

**EVERY-DAY LIFE IN
KOREA; A COLLECTION
OF STUDIES AND STORIES**

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Every-day life in Korea; A collection of studies and stories by Daniel L. Gifford

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DANIEL L. GIFFORD

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Every-Day Life in Korea

A Collection of
Studies and Stories

By Rev. Daniel L. Gifford

Eight Years a Missionary in Korea



Fleming H. Revell Company

Chicago : New York : Toronto

Publishers of Evangelical Literature

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PREFACE

The author has had in mind a number of classes of readers in the preparation of this book; among others, business men, fond of facts in a compact form, ladies in the missionary societies, ever alert to add to their fund of missionary information, and another class still, found in the young people's societies, who enjoy information presented in a pictorial or narrative form. We all are fond of hearing of things that have a human interest; and we like to know how other people live their lives and do their work in the world, especially if their experiences and environments are quite different from our own. The pages that follow may be characterized, in the main, as a series of pictures of life in Korea—life in the olden time, as history has presented it; modern, every-day life, as the Westerner living among an Oriental people sees it; life as it is affected by the work of the Christian missionary; and, finally, the life of the missionary himself. The author acknowledges his indebtedness for much of suggestion and material to the writings of others who have dealt with things Korean—"Corœa, the Hermit Nation," by Rev. W. E. Griffis, D.D.; "Korea from its Capital," by Rev. George W. Gilmore; "Korea and her Neighbors," by Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop;

the "Encyclopedia of Missions;" the "Seoul Independent;" the "Korean Repository."

In one respect, however, this book will be observed to differ from all the other volumes upon Korea that have preceded it, and that is in the proportion of its pages devoted to a presentation of the missionary work of the land. Here it will be found that the work has been traced historically from its beginnings, its many-sided development fully portrayed, with a chapter at the close on that glorious, evangelistic, forward movement now in progress in the country, the spread of which continually reminds the workers on the field that in a very peculiar manner they are "laborers together with God."

DANIEL L. GIFFORD.

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Every-day Life in Korea

CHAPTER I

WHERE IS KOREA?

A friend and myself, returning to America after our first term of missionary service in Korea, sat one Saturday evening in the office of a hotel in Salt Lake City. In signing the hotel register an hour previous, we had each of us written in the column intended for addresses, simply the word designating the country from which we had so recently arrived. A thoughtful look came over my companion's face, and presently he remarked as we sat there: "I think we made a mistake in signing that hotel register. The clerk will not know where Korea is; will think that we have given a false address and will become suspicious of us, under the impression that we are trying to swindle the hotel." A moment later I glanced toward the desk and, sure enough, the forefinger of the clerk was gently waving to and fro unmistakably in our direction. A moment later I stood at the desk. "Korea, Korea" (in a