

## COREANS A QUEER PEOPLE.

FOR ONE THING, THEIR SLEEP IS NOISE PROOF.

The Laundry Method a Painful Surprise to the Stranger—Power of the Senses—Ordinary of the Corean—Viciousness of the Corean.

One of the latest studies of Corea is by a Frenchman. It is entitled "En Corée" and the author is Emile Bourdard. The Coreans are a strange people, not only from the point of view of their civilization, but even from that of their neighbors, the Japanese, and M. Bourdard describes with abundance of detail their habits, morals and daily life.

The first night a stranger passes in Seoul is one of painful surprise. If he be fatigued and hopes for several hours of restful sleep he is promptly disillusioned.

He is kept awake by a weird noise, ceaseless and prolonged. It continues from dark until dawn. It opens with a low rumble, increasing in volume until it becomes an infernal gallop.

This uproar comes from the washing of clothes, which is carried on exclusively at night. Coreans are not disturbed by it; nothing ever gets upon their nerves; but to one unaccustomed to it it is a formidable menace to health. The noise is caused by the method employed to cleanse clothing.

The garment is wrapped about a cylindrical stone and pounded with two clubs, which resemble those carried by policemen. Only a small quantity of water is used, but the process gives a glaze and finish peculiar to Corean linen or cotton.

Forty thousand of these stones may be hammered in unison, but the Corean sleeps on undisturbed. Nothing interrupts his sleep. He may be seen slumbering on the trunk of a slender tree in the full blaze of sunlight; mouth open, devoured by a multitude of flies, absolutely motionless, unconscious of annoyance.

The beds of the lower classes consist of a mat upon which they sleep, and, even in winter, a wadded quilt for covering, a stone or block of wood for pillow.

Commerce street in Seoul is the retail quarter of the town. Here everything is sold—wood for fuel, old clothes, copper vessels, pipes, books, spectacles, paper napkins, etc.

The merchant, in the rear of his shop, is seated in the pose of Buddha, surrounded by his wares, his moments of leisure employed in reading a Corean newspaper. This he reads aloud for the benefit of illiterate customers and clerks.

The journal records passing events—confessions at the custom house of counterfeit nickel imported by Japanese; dismissal of a Minister by the Emperor, an announcement that one Pak—has changed his name, it no longer pleasing him; an official decree according posthumous honors to a person who has been dead a hundred years, accounts of peasants robbed by brigands. These, armed with clubs, descend at night upon a village; the inhabitants offer no resistance, abandoning everything to the marauders.

Stories of brigands have invincible fascination for Coreans. Every night the taverns are filled with audiences raptly absorbed in narrations of their prowess, told by professional raconteurs. In the domestic circle children are regaled with brigand stories which send them terrified to bed to awaken at night with shrieks of fear.

Heid a drinking shop it is only necessary to look upward. At every other step will be seen a pile with a willow basket attached; beneath it a small flag. This is the universal sign of these establishments.

The interior of a Corean drinking shop is squalid. The tipple sold has an after-flavor of petroleum; it is antipathetic to a European palate; but of rapturous suavity to that of a Corean. Some of these said shops are more select. They are conducted by women. In fact, this is the one business in which an honest woman can engage without fear of censure.

Withstanding the acceptance of the tenets of Buddha in Corea, the old belief that preceded it still has immense power. The Coreans believe that spirits, either benign or malignant, infest everything that surrounds them, the soil, mountains, rivers and trees are alive with them.

Sickness is caused by demons; therefore, exorcising sorceresses have great vogue in Corea. They are the curse of the country. If the Emperor would suppress them, as well as a multitude of magicians, astrologers and necromancers, Corea would make great strides in the path of progress.

At every moment of the day or night may be heard in every quarter of Seoul the tambourine of a sorceress exorcising in a house where the demon of disease has entered. This is accomplished by the forceful beating of the tam-tam, frantic dances, furious in proportion to the proffered fee.

The blind predict the future. The birth of a child girl is greeted with delight by her parents. That infirmity inheres to her a profitable career and future support; to her parents, for she is certain to become a sorceress or chamane.

These individuals hold such power that they have established guilds; the blind forming one and the other fakins a second corporation. Each has a chief, subject to control by the Government. The poor Corean cannot be born, marry, be cured of disease or die without the interposition of these blackmagicians.

There is not much difficulty in marrying off a daughter in Corea. Where there are defects, such as feeble health, paralysis, deformities, etc., an expert intermediary who knows how to conceal them is employed. It is her business to make the girl presentable to the parents of the suitor. As the bridegroom does not see the bride until the day of marriage, when it is too late to recall, he is obliged to make the best of the situation.

In marrying Corean girls are not exempt from contributing to the support of the family. This applies to the grande dame as well as the humblest peasant. Ladies of rank who have become impoverished and are obliged to support themselves may earn a livelihood by knitting or rearing silk worms.

In the country the care of bees is incumbent on every woman, however lofty her social status. She also cares for fruit trees, particularly the mulberry. The one profession of these impoverished ladies of which they enjoy absolute monopoly is that of physician.

The lowest class of women are practically outcasts. From this class are recruited the female dancers who occupy such a large place in Corean life. Of these the kisaengs are attached to the Imperial court.

They are divided into two groups, one belonging to the bureau of Imperial medicine, the other to the *Garde Robe* of the Imperial court. The kisaengs are strictly dancers of the first class. They have the exclusive privilege of performing at court. Etiquette forbids a dancer of the second or third class to remain seated in the presence of a kisaeng.

The kisaengs are in the pay of the Government. In addition to a fixed salary they

## FOR HOME FURNISHINGS—THE LARGEST HOUSE IN THE WORLD

WHOLESALE.

EXPORT.

RETAIL.

## LUDWIG BAUMANN &amp; COMPANY

Block 8th Ave., 35th to 36th Street

Main Furniture Entrance, 260 to 268 West 36th Street, Near Eighth Avenue.

The Greatest Furniture Economies Ever Offered!

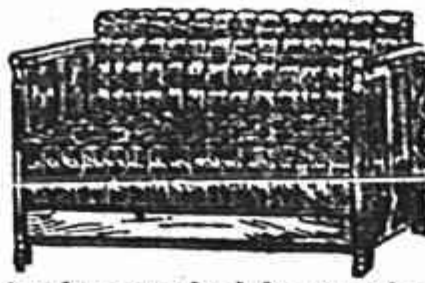
LIBRARY BOOKCASE of exceptionally fine design and excellent cabinet work throughout. Latticed glass doors, adjustable shelves, well finished interior. In highly polished mahogany finish. Very special value. **24.25**



TURKISH ROCKER of very fine style and the very best spring upholstery throughout. Very wide seat and back wing edges—spring edges on seat, back and arms. Tufted edges, leather fringe at foot. Tufted throughout seat excepted. Covered with leather of excellent quality. Abar-**33.00**



ECLIPSE SOFA BED, finely constructed and superbly upholstered. **37.69**



SOLID MAHOGANY DINING TABLE of most elegant and effective style. Massive center column—with graceful supports and handsomely carved claw feet. Top 54x54 inches—10 ft. when opened. Finest finish and detail work throughout. Remarkable value for **64.65**

QUARTERED OAK BUFFET of superior construction and very effective design. Finely carved top and claw feet, and enclosed latticed cabinets for display purposes. Large drawers in base—French bevel plate mirror 18x40 inches. In highly polished mahogany finish. Special for **37.69**



Specials in Office Furniture.



COLONIAL BED ROOM SUITE of solid, selected mahogany—perfect reproductions of famous models. Massive supports—classical frames and large French beveled plate mirrors, 22x30 inch in. both chifferoni and toilet table, and in every detail throughout. Dresser **54.75**; Chair **34.39**



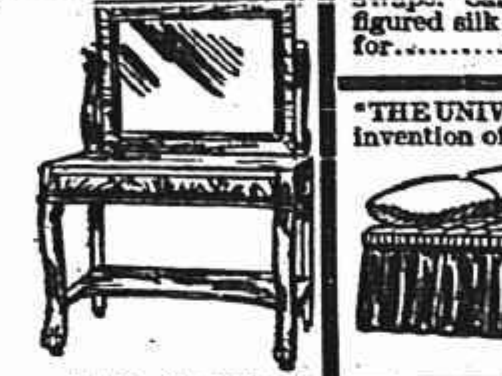
COMBINATION BOOK CASE in highly polished golden oak finish—excellent design and good cabinet work throughout. Carved top and panel; complete desk and section and book case with adjustable shelves and glass door. Mirror 10x18 in. beveled plate. Special for **12.25**

PARLOR SUIT of 5 very handsome pieces. Highly polished mahogany frames—finely carved; excellent springs and upholstery throughout; tufted backs and plain seats. Covered in pretty patterns of best tapestry. Special for **52.50**

PARLOR SUIT of three strikingly effective pieces. Frames of highly polished mahogany are finely veneered and of graceful design. Carved arms. Best springs and upholstery; covered in figured silk velours. A rare bargain; seat complete for **36.39**

"THE UNIVERSAL" PATENT FOLDING COUCH. The greatest invention of the age. Sells at sight, and is rapidly superseding all other iron combination couches. Construction and mechanism perfect, and adjusted at a turn of the wrist. Used as a DIVAN, A DOUBLE BED OR 2 COMPLETE single beds. Wardrobe section a novel feature. See it!

MUSIC CABINET of exceptionally good style and construction. Very complete interior, and finished in a first-class manner throughout; all in a highly polished mahogany finish. Special value for **6.25**



**SPECIALS IN CARPETS, RUGS, HOUSE FURNISHINGS AND UPHOLSTERIES.**

**INVESTIGATE OUR ECONOMIC SYSTEM of furnishing Apartments and Flats. Complete Outfits from \$10,000 down to \$98. Purchases of \$5.00 or over delivered Free within 100 miles. Railroad fare allowed out-of-town buyers.**

have certain perquisites when they sing or dance at the Imperial palace. As they are all women of great beauty from the Corean point of view high officials sometimes marry them.

The marriage ceremony in Corea is conducted under conditions that are practically tests of endurance. On the day of his marriage a Corean has the right, if he can afford it, to assume the costume of any official of the Imperial court. Usually he selects that of a Minister of State.

In this guise, borne by six bearers in a highly decorated chair, preceded by two red parrots, the insignia of the official he makes his way to the bride's house and proceeds to that of the bride. He finds her ready to receive him in a room elaborately painted, her eyes gleaming with excitement, her hands clasped in prayer, and she does not see his features until noon.

When the bridegroom enters the bride's house he retires to a corner, where he makes his toilet to be a good husband. He then approaches the bride, who, being unable to see, is informed of his proximity by an attendant.

Two brides and bridegroom are now bound together with long blue and red strings by a woman, part sorceress and part servant. Wine of friendship is tasted by the couple in turn. Then follows a grotesque scene. The bride is to test the earnestness of the bride.

The young man may laugh, but this is strictly forbidden to the girl. If she succumbs to the temptation to laugh the marriage is then and there annulled. The bride having safely passed through this ordeal, she is now tested for capacity to remain silent.

The young man tries every device to make her speak. If unsuccessful he cries out that he will not marry a dumb woman. Usually the girl is proof against the temptation, but if she is resentful and makes retort that is sufficient to annul the marriage.

This happens when the girl is asked to marry the man. She adopts that method of escape. Generally the bride goes to live with her husband's parents, where she becomes the slave of the mother-in-law. The Corean species being considered the most terrible of the whole world.

M. Bourdard has a good deal to say in regard to the alimentation of the Corean. He is a gluttonous beyond belief. Even in high society it is considered an honor to the host to eat and drink to excess.

Drunkenness is not considered a reproach. One encounters every day in the streets individuals staggering from intoxication or sleeping off a debauch in the gutter. The cookery in the restaurants and among the poorer classes is antipathetic to the European, particularly on account of the way in which food is prepared. On the other hand, among the higher classes the meals are scrupulously clean and artistically prepared, with an abundance of condiments and sauces. The European misses butter and bread, for which rice is substituted.

In families of wealth, beef, game, fowl and fish are served daily. The lower classes eat of dog flesh, but only in summer. The gastronomic event of the year is the preparation, in November and December, of kim-chi, the national dish. It is an amalgam of cabbage, turnips, cut fine, salted and put in large vases with pepper, onions, garlic, ginger and sometimes peas.

This mixture is allowed to stand during the entire season, the essence of two kinds of fish being added occasionally. This concoction is analogous to our pickles, but it has a power that would make our amateurs of pickles recoil with horror if they were obliged to eat one-tenth part of what a Corean consumes with eager relish.

Beef is eaten cut in small pieces, some times enveloped in an omelet, as are tripe and fish. Soup is made with beef, dog, pig and mutton. The last is very rare. Rice comes from China and is only seen on the tables of the rich. Beef is roasted on a heated iron plaque, beefed with spiced sauce and sugar.

In general, the Corean steeps his meats in strong sauces which to the European have the most revolting odor. Dogs are eaten. As an excuse for killing them for this purpose the Coreans say that after they are three years old they become too intelligent and see spirits entering the house.

Like most Orientals the Coreans are extremely cruel in their manner of killing animals for food. Game is most abundant in Corea. It is killed in heat-combs. Even in restaurants the Corean kills his own fowl to add to their appetite to the length of the purse, the Corean eats voraciously. He does not consume food to satisfy hunger, but simply to fill himself. From infancy they are trained in the school of voracity.

## PLEA FOR A DRAKE PARK.

## EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE POET'S GRAVE.

The Cemetery Where the Author of "The Culprit Fay" and the "Ode to the American Flag" is Buried Threatened by New Streets—The Graveyard Now Neglected—Its Historic Interest.

The American Society and Historic Preservation Society in its annual report, just issued, renew its advocacy of the establishment of the "Joseph Rodman Drake Park," at Hunt's Point, in The Bronx, to preserve the grave of a poet who has

although it abuts on the roadway and although Drake's seven foot monument is within seven yards of the fence, it can be found only by the sharpest scrutiny. Pilgrims seeking the spot may conveniently locate it by the side of a little brown cottage about 150 feet beyond the turn where the road bends sharply from east to north.

On two sides the cemetery is bounded by the East Marsh, produced by water from the salt river, which is not more than half a mile away.

"The cemetery is in a state of deplorable neglect. It is filled with bushes and wild growth of various sorts. Half of the grave-stones are broken, some stand upside down against the trees, some lie on the ground. The sun-dials from one monument are toppled over. Some stones have crumbled away into unrecognizable stumps but

remained too long without honor in his own city—the author of the spirited "Ode to the American Flag," "The Culprit Fay," and of other poems.

Work is now advancing on several new streets in that part of the borough of The Bronx, two of which, Whitler street and Wetman avenue, if continued as projected, will pass through the little old Hunt graveyard, wiping it out completely, the first named forming a junction with Hunt's Point road at an obtuse angle directly in front of the grave of Joseph Rodman Drake. There is plenty of unimproved and unoccupied land in that part of The Bronx, and it is contended that the new streets might far better make a slight detour and go around the little burying ground.

"Drake's grave," says the society's report, "is one of about sixty in the little old abandoned Hunt graveyard on Hunt's Point, in the Borough of The Bronx. This diminutive cemetery, about seven rods square, lies on the left hand side of the old Hunt's Point road, about four-fifths of a mile from the Hunt's Point station of the Harlem branch of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad as one goes eastward from the station to the point. It is so obscured by trees and bushes that

others are in a good state of preservation and many of the old landmarks, like the Hunts, Leggett, Bartows, Willatts, Tillous, Talmans, Whiteheads, Dixons, Leaycrafts, Goodmans, Flemings, Van Rans and others. The oldest legible inscription is upon a brownstone slab, carved at the top with one of the quaint heads and pairs of wings with which our ancestors of 150 years ago were wont to adorn these mortal memorials.

"Drake was buried amid the scenes he loved so well, in the old Hunt burial plot, as above stated. Having been left an orphan, and having received no aid from his nearest relatives, he asked to be buried among his friends, the Hunts. His monument is a very modest one, standing 7 feet high on a base 3 feet 3 inches square. It is protected by an iron fence like a tree cage, only 3 feet square, leading into the base-stone and rising half the height of the monument. It is crowded close up against the iron fence surrounding a similar monument to one of the Tillous. Vandals have chipped off the corners of the marble mounting.

Soit Worn for 45 Years. From the London Daily Mail. The following letter was sent by Mr. George Howlett of Beacons Bottom, Stokenchurch, William Stevens of Town End, Bedfordshire, measured me for a high on his own head. I have worn the same on for forty-seven years now, and not a still

JOSEPH RODMAN DRAKE'S GRAVE.

JOSEPH RODMAN DRAKE'S GRAVE.

JOSEPH RODMAN DRAKE'S GRAVE.

## DEER IN RIVER STRIKES CAPTOR.

## DEER IN RIVER STRIKES CAPTOR.

Deep River correspondent Hartford Courant. Frank Miller, a young man living on the River road, had an exciting experience with a deer Sunday afternoon and is convinced that they are not the timid animals he has always thought they were.

Miller was rowing in a skiff when he saw a deer start to swim the river, heading toward the North Lyme shore. Miller bent to his oars, overtook the animal and running his boat up alongside reached over and seized the deer by the head. He lifted the head of the creature upon the gunwale of the boat and was trying to decide what to do with his prize when the deer settled its question for him.

Suddenly it shot one of its forefeet up out of the water and the boat struck him a blow on the forehead, knocking the boy backward in the boat and compelling him to release his hold of the deer's head.

When young Miller recovered himself the animal was several rods away and he had not any further desire to capture it.

PIANOS AND ORGANS.

BLOOMINGDALE BROS., 121 to 124 Ave. 50th to 50th St.

Don't Delay

Last Week

of Our Great October Sale of

WALTERS PIANOS

\$1 a Week.

\$350 Walters Pianos

For \$195

Half Real Value.

Walters Pianos are built to last a lifetime.

## DEER IN RIVER STRIKES CAPTOR.

## DEER IN RIVER STRIKES CAPTOR.

Deep River correspondent Hartford Courant. Frank Miller, a young man living on the River road, had an exciting experience with a deer Sunday afternoon and is convinced that they are not the timid animals he has always thought they were.

Miller was rowing in a skiff when he saw a deer start to swim the river, heading toward the North Lyme shore. Miller bent to his oars, overtook the animal and running his boat up alongside reached over and seized the deer by the head. He lifted the head of the creature upon the gunwale of the boat and was trying to decide what to do with his prize when the deer settled its question for him.

Suddenly it shot one of its forefeet up out of the water and the boat struck him a blow on the forehead, knocking the boy backward in the boat and compelling him to release his hold of the deer's head.

When young Miller recovered himself the animal was several rods away and he had not any further desire to capture it.

PIANOS AND ORGANS.

BLOOMINGDALE BROS., 121 to 124 Ave. 50th to 50th St.

Don't Delay

Last Week

of Our Great October Sale of

WALTERS PIANOS

\$1 a Week.

\$350 Walters Pianos

For \$195

Half Real Value.

Walters Pianos are built to last a lifetime.

## SIEGEL COOPER

Single "S. & H." Green Trading Stamps Given with Purchases Amounting to 10c. or More.

## Beautiful Lace Curtains

Special Sale of the Best Qualities of Irish Point Lace Curtains.

These are all made with heavy wide borders and all over vine centres. Some of them in limited quantities.

High Class Renaissance Curtains. All hand made on French net.

Mission Novelties. Dainty panel effects suitable for libraries and dens.

Bonne Femmes. 500 White and Ecru Bonne Femmes in two neat designs with full ruffle at bottom; a choice collection for walls, hangings and coverings, each, 1.95

Tapestries. Velouria Stripes for walls and hangings; Gothic Tapestries.

Down Pillows. To go with the tops; 55c. is the regular price; each, 35c.

Floss Pillows. 18-inch, 55c.; 20-inch, 55c.; 22-inch, 55c.; 24-inch, 55c.; 26-inch, 55c.; 28-inch, 55c.; 30-inch, 55c.; 32-inch, 55c.; 34-inch, 55c.; 36-inch, 55c.; 38-inch, 55c.; 40-inch, 55c.; 42-inch, 55c.; 44-inch, 55c.; 46-inch, 55c.; 48-inch, 55c.; 50-inch, 55c.; 52-inch, 55c.; 54-inch, 55c.; 56-inch, 55c.; 58-inch, 55c.; 60-inch, 55c.; 62-inch, 55c.; 64-inch, 55c.; 66-inch, 55c.; 68-inch, 55c.; 70-inch, 55c.; 72-inch, 55c.; 74-inch, 55c.; 76-inch, 55c.; 78-inch, 55c.; 80-inch, 55c.; 82-inch, 55c.; 84-inch, 55c.; 86-inch, 55c.; 88-inch, 55c.; 90-inch, 55c.; 92-inch, 55c.; 94-inch, 55c.; 96-inch, 55c.; 98-inch, 55c.; 100-inch, 55c.

## French Wilton Rugs

In Oriental Rug Colorings and Designs.

Well made in new, very desirable patterns, and at a price lower than ever quoted before for equal quality. These Wilton Rugs are closely woven, and are in effect very similar to the Oriental kinds. In the important points of color and heavy they are easily the equal of the Eastern Rugs.

Colors are extremely beautiful and

44.50

## French Limoges Decorated China

Dinner and Tea Sets

At Almost Half Price.—The fruits of a wonderful piece of the biggest potteries in Limoges and decorated abroad by our own designers and artists. They are so superbly handsome that the U. S. Government insisted upon a valuation 25% higher than we actually paid for them, declaring that no china of equal beauty and elegance had ever before entered the country at so low a price. A chance to buy ahead for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

China Dinner Sets. Beautiful translucent quality, with delicate flower and gold decorations. We have divided them into three lots. Each set comprises 12 each Dinner, Soup, Tea, Preserve and Butter Plates, 3 Large Meat Dishes, Soup-Tureen, Gravy Boat, 3 Vegetable Dishes, Pickle Dish, Covered Butter Dish and 12 Cups and Saucers—100 pieces in all.

\$15.50 \$18.50 \$19.50

French China Tea Sets. Of beautiful clear quality, handsomely decorated with entirely new designs in flowers and gold; 56 pieces set, that never before sold under \$12. 7.75

China Cups and Saucers. The greatest collection ever shown by any one house. Tea, Chocolate, After-Dinner and 5 o'clock Tea Cups and Saucers. French, German, Austrian and Japanese. 15,000 dozen to pick from. None worth less than \$3.50 and some \$5.50 per dozen. Your choice, 19c each.

Special Sale Nickel Table Lamps, 1.19

Office Furniture

Decisively Underpriced for Monday and Tuesday. A very unusual opportunity that will appeal at once to those who need office furniture. In to-morrow's and Tuesday's sale we offer Roll Top Desks, Flat Top Desks, Bookkeepers' Desks, Revolving Desk Chairs.

POSITIVELY THE BIGGEST VALUES ANNOUNCED THIS SEASON.

Revolving Desk Chairs. High roll in two sizes. 60-in. High Roll, 22.00; 66-in. High Roll, 25.00; 72-in. High Roll, 28.00; 78-in. High Roll, 31.00; 84-in. High Roll, 34.00; 90-in. High Roll, 37.00; 96-in. High Roll, 40.00; 102-in. High Roll, 43.00; 108-in. High Roll, 46.00; 114-in. High Roll, 49.00; 120-in. High Roll, 52.00; 126-in. High Roll, 55.00; 132-in. High Roll, 58.00; 138-in. High Roll, 61.00; 144-in. High Roll, 64.00; 150-in. High Roll, 67.00; 156-in. High Roll, 70.00; 162-in. High Roll, 73.00; 168-in. High Roll, 76.00; 174-in. High Roll, 79.00; 180-in. High Roll, 82.00; 186-in. High Roll, 85.00; 192-in. High Roll, 88.00; 198-in. High Roll, 91.00; 204-in. High Roll, 94.00; 210-in. High Roll, 97.00; 216-in. High Roll, 100.00; 222-in. High Roll, 103.00; 228-in. High Roll, 106.00; 234-in. High Roll, 109.00; 240-in. High Roll, 112.00; 246-in. High Roll, 115.00; 252-in. High Roll, 118.00; 258-in. High Roll, 121.00; 264-in. High Roll, 124.00; 270-in. High Roll, 127.00; 276-in. High Roll, 130.00; 282-in. High Roll, 133.00; 288-in. High Roll, 136.00; 294-in. High Roll, 139.00; 300-in. High Roll, 142.00; 306-in. High Roll, 145.00; 312-in. High Roll, 148.00; 318-in. High Roll, 151.00; 324-in. High Roll, 154.00; 330-in. High Roll, 157.00; 336-in. High Roll, 160.00; 342-in. High Roll, 163.00; 348-in. High Roll, 166.00; 354-in. High Roll, 169.00; 360-in. High Roll, 172.00; 366-in. High Roll, 175.00; 372-in. High Roll, 178.00; 378-in. High Roll, 181.00; 384-in. High Roll, 184.00; 390-in. High Roll, 187.00; 396-in. High Roll, 190.00; 40