

THE EMPRESS EMSY.

Lady Whom the Emperor of Corea Privately Espoused and Gave Many Honors.

In discussing the other day the situation in Corea, the Sviet asked who was Lady Emsy. The Russian journal now replies to its own inquiry. Emsy is the lady whom the emperor of Corea privately espoused after the murder of his consort, and he has since heaped the highest court honors upon her. His majesty has declared his intention on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of his reign, of having Lady Emsy proclaimed empress, and her son the imperial crown prince. The future empress is a woman of intelligence and ambition. The emperor desired that all the great powers should send special representatives to Seoul for the jubilee festivities and the enthronement of Empress Emsy. With the exception of England and Japan these invitations were declined, says the London Standard. The Sviet adds: "In consideration of the important role which Empress Emsy is likely to play in the future court politics of Corea, the Tokio government has promised to send a member of the mikado's family to assist at the coming festivities at Seoul. England follows the example of her ally, and will be specially represented by Sir Claude MacDonald, the British minister at Tokio. There can be no doubt, of course, that these courtesies on the part of Japan and England will secure to those powers the future friendship of the empress-consort of Corea."

BUSINESS FOR THE PEDDLERS.

Vendors of Small Articles Find Ready Sale for Their Wares on New York Ferryboats.

"I can't see how the street peddlers make a living," declared one of a group of suburbanites on a North river ferryboat the other evening, according to the New York Times. "I will supply the cigars if each of us has not bought something from a street peddler to-day," said the man addressed. "I bought a two-foot rule from one of them." "And I bought shoestrings," confessed the first speaker. "So did I," said a third. "And I bought some bulbs," said another. "Matches here," remarked a fifth. "A pocket comb for me," said the man with a big mustache. "A card of buttons," spoke up a family man. "Clack, clack," came the sound of a noisy contrivance as another commuter exhibited his purchase. "Seven handkerchiefs for a quarter," remarked still another, tapping a package that bulged out of his overcoat pocket. "I guess the cigars are on me," said the first speaker, "the peddlers seem to have plenty of customers."

MOCKED WOMEN OF BRAINS.

Literary Aspirants Were First Called "Blue Stockings" in Samuel Johnson's Time.

The term "blue stockings," as applied to women with literary tendencies, is not now considered either elegant or appropriate, although at first there was some warrant for its employment. Its origin is traced to the days of Samuel Johnson, and was applied then as now to women who cultivated learned conversations and found enjoyment in

the discussion of questions which had been monopolized by men.

About 1750 it became quite the thing for ladies to form evening assemblies, when they might participate in talk with literary and ingenious men. One of the best known and most popular of these assemblies was said to have been a Mr. Stillingfleet, who always wore blue stockings, and when at any time he happened to be absent from these gatherings it was usually remarked that "we can do nothing without blue stockings," and by degrees the term "blue stockings" was applied to all gatherings of a literary nature, and eventually to the ladies who attended the meeting.

The Shah's Wives.

The shah of Persia is the possessor of 60 wives and 30 children, quite a small household when we remember that the late shah had over 1,700 wives and nearly 200 sons and daughters! When the shah's wives go out for a drive the loyal subjects of his majesty do not throng the streets to welcome them, as would be the case in a European country. A band of running footmen precede the royal carriage, crying out: "Run and hide yourselves!" and on receipt of this hint, every passer-by scampers up a side street to avoid the crime of high treason by looking on the royal ladies. If it be too late to heat a retreat, punishment is avoided by turning the face to the wall.

All Took Their Hats Off.

A north Missouri preacher adopted the following method of requesting the ladies to remove their hats in church: "A lady," he said to his congregation, "phoned me this morning and asked if I would make her remove her hat if she came to church. I said that I would, and am now ready to fulfill the promise. If the lady is here, she can keep her hat on. All others are requested to remove their hats."

Unfamiliarity with History.

President James, of the Northwestern university, says that schoolboys study too much American history and too little of that of the old world, says the Philadelphia Inquirer. Considering the great ignorance of the average American concerning his own country, this statement is no less than amazing.

AMMONIA FOR BURGLARS.

A Brooklyn Druggist's Encounter Suggests a Weapon Which Becomes Popular.

A druggist in Brooklyn was held up in his store and happened to have a glass of ammonia on the counter, which he dashed into the visitor's face, and the fellow ran, smashing through a glass door, doing himself great mischief. He had a companion so amazed he hesitated when a second glass of the elixir hit him squarely in the nose with another dose of the aromatic fluid and paralyzed him with pain and terror on the spot, so that he was taken a helpless prisoner. The druggist advertised bottles of liquid fire prepared for burglars, and the medicine became fashionable, says a recent report. The holdfast robbers were for awhile discouraged. The burglar bomb ought to be prepared for action by an enterprising firm, the bottles of assorted sizes and used according to directions, which might be blown into the glass. The banks should be equipped with the bomb. They are at short range much more certain to go to the right spot than pistol shots.

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