BICYCLING IN JAPAN.

Pleasure Trip by the Seashore.

If my previous letters have found favor in the eyes of the friends at scribes a trip through the prettiest including the time required to climb deal of sound business judgment and part of Japan I have seen. I left Kobe on Saturday afternoon with two friends, about 2 o'clock We rode our wheels to the steamer whose dock was about two miles from the office Only one of the party had ever been there before, and he soon lost his way in the maze of Japanese streets. We finally got a Jinrikisha man to leave his cart and show us the way, and as we were late and afraid of missing the steamer, he did a fine piece of running, hanging on to one of the saddles.

We were bound for the island of Jewaji, which has no foreign population and is never visited by them Tourists never have been there, as there are no accommodations for them, and in the history of the coun try the island has been visited by about fifty foreigners only.

It took us three and a half hours to get there on the steamer. The steamer was a Japanese boat on which a white man seldom went. We had to climb aboard and hand our wheels up, as there was no gang plank, and as for chairs, there was not a chair or stool on board. The Japs never use such luxuries. The saloon was only 6 by 8 feet, with a carpet on the floor and a kind of sideboard at one end. You had to remove your shoes to go in, as is the custom in all Japanese places I tried to stand up straight and got my head bumped for my trouble. Sat down for a while and played set back, but found the deck more enjoyable.

Of course we were a sensation house. There are no hotels, and a friends were all right. Japanese tea house answered the by such a crowd of children that the police had to disperse them, but they soon came back Then I gave them such a scare with a big foot pump that they left us alone for awaile. We carried on our wheels most of our chow, but added some fish and meat the Japs furnished. After chow we went for a short ride at night, one of the party having a large acetyline lamp which caused every one to run out of our road. We soon returned and after having a little fun around the house went to

Our beds were the real Japanese ones, a heavy comfort on the floor mosquito nets were very good and ingenious They are almost as large as the room, which in itself is not so much, and was suspended from the four corners of the room by as many

When it came to washing in the morning we were furnished with a bucket of water and a big copper pan Fortunately when I went for my tooth brush I had picked up a big towel and strapped it to my wheel, and it proved valuable before we got home.

Our breakfast was tea of our own making, eggs furnished by the Japs, and jam and bread, &c, from our supplies We then took a short ride along the seacoast until we found a convenient place and went in for a swim. Imagine our bathing in the sea, our clothes lyeing on the rocks, and the mountain rising almost perpendicular from the water's edge. Down the mountain came a trickling etream of water from which we drank when thirsty Our one towel (a large bath one) was used sparing ly, then washed out and put on the rocks to dry, the same as we did.

When we returned to the tea house we found a lot of Jap soldiers had the rooms next to ours (separated only by sliding screens), and were having a jamboree or party of some kind They had girls playing the samoseen, something on the order of a banjo, also a spread of dainties on the floor. They came in to see us and invited us to their party. We went and enjoyed it, and, though we could not eat their food, we supplied them with some of our bread, which they enjoyed. Beer flowed freely and our hosts getting bilarious we Before leaving each one gave us his card written in English.

Our tiffin consisted of canned pork and beans, canned meat, bread and butter, tea and beer The latter we bought but all the others we carried with us.

At noon we started on our trip. Think of it, starting a bicycle trip in the middle of June at 12 o'clock in the day. Well, it was the finest bicycle ride I have ever taken in my life. I have ridden on the cinder path to Manhattan Beach, also on the Riverside drive, which are considered the finest anywhere, but they can the mountain rising above you almost ual.

perpendicular. I have never seen mountains rise right from the sea so straight or without any slope as those do The road was as smooth Interesting Account of a as asphalt, the inclines so gradual you did not feel them going up, and then to coast for half a mile sometimes At times we were over two hundred feet up and then gradually come down to 20 feet or to the sea level. The first eleven miles we made without any effort in one hour, down to the beach at a bad washout sagacity which prompted the citizens caused by the recent storm. The road follows the line of the sea with all the sharp turns and twists which added to the scenery At no time on the entire trip were we more than 100 yards from the sea and then only when going through some fishing villages. The balance of the time we could spit in the water without dismounting. When about half way we found a stretch of beach and went in for a surf bath which was de-

Occasionally we would meet a horse with a load and quite a few Jinrikeshas One horse with a pannier on his back was so frightened that he laid down in the road and the last we saw of him he was still down.

Our costumes, well they would only do in Japan-slouch bat and a handkerchief fastened in it to protect the neck, negligee shirt, bicycle pants turned up above the knee, no hose and shoes It was cool, and that's all we cared for as the climate here is warmer than in South Carolina when there is no breeze

We arrived at the end of the island and went across to the mainland in a native sail boat. The ten mile ride home was very pleasant, though it did not compare with the island. We arrived in Kobe at 630 p.m. Sunday, and thus ended the finest bicycle ride I have ever taken in my life, not excepting the road to Bar wick's or the old tram road in Sumter. Of course the friends at home would have been preferred for com pany could they speak Japanese; when we landed and rode to the tea but for Englishmen my two new

I have been thrown with a good purpose for us. We were followed many Englishmen since I am here, as well as Japanese, but give me an American every time

> Yours friendly, Irving A Ryttenberg. Kobe, Japan, June 12, '99

Treasury officials have refused to allow an item headed "traveling expenses," in the personal accounts of Roger C. Spooner, special Indian agent. "temporarily" in charge of the Indian warehouse in Chicago, because the aforesaid traveling expenses were incurred by Spooner in going between his home in Wisconsin and his office in Chicago, and are not considered to have been necessary to the proper performand a lighter one for a cover. The ance of his public duties. Spooner is a brother of Senator Spooner and holds their mode of hanging them very his position by a trick. The position of superintendent of the Indian ware house is supposed to be under civil service rules; also to be vacant Nearly a year ago Senator Spooner carried an order to Secretary Bliss from Mr. McKinley, telling him to provide a good place for his brother. It was done by appointing him a special Indian agent and putting him in temporary charge of the warehouse in Chicago, where he has been ever since. filing a position that is in the classified service, without ever having even taken an examination. Still, there are some otherwise level-headed men who will get 'outty" when the civil service rules are spoken of as the bumbug they really are. - Spartanburg Herald.

> A pound of raw cotton is worth about 5 cents When it is spun and woven into fabrics it is worth from 25 cents to \$1, according to the figures of a Boston correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune. Massachusetts has 8,000,000 spindles, and annually manufactures 1,250,000 bales of cotton This cotton she buye from the South at 5 cents a pound. After she has spun and woven this cotton she sells a very large part of it back to us at 25 cents to \$1 a pound That is why Massachasetts is rich and the South is poor "The South, says the Picayune, "bewthe wood and draws the water; it does the drudgery of producing raw material for the North to manufacture and get rich upon. It is this which keeps the Sorth poor, and always will, until the Southern people shall manufacture their own producis."

> Washington, July 6 .- Gen. Joseph Wheeler was today ordered to report to Gen. Oils at Manila for service in the Philippine islands.

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THE STORY OF UNION.

The Union Times relates an interesting and valuable story of how the town of Union embarked upon the then somewhat dangerous sea of cot ton manufacturing. It is a tale with a moral but above all an account of pluck and business daring which is not often equalled. We suspect, however, that there was also a good of Union to do as they did. The Times tells the story in this way :

In 1893 a few of Union's wide awake business men decided to build a cotton mill-ideas indefinite-but something like a \$100,000 mill. Our broad minded mayor, John A. Fant, and that phenomenon in mill con struction, T. C Duncan, waited on our citizens for subscriptions and secured about \$34,000 Next week they made a contract for brick and material for a cotton mill-with a board of directors who had nerve to endorse the mill paper for thousands of dollars, the building was completed and machinery installed at a cost of about \$150,000. The stock jumped to 125 and sufficient issued to take up outstanding liabilities In 1896 The contract was given for 4,000,000 brick for the new 73,000 spindle mill with hardly any subscription pledged; only the directors and machinery men intimated that they would see President Duncan through He did some sweating before he completed the largest mill in the south, but he did it—has every dollar of stock placed and paying good dividends to the lucky stock-

This determined action of Union's citizens displayed a strong confidence in the future of the cotton mill industry and a commendable spirit of local on bim, when it is so easy and at such pride. There was behind their move, of course, a personal money backing sufficient to make good their obliga tions, but few men, especially in this part of the country, are willing to act as these Union men did There are towns in South Carolina stagnating today, wherein live men just as well off, perhaps wealthier, than these men of Union But they pre fer to remain "town killers" not "town builders" A more liberal spirit, a greater degree of confidence in the future of their locality, and a desire to benefit others while at the same time adding to their own store of worldly goods, would make Unions out of other South Carolina villages

But Union's progress has not stop ped. The third mill will soon be built and three miles of railroad will be constructed to connect it with the town. President Duncan will then & NEW & MILLINERY & STORE control The Times claims, the largest milling interest under one management in the south, the capital stock aggregating about two million dollars. That is nearly sixty times the amount of money which he actually had behind him when he started. The judgement of the Union people and those who aided them is amply vindicated The Times can well afford to challenge the south for another such record

This interesting story of The Times was called out by reason of some despondent words of exortation which the County Recorder addressed to

the people of Bishopville, as follows: We understand that there is some bitch in the oil mill business on ac count of the fear entertained by some of the subscribers that they may incur libility for the debts of the corporation. This is absurd. The law specially provides that the stock holders of banks shall be liable beyond their stock for an equal amount, but there is no such require ment as to industrial enterprises

While the controlling conditions are possibly different, the contrast between the case of Union and that of Bishopville is very great, and other towns besides Bishopville out to profit thereby. There is such a thing as being over confident and reckless in investments and that course is as disastrous as simple stagnation, perhaps more so in its tendency to discourage other enterprises, but the Story of Union's growth can but do good and furnish an encouraging example for others There is nothing like knowing just when to take the floodtide which leads on to fortune.-The State.

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The new hotel is provided with all modern improvements and conveniences, and whether for health or pleasure, no finer place can be found. The reputation of this resort is made. Nothing The Herald could say can add anything to it, but it is gratifying to know that the prospect for the season just begun is most flattering.—The Herald, Spartanburg.

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Jan 13.