A BEAUTIFUL CITY.

SO BRUSSELS IS CHARACTERIZED BY AN AMERICAN TOURIST.

Some of Its Most Attractive Features—A Handsome Boulevard In Place of the Old City Wall—The Immense Town Hall. How the Tram Cars Are Operated.

Brussels is a beautiful city and owes its beauty in a large measure to the good sense and public spirit of its citizens or a ruling king who rules in the interest of the people.

One good thing comes of a fortified city, or at least has come to Paris and Brussels, and that is when by expansion it has become necessary to tear down the fortification it has left the boulevard. Brussels is now about three times as large as the original walled city, and this boulevard forms a broad street around between the center and the outside from 200 to 300 feet wide. It is more than a street or avenue; it is a street and a park. It goes by different names at different parts, and Boulevard Waterloo—the widest—is first a sidewalk, then a paved street perhaps 15 feet wide for business purposes, then ground with two rows of trees, 80 feet wide, for horseback riding, then 40 feet or so of asphalt or macadam for carriages, then 80 feet (at a guess) with four rows of trees for pedestrians, with seats for resting; then another paved street for business and street cars, and, lastly, the other sidewalk. At different places are booths for selling papers, etc., waiting rooms for the street car service and public conveniences. Through the town there are two broad avenues and many outside, like the Avenue Louise, which leads out to the Bois, and, like the boulevard, has the same combination—part street and part park of itself. The other streets are neither wide nor straight, but cool in a hot day and likely warm in winter.

The buildings are not whole blocks from street to street as in Paris, each separate house or store varying somewhat one from the other, but they are all in a locality or block about of the same height and degree of finish—all kept clean and bright—the telegraph and telephone wires all over the tops strung from roof to roof and the whole city supplied with street car service. One of the lines is supplied with cars that run on the track where there is a track and turn out on the pavement where there is none. This is done by using common omnibus wheels for the carriage and two leading wheels which drop into the grooves in the rails—when in line—which keeps the car on all right. By custom, law or common sense none of the carriages has tires less than about two inches wide, so that the ground rail does not interfere at all with the common street traffic. The king, either by his power or influence, sees to it that the companies give the worth of the money. The fares are very low—only a cent for short rides, varying according to the distance—and the companies are no doubt managed on economical lines. As an example, the tickets or receipts are printed on paper and are canceled by the conductor tearing off the corner. How simple compared with the thick ticket and punch! The street cars, or tram cars, have maps of the route over which they travel posted so one who can follow a map can see where the special line he is on goes, what main streets it crosses and where it connects with other lines.

Probably nothing has been said about Brussels for the last 300 years that did not include the Hotel de Ville, or town hall, with its openwork spire. Inside it is a museum, with many curiosities and noted paintings. Surrounding it and throughout the old part of the town there are many ancient Flemish buildings, and in the new part is the Hall of Justice, one of the largest buildings in the world, if not the very largest, It is larger than St. Peter's, and though Philadelphia claims to have the largest this is 500 by 600 and 400 feet high, as against the Philadelphia structure's 460 feet square by the same height, and the Philadelphia building has a large open court, which the Brussels Hall of Justice has not. Anyway there is an awful lot of stone and architecture about it.

I do not know whether they deal out justice on the same scale as the building, but the affairs of the city seem to be well managed, and one would think, from the talk of the people, that the king has a good deal to do with it. He is greatly liked, is around the streets and in the exhibition every day and stops to talk to the exhibitors and workmen. We had the honor of meeting him two or three times. He was going one way in the aisles of the exhibition and in the street, and we were going the other. "Long live the king!"—John E. Sweet in American Machinist.

Such Is Fame.

A Prussian officer in the German army has been in the habit of questioning raw recruits on simple matters of national history. Here are a few replies to his question, "Who is Bismarck?" "Bismarck was emperor of the French." "Bismarck is dead." "Bismarck is a pensioner and lives in Paris." "Bismarck took part in the campaign of 1870 and received a medal for good conduct." "Bismarck descends from the Hohenzollerns and was born on April 1." Of 66 recruits whom the officer had to instruct, 21 had never in their life heard the name of the Iron Chancellor.

Dissatisfied.

"Is young Hopley much of a lawyer?"

"No, he isn't any good at all. I employed him in a case a short time ago, and he didn't say a thing to the counsel for the other side that a gentleman could object to."—Chicago News.

According to Dr. W. J. Beal, the native grasses of North America number about 1,275 species, included in about 140 genera, while in Europe there are only 47 genera and 570 species.

THE JAINS.

Men and Women of India Who Strive to Conquer the Lower Nature.

Besides Hindoo or Vedic metaphysics, there are systems in India not based on the Vedas and Upanishads, and therefore classed as heterodox by the Vedists. These are the Buddhist and Jain systems. Much has been written and spoken on Buddhism, but very little on Jainism.

Jain (or, more properly speaking, Jaina) means a follower of Jina, which is a generic term applied to those persons (men and women) that have conquered the lower nature — passion, hatred and the like—and brought into prominence the highest. The Jain philosophy, therefore, bases its doctrine on the absolute necessity (for the realization of truth) of conquering the lower nature. To the undeveloped or insufficiently developed observer, it is the conquering of the lower nature; to the fully developed, it is the realization of the perfect.

There lived many such Jinas in the past, and many will doubtless yet be born. The philosophy of the Jains therefore is not essentially founded on any particular writing or external revelation, but on the unfoldment of spiritual consciousness, the birthright of every soul.

The Jain philosophy teaches that the universe—the totality of realities—is infinite in space and eternal in time, but the same universe, considered from the standpoint of the manifestations of the different realities, is finite in space and noneternal in time. Particular parts of the universe have their cyclic laws corresponding to the laws of evolution and involution. At certain periods arhats, or great masters (saviors of mankind), are born, who, through love, sacrifice of the lower nature (not of the real self) and wisdom, teach the true doctrine. Referring to that part of the world known as Bharata-Khandia (India), the last arhat, Mahavira, was born 598 B. C., in a town called Kundagrama, in the territory of Videha. He lived 72 years and reached moksha (the perfect condition) in 526 B. C.

The Jain philosophy also teaches that each soul (atman) is a separate individuality, uncreated and eternal in existence; that each individual soul has lived from time without beginning in some embodied state, evolving from the lower to the higher condition through the law of karma, or cause and effect; that so long as the karmas (forces generated in previous lives) have not been fully worked out it has, after physical death, to form another body, until through evolutionary processes it unfolds its absolute purity. Its full perfection is then manifested. This perfection of the individuality is the Jain Nirvana, or mukti. The individuality is not merged into anything, neither is it annihilated. The process of this development, or salvation, may be said simply to consist in right realization, right knowledge and right life, the details of which are many.

Personality is changing every moment. The individuality is for every moment the particular stage of unfoldment of the ego itself and is consequently the bearer of the sins and sorrows, pleasures and enjoyments, of mundane life. In absolute perfection this bearing nature is thrown off like a husk, and the ego dwells in divine and eternal bliss. It is not destroyed, nor is it merged into another ego or in a supreme being, and if the question be asked whether in this state of mukti (deliverance) there is one ego or a plurality of egos I would answer in the words of the Jain master: "That atman by which I experienced myself and my essence through self realization—that I am; neither masculine, feminine nor neuter, neither one, two nor many."

The Vedanta metaphysics teach that salvation comes through knowledge (of Brahman). It is not the potential that through effort and conquest becomes the actual, and we are further taught that that which is is real now. On the other hand, Jainism teaches that from the ideal and transcendental standpoint you are Brahman, but its eternality, the real mukti, comes from work and knowledge together, not from one alone. Through work and knowledge, Jainism says, the individual develops and unfolds the potential. Therefore the statement, "I am Brahman," would be interpreted by a Jain to mean I am Brahman only inherently or in embryo; I have the capacity or the actual possibility of Brahman; what I am implicitly must become explicit. There is a vast difference between the implicit and the explicit. Those who do not recognize this difference would never make an attempt to become rational and free.—Virchand R. Gandhi in Mind.

New York the Railroad Center.

"Reasoning Out a Metropolis" is the title of an article in St. Nicholas, written by Ernest Ingersoll. Mr. Ingersoll says: Railroads began to be built about 1830, and the New Yorkers were soon pushing them out in all directions, supplying the money for extending them farther and farther north and west and connecting them into long systems controlled by one head. Other men in other cities did the same, but by and by it was seen that no railroad between the central west and east could succeed in competition with its rivals unless it reached New York. The great trunk roads, built or aided by the Baltimore men to serve their city, and by the Philadelphia people to bring trade to them, and by the capitalists of New England for their profit, never succeeded, therefore, until they had been pushed on to New York, where the volume of commerce was coming to be as great as or greater than that of all the other American ports put together. Now New York has become the real headquarters of every important railway system in the United States; that is, it is here that the financial operations—the money part of the management—are conducted, though the superintendents of its trains and daily business may keep their offices somewhere else.

NO USE FOR LADDERS.

THE RETIRED BURGLAR TELLS OF TWO UNFORTUNATE EXPERIENCES.

He Got Into and Out of the Houses With Ease, but That Wasn't All—How a Detective Got a Clew and Worked It—Escaped Once With a Broken Arm.

"Ladders, when you find them handy," said the retired burglar, "may seem like a very convenient way of getting into open second story windows, but after two experiences that I had with them I gave them up and stuck to the old fashioned way of doors and cellar windows.

"In a suburban town that I visited once I found 'em painting a Queen Anne house in the rainbow style that they used to paint houses in, and that, I suppose, they paint 'em in still to some extent. The men had ladders up, no stage, and I noticed that at the close of the day one of them was painting near a window, and I wondered if he'd leave his ladder there when he stopped work at night. I sauntered around that way after dark, and there it was, and it was summer, and the window was wide open. Most folks in the country, when their houses are being painted, are apt to be a little skittish about the ladders, and if one should be left like this one they'd be pretty sure to close the window near it and lock it, but these folks didn't appear to be disturbed, and as far as my getting into the house was concerned it was just about as easy for me to walk up that ladder and step off through the window as it would have been to walk in at the front door with it unlocked.

"Later, about 2 o'clock the next morning, I went up that ladder and in at the window without the slightest trouble, and there was nobody sleeping in that room. It was all just as easy as it could be. I poked around the house and gathered up what stuff there was worth carrying off and went back to that room and the open window and down the ladder and off.

"A month after that, as I was walking across the platform of a station on the same road that the other town was on to take a train, there was a man laid his hand on my arm and says, 'Now, don't make a fuss about it, and it'll be a good deal easier all around.' And I recognized in him the detective of the road, a man that I knew meant business, and I went along with him.

"Being a man of brains, he had gone up to the house where the robbery was as soon as he had heard of it, which was the day after. There he had put himself in the burglar's place and followed in his footsteps as near as he could. He had had the ladder placed in just the same position, and he had gone up that and stepped off into the window and followed over his track inside the house as close as he could guess at it, and then he'd come back to the window and got out on to the ladder, and so down to the ground.

"The ladder went up on the right hand side of this window, and while it was easy enough to reach it, still it was quite a little step from the sill to the ladder, and he noticed that when he had got his foot on the ladder he swung back a little toward the house, so that his elbow just touched it in the angle between the window frame and the clapboards. He gave a little push on that elbow naturally and threw himself out again on to the ladder. Then he stopped and looked at the spot where his elbow had touched. The paint was dry and there was no mark, but he called up the painters and learned that on the morning before—that was the morning after the house had been robbed—the paint at that place, on the cupboard by the window frame, and on the frame itself had been smudged a little, and they'd touched it over. That was all the detective wanted to know. From that time on he had been looking for a man with two paint spots of different colors on the left elbow of his coat, and I was the man.

"It may seem amazing to you that I hadn't rubbed the paint off. I had rubbed some of it off, and I was going to rub the rest off the next day, and then I kept setting that next day ahead, as we are apt to do, and I finally wound up by letting it go altogether, the rest of it. There wasn't one chance in a thousand of its leading to anything, and even as it was I might have talked myself out of the paint, but I had a watch that I'd got in the house in my pocket, and that settled it.

"That was one ladder. This was the other:

"Looking around the outside of a house in the country one night, I found a ladder lying on the ground against the rear of the house. They had some fruit trees in the garden, and I suppose they'd been working over them, or on the grape arbor maybe, and were going on with the work next day and had left the ladder out instead of taking it down cellar for the night. It was summer, and on the side of the house there were two windows open in one room. I thought I'd set the ladder up then and go in one of those windows. I set the ladder up and found it a little short, but by reaching up and getting a hold of the window sill and stepping up on the ends of the side pieces of the ladder I was able to get in tolerable easy. I went through the house and gathered up what there was to get and was turning to go from the last room when I knocked a picture over on a bureau and woke up the man that was sleeping in the room. I went back to the room I'd come in at and backed out the window and hung down for the ladder, and, by cracks, it wasn't there! But I'd got to go all the same, and I let go and dropped. I saw the ladder as I was going down at the next window. I'd got out the wrong window. I turned half over going down, struck on my left side and broke my arm.

"I got away that time, but I was laid up for six weeks, and after that I didn't fool any more with ladders."—New York Sun.

ENLARGED LYMPH GLANDS.

What the Lumps Mean and How They Should Be Treated.

"What are these lumps in my baby's neck?" is a question often asked the doctor.

Lumps, or kernels as they are often called, because they feel like grains or seeds under the examining fingers, are lymph bodies, or glands.

The system of lymph glands and tubes covers the entire body. If it were exposed to view, it would have the appearance of meshwork. Lymph ducts lead from the skin, from the mucous membrane, and from bone to lymph bodies which are further connected with one another by the same means.

At any point where there is an inflammation, a sore, a breaking of the skin or mucous surface, there will be found open mouths of lymph ducts into which waste matter is liable to enter. This waste matter sets up an irritation and an enlargement of the lymph bodies to which it finds its way. It will now be easily understood how such an enlargement or inflammation of the lymph bodies always points to a state of inflammation at some point, perhaps at a considerable distance from the lumps themselves. Thus a felon on the finger causes enlarged glands to appear in the armpit.

Lumps in the neck may sometimes be plainly traced to eczema of the scalp. Sometimes the mouth is the seat of the trouble. Large and inflamed tonsils may be present, or the teeth may be decaying.

When the ear is the seat of an abscess, either before or during the course of a purulent discharge enlarged glands are common.

Enlarged lymph bodies just behind the angle of the jaw are sometimes significant of catarrh of the nose and the adjacent portion of the throat.

The existence of enlarged lymph bodies for a few days, or sometimes for a longer interval, cannot be said to be in itself dangerous. The case is different when lumps exist for several weeks or longer. They become changed in character after this time and begin to break down and form purulent matter. This stage, too, is more difficult to cure, as surrounding tissue may become affected. The skin over the glands is involved and becomes part of the large, soft, red or purplish swelling, now called an abscess, which either breaks or is lanced by the surgeon.

These enlargements may become invaded by the tubercle bacilli, from which consumption of the lungs or a general consumption may develop.

During the course of an infectious disease, when the glands in the neck sometimes become enlarged, the care of the throat must not be neglected. The use of an antiseptic solution on the affected parts will often produce an immediate good result.—Youth's Companion.

About Lightning Rods.

Rods, although they may not entirely protect a building, may preserve it from being seriously damaged. The Jefferson physical laboratory of Harvard university is protected in the following manner: Each of the chimneys is provided with rods which are connected with conductors running along the eaves. From the corners of the roof conductors are led to the ground and are connected underground with a conductor which entirely surrounds the building and which is connected to a permanent water supply at least ten feet below the surface of the ground. Iron pipes are driven to reach this water supply. This is as near an approach to a cage as circumstances would permit.

A trolley car has a lightning rod in its trolley, which is connected through its motor with the rails and the ground. It is not beyond possibility, however, that a discharge descending the trolley arm should refuse to go through the motor and should seek a quicker oscillating path through the car. This is not likely to happen often, for the network of the trolley wire and the telegraph lines of a town or city, together with the electric light wires, separate and divert into many channels the electrical disturbance. The great increase of wires in our cities serves to protect from great damage by lightning, for many paths are offered to the discharges, which are thus broken up into more or less harmless sparks.—Professor John Trowbridge in Chautauquan.

Poison Ivy.

Just what it is that induces poison ivy to play its injurious pranks on some people at some times and not at others is still a profound mystery. One thing is certain—the number of people susceptible to the poisoning influence must be extremely few, from the fact that in the vicinity of Philadelphia the highways and byways are overrun with the plant to an enormous extent. It is frequently impossible for people to go by without brushing against it, and if it is the vapor or some exudation from the plant which causes the trouble thousands of persons must be under the influence to every one who suffers from it. The writer of this paragraph knows of a tract of land on which the plant grows profusely and on which many scores of laborers are employed. These laborers are frequently set to weeding and pulling out the plant by the naked hand, and, so far as the writer knows, none of these men was ever poisoned by it. The cattle eat it greedily whenever they get an opportunity. It seems to have no injurious influence on them.—Meehan's Monthly.

English In Japan.

Here are some attempts at English to be seen on the signboards in the streets of Tokyo:

"Wine, beer and other medicines."

"A shop, the kind of umbrella, parasol or stick."

"The shop for the furniture of the several countries."

"Prices, no increase or diminish."

"All kinds of superior sundries kept here."

"Skin maker and seller" (portmanteau shop).—London Tit-Bits.

PROSPECTUS

— OF —

The Klondike, Yukon and Copper River Co.

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President and General Manager,
FRANK B. VROOMAN, of Chicago.
V. Pres. and Alaskan Field Manager,
HANK SUMMERS, of Dawson City,
V. Pres. of the Yukon Order of Pioneers, and for 11 years a resident of the Yukon District.
Secretary, F. W. DAVIS, Wholesale Merchant, Minneapolis, Minn
Treasurer, HON. D. I. MURPHY,
Formerly U. S. Commissioner Pensions.
Office 941, F. Street, Washington, D. C.

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Primary Object.

The primary object for which the KLONDIKE, YUKON AND COPPER RIVER COMPANY has been organized is to carry on extensive placer mining operations with steam dredges, each of which has been proven capable of treating successfully gold bearing sands equal to the amount that a thousand or more men are now doing with their present facilities.

Canadian Grants.

This Company has secured from the Canadian Government exclusive leases for dredging about fifty miles of the various rivers in the very center of the richest gold discoveries in the Klondike region. This includes five miles of the Klondike river, ten miles of the Yukon beginning with the mouth of the Klondike river, and two ten mile stretches of similar location, beginning with the mouth of the Indian and Stewart river, with other territory on Indian and McQuesten rivers.

We Carry the Mails.

This Company has been awarded, by the United States Government, the contract to carry the mails from Seattle, Washington, to Dyea, Skagway and intermediate points on the Alaskan coast, for four years, beginning July 1st, 1898.

Company's Stock.

THE KLONDIKE, YUKON AND COPPER RIVER COMPANY is incorporated under the laws of the State of Montana. The capitalization is $12,000,000, in 1,200,000 shares of $10 each, fully paid and non-assessable. At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors it was determined to place upon the market at this time only 150,000 shares of stock. The sales from this amount of stock are considered amply sufficient to carry out all the plans of the Company as to dredging, mining, trading and transportation for the approaching season. The stock remaining in the treasury will be placed upon the market in such quantities and at such times as may be determined hereafter for the purpose of developing the other money-making enterprises contemplated, such as coal and copper mining, lumbering, the enlargement of transportation facilities, etc. The first 50,000 shares of stock are now selling for $3 per share; par value is $10 per share.

Offices.

CENTRAL OFFICE—132 Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.
WAREHOUSE—245 Second Avenue, South, Minneapolis, Minn.

Dredging Operations.

Besides the options on grants from the Canadian Government, already mentioned, this Company is now in the knowledge of definite gold-bearing bars in Alaska proper, on the Yukon and its tributaries, where the sands will yield from $1 to $25 per cubic yard. These options on Canadian grants and American locations represent property of immense value.

The services of Mr. John Dean, Chief Engineer of the Park Department of St. Louis, late Chief Engineer of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, and now consulting Engineer for several other large railroad interests, have been secured to build the Company's dredges, and to oversee in person all the Company's operations in gold dredging.

The Company has purchased the exclusive right to two of Mr. Dean's inventions, especially contrived to work in connection with its dredges. They are said to be the only devices known which will treat successfully the cemented gravel of the Yukon, which Mr. Dean has made a subject of special study.

The Company has the written guarantee of Mr. Dean, its Chief Engineer, that everything taken out by the hydraulic dredge will be profit over 2 cents per yard, and by the bucket-dredge process about 8 cents per yard.

This Company has one dredge packed now for shipment over the pass in March. It is to be placed in a particular locality that Mr. Hank Summers, one of our Directors, who has prospected there for eleven years, declares to be extraordinarily rich. Some of our other dredges will be taken up the Yukon river when the ice breaks up, to be placed in the rivers leased from the Canadian Government, and also placed on sand bars in the Yukon that Mr. L. N. McQuesten, who has been a resident of Alaska for thirty-six years, declares will yield from $1 to $3 per yard, and of sufficient extent to last many dredges for years.

Secondary Objects.

Secondary objects are: Trading and transportation, prospecting, lumbering, coal mining, and the development of other minerals which exist in vast quantities in Alaska.

Trading.

The Superintendent of the Trading Department, Mr. F. W. Davis, a successful wholesale merchant of Minneapolis, guarantees a profit to the Company of 100 per cent. on all capital invested in provisions, clothing and supplies. It is the present purpose of the Company to establish relay stations, with a hotel and store, at numerous points along the main route of travel.

Reindeer.

The Company is negotiating with the United States Government to send one of its agents with the Government agents, and under Government protection and direction, to Siberia and Lapland, to purchase for the Company 1,000 reindeer. These will be used for breeding and transportation purposes.

Prospecting.

The Company will send prospecting parties, in charge of experienced Alaskan pioneers, into new districts with rich promises, to locate both placer and quartz claims.

Search for the Mother Lode.

One sub-expedition, led by an experienced Mining Engineer, will proceed early into the unexplored ranges above the world-famous tributaries of the Klondike river, in search of quartz veins and the mother lode.

Grub Staking.

Miners whom the spring will find hungry will be sent out with expeditioners who are stockholders in the Company.

Transportation Facilities.

"The Flying Dutchman," the swiftest ocean steamer in the world, will soon be completed and will sail around the Horn to Seattle. It will ply regularly between Seattle, Skagway and the various points on the Alaskan coast, carrying the mails, passengers and freight. Mr. C. D. Mosher, of New York, a stockholder in the Company, the world's expert authority on fast boats, and who has broken seven world records on fast boats, guarantees the Company that there is no ocean boat in the world capable of making 40 miles an hour except "The Flying Dutchman." The Company will also own and operate another ocean steamer and several river steamers on the Yukon.

Co-Operative Plan.

All members of the expedition which are to represent the Company in Alaska are required to be stockholders, and to bind themselves by contract to take pay for their services in stock of the Company. Thus it is to the personal interest of each expeditioner to serve the Company well, for by so doing he increases the value of his own stock, which is his only pay. So far as at present contemplated there are no cash salaries paid to any officer or operator; all take their pay in stock.

Frank B. Vrooman, the President and General Manager, will go in person to Alaska with the expeditioners, and take the personal responsibility of directing the work there, so as to carry out successfully the Company's plans.

What the Company Won't Do.

The Klondike, Yukon and Copper River Company will not be manipulated for speculation in stock. The stockholders will realize their profits out of Alaska and the Northwest, and by means of the toil and daring of those who are to spend their time in that inhospitable country.

Mr. Hiram Vrooman, an Eastern Shoreman, of Cambridge, and well known in Easton, is acting Secretary of this Company and is in charge of the Central Offices in Washington, D. C. He would be pleased to communicate with all parties interested in the Company.

Three barbers to-day at the Moreland Shaving Parlors, no waiting. A first class barber from Baltimore will be employed in the future who will satisfy hou with the latest styles in hair dressing. Hair singeing a speciaty. s.

MADEMOISELLE THERMOMETER.

I know of a restless young lass,
Who lives in a house made of glass,
And from her location
Marks each vibration
Of hot and cold waves as they pass.

When heat is announced, she will spring
To quickly make note of the thing.
'Tis very surprising
That simply by rising
So true a report she can bring.

To self elevation inclined
She has such a volatile mind
That in every season
A suitable reason
For frequent depression she'll find.

Her temper mercurial thus
Creates everywhere such a fuss
That in conversation
Affairs of the nation
Are slighted, this maid to discuss.

—Julia M. Colton in New York Christian Advocate.

A MORNING GLORY CULT.

This Flower Taking the Place of Chrysanthemums In Japan.

Miss Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore has an article on "The Wonderful Morning Glories of Japan" in The Century. Miss Scidmore says:

As a floral sensation the chrysanthemum may be said to have had its day, the carnation is going, going, and seekers after novelty among flower fanciers are sighing for a new flower to conquer. It is hardly known, even to foreign residents in Japan, that that land, which has given us so much of art and beauty, has lately revived the culture of its most remarkable flower, the asagao, our morning glory. For size, beauty, range of color and illimitable variety there attained this sunrise flower precedes all others until its cultivation has become a craze, which is likely to spread to other countries, and—who knows—perhaps there introduce the current Japanese custom of 5 o'clock in the morning teas and garden parties.

Asagao, the morning flower, is more especially Japan's own blossom than the chrysanthemum, which, like it, came from China as a primitive sort of weed, afterward to be evolved by Japanese art or magic into a floral wonder of a hundred varying forms.

We who know and grow the morning glory as a humble back yard vine on a string—a vine with leaves like those of the sweet potato and puny little pink or purple flowers—are as far in the floral darkness as the Chinese, who know it chiefly as a wild thing of fields and hedge rows, the vine of "the little trumpets" or the "dawn flower," that is entangled with briers and bushes for miles along the top of Peking's walls. The old poetry and the old art do not seem to be permeated with it, as in Japan, where the forms of vases, bowls and cups, the designs and paintings of the greatest masters, repeat the graceful lines of vine and flower, and scores of famous poems celebrate the asagao in written characters as beautiful to the eye as is their sound to the ear.

The asagao was brought to Japan with the Buddhist religion, that particular cult of early rising. Scholars and priests who went over to study the new religion brought back the seeds of many Chinese plants. The tea plant came then, and Eisai brought the seeds of the sacred bo tree, and Tai Kwan, the Chinese priest at the Obaku temple in Uji, who may have introduced the flower to Japan, was one of the first to sing of the asagao in graceful ouas, classic poems which scholarly brushes repeat today. "Asagaos bloom and fade so quickly, only to prepare for the morrow's glory," is Tai Kwan's best known verse.