

Business in Korea.

All About the Stores and Shops of the Queerest Capital of the World

The Merchant's Dinner and Closing Trade—Cotton Money and the Winter Sale Deposits—A Look at the Statutes—The Biggest Stock Store in Season—The Free Lunch Counters—One of the King's Perquisites.

Special Correspondent of the N.Y.W.
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THE city of Seoul is now filled with Japanese troops, and Japanese merchants are preparing to open stores and get into business. The whole country is being recognized as a modern land.

Other

starts with reason, logic, in, and the best new methods of the Covens will be changed. They are the openest business men of the world, and their shops and stores are like nothing else on the face of the globe. I spent many days in going through them last summer, and is chatting with the merchants. They are the greatest merchants on the planet. They keep their business in the streets, in the heart of the district of standing in behind the counters, they squat cross-legged on the floor and smoke long pipes while they talk to you about trade and offer you goods. Often they squat outside their stores, and both stores and merchants are so unlike anything in America that it is hard to describe them. The stores are located on the three main business streets of the city. These are dirt roads about as wide as Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington. They are lined with mud huts thatched with straw, to the front of which there is often a framework of reeds or bamboo, sagging over the street, and in which, on benches, are spread out the goods they have for sale. Here and there little tents have been built up in the streets, and there are hundreds of people sitting on the ground, who have planked themselves down on the road, with their goods spread out before them, and who solemnly smoke as they sit. In the middle of the street, hundreds of boys who part their hair in the middle, and who look like girls in their long gowns, going about pecking at the ground. They have a kind of a box which is swung from their shoulders, and which rests on their chests, and the carrier will carry untily into such sticks as you want. They

have sell out that they have really the
sales. They are shrewd little fellows,
and they ply their business in all parts
of the city.

Sendin is, you know, a city of 300,000 people, and it covers about thirty square miles. It is in the center of the city there is a point where the three main streets come together, and at this point there is a temple about as big as a good-sized townshed, which holds the great bell, or town clock of the capital. This bell rings the opening and closing of the day, and the beginning and ending of the day's work and business. It is rung just at dusk, and at this time the great gates of the city are closed. The stores are supposed to shut up, and the men to go into their houses and give the women a chance to

about this hill on the biggest mountain
subdivisions of Seoul. They are all
large one- and two-story buildings, closely
packed together, and the hillside is one
which are cut up into little hillocks, closely
springing one upon another. Each of these
buildings is connected to the ceiling of
the hillside by a narrow staircase. The
merchants who deal in grain have their
stores there, and their offices are
also there. In the corner of Seoul, nearly in
the center of the city, is a hill called
their corn. Glass is highly known in
Corea, and there are no windows, and
the street is as dark as a pocket. There
are many people who are very rich, and
what you want and the merchant brings
it out. One of the buildings will have
hanging silk, cotton, and there may be
a store of grain, and there may be a
store of like stores within it. Another
building will contain nothing but silk,
and others will be devoted to the selling
of different classes of grain, and they
fix the prices. Every sort of silk and
every sort of paper, gold and silver, and
taxes before it can be sold. There are
no great guilds, and each of these
guilds pays a great sum to the
government for the controlling of
the trade. If a retailer dealer
must have a piece of goods which does
not belong to his guild, he must pay
the guild tax, and punishes him without
reference to any other tribunal, and all
of the petty traders throughout Seoul
pay a great sum to the government for
the controlling of the trade. There are
no great guilds are there, which control
the trade in Chinese silk, cotton
goods, hemp cloth, grass cloth, Corian
cloth, and so on. The guilds are
not so much as in China, and it is
known that the whole of Corea is
divided up into guilds, and that the
porters have their trades unions, and
the farmers have their unions, and all
sorts of working organizations.

A LOOK INTO A CORSIAN STORE.
The average Corsican store is not much

[illegible][illegible]

ONE OF THE KING'S REQUISITES.
The king gets a big income out of Ceylon paper. It is all made by hand, and it brings about five cents a sheet, each sheet containing about as much paper, I judge, as eight pages of this newspaper. I went through a paper factory, which is just outside of Soul, along the banks of a stream. Some paper is made of bark, reduced to pulp, and all the old paper is worked over.

[illegible][illegible]

THEIR AIR LUNCH CONTAINERS.

Think of her lunch containers in Cebu. Well, they have them in all parts of the country, and there is really a great freedom to lunch outside of what the tavern is continually cooking (free soup) and where you can get out of this life for a few family without charge but with a small tip. I have seen them here, but not in the Chinese, and I think also that the Japanese. They are interesting figures, and I must study them through the streets, and how and their own life, and they are growing, and looking for all the world like a corpse in a shroud. I have a number of lights and General Garmouth.

"Why, these people are just like the people at home. They drink and the light and they go upon spurs. There have many other things in common with us, and these are the things that are."

There are many saloons, and the sign of them is a basket, which is hung on a pole above the door, and which is of the kind through which the beer and other liquors are strained when they are made. This basket is usually about eighteen inches long and eight inches in diameter, and you see them all over Corsica.

[illegible]

THE CORNISH SHOPS.

The Cornish are surely very good cabinet-makers, and about the only things you can buy in the country, which are worth carrying away are brass cooking-stoves and brass fire-irons, and brass furniture. It strikes like gold, and it is made in little workshops, which house more like Blacksmith shops than brass-makers'. The brass is made in Cornwall, and the furniture in the Cornish and Irish. It is very good, and the brass is made in Cornwall, and the furniture in the Cornish and Irish. It is often bound with brass, and it is made of oak, wood about two inches thick, and the iron is in wedge-shaped points, and the brass is made in Cornwall, and the furniture in the Cornish and Irish. It is carried about on the backs of coolies or by servants, when a man goes shopping, and in the winter it is taken and put into the little Cornish sailing-boats.

—NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.

The Koreans have perhaps the best made deposit system in the world, but it is one that works in the winter. All their money is in the shape of Korean cash, which is made in coins of copper and brass about as big as an old-fashioned red cent, with a square hole in the center. It takes 600 coins, or 600 cash, to make an American dollar, and about \$20 is good cash for a man, and \$50 would break down a family. One

[illegible]

Frank G. Carpenter

[illegible][illegible]

When cut up, they bleed like pigs and to show how friendly they are, kill the witnesses in the heat of slicing. I've one left, please, and with the blood covering all the pieces for sale, so that they look sinister and horrible to European eyes. To keep them alive in the shops they are always placed in a large tub with a smaller vessel fixed above it from the bottom of the upper vessel.

reaction, with one or two more rats in it, sticks out, and from those rats streams of water flow in thin cascades into the tub beneath. Every now and then, when the water vessel has become empty, the rats all run to the surface, and jump, splash, flop! then down, back up and water. Then, all at once, attracted by the noise, plunges a bucket down among them, and from the water in which they swim rise the upper vessel full again.—
Concord.

FUEL FOR PARIS

Whereas possible the train is utilized for the transportation of fuel to Paris. Nearly all the great oilfields of the world are situated along the banks of the river. The railroads bring a great deal of wood and coal to the city. As the trains move slowly through the midst of some of the finest of the world's forests, the passengers are filled with coal wood, and because of miles of fuel along each loaded with these fuels, which all seem to be of the same kind, the spending of the money is not by buying the fuel, but the price is paid by loads. There also may be seen, stored on cars, large unperfected quantities for use in the engines of the locomotives. The great abundance of the fuel is made very manifest by the fact that the fuel is not only used in the engines, but it is also used in the city. The coal is from England, Prussia and Belgium; mines. Sometimes the three kinds are mixed for use in the kitchen.

The shops for the sale of food by retail are almost as numerous as the bakeries. They are always neat, and the wool, coal and linings are arranged in a most artistic manner. The wool is piled up so as to show the evenly waved ends. The samples of coal are arranged in glass dishes, and in some of the shops, where orders are taken for the whole sale prices, wool is arranged in the window and decorated with growing roses and ferns. Indeed the chief aim of the French shopkeeper is to make his

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