

on the cloth with round, smooth wooden clubs till every fiber has the polish and gloss of our best laundries. This does not seem to hurt the cloth, and the clothes have a wonderful whiteness. It takes a long time to iron a garment, and the rat-tat-tat of these clubs is to be heard all over Corea. You hear it morning, noon and evening, and at nearly all the hours of the night, and it may be called "The National Song of Corea" or the "Corean Song of the Shirt." The women tap out a tune as they play, and the most of their time is taken up in washing, ironing and sewing.

QUEER COREAN ARTICLES.

All things in Corea are strange to foreigners. The thimbles used are of cloth and paper beautifully embroidered. There are no buttons nor pins, and the garments are tied on with ribbons. Soap is sold in the form of a powder, and the only matches are shavings tipped with sulphur. These have to be put into the fire to light them, and the flint is used to strike a light. The markets of Corea are full of strange things. There are regular market days over the country, and the different towns of a district have markets in rotation, and the people for miles around come to buy and sell. The markets of Seoul are very good, and all kinds of fish, vegetables and meats are peddled out by these queer people. Game is plenty, and both the beef and venison are good. The people are early risers, and the best time to market in Seoul is between 5 and 6 a. m. Two hours later the stands are all cleared away, and you have to rely on the retail stores or little shops scattered all over the city. The market scenes are interesting. You see pompous swells in long gowns and high hats, poor women by hundreds with green cloaks over their heads and boys by scores carrying all kinds of vegetables and wares. There are servants in livery and coolies with hats as big as umbrellas. There are bullock carts and porters, merchants and slaves all pushing and fighting over the things they are buying. The market is near the big south gate of the city, and there are thousands here every market morning. Among the curious articles which I noted found a ready sale was Corean ginseng, the root of which is good for all kinds of diseases; red pepper, which was sold in paper parcels about the size of a cigarette for about one cent apiece, and tobacco, which was dried and peddled out by the leaf. The grain market was equally queer, and the chicken and bird markets were full of interest.

COREAN MACHINERY.

Here and there over the country I saw rude machinery of one kind and another. There were waters mills for the pounding out of rice and the crushing of grain along many of the streams. The mills were all on the principle of the old seesaw or teeter board. A long beam of wood was swung on a pivot and on one end of this was a heavy hammer or mallet. This fell into a mortar, in which the rice or grain was placed. At the other end of the beam was a square box, holding, perhaps, a barrel of water, and this box hung right under a pipe, which was fed by the stream. As soon as the box was full, the water end of the beam sank down, the water rushed out and the mallet, which had been raised high in the air fell on the grain. This is the "patent roller process" mill of Corea.

I saw other mills, and those in Seoul were like the ones of the Scripture, and were turned by hand. I saw some millstones, one on the top of another, which were turned by mules, which went about like a horse in a tannery. The most of the millers in the capital were Chinamen, and they were by no means polite. The brass works which made the cooking utensils for these 12,000,000 Coreans are of the rudest nature. The furnaces are rude ovens of clay, and little crucibles, about the size of a tin cup, are used. The brass is first cast, and then polished by means of a lathe, which the workman manipulate with his feet, sitting in the end of a trench as he does so. The brass shines like gold, and it takes on a beautiful polish. I bought a dinner set, and it cost me \$5. It consisted of about a dozen brass bowls, from the size of a wash basin down to that of an egg cup. The silversmiths work the same way, and some of their work is very artistic. In the past the Coreans were, in fact, the greatest artists of the far east, and Japanese art is said to have had its birth in Corea. Within the past half dozen centuries, however, the Coreans have been going backward, and the Japanese have greatly improved in every way over their Corean instructors.

THE FUTURE OF COREA.

The indications now are that Corea will steadily improve, and fortunes will certainly be made by some of the foreigners who get in at the right time, and who have the proper influence. The Asiatic market is one of the biggest in the world, and Corea has many natural resources which will command a ready sale all over the east. The matter of coal is a most important one. The Chinese have plenty, but the most of their mines are in the interior, and they are undeveloped. The temper of the Chinese is such that foreigners cannot get at them, and today the chief coal merchants of the Western Pacific are the Japanese. They have mines of vast extent, and in the western part of Japan there are great mines, which have fifty miles of tunnels running right out into and under the sea. These are at Nagasaki, and the mining must be very expensive. The mines about Pinyang, Corea, lie right on the surface, and the coal can be dug out with a pick. The river is at hand for carrying the coal to the sea, and a great industry ought to spring up here. The gold mines are, I am told fabulously rich. I was told there were great mines on the east coast, and gold is to be found all over Corea. These mines will be opened with the settlement of this war. The railroad accessions will be extremely valuable, and this country will surely form the outlet for the trans-Siberian road. This is already begun at Vladivostok, and is being built at different points between that point and Europe. A branch line running down through Corea will bring it within a day's sale of Japan.

In addition to these things, there are other valuable concessions and enterprises which will spring up. The situation is such that the king has to have money, and he can get it only by borrowing from outsiders. He owes both China and Japan large sums of money, and a foreign loan is an immediate and absolute necessity. His majesty has no available assets outside of his mines and concessions, and Japan will insist

upon an immediate settlement of his Chinese obligations, or that he be freed in some way entirely from China. The result is that the country will be explored, and it will probably have a boom. A most interesting scientific expedition could now be organized to go through it, and its geology, its flora and its other natural resources will pay investigation. The king would undoubtedly permit it, and the explorer would have some exciting tiger hunts, and at the same time might get some valuable concessions.

Frank G. Carpenter

THE MISSIONARY FIELD.

AARHUS, January 24th, 1895.

I was called to go on a mission Jan 19th 1894, to start for Scandinavia March the 3rd. In obedience to the call, I now find myself in the beautiful city of Aarhus, Denmark.

On November 17th, I, together with Brother William Sorensen, from Greenwood, Sevier county, was called by our worthy president, Theodore Petersen from Logan, Cache county, to go down on what they call West Jutland and hold a meeting. We have a family of Saints who recently moved down there and they made arrangements for a meeting to be held at their home. The time and place of the meeting was publicly made known, but nothing was said about who were to be the preachers. At the appointed time the house was packed and many were compelled to return home; an opportunity of preaching the Gospel was thus given.

After meeting we gave an opportunity to all present to ask us any questions that might be proper pertaining to our faith, and many took advantage of this privilege. At twelve o'clock at night some were still inquiring into the truths of the Gospel, and then stated before leaving us that if the Bible is true, so is Mormonism. The next evening the house was again packed. We spoke upon the restoration of the Gospel and the first principles pertaining thereunto; also bore our testimony that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of the living God. The name seemed to startle them, for they had heard everything but good about Joseph Smith. After meeting we continued, as the night before, in answering questions pertaining to the plan of life and salvation. I could not help but rejoice in the privilege which we had, in bearing our testimony to so many people who had never heard the Gospel.

We now had to return to Aarhus as we had other appointments to meet. Six weeks later we learned that the power of the evil one had been at work. A priest had been sent to the place to warn the people against us, trying to prove that we were false prophets. He advised his hearers not to open their doors for us, basing such inhospitality on the Lord's prayer, "Lead us not into temptation." But the seed we had sown did not all fall upon stony paths. By request of many we returned and held meetings again. The clergyman's efforts against us made the people all the more anxious to hear us. When we arrived at the home of Brother Knudsen we were agreeably surprised to find many smiling faces there. People had come