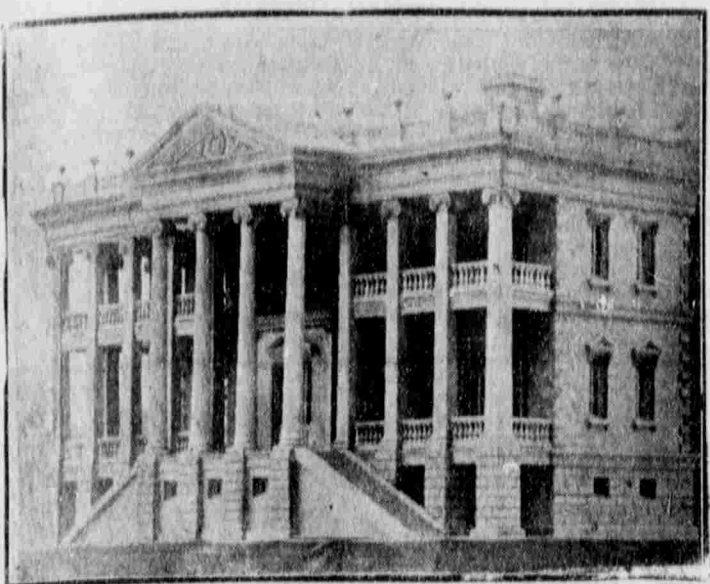


Boom in Korea.

The Hermit Land to Be Covered With Railroads.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.



Photographed for the "News" by Frank G. Carpenter.

MODEL OF EMPEROR'S NEW PALACE WHICH IS ABOUT TO BE BUILT.

NAGASAKI, Japan.—The little country of Korea is having an industrial and mining boom. Its gold regions are opening up, its coal deposits are being prospected and railroads are planned to cover every part of the peninsula. At Shanghai I met Leigh Hunt of Seattle, who, in connection with J. Sloan Fassett of New York, has one of the most valuable mining concessions of this part of the world. He has the absolute right to a country, about as big as Rhode Island, some distance from the Korean capital, which is rich in gold.

This territory has been worked for ages, but in the crudest manner. The Koreans had no machinery. They wanted all the top of the placer mines, but were not able to reach the bedrock. They did a little quartz mining by chipping out the ore with their soft iron tools. They would make holes in the rock and fill them with gunpowder. Then they would pour in water and thus crack the surface, so that they could chip it off. The ore thus obtained they crushed by rolling huge stones over it. They had no pumps and could not go deep on account of the water. The shafts were emptied by bailing them out with gourd, which were passed from man to man to the surface. Wherever a stream of permanent water was struck the shaft was abandoned.

HOW AMERICANS MINE GOLD IN KOREA.

Fassett and Hunt have introduced the best mining machinery. They are now operating three mills, or in all about 80 stamps, and they will soon have another mill, which will give them altogether 120 stamps. They expect to put in an electric plant of sufficient capacity to operate all their mining machinery, and for this water will furnish the power.

I understand that the property is being worked very cheaply and at a great profit. There are about 100 American and European experts among the employees, and about 4,000 Koreans. The Koreans receive 25 cents a day, and do not kick on long hours. The concession gives the company the standing trees on the land at 20 cents each per acre. This is said to be sufficient to timber the mines. Until lately all the hauling has been done with the bullock carts of the country, but American wagons are now used and other kinds of machinery will be imported.

A LAND OF GOLD.

Korea promises to be a second California. When I first visited it 14 years ago I was shown quills filled with gold dust and pin-head nuggets. The coolies brought them in and traded them to the merchants. At that time the country was producing about \$3,000,000 worth of gold a year from its placer mines. The yield was even greater when I visited Korea in 1894, just before the war between China and Japan, although no modern machinery had yet been used.

Gen. Greathouse of California was then adviser to the king. He told me the mountains were full of gold and Thomas W. Power, the young American electrician who put the lights into the king's palace, described to me how the king's ministers once brought him a box filled with gold dust and nuggets in payment of a bill against the king for electrical machinery. Mr. Power said that one of the nuggets was as big as the palm of his hand and about an inch thick. His bill for \$47,000 and the gold realized more than that amount when he sold it at the mint in Osaka, Japan.

So far the Americans are doing the only mining of much importance. Other concessions have been granted to the Pritchard-Morgan syndicate, an English company, and to E. Meyer & Co., German representatives. The German concession is small, and it is said to be held by Hung and Fassett. The English concession is about half the size of the American and it is situated to the south of the latter. Both English and Germans are doing some work. The success of the American company is known throughout the far east. It has brought numerous miners and capitalists to Korea, who have so encouraged the government that for the time no further mining concessions are being granted.

JAPAN'S NEW KOREAN TRUNK LINE.

The work on the railroads, however, is still going on. The Japanese have surveyed a railroad from the capital, Seoul, to Fusan, the southernmost port of Korea. Fusan has an excellent harbor, and a short distance from Nagasaki, and this road will probably form the end of a Korean connection with the Trans-Siberian road, so that one can take the cars in any part of the European continent, and go to Japan

Japanese Have a Trunk Line to Seoul and the French a Concession to the Manchurian Boundary—The Probable Extension of the Trans-Siberian Railroad—How the Americans Built the Chemulpo Road and How They Sold It—The Biggest Electric Plant in Asia Managed by Yankees—American Gold Mines Which are Paying Well, They Employ 4,000 Koreans—The Emperor's New Palace—What the Koreans Want and How America Can Supply Them.

er works in Seoul and another for a short interior railroad. They are enterprising men and promise to make fortunes in this part of the far east. Mr. Colbran comes from Denver, where he is well known in railroad circles, and Mr. Bestwick is from San Francisco.

YANKIES ARE PROMINENT IN KOREA.

Indeed, the Americans are among the most prominent of the foreigners in Korea. This has been so since the country was opened. It was an American, Admiral Shufeldt, who made the

first treaty with the king and American missionaries have been the chief educators of the people. An American, Dr. Horace N. Allen of Ohio, saved the life of one of the royal family when he was almost cut to pieces in a revolution in Seoul about 16 years ago, and since then he has of all the foreigners been the closest to the high officials of the court. He was a friend of the late queen and now that his majesty is an emperor he holds equally close relations to him. It has been largely through Dr. Allen that the Americans have been awarded the best of the concessions and that they have a fair

chance at everything. He was for some years secretary of our legation at Seoul, but when McKinley became president he appointed him minister, which position he now holds. He is indeed a valuable man.

Another American acts as adviser to the Korean government, an American is employed as its civil engineer and Americans will probably supply the materials for the emperor's new palace, which is already planned. David W. Deshler, the stepson of Gov. Nash of Ohio, is treasurer of the American Mining company, and is also engaged in mining. He is a resident of W. D. Townsend of Boston has a big business in his rice mills and in importing all sorts of American goods for Koreans.

In addition to these there are about 150 missionaries representing the different churches of the United States. They have their stations in all parts of the country. They have excellent schools and are doing a vast deal of good. The most of them are men of good education and of sterling ability. Several have written books about the country and not a few have aided in organizing schools for the emperor.

AMERICAN GOODS IN KOREA.

The Koreans already take much American cotton and this trade can be greatly increased. The whole population dresses in cotton and the country raises practically none. They want the best of cotton and like to have it of all colors, pinks, light blues, yellows and whites. In the winter they sell their clothes with raw cotton for warmth. The trade is hardly large enough to warrant the sending an agent to Korea

alone, but in connection with Manchuria and North China it could be made profitable.

There are steamships which go from Nagasaki and Kobe to Tientsin, calling at Fusan and Chemulpo. The route from Kobe to Chemulpo by direct steamer is three or four days, and by the regular steamers which call here it is about six days. The fare from Yokohama to Chemulpo is \$25 gold, and I should judge about as much additional to cross the Yellow sea from Chemulpo to Tientsin.

Korea can also be taken in on the way to Vladivostok. There are steamers from Nagasaki and Fusan around the east coast to Gensan and then north to Vladivostok at the eastern terminus of the Trans-Siberian road. I have traveled on all of these lines and have found the fare invariably good and the other accommodations comparatively so. The trip across the Yellow sea is apt to be boisterous and somewhat dangerous, but a tour can be planned which should result in many orders for our commercial travelers who represent the articles most desired by the people.

WHAT THE KOREANS WANT.

American drummers, who speak English only, can get along at any of the ports, for there is always someone there to act as interpreter. In their trips to the interior they will need to carry a guide and interpreters. There are hotels at Chemulpo, Seoul, Gensan and Fusan. That at Seoul is Japanese, with beds on the floor. The prices everywhere are about \$2 per day, and the interior travel is comparatively cheap.

Some knowledge of Korea and the Koreans is needed before coming. The things you might suppose to be in most demand are not wanted at all. For instance, it is cold there in winter, but you could not get away stoves. The rooms of most Koreans are small, and they are heated by fires which burn under the floors. Cook stoves are unknown and furniture of our kind is not wanted.

There is a good opening for American doctors. Most of the Koreans are sick, and every one has his pipe. The people grow some tobacco, but they do not understand how to cure it, and prefer the foreign article. There is a

great demand for cigarettes, but not much for cigars, except those as thick as a lead pencil. The emperor smokes cigarettes, and especially likes the Virginia tobacco. There are many Japanese cigarettes sold and quite a lot of native cigarettes, which sell as low as 25 for a cent.

With the new railroads there will be some demand for American machinery, rails and rolling stock, although it is probable that the Japanese will equip their lines as far as possible from their own country. Quite a lot of bridging will have to be done, and there should be a market there for our Pacific coast lumber.

BANKING AND MONEY MATTERS.

The new banks started by Americans will probably make money. Interest rates are very high and the people will borrow to the full extent of their abilities. The court spends a great deal and, notwithstanding the poverty of the masses, there are nobles who live as extravagantly as our rich men at home. Among the poor and out in the interior copper cash is the principal currency. It takes a thousand and more cash to equal the value of a silver dollar, and if one travels far he must take along an extra bullock or mule to carry his money.

Extortion is often practiced by the higher officials, and during the winter especially is there danger from robbers. As a result the natives have curious ways of concealing their money. They make the earth their safe deposit boxes. They dig a pit in the yard back of the house and cover its bottom with cash. They now spread some earth over the cash and reduce it to a mud by sprinkling it with water. They do this when the tide comes in, and in a short time the money and mud have become one solid mass. Then they sprinkle more money on top of this and follow with another layer of mud. This is frozen in the winter, and so it goes on until all the money is thus embedded. The earth near the top of the pit contains no money, but as it is well wet down it is also frozen solid and remains so until spring.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

UTAH SOLDIER-CITIZEN AT AGE OF 80

Brave Old Indian Fighter Who Occupied a Prominent Place in the Civil and Military Affairs of the People of Utah.



MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT T. BURTON.

In the Uniform He Wore as Commander of the Salt Lake Military District.

The name of Gen. Robert T. Burton has been a household word in Utah almost since its earliest settlement. It is difficult to say where he has rendered the most service, in the Church, in the affairs of civil life or in the field of military activity. The latter, however, brought him into picturesque prominence in the long ago, winding laurel wreath of fame about his brow and gave him a reputation that has been undimmed by the swiftly gliding years.

The younger generation has not seen much of Maj.-Gen. Burton from the military point of view. But to the old-timers his achievements in that direction are readily recalled. Recently on the occasion of the celebration of his eightieth birthday by his descendants and other relatives, he was induced to don his old uniform and take down and buckle on the old sword that he had worn so long and with such credit. He presented so striking and soldierly an appearance when his figure, of more than six feet, straight as an arrow and handsome as that of any veteran cavalier, escaped in the habiliments of war, moved gracefully about the house, that he was prevailed upon to sit for a photograph, which was done with the result shown above. The likeness is now pointed to with pride in the homes of his children.

Gen. Burton's military career commenced in 1849 as a private in the First Cavalry of the Territory of Utah. His first actual service was in a campaign against the Indians in 1850, during which he acted as bugler. The next time he went into the field against the Red Man he was a lieutenant and from that time until the disbanding of the territorial militia under Gov. Wood during the "Wooden Gun Rebellion" he had advanced so rapidly that he had been not only lieutenant but captain, major, colonel and major-general. In the last capacity he had complete command of the Salt Lake military district during which he wore the uniform shown above. For years he was constantly on the move in his efforts to prevent depredations against the settlers by the Indians who gave no end of trouble in the remote and least protected districts. He was ever known as a courageous and efficient Indian fighter, and his activity saved many a "Mormon" home from pillage and destruction. Among the best known of his children is Adj.-Gen. Charles S. Burton of the Utah National Guard.

NO SCHOOL FOR WHITES.

Negro Pupils Outnumber Caucasian in South Carolina.

While the South Carolina cotton mills are paying enormous dividends on the profits of child labor, a bill to prohibit the employment of children under 12 years of age has just been defeated in the house by a vote of 54 to 52. It had previously passed the senate by a narrow margin. Lieutenant-Governor Tillman, who is a nephew of the United States senator from this state, casting the deciding vote in its favor.

Mr. Tillman gave his reasons for supporting the bill, as follows:

"It would sustain and protect the moral and mental welfare of the mill children of the state. They could then be educated and given opportunity to better fit themselves for the discharge of the duties of their chosen vocations. It is startling to recall that 30,000 more negro children than whites annually attend our public schools. In the end the capitalist will realize that intelligent labor is the safest and most profitable."

Governor McSwain said on the same subject: "No child under 12 years of age should be permitted to labor in the manufacturing of this state unless it is necessary for the support of a widowed mother."

"There is no doubt that to keep the small child confined at labor in the mills is injurious physically and mentally. It has no time for recreation, play, exercise, sunshine or school, things so necessary for the growth and healthy development of the child's body and mind. Nothing but labor and toil from before sunrise until after dark is calculated by the laws of nature to dwarf the child in mind and body, and is found to have its influence and effect upon the citizenship of the future. The child question is demanding solution and the part of wisdom is to solve it quickly, for the longer it is left alone the more difficult it becomes."

I had heard much of the philanthropy of the mill owners of Columbia, and the superintendents and foremen of the several mills that I visited were loud in their praise of the great work they were doing for the temporal and spiritual welfare of those in their employ. Kindergartens for the babies, schools for the older children, and churches for the entire community were either in existence or in course of construction, I was told.

At one of the two kindergartens in the mill dominion I found twenty-two boys and girls between 3 and 6, in charge of two young ladies who informed me that the mill only boys part of the expense, and that the school was really under the care and support of a ladies' society of Columbia.

The Palmetto school in the vicinity of the mill of the same name, I had

been informed, was a beneficiary of the mill. I learned, however, that the support given by the mill consisted last year in supplementing the county school of five months by one additional month, which meant \$25 salary to the teacher. The mill promise this year to keep the school open four months longer than the county term. The building in which the school is held is also used for church purposes. There is not a desk in the room, and the seating accommodations are eighteen benches, with reversible backs. When I asked the teacher how the children managed to do any writing she said they knelt down on the floor and placed their slates or book on the seat.

And thus forty-two children are trying to master an education.

Wherever there is a cotton mill there is a company store, and these are the cause of the discontent as the employees often feel that they are compelled to pay exorbitant prices.

No cash is given out between pay days, but the employees that have anything to his credit cash a book of coupons valued at from \$1 upward, which are payable only in merchandise at the store of the company. There was a time when the holder of coupons could, if he so desired, convert them into cash in the company's store at a discount of 10 per cent, but this has been discontinued, as the mills found that some of the money was getting away from them. The mills pay twice a month, and those who have been so fortunate as not to have drawn in coupons all that is coming to them are paid the difference in cash.

I have talked with men today who have actually drawn a blank envelope every payday for the past fourteen months. They say that whenever a child in cash in that length of time, and I have been given many pay envelopes to prove it.

I encountered one family of eight, seven of whom work in the mill. The family parents and five children, receive all told \$3.83 per day, but say that they get in two-thirds time throughout the year they consider themselves fortunate.

They submitted their bill of fare to me, which consisted of cornmeal, flour, bacon, sausage, grits, coffee, sugar and occasionally a few vegetables. None of the children goes to school, and not a member of the family knows one letter of the alphabet.

This man, with every other I have spoken to, denies the statement of the mill owners that it is the fault of the parents that children are in the mills. They say that whenever a child is able to work and is not in the mill, they are notified in short order that such is the case, and that there is room for the child to work. If the child is not put to work they say the parents are discharged.—Chicago Journal.

PERMANENT CENSUS BILL APPROVED.

Washington, March 7.—The president has sent the following letter to the secretary of the interior:

"White House, Washington, March 6, 1902:

"Sir—I have signed the act providing for a permanent census bureau. Section 2 of this act provides that the work pertaining to the twelfth census shall be carried on by the census office under the existing organization until the first day of July, when the permanent census office herein provided for shall be organized by the director of the census. Section 5 provides that with your approval the director of the census may appoint the permanent census force in two ways:

"In the first place, from the present employees of the census office; and, in the second place, all new appointments to be made in accordance with the civil service law. After any of the present employees of the census office have been appointed upon the permanent force they become part of the classified service."

"I have been over these two sections very carefully with the attorney general and their construction seems to be perfectly clear. You will please inform the director of the census that his office will continue to be administered as it has been administered until the first of July. On that day he will, with your permission, appoint such members of the present force under him as will constitute the permanent census force, appointing only so many as are

to be permanently employed. After that date all appointments will be made under the regulations of the civil service act."

"Very truly yours,"

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

"Hon. E. A. Hitchcock, secretary of the interior."

A STORY DEFEW DOES NOT TELL.

The comparatively few persons who have had the pleasure of hearing ex-Gov. Black make an after-dinner speech have marveled at the biting sarcasm of the lean and lank Trojan whom Senator Platt saw fit to make governor for a term, and then turned down in order to nominate the present President.

Ex-Gov. Black's intimates, however, know and admire him for his ability to "hit the nail on the head" with few words. His ability in this direction was never better exemplified than at the Saratoga convention at which the Platt machine defeated him for a re-nomination.

Beaten in the convention, Gov. Black sat in his headquarters in the United States hotel talking with a few of his lieutenants over the supposed friends who had brought about his downfall. Senator Depew, direct from the convention hall, where he had spoken for and voted with the anti-Black forces, entered, and approached the governor with extended hand.

"Ah, my dear governor," he said, "just called to pay my respects."

"Indeed," replied the governor, looking Mr. Depew squarely in the eyes and paying no heed to the proffered hand, "since when did you resume payment, pray?"—New York Times.