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## "THERE'S A SILVER LINING TO EVERY CLOUD."

BY H. W. NAISBITT.

When trials surround us and darken day,  
Till we stumble along in a path of thorn;  
Not a glimmer to see of the sun's bright ray,  
No "bow of promise" to shadow the morn,  
'Tis sweet to think through the deary shroud,  
"There's a silver lining to every cloud!"

When Truth is not heard (or, if heard despised)  
And we think that Error will surely reign;  
When gold is more than wisdom prized,  
And the powers of darkness rule obtain;  
Stand fast—though all hell and its hosts be moved  
"There's a silver lining to every cloud!"

If prayers unanswered the saints can count  
And the heavens appear as brass to all;  
If our songs of praise ne'er reach that mount  
(The mount above) with the Jasper wall;  
'Tis the trial of faith, and the heart can brood  
O'er the "silver lining to every cloud!"

The fond mother mourns an absent son,  
And the father dreams of a bright eyed girl,  
And children grieve for their parents gone  
From the earth, without the priceless pearl;  
But the gospel restores, and we cry aloud,  
"There's a silver lining to every cloud!"

When affection is spurned as a thing of nought  
And the dream of love to the earth is cast;  
By friends repulsed, and life seems fraught  
With naught but storms and the wintry blast,  
Our Father's near, as we oft have proved,  
And "the silver lining to every cloud!"

When the wheels of the Kingdom seem enchain'd,  
And its progress to our vision small,  
Be sure in the dark all its speed's maintained  
And increased too, if it change at all;  
It hath been decreed, so we stand unmoved,  
With a "silver lining to every cloud!"

It is well with us, and 'tis onward, on—  
We yet shall dwell 'neath unsullied skies:  
The battle o'er, and the conquest won,  
For the faithful all secure the prize:  
Understand the use of the darkest mood  
And the "silver lining to every cloud!"

G. S. L. CITY, Jan. 30, 1859.

[Letter to Commodore Perry, U. S. N.]

## JAPAN.

CITY OF JEDDO, March 8, 1858.

MY DEAR COMMODORE PERRY—In my letter to you dated October 27, 1857, I informed you that I should go to Jeddo during the then next month. I accordingly left Simoda on the 23d of November, and arrived here on the 30th of the same month, having passed the intervening Sunday at Kawasaki, the place that Chaplain Bittenger reached when he made his dash at Jeddo.

Before leaving the United States the President gave me special full power to negotiate a commercial treaty with the Japanese, which fact I made known to the Council of State.

I was, accordingly, received and entertained on my journey as the representative of the President of the United States, and every possible honor was paid to me in that character.

I did not have occasion to complain of any omissions of marks of respect; on the contrary, I would very gladly have dispensed with many of them. All the way from Simoda the bridges were repaired and many new ones built, the road put in order and swept clean a few hours before I passed. The authorities of each town and village met me at their respective boundaries, and walked before me quite through their little government. Travel on the road was entirely suspended, so I did not see those crowds of travelers, priests, nuns, etc., etc., mentioned by Kempfer. Business was suspended in all the towns and villages, only the cook shops and tea houses being open. The people, in their holiday dresses, were kneeling on mats in front of their dwellings. Not a sound was heard, nor a gesture indicative of curiosity was seen; all was respectful silence.

From Odowara the villages and hamlets are very numerous, and after crossing the river Logo at Kaw-a-Saki, they form a continuous street. From Sinagawa it is five miles English to the Nepon Bas, and nothing particularly marks the line of separation between the two places. I should not have known when I entered Jeddo had the place not been pointed out to me. I was conducted to my quarters, situated in the fourth or outer circle of the castle, and found there all I could reasonably expect in the way of comfort. The Japanese had constructed chairs, tables, bedsteads, bath rooms, etc., etc., all copied after the same things at my residence.

Three days after my arrival I paid a visit of ceremony to Hotta, Prince of Bittsu, one of the hereditary "Dimios" or landed princes of Japan. He is President of the Council of State, and has recently been created Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Eight days after my arrival I had a public audience of the Ty-Coon (not Tio-goön, of which more anon), when I made an address to his Majesty, received his reply and delivered the letter. The ceremony, so far as I was concerned, was precisely that of any European court; three bows as I entered and the same on leaving. I stood during the whole audience, and wore new unsoiled shoes. In the chamber, only the six members of the Council of State and three titular brothers of the Ty-Coon were present; they were prostrate on their faces. In an adjoining room some 300 to 400 of the princes and high officers of the State were present. The "camissimo," or dress of ceremony, is different from other occasions, but, except the breeches, there is nothing worthy of particular note. The breeches are quite a yard longer than the leg, and when the wearer walks they trail out behind, which gives him the appearance of walking on his knees. They wear a black laced cap, which cannot be described in words, but is something like the caps worn by the Sintoo priests which you saw when in Japan. The Ty-Coon wore a black laced cap of an inverted bell shape. He was clad in robes of yellow silk. Not a single pearl, diamond, or jewel, or any gold or silver (except the small gold ornament of the sword) were visible. All was as plain as possible, and from its very simplicity was most striking. None of the golden roofs, the fretted ceilings and gilded columns which old writers describe as being seen by them, were seen by me. The interior wood work of the palace was unpainted. Three days after my audience I had a business interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. This was very long and highly interesting.

From this time I was constantly engaged in giving instruction to the Japanese—on the laws of nations—on political economy—on the operations of commerce and the manner in which it aids in developing the resources of a country, with all the matters that naturally flow from or are connected with these important subjects. The present state of Europe and America came in for its share of attention.

The labor has been almost beyond belief, for as I gave them new ideas, for which they had no descriptive terms, I had to convey the true meaning by a variety of illustrations, added to which Moriama, who was the interpreter, was quite ignorant of the Dutch terms used for much of the foregoing, so that he had first to be instructed. Sometimes I almost despaired of ever succeeding in conveying my meaning; but I persevered, and I am rewarded for my labor and patience beyond my most sanguine expectations, for I have succeeded in making a commercial treaty that effectually opens Japan to a free commerce with the United States.

You are aware that I am not permitted to divulge the particulars of my negotiations until the treaty has been ratified. One point, however, I may venture to state to you, and that is on the subject of religion. The treaty secures to Americans in Japan the free exercise of their religion, with the right to build churches. It also declares the custom of trampling on religious emblems to be abolished. I think you will consider the treaty, as a whole, as satisfactory as that made by Mr. Cushing with China. No one so well knows as you do the serious obstacles to the making a treaty with this singular people.

It should also be borne in mind, that I have only had arguments to use; I used no threats; I had no force to point to as irresistible arguments; and lastly, that I was entirely alone, with the single exception of Mr. Heusen, Dutch interpreter to the Consulate, for I did not even bring my Chinese servants with me. I am proud to have thus connected my name with your great work of 1854. It is an honor I have always coveted, but I had not the most remote idea that I should succeed, in less than twenty months after my arrival in Japan, in attaining this object of my ambition.

For more than a year after my arrival I used the name or title of Zio-goön to designate the ruler of Japan, so also, when speaking of the residence of their "Spiritual Emperor," as they call him, I named it Miako. It shows the perfect system of concealment of this people, that during all this time they never informed me that both the terms were erroneous, and it was not until a short time before I started for Jeddo that they informed me that the title of their Political Ruler, was Ty-coonie—"great ruler," and not Zio-goön, which means "Generalissimo," so also "Miako" means "The Court," the true name of the place being Kiota. You are aware that with the Japanese seclusion and rank are equivalents. Before I arrived here I had determined on the course I would follow here.

Before I left Simoda, they wished me to engage that I would not visit their shops, or the business part of Jeddo, or as they express it, "not to go where common people lived."

I declined making any such engagement, and told them I must be entirely free to go out from my residence when I pleased, and to visit

where I pleased, and it was with this clear understanding that I began my journey.

At the same time I had no intention of exercising that right, and except on the occasions of my audience and three interviews with the foreign Minister I have only been out twice, and that was merely for a horseback ride in a ca-ca, or "Champ-de-Mars," in the vicinity of my residence.

All the interviews (except those above noted) and the negotiations took place at my quarters. From all this you will at once infer that I cannot give you more than a very imperfect account of this truly large city. The castle is the chief feature, and consists of four irregular circles, all surrounded with moats or ditches; the three inner circles have stone walls, being a bank of earth faced with stone, and varying in height from twelve to thirty feet, according to the nature of the ground on which they are built. The gateways through the walls open into a quadrangle of some fifty to sixty feet, the gate of egress being placed at right angles with this entrance gate. As a means of defence it is unworthy the name, except against assailants armed with bows and arrows. The moats are fordable, and are from 80 to 150 feet wide, spanned with neat wooden bridges.

The inner circle is occupied exclusively by the Ty-Coon and his sons; the second by the Council of State and Princes; the third and fourth are occupied by the Dimios, titular Princes, and high officers of the government.

I could not get any satisfactory information as to the population, number of buildings, or extent of either the castle or city. They pretended the most profound ignorance on all those points, and unblushingly declared that a census was never taken in Japan. They gave me a plan of Jeddo, but as it is drawn without reference to a scale, it is impossible to form any satisfactory opinions from it.

If I can place any reliance on their statements, the city is about fifty miles in circumference; the outer circle of the castle varies from seven miles to five miles in diameter—all English measure. From the best information I can get, I place the population at two millions, and I think this to be rather within the actual amount.

The houses are all built of wood and covered with tiles; none are more than two stories. The streets through which I passed were from fifty to eighty feet wide, but I am told they are narrower in the parts outside the Castle. I have not seen a single company of soldiers all the time I have been here; they appear to have studiously concealed them from me. The police are numerous and sufficient.

Jeddo, like the other cities of Japan, is divided into "streets," i. e., a distance of 360 feet, where a strong barrier is erected across the street, with gates, which are closed at an early hour in the evening. Each of these divisions has an "Ottono" or captain, and is responsible for its own tranquility. In many places the barricades are double, being placed some thirty feet apart, and form a little impregnable stockade against any force without artillery. I am told that Jeddo contains between 8,000 and 9,000 of these streets. From this an approximation to the population might be formed; but owing to the very great difference of the interior size of the squares, the estimate would at least be very imperfect.

I will now close this letter, which has become so unreasonably long I fear it will weary you to read it. TOWNSEND HARRIS.

## The British in Jeddo.

"A yacht having been sent by the Queen to be given to the Emperor of Japan, we left Nagasaki with her for that place, our squadron consisting, beside her, only of the Retribution and a gun-boat. After five days, three of which were spent in a very heavy gale of wind, we arrived at Simoda, the port opened by the Americans, and where their Consul-General lives. It is to be given up, as it is utterly useless as a harbor, too small and open, with no trade. After remaining there two days, and investing in Japanese lacquer ware, which is the best in the world, we came on here (Jeddo.) The port of Jeddo is at Kanagawa, about fifteen miles down the Gulf. Great objection has always been made to men-of-war coming further up; indeed, Kanagawa itself has only been open a few months.

The Japanese said great obstacles existed to ships coming to Jeddo. We, however, put it to the test, and without the least difficulty ran right up, and are anchored within their own men-of-war, which we did not know were here, and within a mile of the forts of Jeddo. The town stretches for miles round the bay. I suppose it is the largest in the world, for it covers more ground than London, with between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 of people, which, if I recollect right, is more than the London population.

Jeddo, without exception, is one of the finest cities in the world; streets broad and good, and the Castle, which includes nearly the whole centre of the town, built on a slight

eminence. There are three walls or inclosures round this quarter. Within the inner, the Tycoon Emperor and heir apparent live.

"The houses of the princes and nobles are palaces, and you may imagine the size when some contain 10,000 followers. They are built in regular order, forming wide streets some forty yards broad, kept in perfect order; an immense court-yard, with trees and gardens, forms the centre of each enclosure, in the midst of which is the house of the owner; the houses containing the followers, servants, stables, &c., form this large enclosure. They are built of one uniform shape. The gateways leading to the court-yard are exceedingly handsome, of massive wood work, ornamented with lacquer and other devices.

From the road that leads by the moat to the second wall is one of the finest views I ever recollect seeing—on one side is the Gulf of Jeddo, with the high hills rising beyond, while on the other is a portion of the great city of Jeddo, with its trees and gardens, picturesque temples, and densely crowded streets, extending as far as the eye can reach towards the interior; then there is a view of the trees and green fields in the distance, far away beyond a thickly built suburb; but the most striking view of all is that close by—the well-kept green banks of the second defence, rising some seventy feet from the broad moat below, with grand old cedars, over a hundred years of age, growing from its sides. The fine timber, the lay of the ground, the water-lilies in the moat, the grandeur, good order and completeness of everything, equal, and in some ways far surpass, anything I have ever seen in Europe or any part of the world.

"We made an expedition into the country. The cottages were surrounded with neatly clipped hedges; the private residences as well as the public buildings, were all well kept and as any place in England. The same completeness and finish exist in everything.

"The Botanical Gardens are very good, and well cared for; good nurseries of young pines, cedars, &c."—[Cor. London Times, Sep. 2.]

THE GREAT COMET.—A very intelligent document has been issued from the precincts of Harvard University, relating to the recent magnificent comet which so powerfully attracted the united vision of the whole human race.

We gather from its pages that this celestial visitor, which slipped so gracefully along its invisible line in space, was some 240,000,000 miles from us at the time of its discovery in June, and it was then traveling at the rate of 65,000 miles an hour. This velocity constantly increased as the grand phenomenon approached the sun; and, like the swelling dimensions of the illusive phantasmagoria, it seemed daily to expand in bulk as we surveyed its filmy outlines. Its maximum velocity was nearly 130,000 miles an hour, exceeding the speed of the planet Mercury. This was at its perihelion point. 52,000,000 miles seems to have been the measure of its distance from us October 11, or some 4,000,000 nearer to the earth than it approached the sun. The difference between its aphelion and its perihelion velocity seems to be the difference between 480 miles and 128,000 miles in an hour. The difference between its remotest and its nearest solar distance is 14,244,000,000, or nearly eight times the distance of the planet Uranus. This immense reach, however, would hardly carry it to another system, when the nearest fixed star is billions of leagues from us. Its period of orbital revolution is about twenty or twenty-five centuries.

The size of its nucleus varied as well as its speed. That ranged from two thousand miles diameter when about 140,000,000 miles from us, and only 500 miles when less than one-third that distance. The intensity of its light was deeper at its smaller phase. That nucleus evolved a number of luminous envelopes, which in aggregate formed a beautiful amphitheatre to the spectator at the Cambridge Refractor. To smaller glasses these concentric arches were conglomerate, and formed a hood, halo, or brilliant bow over the nucleus. Indeed, the halo appeared larger than a semicircle, even nearer the sweep of an entire circle. It certainly closed in, until the dark axis prevented its further penetration or progress towards the formation of a whole periphery.

On the 10th of October its train extended over 50,000,000 miles in length, and exhibited a spread of 10,000,000 in width. Both these dimensions varied; the length shrank to 10,000,000, and the breadth narrowed to 1,500,000. Faint streamers also darted from or flashed forth occasionally at an inconceivable rate of velocity, sometimes to the remoteness of 50,000,000 miles.—[N. Y. Herald, Jan. 4.]

"In Cork," said O'Connell, "I remember a supernumerary crier, who had been put in the place of an invalid, trying to disperse the crowd by exclaiming with a stentorian voice:—'All you blackguards that isn't lawyers, lave the presence of the Court intirely, os' I'll make ye, by the powers.'"

Pure gold does not always glitter.