

IN FLOWERY JAPAN.

Letter from a Sumter Boy in the Island Empire of the Pacific.

To the Editor of the Watchman:

What more fitting time could I find to write you my promised letter than now whilst riding through this strange country on an express train going at the fast speed of 16 miles an hour.

The first thing that strikes one in Japan is the diminutive size of everything—men and women, houses, streets, &c.

Surely Gulliver in his travels through Lilliputia must have been Japan. The average height of the Japs is just about five feet.

One sees very little of the best class of Japs. They being government officials, &c., are nearly all in Tokio, the capital. The merchants were formerly "coolies" who showed a tendency for trade within the last half century, and some have become very wealthy thereby.

And right here let me disabuse all my friends who have the same opinion as I had before leaving home, regarding Japanese and Chinamen, as to honesty, integrity, &c. You think as I did that the Jap is superior—forget it. A Chinaman's word is good, and sometimes better than a European or American's.

The shoe is made the same way except it is of wood and has two thin blocks under it, about two inches high, half inch thick and the width of the foot.

These coolies, who comprise the greater part of the population, are not to be compared with the negroes, although they work harder and for less money.

The houses of the Japs are quaint and curious, and, like themselves, they are very small. The average house consists of two or four rooms.

Richard P. Bland Dead. Lebanon, Mo., June 15.—Richard P. Bland died at four o'clock this morning. He was unconscious for thirty-two hours before the end.

in the summer are all moved to the side to give the air a full chance to circulate and blow straight through when there is a breeze.

Furniture—well there is none—a small cabinet in the corner, a miniature bureau about two feet high, and a square box in the center about one foot high, one foot wide and two feet long.

The bedroom is upstairs, and is practically the same as the lower floor. The bed consists of a heavy comfort about 3 inches thick on the floor and a thinner one for a cover.

The Japanese style of beauty is quite different from our own, one must acquire the taste for it, I suppose, the same as for olives.

As quaint and picturesque, however, as the girls are, just so hideous are the married women. They still cling to their barbarous custom.

The babies are carried strapped on their backs, somewhat like the American Indian. As soon as a child can walk a doll is tied to its back to teach it to carry the load.

Being on the reverse side of the world of civilization may be given as the excuse for the Japs do everything upside down. They saw towards them, plane towards them or lay the plane down and move the board toward them.

Remember I have given you the things as they are now. I am not beautifying to make it read like a book, which is the case with most books I have read on Japan.

Congressman Lester, of Savannah, in an interview in the Morning News, is quoted as saying: "Spain undoubtedly sold us a gold brick."

All doctors told Rebeck Hamilton, of West Jefferson, O., after suffering 18 months from Rectal Fistula, he would die unless a costly operation was performed.

Washington, June 14.—As a result of the understanding recently arrived at between the Spanish minister, Duke D'Aros, and the authorities, it is expected that the Madrid officials will at an early day select a commission to reopen negotiations.

New York, June 15.—Mike Morrissey, the newly arrived Irish heavy-weight pugilist, who is to meet Peter Maher before the Lenox Athletic club next Tuesday night, yesterday through his manager and backer, P. P. Dwyer of Brooklyn, deposited \$2,500 with George Considine of this city, to bind a match with Jim Jeffries, the heavy weight champion.

Lebanon, Mo., June 15.—Richard P. Bland died at four o'clock this morning. He was unconscious for thirty-two hours before the end.

The Peace Delegates.

The Hague, June 14.—It is now expected that the peace conference will not adjourn before the middle of July, and it is thought the labor of the delegates will not be finished before that time, and there is the additional question of the acceptance by the powers of the decisions adopted by the conference.

The refusal of Great Britain to accept the stipulations of the Brussels conference if they are made definite will not prevent the other powers from pledging themselves to action in the matter.

YANKEE SPIRIT OF GRAB

About the first thing a well-to-do American family does on landing on London soil is to hunt up the American consulate and inquire the points of the town, says the Cincinnati Enquirer.

The other day a certain New England capitalist was making the rounds with his little daughter, a typical Yankee girl of sweet 16. The treasurer, who had reason to be particularly polite to the American, handed the young lady a \$50,000 note to hold for a moment.

"I really didn't give it to you to keep," Miss Innocence opened wide her beautiful eyes, and as she returned it, quietly remarked: "I beg your pardon—I misunderstood you; I thought it was a souve nir."

Discovered by a Woman.

Another great discovery has been made, and that, too, by a lady in this country. "Disease fastened its clutches upon her and for seven years she withstood its severest tests, but her vital organs were undermined and death seemed imminent.

Seattle, Wash., June 13.—A well authenticated story comes from Japan to the effect that all of the men-of-war captured from the Chinese in the late war between the two countries are to be returned to the Chinese government.

Springfield, Mo., June 15.—Carroll M. Rice, wife murderer, was hanged at Alton today. Just before the black cap was adjusted and while his legs were being pinioned, the condemned man broke away from the sheriff and attempted to escape.

J. W. Oliver, of Oliver & Co., will build the Southern's Columbia-Savannah extension from Cayce's to Perry's, says the Augusta Chronicle. He is in Augusta now securing men and materials for the work.

T. B. Rice, Druggist, Greenboro, Ga., writes as follows: "In the past eight years, I have sold more of Dr. Pitts' Carmine than all the soothing syrups, colic drops, and other baby medicines combined."

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TIME TABLE (NO. 15). In effect 12.01 a. m., Sunday October 2d, 1898.

Table with columns for West-First Class Daily, East-First Class Daily, and stations like Charleston, Augusta, Columbia, Kingville.

West. North Carolina Division. East

Table with columns for STATIONS, 1st Class, 2d Class, 3d Class, and times for various stations like Camden, DeKalb, Westville, Kershaw, etc.

WEST. GAFFNEY BRANCH. EAST.

Table with columns for STATIONS, Arrive, Mixed, and times for stations like Blakesburg, Oberco Falls, Gaffney.

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Feb 16—x

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