

October 3rd. 1905 .

My dear Palmer :-

Very many thanks for your most interesting letter concerning the troubles in Japan and the effect of liquor on Robert Collins . The same I imagine will use up all the red paint in his colour box before he gets more than half way across the continent . He deserves it for he certainly had a long seige of it in Manchuria and Peking after all does not offer any very great inducements to those who seek the "W's" .

The Roosevelt party came saw and conquered . They had audiences with His Majesty of all the Koreans , and were treated with more consideration than has ever been shown visiting royalty before . At the first luncheon the Emperor brought Miss Roosevelt in on his arm and sat at the same table with her .

The Crown Prince also officiated at a plate and another Imperial figurehead the one he went to the Coronation , Yi Yong was among those present . The rest of us were at smaller tables sandwiched in with prominent Korean officials who by special order of the Emperor had many of them got themselves into European clothes for the first time and who certainly did look and from their appearance feel like Hell . Many of the old coats had evidently been forced to borrow for their clothes were long and short and anything but as they should have been .

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It was a strange and wonderful sight to see Miss Roosevelt on the Emperor's arm or rather he on hers as they came into the Banqueting Hall which looked more like a boarding house parlour than anything else. We had a Korean chow and the Senator burned his face by leaving his spoon too near the charcoal heart of the soup plate. Here they gave us all little silver cups with a gold one for Miss Roosevelt. Then there were tiffin at the East Palace, a fine old park way on the other side of the city. Miss Roosevelt had luncheon with the Palace ladies which again was an innovation and then one night the Korean Military Band came in. This was one of the most interesting performances of all. There were about fifty pieces all told and they made the weirdest and most awesome noise I ever heard shrieks and the tumming of tom toms, the shrill notes of the flute and the rolling of a base horn. Then the kisangs, the Korean dancing girls did their stunts in the courtyard, the warrior dance etc etc.

Of course the most interesting part of the visit was the part which the Japanese tried to pay therein. From the time the party arrived in Chemulpo, and even before they tried their dirty work. In the first place they attempted to put every obstacle in the way of Miss Roosevelt's having the use of the Imperial car. This belonged to the Emperor and they asked refused at first to let him have it saying that they didn't have time enough to make it ready etc. Then they claimed that Miss Roosevelt was not royalty, to which the Koreans replied that



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Marquis Ito wasn't either . To this the Japanese said that the car was theirs anyway . Then it seems that some of the minor people at the Departments tried to prevent the officials hanging American flags and Korean flags crossed over their gateways . In Chemulpo , the Japanese Consul tried to run the welcome . He boarded the "Ohio" which brought Miss Roosevelt before Morgan who had crossed on the "Alava " had had time to get over to her . Then he tried to butt in and bring the party ashore when the Koreans who were the real hosts , had furnished their Customs launch for the purpose . When I went out with Morgan who had of course come on shore and the started out on the Korean launch to meet Miss Roosevelt , Kato , the Consul , having been told that we thought that our launch would probably do the trick , never theless went out and went on board before Mr. Morgan could arrive . His boat being the faster.

There were many other incidents . I don't think that the Japanese imagined that we were making any political play though they may have thought so . I am more inclined to think that they were principally afraid of the ~~xxxxxxx~~ effect that the visit would have on the Koreans . These people are looking for straw just now and the Roosevelt trip looked like a life preserver to their jaundiced imaginations . This the Japanese tried to get around by appearing to be doing the entertaining themselves . Naturally they couldn't work any con game of that sort . Their actions were such that any feelings that I may have had before are much more so . The littleness of it all not feeling strong enough even to let this poor people , whom t

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when , a Baron Karsko says they are going to regard and treat us as an inferior race , have their own little party . They could not bear to see any one but themselves do anything . They were not content to stand by and laugh at the footless things these poor devils were inclined to do , but had to force themselves in every where and at all times .

I am sending you herewith two pictures , one taken in the East Palace with all the Korean Officials , Miss Roosevelt was ill and at home playing nurse but all the others were there . The second is one that was taken here in the Legation and gives the whole party except Senator Newlands . You might be able to use these I should think . I will send you any snaps that turn out well . I am not very sure of my self on that ~~xxxxx~~ camera yet . But will try to get results .

I trust that Mrs . Palmer is quite well by this time .  
With best wishes ,

Yours sincerely ,