Power of the East

Japan Lays Claim to that Position.

The ciaim of Japan to be looked upon as the Britain of the east is not without foundation, writes Isaac Taylor Headland in Munsey's Magazine. Her situation in relation to Eastern Asia, or, for that matter, in relation to all Asia is very cimilar 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 scafaring 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 trongest of them all.

One of the proverbs that meet, us when we arrive in the east is this: The claim of Japan to be looked upon as the Britain of the east is not with-

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able. Their classical books are of Chincse 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-



CAMPING LIFE IN CHINA

PESTS WHICH MAKE THE SOLDIER'S

Flies, Flens, Mosquitees, Cats and Dogs Are a Source of Worry — Chinese Cannines Use the Hying Wedge Against Barricades—Mosquitoes Are Tenacious. Chinese habits of uncleanliness are calculated to bring a fly pest every summer. This year the usual conditions have been aggravated by the scavenger work which fire, shell and loot has provided. The fly supply, indeed, has so far exceeded the demand as to bring out prominently, even to the most untrained observation, habits, traits and possibilities in files that usually pass unheeded.

As anywhere else, the fly here feels bound to take part in all preparations and service of food, but here there are so many fly mouths to feed that it is not content with a fair share of commissary, but it tries to grab it all. A dish containing food cannot be exposed without instantly becoming black with a covering of files. When the meal is ready to be served the eater must guess at the contents of many of the dishes, for the files hide them completely, and those unable to get aboard the eatables the instant of their appearance hover above the table, Luzzing like a swarm of bees, awaiting their turn at the feast. They are so desperately and recklessly ravenous that the owner of the victuals must brush them aside to get at his own.

vide into foraging parties and separate.

While occupants of dwellings did not hope to build barriers that cats would respect, the delusion was cherished that if all entrances were barred by boards and boxes, dogs might be kept outside. They had not reckoned on the Chinese dog's knowledge of how to use the flying wedge and until now barricades are ineffectual against that animal. A crash of wood or the noise of parting bolts apprises the household soon after lights are out that the feragers are abroad and that gates and entrances are now free to all comers. There is no sneaking or skulking in the visit of the invaders. They want food and want it badiy and have no time for nonsense. Doors of most of the dwellings standing have gone for kindling. So there is no hindrance to a visit to any part of a place, when the gateways have been passed.

Crockery shelves first give notice

drance to a visit to any part of a place, when the gateways have been passed.

Crockery shelves first give notice that inspectors are about with sweeping designs. Then the listening occupants may know that rummaging is in progress among the provision boxes, which have been carefully battened down for the light with wire nails. In a little while one may hear the whish and determined tread of the foragers about the courtyard, whence they proceed to the porches and sleeping rooms, sniffing at tables, chairs, movables and fixtures, not omitting the bed or its occupant. The cats often leap to the bed. On a warm night, when the occupant oppresses himself with the least possible clothing be gets a new sensation from this unexpected visit. There is no use in hissing or shouting or adjuring the animals. They have too serious work before them to heed ordinary "s'cat" methods. A missile is the only thing they respect. That will send them scampering, the cats to the wall fences, from which they keep up a maddening incantation, and the dogs going probably not much further away.

A peaceful sleeper waking a few nights since found three dogs and two cats sitting in semi-circle near his head, as if debating if he was furenough gone to be worth finishing before he had time to grow stale. The following night he awoke with two mangy, mud-covered cats snuggled asleep close up to him on his blankets.

The experience of taking the city was certainly as nothing compared with that since suffered from the broken rest inflicted by these noisome Chinese legacies.—Boston Herald.

EASTERN BEAUTIES.

SOCIALLY, PERSIA IS A FASCI-NATING COUNTRY.

SOCIALLY, PERSIA IS A FASCINATING COUNTRY.

The Persian Woman Entroubled by the "Nerves" and Fads of the New Woman—On the Street she Conceals Her Face from the Vuigar Gaze.

The visit of the shah of Persia to the continent, and his interesting sayings and doings, while there, have very ings and doings, while there have very instrally directed more than usual public attention to the land over which her rules. Considered politically, historically or socially, Persia is in many respects one of the most fascinating of all Oriental countries. It is the last running barrier between Russia and the Persian Guif; its history teems with lofty names and great dynastic changes, and its social life piques Europeans; while to the great mass it remains terra incognita. Bit by bit, however, we are breaking through the exclusiveness of Persian ediquette, and are learning how fascinating the people of Persia, even by intelligent Europeans; while to the great mass it remains terra incognita. Bit by bit, however, we are breaking through the exclusiveness of Persian ediquette, and are learning how fascinating the people of Persia are. In no phase of Persia, life do we find more to charm, to surprise, and to fascinate than we do in studying the lives and manners of Persian women. The mystery that surrounds them, their own fatalistic serenity, the limitations which are placed upon their lives, in a word, the complete dissimilitude to feminine life in Europe, lend a peculiar and unfailing interest to all that concerns them. It is well to sweep away some of the colvebs of prejudice in considering the character and status of the women of Persia. They are not ill-used, they are not unwilling prisoners, they are not ill-used, they are not ill-used, they are not unwilling prisoners, they are not ill-used,

ly expose themselves to the atmosphere. It must be acknowledged that life in the seraglio is more conducive to health than to pleasure; it is a calm, untroubled life; everything in it is connected with subordination and