

Power of the East

The claim of Japan to be looked upon as the Britain of the east is not without foundation, writes Isaac Taylor Headland in *Munssey's Magazine*. Her situation in relation to Eastern Asia, or, for that matter, in relation to all Asia is very similar to that of England in her relation to Europe. She is an island empire. Her territory is not large and as her population is rapidly increasing she is impelled to utilize every foot of ground she possesses. She terraces the mountain sides, and causes them to blossom as the rose. She irrigates the waste places and changes the desert into green fields. She rescues the swamp lands and transforms them into rice fields. So that the rural population of Japan, instead of being farmers, are gardeners, and the island empire is a garden spot in fact as well as in name.

Japan resembles Britain at sea as well as on land. Many of her people lead a seafaring life. She is not only destined to become, but is forced to become, one of the great commercial nations of the world. Her ships will ply between all ports, and the flag of the rising sun will be seen flying on the masts of merchant vessels on all seas, east and west, just as the Union Jack is at the present time. As a matter of protection, she will need a large navy. The beginning of this she already possesses. Her navy is rapidly increasing, and she is building or having built ships of the most modern type, with guns of the best make. She stands today among the six or seven great maritime powers and in all the Pacific she is the strongest of them all.

One of the proverbs that meet us when we arrive in the east is this: "The Japanese wash their bodies and their clothes; the Koreans wash their clothes; the Chinamen do not wash either." The proverb is almost literally true. The bath is one of the first Japanese institutions the traveler encounters. In the home the bath room may be the living room and the male and female members of the family perform their ablutions in full sight of one another, while in the public bath nothing more than a netting and sometimes not even that separates the male from the female divisions of the bath house.

Japan's Industrial Progress.
In her industrial progress Japan has taken rapid strides. Business men have sent their sons, or their most intelligent apprentices, to America and to European countries, where they have entered the great factories as clerks or laborers, and by their industry have worked their way to the top. They familiarize themselves with all departments of business and every phase of business life, and some bright morning the stranger who began as a humble clerk appears before his employer as a Japanese gentleman in every way his equal, takes his polite leave of the firm with which he has been connected and returns to his native land to open up a like business. Because of the cheapness of labor, Japanese manufacturers can turn out similar goods at prices far below what they cost to make in Europe or America. Everything from a bicycle to a razor, and from a ship to a toy engine, or a real engine, is made in great factories, whose tall chimneys mar the beauty of the mountain sides as one passes along the coast or through the placid inland sea. Railways are in operation all over the empire, and both their equipment and their management is excellent. The traveler in Japan may take a first-class, second-class, or third-class car, and will find himself shut up with a number of little men and women who sit tailor-fashion on the seats, or, kneeling, sit on their heels, instead of

Japan Lays Claim to that Position.

able. Their classical books are of Chinese origin, as is also their religion. Their navy is British, their army German, their legal code French, their educational system American, and their various industries are taken from all over the world. They are not simply copied, however. The borrowed ideas are eaten and digested, as it were, and stamped with the imprint of the art and life of the Japanese as to become their own.

Modern Education in Japan.
What happened in the industrial life of Japan happened also in its educational life. Students went to foreign countries, and entered all departments of learning. Those who could not go abroad rushed to the governmental and mission schools until all of these were filled to overflowing; and the rapidity with which the pupils ac-



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quired foreign knowledge was evidence of their ability and of their deep interest. The number of schools and pupils increased as rapidly as financial conditions of the government would allow, until at the present time there are no fewer than 39,600 schools, having 100,000 teachers, half a million graduates, and 5,000,000 pupils, while the annual outlay for educational purposes is not less than \$7,500,000.

The Japanese Army.

As Japan chose the greatest naval power in the world for a model in planning her fleet, so she selects the greatest military organization, the German army, as a model for her land forces. Her army numbers a quarter of a million men, with some 5,000 officers. The Japanese soldiers proved in their war with China in 1894, and lately in the expedition to Peking, that they are among the most wonderful fighting men the world has known. They aroused universal amazement and unbounded admiration among the Europeans and Americans who saw their work. In the battlefield, if nowhere else, the "plucky little Japs" have gained the world-wide respect for which they have struggled so long and so hard. Their discipline, endurance and bravery made the Occidental soldiers open their eyes. When the attack was made on Tientsin, the Chinese sharpshooters killed man after man before one could get at the wall with guncock. Finally, a Japanese soldier succeeded in reaching the gate with two cans of the explosive. Three times he lighted a long fuse and it was shot out. Then, to make sure of his work, the soldier calmly stood over the match. Of course, he knew he would be blown to atoms, but the gate was shattered, and Tientsin was taken.

CLOTH THAT LASTS.

Goods Are Promised That Will Wear Twenty Years.

In with the new century will come a new material for clothing which really will revolutionize all our notions about the cloth in which we shall be clad. Think of getting a suit of clothes that will last for twenty years; that will cost only a third more than a suit costs now, and that will be absolutely waterproof without appearing to be so. Revolutionize is rather an overworked word, but it fits this case exactly. Instead of singing, "Papa's pants will soon fit Johnnie," the refrain will run, "Johnnie soon will wear Pa's pants," for when pa once begins to wear these extremely useful articles before Johnnie has got out of dresses he may continue to wear them for the next twenty years, and by that time Johnnie will have grown up to them. The same with little Mary and her mother's skirts. Instead of cutting down the garments for the girl the mother will wear them for a generation or so, and then turn them over to her daughter. This most useful cloth can be made in gray, crimson, purple and blue, and doubtless by next May, when the mills in England will be completed, it will be found possible to dye the cloth black and brown. The variety of colors will make the material adaptable equally to the men and to the women.

Governor of Negroes Island.

Colonel Charles W. Miner of the Sixth Infantry, whom General MacArthur has just made military governor of the Island of Negroes, has been in command of the Sixth ever since the battle of San Juan Hill, excepting a little time before the regiment sailed for the Orient.

Count Tolstoi has completed a new play called "The Corpse."

The New Cup Defender

Thomas W. Lawson, Boston's "copper king" and turfman and owner of the \$50,000 Mrs. Lawson carnation, has declared his intention of building a yacht, the cost of which will be between \$150,000 and \$200,000, which is to defend America's reputation in

days he was back at the bank, and this time the banker persuaded the parents to let the boy work. Three hours every day he devoted to study so in time became a well educated man. While still in his teens he began to write for the newspapers, be-



THOMAS W. LAWSON.

boating circles. Lawson is 41 years old and is a Cambridge man by birth, with a remarkable record. When he was 12 years old he left home and went to work for a Boston banker at \$3 a week. He worked just one day when his parents put him back to school. Five days later he returned to the bank, only to be recovered again after one day by his parents. In ten

came a financial writer and achieved a marked success in this field. Mr. Lawson before he was twenty years old was worth \$60,000 but lost it. Before he was 30 he had made and lost several fortunes, and it is commonly reported on the street that ten years ago he couldn't have raised \$100. Today he can "buy and sell" most of the brokers in Boston.

SLAIN IN SUDAN.

Bodies of Two French Explorers, Killed in 1897, Are Recovered.

Over three years ago the French explorers Baily and Pauly, started from the interior of the French Sudan for the Ivory coast on the Gulf of Guinea. They had been exploring the completely unknown region northeast of Liberia and had decided to make a long inland journey southward and to catch a steamer for home on the Ivory coast. They never reached their destination and many months elapsed before their fate was ascertained. They were murdered by members of the Toma tribe, who chose to regard the explorers as enemies.

A while ago this fact was ascertained from a chief who had served under the Sultan Samory. He had lived in the Toma country and knew of the massacre. When Samory fell into the hands of the French Kunady-Keleba the chief who had served him entered the employ of the French and they sent him to the Toma country to recover, if possible, the bodies of the murdered men. On May 8 last, he returned to the French frontier with the skeletons of the ill-fated explorers. The bodies were carried in a heavy iron box and among the carriers were a considerable number of the Toma tribe. Captain Basset went with an escort of twenty artillerymen to escort the bodies to the village of Boyla. There a guard was placed over the bodies for the night and in the morning they were identified as those of the murdered men. The ceremony when the bodies were buried was made as impressive as possible. The Tomas promised over the grave that they would never again kill white men. Now Kunady-Keleba has been made the ruler of the Toma country, which has been taken under the authority of the French government.—New York Sun.

ALARM CLOCKS.

Declared to Have Ruined Some Masculine Nerves.

The latest objection urged against boarding and lodging houses is that one is likely to be awakened at any moment in them—in the early morning—that is, by the wild, excited whir of an alarm clock. One youth who has apartments in an uptown domicile and who does not have to arise until late, has a list of grievances against this useful article that he retails whenever he can get any one to listen. Every morning, he declares, he is aroused at 6 by a terrific ringing right back of the headboard of his bed, a ringing that would rouse the seven sleepers from their slumbers. That's the awakener of his neighbor in the rear, who's a commission man, and must be down town betimes, and faithfully it does its duty, says the Baltimore News. The man utters improper language when it has spun itself out to a length that indicates the alarm spring is as long as that in a Waterbury watch, then snuggles down and goes to sleep again. In half an hour he is aroused by a ferocious sputter from above. That's the clock of the boarder overhead, which rejoices in a patent attachment that makes it sound like an angry and infantile fox terrier yelping. The man says more improper things at this and it takes him a full twenty minutes to compose his nerves sufficiently to go to sleep again.

At 7 o'clock a hoarse, choking sound is heard to the left. This is the voice

CALIFORNIA'S GOLD.

INTERESTING REMINISCENCES OF '49.

Narrated by an Old Timer, Who Passed Through Those Days of Feverish Excitement—The First Stampede—How the News of the Discovery Spread.

One of the few survivors who was intimately connected with the discovery of gold in California is Rodney D. Adams, who lives near Santa Barbara, and whose reminiscences of that time are very interesting. Mr. Adams was employed as boss vaquero by Capt. John A. Sutter, who was then building a saw mill and flour mill on the north fork of the American river at what is now Coloma, El Dorado county. The man in charge of the construction was James Marshall, the discoverer of gold.

Discovery of Gold.
One afternoon in February, 1848, says Mr. Adams, I rode into the camp of workmen at Sutter's mill and was told in secret by Marshall that he had found five nuggets of gold. Marshall



RODNEY D. ADAMS.

had no idea then of the importance of his discovery and so little did the finding of the gold affect either of us that both of us went to bed in the same room at an early hour and slept soundly during the night. Marshall cautioned me to keep the gold find a secret until we had time to go and hunt nuggets by ourselves. But Marshall was loquacious and he himself bragged about his find. Five days later several Mexicans brought in more nuggets. Then the Mormons, who were working for Sutter and Marshall found gold, and the importance of the find increased a little in the minds of Marshall and all of us at the Coloma camp. A few years later, when the world's commerce was turned, as Lord Derby said, by the gold discovery in California, and when over 300,000 young men from all over the civilized world had flocked to California and had made a new civilization out here, I wondered how we could have been so blind at first to the meaning of the first nuggets that James Marshall casually picked up that February morning in the mill race at Coloma. Why, it was about ten days before Marshall thought the find justified his reporting it to Capt. Sutter, who was at his home place and ranch headquarters, known as Sutter's Fort, about thirty-five miles northwest. The news did not get down to San Francisco, about 150 miles away, until three months later. Capt. Sutter said when the gold was shown him, "Yes, that's gold, and it will be the curse of us," meaning that it was the end of their schemes for a big saw mill and flour mill along the American river.

Spread of the News.

But another week passed before the belief became general at San Francisco that back in the mountains gold had actually been found. I remember that educated men argued that the geological formation of the Sierras made the finding of gold there an absurdity. Some said the golden flakes exhibited were iron pyrites, and others laughed and said they were from a copper formation. The San Francisco Star pitied people who could believe there was gold enough in California to buy even a respectable meal.

A week later—on May 12, I believe—a Scotch ranchman came riding into San Francisco directly from the diggings. He was an intelligent and reputable man. He brought with him about 200 pounds of gold dust and nuggets to trade for merchandise. Then there was excitement and bustle. All that day and night the saloons were thronged with men who talked of nothing but the chances there might be for them in mining.

The earliest stampede of excited men to the gold diggings of California therefore began on May 13, 1848. I remember that day in San Francisco. The whole population of the town did not sleep and scarcely took time to eat until the first crowd had embarked on all manner of crafts up the river to what is now Stockton, thence across the country to the north fork of the American river.

Searchlights on the Ranch.

Even the western cowboy has come under the spell of the electric power, and a ranch in lower California and Mexico is to utilize a local water power for the generation of electricity, for lighting, harvesting, pumping, etc. The chief innovation will be the use of searchlights on the mountains overlooking the ranch to prevent cattle raids. The operator of each light will be suitably armed with long range weapons and provided with a signal code by which he can flash information to the other watchers. A telephone system, embracing all portions of the 16,000 acres, will be another convenient method of raising an alarm.

QUEER CHINESE WAYS.

Compulsory Confession by a Series of Tortures.

Justice as obtained in the Chinese courts is a farce. A case occurred while the writer was in China in which a Chinese judge, sitting with an English magistrate, declared that he was obliged to give judgment against the evidence or he should lose his appointment! The criminal law of China provides that an offender can only be punished if he confesses his guilt, and if he is tardy in conforming to this condition he is compelled to confession by a series of tortures of the most painful and awful character. Superstition is rife from end to end of the land and leads to cruelty and brutality of the worst description. The system of "squeeze" and extortion which exists throughout the east is found in so aggravated a form in China that it stifles enterprise and prevents expansion of trade and leaves the masses of the people barely with the necessities of life, while their superiors in position become wealthy by corrupt accumulation. This system of "squeeze," of course, applies to the question of railway construction. One of the most intelligent Chinamen the writer met in Shanghai offered him a concession for a railway from Peking to Chingkiang, the foremost condition being that the sum of £120,000 in cash should be paid to a leading government official at the cutting of the first sod. As a further illustration it may be pointed out that out of the 13 railway concessions already supposed to be granted (extending about 3,600 miles) not one has as yet been commenced. Capital punishment prevails to an extent few people have any idea of in this country. An important Russian official the writer met on his way from Peking stated that one of his countrymen had been murdered in Manchuria by a Chinaman. They wished to punish him in such a way and at such a place as would convey the strongest warning to others, but they found that it would be useless to execute him in his native town, as no less than 2,000 persons had ended their lives in this way in the previous 12 months!—Emerson Bainbridge, M. P., in the Contemporary Review.

THE APRON FAD.

A Pinafore Room Raging in Dame Fashion's Realm.

There is a rage just now among fashionable ladies for the wearing of aprons as an adjunct to a toilet. It is a fad, however, for ladies to make aprons instead of lace or linen embroidery. The origin of the fad is traced to Lady Cornwallis-West, who, as Lady Randolph Churchill, had one to nurse the sick and wounded soldiers on the hospital ship *Maine*. Her individual outfit of aprons for nursing use is said to have created the style, from the fact that they had a peculiar attractiveness for the heroes. Here, though we have no sick soldiers to charm to health, the apron has taken hold as an indispensable finish to a breakfast gown. Hostesses and guests come to the dining table with these dainty plaistons of silk, swiss, linen or lace, elaborately wrought. To have this fashion correct the apron must be home made. Historic wardrobes support designs for these. For instance, there is the simple Colonial Dame's apron of pink and white checkered gingham; another is the facsimile of the Marguerite apron worn by Calve in "Faust," and another is a Marie Antoinette copy. Drawn work of embroidery is the most general ornamentation for the present apron.

DAVIS' SUCCESSOR.

The vacancy in the United States senate created by the death of Cushman K. Davis of Minnesota, has been filled by the appointment of Charles A. Towne, the silver-tongued, silver-lined and silver-coated ex-congressman who was the Populist candidate for vice-president and who withdrew after the nomination of Adlai E. Stevenson by



CHARLES A. TOWNE.

the Democrats. Mr. Towne is well equipped for senatorial service, having become familiar with Washington life during his service in the Fifty-fourth congress. Silver had no more ardent champion than the lawyer-editor from Minnesota and his devotion to the white metal cost him a re-election. He left the Republican party in 1896, and with the exception of Bryan has probably delivered more speeches for silver than any other man. He is a Michigan man by birth but has lived in Minnesota a dozen years. His service in the senate will not be long, as the legislature which meets this month will elect a Republican to succeed him. Towne's appointment is from the governor and is only temporary.

Edgar Brehm, the youngest son of the famous German naturalist, is dead at the age of 35. With him the family has become extinct.



THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN.

letting their heels rest on the floor. It is their habit of sitting on their feet that causes Japanese of both sexes to turn their toes in, and that helps to make them so small in stature. The Japanese from the leg up is as large as the average European, but he lacks leg development, which shortcoming has been caused, it is supposed, from his constant sitting on his legs.

An alarm has been raised by many observers who have predicted that Japan, with its cheap labor, is destined to usurp the industrial supremacy of the world; but the menace is more imaginary than real. It should be remembered that the Japanese are not originators, but imitators. The Chinese can originate, but cannot bring to any degree of perfection; the Japanese cannot originate, but are clever at adapting and improving. Their porcelain was borrowed from Korea, but has been so improved as to be unrecogniz-