

that the task of storming the place presents great difficulties. The ordinary garrison of 2,500 has been increased to 6,000 men. The whole Chinese squadron of over twenty ships, has been gathered there."

China has accepted Corea as the battlefield. On the side of the sea she plants her navy to secure a line of retreat and a basis of supplies. On the other side of the land she is marching a powerful army across the northern frontier of Corea, to secure possession of Seoul and effect a junction with the troops and fleet at A-San. Japan is earnestly at work to prevent such a junction.

Curiously enough, there is a prediction current in Corea that A-San will witness a struggle, making necessary the flight to the northward of the Chinese Emperor, and the downfall of the Li dynasty in Corea.

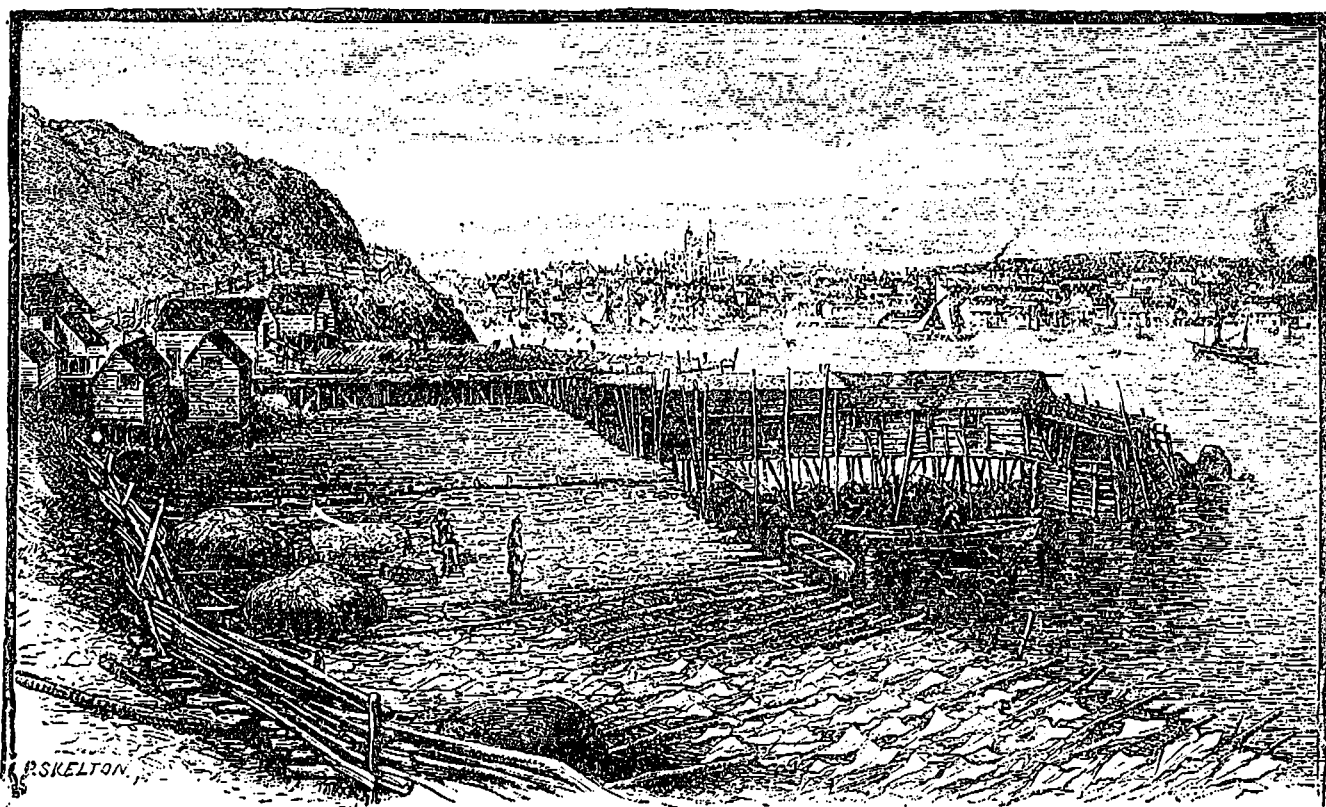
Chemulpo, of which we give an illustration, is the seaport of the capital, from which it is about thirty miles distant. It is on the west coast. It has a fairly good harbor. The bulk

NEWFOUNDLAND.

NEWFOUNDLAND is the oldest British Colony. The Norse Sagas, tell how the Northmen or Norsemen discovered Newfoundland about the year 1000 and visited, and even colonized, portions of the neighboring mainland of America. A Bristol manuscript chronicles its re-discovery in the following curt terms:—

"In the year 1497, the 21 of June, on St. John's Day, was Newfoundland found of Bristol men, in a ship called *The Mathew*." This was a small vessel of probably 150 or 200 tons. The historian does not tell that the commander of the caravel was John Cabot. Such is fame among contemporaries. On his return King Henry, with his characteristic stinginess, presented John Cabot with a gratuity of ten pounds. It is thus recorded in the privy-purse accounts:—"August 10th, 1497, To Hym that found the New Isle, £10."

For this wild, roving people it was an evil day when the pale faces appeared. Then began those conflicts, cruelties, and miseries which at length ended in the complete extinction of the race. Not a single representative is now to be found on the island. Cabot tells us they used the skins and furs of wild beasts for garments. In war they used bows and arrows, spears, darts, clubs and slings. The men shaved their hair, except one lock, called the "scalp lock." The women wore their hair long. They had an original method of kindling fire by striking together two pieces of iron pyrites, a kind of stone very common on the island. They made fish-hooks of bone, and nets out of vegetable fibres. They lived in wigwams, made of poles, and covered with birch bark or skins, some large enough for eighteen or twenty people. Around the fireplace in the centre they dug small hollows in the ground like nests, and lined them with dry moss or the soft branches of trees. In these they sat and probably slept. They made vessels out of the rind of spruce



FISH-CURING.—ST. JOHN'S HARBOR.

of the foreign commerce centres there. It is up to now the base of Japanese operations, and the anchorage for the foreign ships of war.

Whatever may be the outcome of the present trouble with China and Japan, it is bound to result in the opening up of Corea, and the character of the land and its resources will be matters of interest. It is made up of mountains and valleys. There are a few large plains, but the valleys are as rich as the low lands of the Nile, and the mountains are filled with all sorts of minerals. Agriculturally considered the country is very rich. Not one-twentieth of it is cultivated, and the fact that the officials take the greater part of the crops removes all incentive to work, and the people farm only enough to keep them alive. Almost anything that can be raised in the United States can be raised here, and rice is grown side by side with wheat and barley. There is plenty of good grazing land, and the cattle are very fine and form the beasts of burden of the country.

The island of Newfoundland lies right across the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Its northern point is but ten miles from the coast of Labrador. Its most eastern projection is but 1610 miles from the western coast of Ireland. It thus forms, as it were, a stepping stone between the Old World and the New. Its greatest length is 317 miles, its greatest breadth 316 miles, its area being estimated at 42,000 square miles.

Lakes and views abound; it is estimated that about one-third of the surface is covered with water. The interior is practically in a state of nature; but a survey has been made for the purpose of constructing a railway, which is now nearly completed, and which will open up large tracks of rich agricultural, mineral, and timber lands, hitherto of small value.

When Newfoundland was discovered by Cabot it was inhabited by a savage tribe of Red Indians, a branch of the warlike Algonquins. They called themselves Bethucks or Bœothicks.

trees sufficiently strong to stand the heat of boiling water, and in these they cooked their meat.

Perhaps the most wonderful of all their contrivances were their deer fences. In order to capture the deer during their annual migration from north to south, they constructed fences along the banks of rivers. These were sometimes thirty and forty miles in length. They were made by felling trees along the banks without chopping the trunks quite through and taking care that each tree, as it fell, took the proper direction, and joined on to the last that had been cut. Any gaps were filled by driving in stakes and interweaving branches of trees. They were from eight to ten feet high, so that no deer could overleap them. Openings were left in these fences at different places for the deer to go through and swim across. At these spots the Indians stationed themselves in their canoes, and with their spears killed the deer when in the water.