

THE SILVER MINT OF JAPAN.

At the silver mint at Yeddo the following processes are continually going on: A lump of silver of the necessary fineness, obtained either from the Government mines or by melting down Mexican dollars, is placed in an iron ladle, and reduced to a molten state by means of a charcoal fire and a pair of blacksmith's bellows. It is then poured into a mould, from which it is taken out in the shape of thin rectangular bars, which are immediately thrown into a tub of cold water. On being taken out, a man seated on the ground shears off with a pair of large fixed scissors all jagged pieces adhering to the angles. They are now handed to another man, who weighs them one by one, and a piece is cut off, if necessary, to reduce the bar to its proper weight. The next process is that of dividing the bar by a fixed pair of shears into eight equal portions of the size of an ichibu; this is done by a workman cutting it as accurately as his practised eye will enable him, and his work is tested by weighing, light pieces being rejected, and the heavy ones reduced to their proper weight by the scissors. The pieces are now heated white-hot in a charcoal fire, plunged into water, boiled, and washed in a kind of brine, from which they come out with a moderately bright surface. They are next very slightly milled on the two sides, and more deeply on the edges, by means of a milled hammer. They are now ready for stamping. A man places one of the pieces on a stationary die, and lays on the top the other die; a second man, armed with a huge hammer, gives one blow on the upper die, and the coin is struck. The blows are dealt in rapid succession, and the wholeness reminds one of a blacksmith's shop. Boys now punch small stars on the edges by means of chisels and hammers. The coins are weighed one by one for the last time, and the light ones rejected. The imperial stamp is added by means of another stamped chisel and mallet, and the coins are complete. They are rolled up in paper packets of one hundred; each packet is weighed and marked with a seal, which serves as a guarantee of its contents, and gives it currency as one hundred ichibus.

While every operation is performed in this primitive manner, perfect order prevails in the establishment; every man goes through his portion of the work in silence and with the regularity of clock-work, and many evince considerable skill. There are about three hundred hands employed in the building. When the men enter in the morning they are made to divest themselves of their own clothes, and put on others belonging to the mint. At the end of the day's work a gong sounds, when the somewhat curious spectacle is presented of three hundred men springing from the ground on which they had been seated, throwing off their clothes, and rushing, a naked throng, to one end of a yard. Here they pass through the following ordeal in order to prove that they have no silver on them: Their back hair is pulled down and examined, they wash their hands and hold them up to view, they drink water and then halloo, and, lastly, they run to the other end of the yard, clearing two or three hurdles on their way; after which performance they are allowed to put on their own clothes and depart. Mr. Sidney Locom, her Majesty's secretary of legation, from whose report of this year these statements are taken by the Times, believes that the mint has been only twice entered by foreigners, and states that the apparent absence of all restrictions with regard to touching and handling the coins points to the probability that it is not often open to the public; but he remarks that even if it were, the manners and customs of the country are not such as would preclude a mixed assemblage of visitors from going over it and remaining to the end. The quantity of silver being coined daily at the beginning of this year was 50,000 memme, which at the rate of 2.3 memme to the ichibu would give a daily total issue of over 21,000 bus, or about £1500. The whole of these coins are produced by the simplest manual labor, unaided by a single piece of machinery.—*Mechanics' Magazine.*

WIFE and I were looking at some pictures in which some little naked angels were quite conspicuous. She called the attention of our wee daughter to them, and remarked, "Lizzie, dear, if you are a good girl and go to heaven, you will be like those angels." Lizzie looked up, with a lip that told she didn't appreciate the promise and said, "I want to be better dressed than that when I go to heaven."

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CASH, CATTLE,

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FROM ONE TO SIX YEARS OLD, FOR WHICH THE HIGHEST PRICE

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Are prepared to supply their friends from a GOOD STOCK of

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KEEPS a General Variety of Goods, where can be found FURS, ROBES, BUCK-SKINS, GUNS, REVOLVERS, CARTRIDGES, WOODEN BOWLS, CROCKERY WARE, GLOVES, HATS, BOOTS, SHOES, HATS, COATS, PANTS, SHIRTS, SOCKS, &c. In fact a regular accommodation store, (Cheap is no name for it.)

Good Womens' Shoes, for	\$2 50
Gloves, Buckskin,	" 2 00
Mittens, Leather,	" 1 00
Boys' Wool Hats,	" 1 00
Mens' Socks, (States),	" 50

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Opposite Pacific Telegraph Office, Main Street.

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HAVE NOW a MAGNIFICENT STOCK of

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On hand, embracing a Full Line of the following Goods:

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TABLE LINEN,

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CASSIMERES, &c.,

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TEAS,

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TOBACCO,

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And the Best Assortment of

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All of which will be Jobbed out at Low Rates, to suit the times, and to the satisfaction of all our Customers.

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ARE ALWAYS IN STOCK.

N. B. Persons indebted to the Firm—much or little—are invited to call and SETTLE this Fall.

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PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, by the resignation of Joseph S. W. Hurdock, a vacancy has occurred in the Office of Representative in the Legislature of the Territory of Utah, for the County of Wasatch. Therefore, it is ordered that a Special Election be held on the Second Monday in December next, in the said county of Wasatch, for the purpose of electing one Representative to the Legislative Assembly. Such Election shall be held at the same place, and be governed in all respects by the same regulations, as other elections. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the Territory of Utah, this 7th day of November, A. D. 1877.