

"You would think yourself in Berlin now to ride into the heart of Tokyo on elevated tracks and descend by cement staircases and tiled tunnels to the great domed *bahnhof*. I liked it better the old way."

Mokanshan, Chekiang Province, China, Mr. Frank N. Meyer writes Aug. 5, 1915. "Concerning this bamboo, *Phyllostachys pubescens*, I can say this: The 'Mao tsoh' delights in sheltered situations on mountain and hill-slopes; it wants a rich, porous clayey soil to reach greatest perfection. In this latitude, 31°, it seems to thrive best at elevations between 1000 and 2000 feet above sea-level. The height of canes varies from about 20 feet, on poor, exposed places, to about 80 feet in rich, moist gullies, in diameter of stem from 2 inches to 5 inches, and in circumference of stem from 6 inches to 16 inches. The canes sell locally at 4 cash per catty (=about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an American cent for $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb.). A cane often weighs up to 80 catties but the average is probably about 30 catties. At Dongsì, Mr. Kennedy informed me, they receive about 20 Chinese copper cents for a cane of about 40 ft. long; (which is about 8 cents U. S. gold, but the rate of exchange influences prices considerably, when American currency is used). As regards cutting of this bamboo, the best time is from the end of October until the beginning of February. Concerning periodical cutting, the following advices were obtained. Do *not* cut canes less than two seasons old, as it weakens the plants very much and the canes themselves do not last long, being not fully mature. Do not allow canes to stay on the ground for longer than 7 years, as the wood becomes too hard and too brittle to handle, except for exceptional purposes. The ideal is to cut in a bamboo grove every two years all of the canes that are three years old and over, but should the grove not be very vigorous, be careful in not removing too many canes and especially no young ones. Canes of one season's growth should, at the approach of winter, have their tops cut out, so as to minimize the danger of such canes being broken by the snows and the storms of the cold season; these tops are in general 5-10 feet long, depending upon the length of the cane; they are used, when cut up and arranged suitably, as brooms and they are very lasting, cheap and efficient and of special value in farm-yards, in sweeping grains and seeds together on threshing floors. When transplanting this bamboo or when starting a new grove, the aim should be to obtain young, strong rhizomes of considerable length, with as many roots attached as possible, and to transplant them from the middle of February until the end of March; leave no large piece of cane