

THE EMBASSY FROM COREA.

STOPPING HERE ONLY TO MEET THE PRESIDENT AND THEN AWAY TO BOSTON.

The 10 members of the Korean Embassy arrived here from Washington on the Pennsylvania Railroad yesterday at 5:30 o'clock. They were met at the station by Assistant Secretary of State Davis, and escorted to the Fifth-Avenue Hotel, where they will be presented to President Arthur at 11 o'clock this morning. After the train had stopped all the coaches were rapidly emptied except the parlor car, in which the members of the embassy were seated. They were the last to disembark, and as they filed out in the order of their rank, with Prince Min Yong Ik at their head, they presented a strange appearance. Their dresses were similar to those worn by high priests in an opera chorus, only very much more gorgeous, and were surmounted with high sugar-loaf black hats, such as Alpine peasants are usually supposed to wear. Their shoes were of the Japanese pattern. They wore chess skirts, under which were nearly concealed with white silk trousers. Over these were many long, flowing robes, like a clergyman's surplice, worn one on top of the other. They were open in front, and each was of a different color. At the hotel the members were taken to the third floor, near President Arthur's rooms, and given adjoining suites, and all the evening they were seen darting about the corridors, to the amazement of such of the guests as happened to be in that part of the building.

The embassy is led by Min Gong Ik, who is the chief Minister. In Corea he is a noble of the highest rank excepting the members of royal family, to which he is related through the Queen, whose nephew he is. He is personally a pleasant, amiable gentleman, of highly polished manners. The Vice-Minister is Hong Gong Sik, who is a son of the Korean Prime Minister. So Koang Pom, the Secretary of the Legation, is also a high officer at home. He is an ardent lover of art, and has much skill at painting. The Foreign Secretary is Mr. Percival Lowell, a native of Boston, graduate of Harvard, and cousin of the Minister to England. He is only 28 years of age, and was sojourning in Japan for pleasure when his present position was offered to him. He has never been in Corea, but will visit that country on the return of the Embassy. There are five attachés, one Chinese interpreter, and a private secretary to Mr. Lowell, who has an unpronounceable polysyllabic name which requires a line of tea-chest characters to express and an Oriental linguist to pronounce. The gentlemen are short in stature and have the Mongolian features. Some of them wear sparse black beards, and a few affect long mustaches. They are highly educated in their own literature and Chinese and Japanese. They are Buddhists in religion. It is contrary to Korean politeness to exhibit any feelings. Stoicism is the highest type of good breeding. It is therefore difficult to tell what are their impressions of this country. But they certainly must have been startling, for they are the first Koreans who have ever left their native country for the New World. They are rapidly acquiring a knowledge of English. They exhibit no race peculiarities other than their remarkable costumes. They eat ordinary fare in an ordinary manner, and have been very apt in adopting the customs of our civilization. Mr. Lowell said to a TIMES reporter last evening that they would stop here to-day until after the presentation to President Arthur. At this ceremony the Koreans will attire themselves in brilliantly decorated robes, made expressly for the occasion and expected to eclipse anything in that line which they have exhibited along the line of their journey. They will start in the evening for Boston, in the United States steam-ship Despatch, which has been put at their disposal by Secretary Chandler. After spending a week in that city, witnessing the exhibition, they will return to New-York and go directly to Washington, where the object of their mission to this country will be performed.

It is expected that the result of the visit will be the perfection of the terms of the recent treaty between the two nations. Corea will want from this country mining and agricultural machinery and cotton fabrics, and in time it will probably become as good a market for American manufactures as is Japan. Corea has about 15,000,000 inhabitants. The capital is Soul, which is pronounced Sa-owl. The city has 750,000 inhabitants, and two names, one of which is given above, but the other is kept secret for some unknown reasons, and is never publicly mentioned. The country produces gold and silver and rice. The soil is very fertile, and the climate greatly resembles that of New-York, being little warmer than it is here. The proper name of the country is Tah Chosum, which means land of the great morning calm. The name Corea was discarded 500 years ago. The language is spoken by only two Europeans. It is not so very difficult to acquire, being somewhat like the Japanese. It is phonetic, and has an alphabet, the letters of which resemble the common tea-chest characters. The words are written in clusters, not in lines, and are read down like a column of figures. The chief obstacle to its acquirement hitherto has been an edict decapitating any foreigner who attempted to learn it. It is very musical, and sounds like Italian. After spending a few months in this country, viewing the sights, the members of the embassy will return home.