

**THINGS KOREAN: A
COLLECTION OF SKETCHES AND
ANECDOTES, MISSIONARY
AND DIPLOMATIC, PP. 1-249**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649720378

Things Korean: A Collection of Sketches and Anecdotes, Missionary and Diplomatic, pp. 1-249
by Horace N. Allen

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Cover @ 2017

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THINGS KOREAN



A KOREAN OFFICER OF THE OLD ARMY

Things Korean

A Collection of Sketches and Anecdotes
Missionary and Diplomatic

By
HORACE N. ALLEN, M. D.
Late Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Korea

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NEW YORK CHICAGO TORONTO
Fleming H. Revell Company
LONDON AND EDINBURGH

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FLEMING H. REVELL COMPANY

187210

**New York: 158 Fifth Avenue
Chicago: 80 Wabash Avenue
Toronto: 25 Richmond Street, W.
London: 21 Paternoster Square
Edinburgh: 100 Princes Street**

TO
MY WIFE

PREFACE

THERE are incidents in the lives of each of us that are of more or less interest to others. Often some of these incidents are of general public interest.

Twenty-two years' residence in China and Korea, including practically the whole period of the latter's diplomatic intercourse with the outside world, would seem to indicate an experience fruitful in incidents of general interest. This is my excuse for thrusting a new volume upon a public already burdened with books.

The writer spent a year in China as a medical missionary, three years in Korea in the same capacity, three years in the Korean service, and fifteen years in the diplomatic service of our own government, beginning as secretary of legation and ending as minister plenipotentiary.

The aim in writing this book has been to exclude the personal as much as possible, and to gather up the most interesting and illustrative bits descriptive of experiences had during this rather interesting period, together with entertaining accounts of the quaint people with whom these years were spent.

The poor Koreans are now in desperate straits and it has been suggested that this work be devoted to exposing their wrongs in an effort to turn public sentiment in their direction. Such a course does not