therefore, selected as an open port, the land divided up into lots and, as is customary, auctioned off. In one way or another it turned out that the Russians obtained in this way the greater part of the port, to the exclusion of the traders of other nations. The Russians were obliged to yield up their possessions in favor of general traffic at that point as against special ownership of the port on the part of Russia. Ever since this time the Russian government has tried repeatedly to gain in some legal way a foothold in that port, asking first for the concession of the island for the mouth of the port and for sufficient land for a coaling station. In all these attempts Japan has opposed Russia and prevented her entrance there up to the present time.

For the Russians to occupy Masampo, as a coaling station even, would probably be followed by fortifications of some sort and these would be a constant menace to the Japanese control of the Korean strait, but more particularly to Tushima itself, which is within gunshot from Masampo. To make the importance of Tushima and Masampo a little more evident it is only necessary to state that when sailing from Nakasaki, Japan, to the Korean port, Fusan, on a clear day, one can detect both the coast of Japan and Tushima easily when midway between them, and in sailing from Tushima to Fusan both coasts are all the time in view. The distance from Masampo to Tushima is only slightly greater than that to Fusan.

MILD CURRENT IS USED.

When Electricity Enters Into Experiments Made Upon the Brain of Human Beings.

Experiments on the brain of a living subject with electric currents have been comparatively rare, as there has prevailed among physicians and physiologists the idea that such a course of experimentation was extremely dangerous. There have recently been published, however, records of some experiments carried on by M. S. Leduc, with the object of using the electric current to produce sleep and of studying its effects on the brain generally. In early experiments it was shown that the brain is the best conductor of electricity in the human body, being about 3,000 times more conducting than muscle. It was also observed that when a continuous current was passed through the head from one ear to the other, that the sensation of giddiness was produced, and that objects appeared to revolve in the same directions as the current flowed. However, when the electrodes are placed on the forehead and neck and the current sent from back to front the effects are innocuous so long as a mild current is used, and in some cases may be beneficial. According to M. Leduc, the most satisfactory current is one of four milliamperes at 30 volts, which is broken or interrupted 100 times a second for nine-tenths of the period of interruption. The first effect noted was the disappearance of the faculty of speech, after which followed the loss of the motor faculties. Under ordinary conditions there is no affection of the respiration or pulse unless the current is increased and then it may cease. The patient is said to awaken instantaneously from the electric sleep and to experience a feeling of refreshment.

Christians in India.

The total Christian population of India, foreigners and natives, Catholics and Protestants, as given by the census of 1901, is 2,923,349, or almost exactly one now in every hundred of the general population. While the Hindus slightly decreased between 1891 and 1901 (the main cause being famine and plague), and the Mohammedans increased nine per cent, Christians increased 39 per cent, to 2,923,349, and Protestant Christians about 66 per cent.—London Spectator.

COREANS ARE ILL-GOVERNED

The Aristocracy Is Grasping and Overbearing—Culture Comes from Chinese.

We shall have a pretty accurate picture of Korea if we think of Great Britain taken up forcibly from its present moorings and set against the New Jersey coast, so that Scotland should adhere to the mainland, while England ran southward into the ocean, says the Criterion. What Great Britain would then be to the Atlantic Ocean is now to the Pacific. The size is about the same, something over 80,000 square miles; the latitude and north and south reach would be the same and there is also a general likeness in structure; for, while the northern half of Korea, corresponding in our comparison to Scotland, is seamed by granite ridges, crowned with pine woods, arid and cold, the southern half, answering to England, is full of fertile valleys amid low hills, admirably adapted to tillage and the rearing of cattle. Korea, too, like England, is rugged and rocky on one side and lined with flat marshes, sands and mud stretches on the other; cliffs frown upon the Pacific to the east, while the west coast, along the Yellow sea, reminds one of the shores of Lincoln, Norfolk and Suffolk, with their swamps and mud flats. There is a great likeness even in climate and the trees and birds are practically the same, far closer than those of old and New England are; pine, fir, oak, maple, alder and birch of the European species and the familiar birds from eagles to magpies.

But in the Korean forests there are also great tigers and numbers of leopards, which even enter the streets of the capital when game is scarce; and for their kindred in England we should have to go back to prehistoric times. In Korea also bamboo grows and rice and tobacco, adding another touch of more tropical life. But the physical resemblances are far more striking than the differences and the general size and shape are practically identical.

The Korean aborigines were like their Manchu or Mongol neighbors, but very rude and savage, hardly more than neolithic cave dwellers. The culture of the country dates from the Chinese conquest of three millenniums or more back, when the famous author of the Chinese classic, the Shu King, came thither, bringing arts and knowledge, settled the forms of life, and founded a monarchy, with an aristocracy brought with him from China, and continually replenished by Chinese elements. The Shu King is the great classic of ancestor worship; the reverence of the spirits of the fathers, who are conceived as still living in the invisible world, and as forming an undivided part of the family. They are approached at an annual feast, which has faint analogies in our own festival of All Hallows, with its hallowe'en as a social of ghostly visitants. The practical application of this worship is obedience, as the great rule of life, filial piety first and then service of the sovereign, from filial duty.

This central doctrine of the Shu King is what Confucius sought to revive in the days of Ezra, Pythagoras and Buddha; editing the old texts and adding his own classic of filial piety. But the ancient faith has fallen into the mire of the yellow leaf. Of the high principals of old there remain only the hardened and crystallized abuses; the monarchy has become a willful and capricious despotism, pushing the doctrine of obedience beyond the limits of absolutism and holding the well-being and even the whim of the sovereign to be the supreme law. The same hereditary principle has made an aristocracy, hard, overbearing and grasping, thinking wholly of their rights, and never recognizing their duties; considering the poorer classes as their mere serfs, whose sole use is to minister to the pleasure of their superiors. In ritual also the bond of kinship has become an intolerable burden not merely as constituting a joint liability for debt, for maintenance and hospitality; but, through the rules of protracted mourning for the dead, during which time no marriages may be made and little civil business undertaken, lying like a perpetual obsession on the hearts of the whole nation, who are incessantly haunted by ghostly presences.

Through the centuries these abuses grew steadily, until a decade ago Korea was the most corrupt, the most backward and despotic and the weakest kingdom upon earth. It had then a population of some 15,000,000, groaning under the oppression of the aristocracy, governed, or rather misgoverned, much as the Macedonians are, and, unlike the Macedonians, seeking redress in perpetual insurrections against extortion, robbery and oppression.

Theory of Radio-Activity.

Discovered seven years ago, radio-activity is now declared by Dr. Frederick Soddy to have reached the stage of an independent science, quite distinct from chemistry and physics. Explaining the property, Prof. Rutherford and this author regard the radioelements as slowly disintegrating, the change being marked by the expulsion of rays and the disintegration proceeding by leaps through several stages. The energy given out, enormous compared with that involved in any previously known change, is derived from the store of internal energy of the changing atom. This view is looked upon as a safe working hypothesis, and it does not in any way upset the atomic theory of chemistry.

From One Factory.

From one factory in the United States goes each day to every part of the globe, electrical machinery to produce more than 8,000 horsepower, making this daily addition to the working power of the world.

CLOTHES MADE FROM SKINS

Garments of the Eskimos Made by the Women, Who Wear Pantaloons Like Men.

The chief material of the clothing of the Eskimo is the skin of the reindeer, which is used in various stages of pelage or tanning. Fine, short-haired summer skins, especially those of dogs and fawns, are used for making dress garments and underclothes. The heaviest winter skins furnish extra warm jackets for cold weather. The white-spotted skins of the tame Siberian reindeer are especially valued for full dress jackets.

The skins of the white mountain sheep, white and blue fox, wolf, dog, ermine and lynx, are sometimes made into clothing. Underjackets of eider duck skins are often pressed into service. Seal-skin dressed with the hair on is used only for breeches and boots, and for those rarely. Of late years, says the American Tailor and Cutter, drilling and calico have been introduced into the makeup of some of the minor garments.

The dress of the men consists of a loose hooded frock, without opening, except at the neck and wrists. This reaches just over the hips and very rarely to mid-thigh, where it is cut off square and usually confined by a girdle at the waist. Under this garment is worn a similar one of lighter skin and sometimes without a hood. The thighs are clad in one or two pairs of tight-fitting knee breeches, rather loose, but fitted to the shape of the leg. They are very low in front, but are much higher behind, sometimes as high as the small of the back. They are held in place by a girdle or thong around the waist and are usually fastened below the knee, over the boots, with a drawstring.

On the legs and feet are worn, first a pair of long deerskin stockings with the hair inside, then slippers of tanned seal-skin, in the bottom of which is spread a layer of whalebone shavings, and outside a pair of close-fitting boots, held in place by a string around the ankle, which reaches above the knee and ends with a rough edge covered by the breeches. Dress boots often end in an ornamental border with drawstring just below the knee. The boots are of reindeer skin, with white sealskin soles for winter and dry weather, but in summer waterproof boots of white whaleskin are worn. Overshoes of the same material, reaching just above the ankles, are sometimes worn over the winter boots.

The women wear tight-fitting deerskin pantaloons with the hair next the skin, and outside of these a similar pair made of the skins from deer legs, with the hair out, and having soles of sealskin, but no ankle strings. The women's pantaloons, like those of the men, are fastened with a girdle just above the hips. It appears that they do not stay up very well, as the women are continually hitching them up and tightening their girdles, like some old sailor.

Until they reach manhood the boys wear pantaloons like the women, but their jackets are cut just like those of the men.

The well-to-do Eskimos generally own several complete suits of clothes and present a neat appearance when not engaged in dirty work. The poorer classes wear one suit for all occasions until it becomes shabby. New clothes are seldom put on till winter. The outer frock is not often worn in the light, or hot home, being usually taken off before entering the room. At present there is no such thing as an Eskimo tailor, for the women of each Eskimo household usually make the garments of all the members of the family. Not only this, but the Eskimos are exceedingly conservative in the matter of changes in the style of their raiment and respond very slowly to the modernizing influences in this particular which have reached their neighborhood.

A BOY VICARIOUSLY JAWED.

And Not the Guilty One, But He Was Quite Willing to Take the Lecture.

This story is told at the expense of a recently appointed supervisor of a public school in Philadelphia. One day she happened to be visiting a school where a young incorrigible was undergoing punishment for a series of misdemeanors, relates the Philadelphia Ledger.

The teacher cited him as "the worst boy in the school—'one I can't do anything with. I've tried everything in the way of punishment."

"Have you tried kindness?" was the gentle inquiry of the other lady.

"I did at first, but I've got beyond that now."

At the close of the session the lady asked the boy if he would call and see her on the following Saturday. A boy arrived promptly at the hour appointed. The lady showed him her best pictures, played her live-lust music, and set before him a luncheon on her daintiest china, when she thought it about time to begin her little sermon.

"My dear," she began, "were you not very unhappy to have to stand in the corner before all the class for punishment?"

"Please, ma'am," broke in the boy, with his mouth full of cake, "that wasn't me you saw. It was Pete, and he gave me ten cents to come here and take your jawing."

TOO MUCH ENTHUSIASM.

Endears One an Object of Pity or Ridicule When Displayed in an Open Manner.

Enthusiasm is a good thing. It is indeed beautiful to come into the presence of a person who is filled with ambition and interest in some pursuit or study. The flushed cheek and dilated eye, restless movement and eloquent gesture, all betoken that liveliness of feeling and full heart-beats of red blood so interesting to witness. The most sleepy and indifferent listener cannot fail to catch some of the life that emanates from such a person.

And yet, says Medical Talk for the Home, how often it happens that the most splendid enthusiasm is wasted on impractical and futile enterprises. It is really pitiable to come in contact with people whose ambition and enthusiasm know no bounds and yet are undirected. Good digestion, splendid constitution, indefatigable workers, up and at it every day. Optimistic, imagining themselves just on the verge of some splendid achievement. Vociferating, talking, beaming with complacency, flushed with exercise, filled with joyful expectation—and yet the whole thing a delusion that does not present a single hope of realization.

It is with a mixture of contradicting feelings that we witness the antics of such a person. It would be as cruel to laugh as it would be ridiculous to cry. The world is full of such rattling, roisterous fellows. Remnants of their shipwrecked bark lie scattered everywhere. Nothing but death can still their incessant vigilance, and the only real vacation they allow themselves is when the undertaker comes to get the remains. In passing through the world they have given no heed to the details of life, to the real beauties about them everywhere, but with haggard anxiety they have never once taken their eyes from the will of the wisp that has led them such a ceaseless and irresistible chase.

The world is full of them. With all their faults we love them still. There is a wholesome breeze in their presence. Their beaming expectancy is contagious. It is a cold-hearted man indeed who does not feel better for having come into their presence. And yet the futility of all, the sure disappointment that awaits them, the unavoidable calamity that lies just before them. The end of such a career is always a mournful tragedy.

Blame them, we cannot. Contempt is impossible. One must either laugh or cry. It is impossible to suppress emotion. Which would be the most appropriate, to laugh or to cry? Which shall we look upon, the ridiculous or the pathetic side of such a performance?

CRITIC WHO WAS FRIENDLY

He Learned to Say the Right Thing, But Made a Botch of It at the Start.

"That's splendid," said the visitor, cautiously taking in his hand the plaque that the young lady of the house had removed from the wall for his closer inspection, relates the Chicago Daily News.

"Do you really think it's good?" asked the artist, beaming with pleasure. "Do you know, I didn't think it was so very good. I had only had a few lessons when I did that. I've done some others since then—if you'd like to see them."

"Like to?" I should say I would like to—above all things. But wait a minute, I want to look at this a little more. The coloring in that plaque is fine."

"Well, if you really mean it, it's very encouraging, for I know you have good taste. Papa laughs at my work."

"He just does it to tease you," said the visitor, reassuringly.

Then holding the plaque off at arm's length and regarding it with half-closed eyes, he murmured, "It grows on one—the color. You painted this from nature, didn't you?"

"No," said the young woman, "not exactly. I started to copy, but I think I made it a little different from the original."

"And a chrysanthemum is a hard flower to paint," said the visitor.

"These aren't chrysanthemums," said the young woman, in a changed tone.

"Oh—er—of course not," said the visitor. "I say," he added, hastily, "that chrysanthemums are hard to paint. Did you ever try to paint any? These—er—"

"Yes?"

"I wish you'd show me the others you spoke of," said the visitor.

"Oh, I don't think I'll bother you with them," said the young woman, coldly, as she held out her hand for the plaque. "It's been an awfully hard winter, hasn't it?"

FANCIES IN THE MODES.

Dress Accessories for the Spring Season That Are High in Fashion Favor.

Some new collar and cuff sets are made of the increasingly fashionable eyelet embroidery, or English cut work. A pretty set was made of fine pique, the collar being wide enough to droop over the shoulders and the cuffs are quite wide. They are walloped and buttonhole stitched, and the embroidery is a very simple design, reports the New York Post.

In hemstitched and drawnwork linen sets the tendency is towards wide bands to lie flat over the collar and cuffs, instead of being tucked in on a band. This kind of a collar is trying, because it adds to the size of the neck, and a thick throat is almost as unbecomingly as thick ankles. The cuffs are very good, and one is able to keep them fresh with less trouble than the other kind. The price of these sets is higher than the others, necessarily, since a double line of embroidery or drawnwork is involved.

Linon collars are very much worn with tailor gowns. The most fashionable of them are of the turnover styles to be worn with ribbons. Hemstitching, embroidered dots, and even borders of hand embroidery are seen on stiff linen collars nowadays. Once or twice going to the laundry usually finishes them, so they must be regarded as extravagant. Few colored borders are worn at present.

Among dress accessories belts are always important. The spring importations include many wide belts, however. Some beautiful ones in soft, pliable leather, and charming colors are tooled on either edge with lines of gold. They will undoubtedly be popular to wear with shirt waists. Gold belts are shown, some of them so expensive that they are sold by the inch instead of by the yard. Linen belts with small grommet clasps will be worn as much this year as they were last. In fact, there seems to be little new in this regard.

If we are to judge by the quantity and the beauty of the sash ribbons offered in the shops there is to be a revival of this fashion on an extensive scale. The old-fashioned conception of a sash was to the four or five yards of wide ribbon around the waist and loop it in a bow. That would be considered a dowdy sort of an affair in these days. The sash is a shaped girdle, whale-boned or otherwise secured in front, and having long ends tied or sewed in graceful loops and knots. Lovely indeed are the many designs of taffeta sash ribbons with floral patterns shadowy and indistinct. These chine weaves usually have a border of satin in one of the principal colors used. Some exquisite sash ribbons in gold and silver gauze have satin borders, and a center design of flowers in faint pastel tones. These are charming with lace and other transparent gowns.

Soft, shimmering effects of color are much sought in all departments of dress. The device introduced last fall of putting one thin material over others of different colors, thereby making rainbow effects, was not widely copied. Neither will the shaded chiffon gowns. It is predicted, be very popular. Not even the exquisite shadow silks are expected to attain any degree of popularity. The fact is, these effects are too pronounced. One would become excessively tired of a gown so invariable in its appearance. Besides, they are too showy; no woman of moderate income likes to wear a gown she knows every one who has seen it once will never fail to afterwards recognize it. The ombre in veilings will have a run at the summer resorts, it is safe to say. They will be attractive with white gowns and wide hats on the beach or the board walk.

QUIET BRAIN INDUCES SLEEP

As Long as the Mind Is at Work There Can Be But Little Prospect of Slumber.

It is not uncommon to hear people say "I was too tired to sleep"—but it is not generally known how great a help it is at such times not to try to sleep, but to go to work deliberately to get rested in preparation for it, says Annie Payson Cook in Leslie's Monthly. In nine cases out of ten it is the unwillingness to lie awake that keeps us awake. We wonder why we do not sleep. We toss and turn and wish we could sleep. We fret, and fume, and worry, because we do not sleep. We think of all we have to do on the following day, and are oppressed with the thought that we cannot do it if we do not sleep. First, we try one experiment to see if it will not make us sleep, and when it fails, we try another, and perhaps another. In each experiment we are watching to see if it will work. There are many things to do, any one of which might help us to sleep, but the watching to see if they will work keeps us awake.

When we are kept awake from our fatigue, the first thing to do is to say over and over to ourselves that we do not care whether we sleep or not, in order to imbue ourselves with a healthy indifference about it. It will help toward gaining this wholesome indifference to say: "I am too tired to sleep, and therefore, the first thing for me to do is to get rested in order to prepare for sleep. When my brain is well rested, it will go to sleep; it cannot help it. When it is well rested, it will sleep just as naturally as my lungs breathe, or as my heart beats."

Not That Sort.

Judge Mayer tells this: "A well-known politician was lecturing her wife on her extravagance. "You are mistaken, my dear. If I were that sort of a woman I would have married a different sort of a man."—N. Y. World.

REMEMBER WOMAN'S GLANCE

Men May Forget the Color of Her Hair, But the Power of Her Eye Is Potent.

A woman's eyes are the first objects to attract a man's attention, and they are the last things he remembers about her. Long after he has forgotten the color of her hair, the dimple in her chin and the soft, sweet sound of her voice, the look in her eyes remains with him, says an authority on the subject.

He may not be able to single her glove out of a pile of keepsakes; he may have cast her photograph upside down into the waste basket with a lot of others; the slippers she made him may have been worn out by his valet, but still some particular turn of her glance, some little trick of dropping her lashes or lifting her brown eyes will be as clear to him as the daylight. Ten years after love has been laid away in his little satin-lined casket that glance will rise like Banquo's ghost at the feast and startle him just at the moment when the man is looking most intently into the eyes of another woman.

It is not the color of a woman's eyes which a man first observes or last remembers. Nine times out of ten a man will turn from the glance of a pair of soft brown, cowlike eyes to gaze into the green orbs of the red-headed girl on the other side of the table, and many a dull-luck, blue-eyed beauty weeps because some pugnosed, tawny-eyed woman has lured away her sweetheart.

Ask any man the color of his sister's eyes and he will look at you blankly. "Jove," he will remark, "I—I believe I've forgotten. But they're all right. There's something about them that's catchy." And that is positively all that can be gotten out of him.

The fact that Becky Sharpe's eyes were green or that Cleopatra's eyes were yellow never interfered with the machinations of those fascinating ladies, nor dulled their reputations as coquettes. Color, size and shape may make an eye beautiful, but they never can give it that something which so many beautiful eyes lack and so many homely ones possess, the power to make a man brood a bank or sell his overcoat in order to give his wife what she wants.

When the world was sentimental men called it "soul." Then they grew practical and apathetic and they called it "character." But no man will ever know what it is any more than he will ever know why he married the particular woman he picked out or why the cook has left. It is a question as subtle and elusive as either of these.

WONDERS IN MECHANICS.

Some That Were Worked by Young Americans with a Genius for Invention.

A young man who at 21 had been before the mast, had worked in the chemical department of a mill and had lectured upon nitrous-oxide gas throughout the country patented the rotating chamber for a pistol. It was not considered particularly valuable until after his first company that made it had failed and fights in Texas and with the Seminoles in Florida, proved its worth. The Mexican war made a demand for it.

The same mechanic, says the World's Work, who did so much for early air-machic developed details in revolver-making. The American plan of not heating at the cost of new appliances was never better shown than in this big armory. The owner was probably the first man to suggest the mining of harbors with torpedoes for defense, and he was the first to lay a submarine electric cable. One day a young man from Vermont came to his works.

"What can you do?" asked the superintendent.

"I'm a machinist, a toolmaker and a disinker and I can play a horn in a band," was the reply.

He went to work the next day. A few years later he multiplied by 40 the value of certain labor in another factory, and by another invention saved the company \$50,000 on contracts already made. Later, with a sewing machine company, he forged shuttles from one piece of bar steel and cut previous costs in half. Since that time he has made forgings by the use of drops weighing as much as a ton dropping with dies sometimes six feet upon iron, steel and copper. An example of his inventive genius is the instance of his forging overhead from a single piece of copper commutator bars for electric dynamos after the electrician in charge had said that such a scheme was impossible.

Priest and Donkey.

When Archbishop Farley was private chamberlain to the late Pope Leo, some 20 years ago, he was called upon to meet 25 sorts of persons. Many of them measured wits with him, and few scored victory. On one occasion a young Frenchman tried his best to anger the prelate, then Mons. Farley, by scoffing at religion and clergymen. Failing in this, he resorted to sheer impudence, saying: "I am informed that in Madagascar, wherever they hang a priest, they hang a donkey along with him."

The young man laughed, and Mons. Farley, looking at him mildly, said: "Well, let us both be thankful, my young friend, that we are not in Madagascar."

Much More to the Point.

"Ef yer real interested," said Deacon Skinner, "I'll tell ye what I want fur the horse."

"Oh, I wouldn't be interested in knowing that," replied Farmer Shoude.

"No?"

"No; but I wouldn't mind knowin' what ye'd take."—Philadelphia Press.