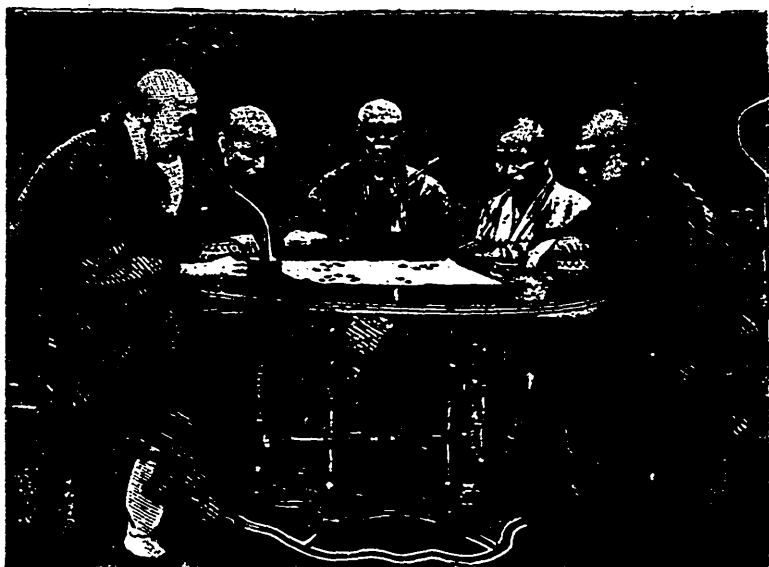


scraped; both wax and coccus are boiled, then strained and moulded into the requisite forms. The wax sells for about sixty cents per pound. The whole amount of production for this district might be 1,400,000 pounds. Every attempt to produce good wax in other regions has failed.

"Have I at last reached the Taoist and Buddhist paradise—the heaven of fancy woven into a hundred religious tales? Did kings and warriors of old travel thus far and from this mount gaze upon the snow-range rising between this and Thibet, and imagine themselves on the confines of the spirit world, and believe that in some of those glittering heights far beyond



BUDDHIST PRIESTS, PLAYING AT CHESS.

'jewelled heaven' took its rise? Standing within the precincts of a temple court, a fifteen-storied pagoda in bronze rises about thirty feet high. Upon its surface are 4,700 images of Buddha. All the figures and lettering are most exquisitely wrought. The giant trees rise high above the temples, some filled with clusters of white blossoms, and sparkling beneath the rays of the sun. The shady banks are masses of bloom, and conspicuous among the flowers are the tender pink and white begonias. The bamboo troughs are overflowing with pure cold water coming from a distant spring. I pass the temples dedicated to the goddess of mercy, and skirt along beautiful parks, where the short fine grass is so inviting that I throw myself down at the foot of a tall,