

# Japan in the Pacific.

How the Yankees of the Orient Are Trying to Monopolize Asiatic Trade.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

TOKYO, Japan.—The Japanese are about to establish a bureau of foreign commerce. Parliament has already discussed the question and the plan has been outlined. There will be a central department at Tokyo and branch offices in London, Paris, Berlin, New York, Boston, Chicago and other places. The business of the bureau will be to look up openings for Japanese trade and inform Japanese merchants. It will be somewhat like our bureau of commerce of the state department, which is said to be the best of its kind in the world.

The Japanese government is straining to capture the trade of the Pacific. It hopes to make Japan the workshop of the orient, and has commercial and industrial training schools under way for that purpose. It is also subsidizing its steamship lines, giving industrial exhibitions and encouraging foreign trade in other ways.

## JAPAN'S COMMERCIAL MUSEUM.

The government is instituting commercial museums at the ports of the far east. I found one in Singapore under the management of the Japanese consul there. The plan is much like the Philadelphia museum, save that its goods are all Japanese. There are clocks, show-cases, fans and brushes, all made in Japan. There are samples of Japanese rugs, stationery, umbrellas, trunks and satchels, as well as of silk, linen and cotton goods. There are cars and junks, the latter foraging one of the chief exports to the different centers of the far east. Japanese junks are used in Peking, Shanghai, Hongkong, Saigon and Singapore. There has been an attempt to introduce them into the Philippines, but so far our government has frowned on using them as a cab horse and the attempt has not been successful.

Singapore is an excellent place for such a museum. It is the half-way station on the trip around the world, and it is where the water highways to different parts of the orient cross. There are ships from India, Siam, the Philippines, Australia, China and Europe always at anchor in its harbor. Fifty-five thousand vessels come into it every year and its annual trade amounts to \$25,000,000. The Japanese catch the traders as they come back and forth, working not only the Singapore trade but the countries which import through Singapore. To Singapore alone the Japanese exports already amount to about \$2,000,000.

## THE CARRIERS OF THE PACIFIC.

The Japanese hope to be the carriers of the Pacific. They are among the best sailors of the world. They take to water like ducks. Their country consists of about 4,000 mountainous islands, running through the Pacific in the form of a crescent as long as from New York city to Salt Lake. The most of the islands are small and the bulk of the population lives near the sea. The result is that every man of them can handle a boat, and in past generations they have been noted for their junks and war vessels. They have always done a great freight business with China and Korea. Today they are leaving toll on all the world in freight and express charges. They have as good ships as you will find anywhere, and they are building some of 6,000 tons each in their own shipyards. These shipyards are at Nagasaki and are under subsidy from the government. The Japanese have been also buying modern steamers of England and the United States. They are continually bringing in new vessels from the shipyards of the Clyde.

They have today 1,100 modern steamers in their merchant marine and about 2,000 sailing vessels of European type. They have 25,000 native vessels and a number of small boats. You can now go around the world in a Japanese steamer. There is a line of twelve great ships from Yokohama to London by the Suez canal, and there are several good lines from the United States to Japan. The Toyo Kisen Kaisha has three steamers of 6,000 tons which sail regularly from San Francisco to Yokohama by way of Honolulu, and thence on to Shanghai and Hongkong. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has 6,000-ton steamers from Seattle, and other Japanese steamers call at Portland and Tacoma. It is now proposed to establish a line to



"THE AIKOS, THE HAIRY ABORIGINES OF JAPAN."

the west coast of South America, and as soon as the isthmian canal is opened there will be a regular Japanese service from Japan to the United States and Europe. Even now Japanese vessels come into our gulf ports for cargoes of raw cotton and iron, and the day is not far distant when steamers from Yokohama may be seen all along our coast.

The Japanese have concessions at many of the open ports. At Shanghai their consulate is in one of the finest buildings; and there is much Japanese money invested in the port. They have a concession for a cotton mill there, but have concluded that it is cheaper to make cotton cloth at Osaka and ship it to China. Indeed, this is so with all sorts of goods. The people hope to make Japan the workshop of the Orient. In an interview which I had with Marquis Ito he said the foreign capital should put up factories in Japan to supply the Chinese markets. He assured me that such capital would be more easily handled than Chinese labor.

I do not doubt that this is correct. The Japanese are not so thoroughly organized into trades unions as the Chinese. Their labor is good and exceedingly cheap. Both women and men work in the factories, and among the most skillful of the hands are children. I went through some of the finest rug factories of this empire, and had myself photographed with one of the employees standing in front of me. This was a little girl of 10 years. She only reached to my waist, but she was weaving a rug for the American market when she went out to be photographed.

The Japanese government is thoroughly awake to the possibilities of foreign trade. It is encouraging manufacturing, and is even now considering the building of steel works at Kure at an initial cost of more than 6,000,000 yen. These works will make steel plates and other shipbuilding materials.

## JAPAN AND ITS COLONIES.

I don't know that one can rightly speak of Japan as having colonies. It has, however, two great islands at the opposite ends of the empire which are undeveloped and which will add much to its wealth and its position in the Pacific. These are Yezo and Formosa. Yezo is about as big as Indiana and its population is about as great as that of St. Louis. It has an excellent climate, and its soil raises the finest of grass. The government colonization department is trying to develop the country.

Yezo has excellent coal. There are three large mines now in operation, and railroads connect these with the coast. There are no large towns except Hakodate, which has 75,000 people, of

whom only about 100 are foreigners. The most of the inhabitants are Ainos, the hairy aborigines of Japan. Yezo is smaller than Yezo, but of far more value from its wonderful natural resources. The island is 260 miles long and about 70 miles wide in its broadest part. It is full of minerals, but owing to its wild nature has not been exploited. Copper, coal, iron, and gold are already worked and gold is found in many of the streams.

The island has a ridge of mountains running through it from one end to the other, some of the peaks being over two miles in height. Along the west slope of these mountains there are many rich, fertile valleys which lead to a large rolling plain settled by the Chinese. On these lands is raised some of the finest tea of the world. They produce more than 20,000,000 pounds of tea every year, and the most of this goes to the United States. Indeed, China and the United States are the chief customers for Formosan products. Japan itself takes but little. Our tea is sent across the strait to Amoy and shipped from there to San Francisco and New York. The most of the tea leaves are dried in the sun and the packing is done by tramping them down with the bare feet.

## THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

The Japanese have not yet attempted to do much with Formosa. They remitted taxes for one year after they took possession, but are now attempting to make it self-supporting. The population is large. Chinese, there being about 2,000,000 on the island. The chief towns are Tamsui and Keelung in the north and Tainan and Takow in the south. Tainan is the capital. The Japanese are now building railroads in the northern part of Formosa. This is to go from Keelung on south to Tainan. This will pass through the most thickly populated portion of the island, including the richest of the sugar and rice regions. It is at Tamsui that our consuls live. This place has a club, several banks and a number of the great products of Formosa, such as the great production of the camphor made from the camphor tree. It is shipped to all parts of the world.

## IN THE PHILIPPINES AND AUSTRALIA.

The Japanese are reaching out after our Philippine trade. They send ships regularly to Manila, and thence on to Australia via Thursday Island. In that line there are six steamers of 3,000 tons each, comprising the best that call at the Philippines.

Japan has direct steamship connection with Siberia. The vessels start at Kobe and call at Nagasaki, Fusan and Gensan, Korea, on the one hand, and Vladivostok. It was on one of these ships that I went to Siberia a short while ago. The captain was an Englishman, and the engineer a Swede, but the rest of the officers were Japanese, and also the sailors. There are other lines which go from Japan to Manchuria, and almost daily vessels to Shanghai and the Yangtze Kiang. A regular line connects Yokohama and Kobe with Calcutta and Bombay, bringing cotton and jute from India, especially jute for making the Japanese rugs which are sold so cheaply in our American stores. Indeed, the Japanese flag is more common in the ports of the world than the American flag, and in the far east it is safe to say that there are 20 Japanese vessels to America's one.

## JAPAN IN KOREA.

The Russians and the Japanese are each grasping after Korea. The relations of the two nations are strained by the struggle, and it may eventually bring about a war between them. Were it not for Russia the Japanese would own the whole country. They made their war of 1904 in order that they might have the Korean trade, and today they are doing the most of the import business of the peninsula. We are shipping Korea some cotton goods, but the Japanese shipments of last year amounted to 2,900,000 yen, and they have the most of the trade in other lines.

Sixty-five per cent of all the ships that call at the various ports of the Japanese, and the Japanese are now building railroads which shall open up for them some of the best parts of the country. They have bought the railroad which some of our Denver men built from Chemulpo to Seoul, and they are now at work constructing a line from Seoul to Fusan. This railroad will be 200 miles long. Fusan has already a large Japanese colony, and it is but a short distance from the Japanese coast. Goods can be almost ferried across from one country to the other and by means of this railroad sent direct to the Japanese capital. Korea furnishes Japan a great deal of rice and fish, and the Koreans buy all sorts of Japanese goods.

The Japanese have put up telegraph lines connecting Fusan with all parts of the country, and from Fusan there is a cable to Japan. The big Tokyo banks have branch offices in Seoul and at some of the Korean ports, and there are Japanese postoffices at the principal cities. Japanese money is the currency of the country, and the Japanese have been granted concessions for mines and other things.

The Japanese have been crowded out of Manchuria by Russia, and the powers have not permitted them to take

possession of any part of China. Nevertheless, they are pushing their trade throughout the Chinese empire and will have their share of the Chinese commerce. There are Japanese steamers doing a regular carrying trade on some of the Chinese rivers. You can have your houseboat towed through the canals of Kiangsu by Japanese launches and can go up the Yangtze Kiang or the Peiho on steamers owned by Japanese.

The Japanese have had considerable trouble with the Formosan savages who live in villages scattered throughout the mountains. These people are much like our wild men of the Philippines. They live by hunting and fishing and a little agriculture. Some villages have small farms about them. A few acres are enough for 100 people, each family having its own plot. The men are head hunters not unlike those of Borneo, and it is said that a man cannot marry until he has brought in at least one head.

The Chinese are the game of the head hunter. He sneaks up on them while they are at work in the fields and spears them to death. After this he cuts off the head and goes home rejoicing. The tribes are continually warring with one another and the Japanese soldiers have to conquer their tribe by tribe. So far no great progress has been made in civilizing the people.

I am told that Formosa has rich minerals. Coal is found in different parts and there are evidences of petroleum. Not long ago some Chinese employed two Pennsylvanians to test certain oil fields. They sank a shaft, but the drill broke at 200 feet from the surface and so far the work has not been resumed.

## WHERE JAPAN GETS HER MONEY.

The Japanese are by no means a poverty stricken nation. They have many millionaires among them and they are gradually building up great financial institutions which will enable them to compete with us. They are good financiers and their banking system is modeled on ours. Marquis Ito, who organized it, came to Washington and spent some time studying our government finances and then went back and carried out the policy of the empire. Today Japan has a paper currency which is at par with its silver, and the country is nominally on a gold basis. It has one bank which acts as the agent of the government, having much the same place here as the Bank of England in Great Britain.

This is the Bank of Japan. It has a capital of 30,000,000 yen, divided into 150,000 shares, and its dividends range from 15 to 16 per cent per annum. The shares are all registered and can be owned only through the Bank of Japan. The president of the bank is the Japanese secretary of the treasury. The bank has a half billion dollars of deposits and its loans amount to about \$300,000,000. Its bank building in Tokio cost more than a million yen.

Another large bank is the Kokuritu Ginko. It has a capital of about \$24,000,000 in gold. It has deposits amounting to about \$500,000,000 in gold and loans of more than half that amount. The specie bank has a capital of less than \$3,000,000, but its deposits amount to \$150,000,000 and its loans run high into the millions.

## IN THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

I have spent some time in the stock exchange, watching the Japanese bulls and bears. The exchange is right in the heart of Tokyo. It is a three-story building, more like a great barn or warehouse than anything else. It has a cement floor and the walls are great galleries. As you go in you have to take off your shoes, and there is a room at the right of the entrance where the brokers check their cloths and where they are given straw sandals in exchange. Everyone in the house dresses in that sort of footgear. The white stripes gave the face value of the stocks and the black stripes indicated the selling prices.

The president tells me that the stock exchange has a capital of a million yen, and that it is now paying dividends of 25 per cent. He says that seats are worth about \$12,000 each, and that the daily sales approximate 50,000 shares. Most of the business is small. There is no such watering of stocks as in the United States and the result is that some shares pay high dividends. The Tokyo tram cars, for instance, pay 25 per cent, the Yokohama iron works 25 per cent and some other stocks equally well.

# NOVELTIES FOR EASTER

GLOVES AND HAND-KERCHIEFS

Cohn's Special. In all the newest colorings complete line just received. This glove guaranteed and fitted and positively the best glove on this or any other market at

\$1.00

Our well known Palais Royal Real Kid Glove, a high grade most satisfactory glove for

\$1.50

The famous Majestics, full line of latest effects. The best of all kid gloves, made from carefully selected skins, per pair

\$2.00

An elegant line of fine high grade Irish linen handkerchiefs, exquisite borders and lace trimmed effects, values from 25c to 50c, will be closed out this week at—

Exactly Half Price.

## Easter Ribbons, Neckwear and Veilings.

Have you seen our new artistic bows. Remember they are made free of charge.

No. 12, all silk taffeta ribbons, all colors, per yard

15c

No. 16 all silk taffeta ribbons, all colors, per yard

20c

No. 22 all silk taffeta ribbons, all colors, per yard

25c

6 inch plain soft finished neck ribbons, all pure silk 50c grade, per yard

35c

Turn over collars in an endless variety of colors and patterns, styles and materials, from, per piece

10c up

Pretty lawn wash ties with fancy borders

20c

50c Ascot stock ties, made of fancy Madras with either white or colored stocks an elegant range of colors for only

23c

Washable Silk Jabot stocks in a variety of pretty color combinations, \$1.25 ties for

98c

\$2.50 Liberty silk neck ruffs, with long flowing ends for

1.98

\$2.50 Liberty silk bows extra full patterns, for

2.48

New Chiffon Hat Draperies and fancy figured veilings, per yard

40c

Chiffon Veilings, with large chenille dots, per yard

50c

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DRY GOODS STORE  
222-224, MAIN ST

# The New Easter Gowns.

## New Suit Ideas.

We have picked upwards of 100 pieces from America's best producers, and are positive that such a showing of clever ideas, weaves and shadings cannot be found elsewhere, values up to \$35.00; our special Easter price for these high class suits is

\$21.00

## Eton and Blouse Suits.

Natty new styles made of cheviot and Venetian, blouse and vestee styles, with flaring shaped skirt, navy, royal red and castor, \$15.00 values; our special price

\$8.95

## Suits for Small Women and Misses.

We have a most complete line of new Gibson Eton and Vestee styles in Venetian covert and broadcloth, all colors. Ages 14, 16, 18, and size 22. We can surely please you. Prices from—

\$8.95 to \$27.50.

## Swell Dress Skirts.

Made of silk finished canvas cloth, taffeta and peau de soie and trimmed with chautilly and fine laces, draped over drop skirts, handsomely trimmed and finished. A beautiful assortment to select from; choose—

\$35.00 down to \$18.00.

## The New Pongee Silk Waists.

Beautifully embroidered Pongee silk waists, made in the new Gibson effect, broad shoulder, tailor stitched. Our special offer this week

\$3.50

## New \$6.50 Silk Dress Waists.

Made of taffeta and peau de soie, undoubtedly the largest showing of popular silk waists, come in Gibson and all new fancy full and hemstitched and tucked fronts, all colors, all sizes; regular \$9.00 values, choose this week for \$6.50

## Cotton Waists.

New styles. We are showing a beautiful line of cotton waists in dainty white and colored effects, hundreds of exclusive ideas. The styles of this season are more effective than those shown during past season. Prices—

\$6.50 down to \$1.00

## Silk Dress Capes

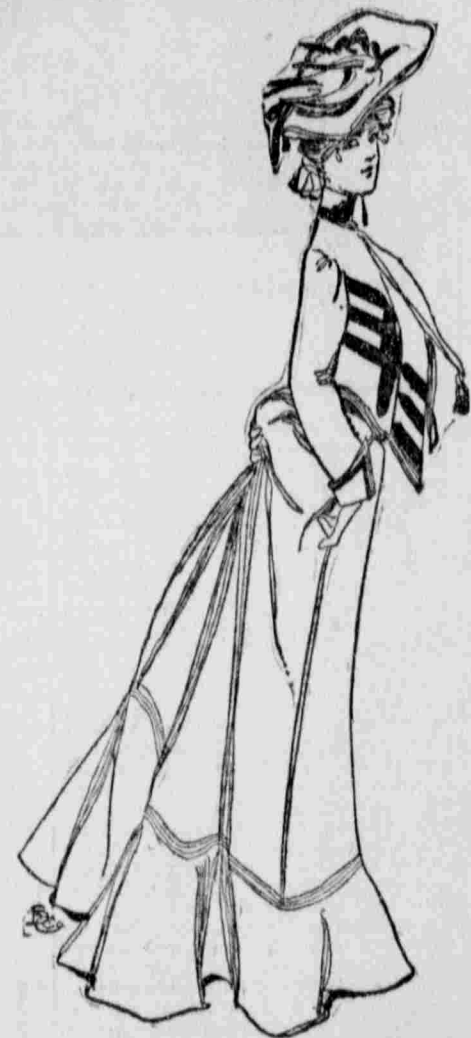
Fancy face and ribbon rich trimmed silk shoulder caps. Regular \$10.00 values.

## \$10.00 for Long Caraments and Silk Etons.

Long garments of black Stieffian cloth, loose fitting velvet collar, tons of peau de soie, taffeta or more. House Gibson Vestee and skirted styles, some beautifully trimmed, regular \$12.00 values.

## Silk Petticoats for \$6.45.

Made of plain or changeable silk taffeta, beautiful color combinations, some made with two fully ruffled, others with deep accordion pleated flounces, edged with foot ruffles, silk underlay and dust ruffles, one of the most remarkable silk petticoat values of the season.



## EASTER DRESS GOODS

Notable Price Reductions for Easter Week Only on High Class Black and Colored Fabrics.

### Colored.

All wool Albatross and Batistes, all colors, per yard

55c

44 inch Satin Finished Vigoreaux in green, brown, gray, and blue mixtures, per yard

75c

44 inch all wool French Voile, all wool Etamines, and every shade of color, these come in all colors and are the regular \$1.75 grades at, per yard

\$1.25

### Black.

25 pieces 28 inch black figured Mohair, per yard

40c

Plain Black Brillantines, Storm Serges, Nun's Veilings, Granite Cloths and Henriettas, a big assortment at, per yard

50c

Large assortment of new fabrics in Prunellas, Cheviots, Canvas cloths and Brillantines at, per yard

75c

High Grade Granite Cloths, Armures, Henriettas, Grenadines, Twine Cloths, Nun's Veilings, Canvas Cloths, etc., style, quality and finish unequalled at, per yard

\$1.00

### Silk Grenadines.

Fine Black Silk Grenadines in a large variety of pretty new designs at, per yard

\$1.25

### Silk Embroidered Shantung.

18 inch Shantung Silks with elaborately embroidered figures or dots, all colors of embroidery, an elegant waist fabric, per yard

\$1.15

### New Arrivals in Wash Silks.

The third shipment of New corded Japanese Wash Silks has just been received, 50 new, rich and exclusive designs, prettier than any we have yet shown at the low price of, per yard

48c

## WASH GOODS.

A distinct individuality of stylish fabrics stamps our line of wash fabrics above all others. 200 pieces of 36 inch wide Percales, Indigo blue grounds, with white stripes and figures, suitable for house dresses, fast colors, while they

10c

last, per yard. An elegant line of 22 inch wide Madras colored grounds with neat stripes for Shirts, Shirt waists and dresses. These goods were made to sell at 20c a yard, but we closed out a lot of 200 pieces from mill agents, all they had on hand, at a price so as to enable us to sell them at, per yard

15c

We have a full and complete line of 32 inch wide imported percale Gingham, in hundreds of different styles, in all the desirable colorings. It is possible to make them in. Come at once and look over this popular line at, per yard

25c

200 different styles in fine Scotch Madras, 33 inch wide, all stripes in white and colored grounds, for Men's shirts and ladies Waists, fine fabric, 40c our price per yard. Our lines of Silk Tissues and Silk Gingham are exquisite and pictures to look at for the coloring, weaves and designs far surpass anything ever attempted before, prices range from, 45c to 65c per yard

15c

25c ORGANDIE LAWN FOR 15c. We place on sale this week a special showing of high grade organdie lawns in light, medium and dark grounds, stripes and figured designs, exquisite waist and summer dress material, made to sell at 25c. Our special price only, per yard

15c

## WHITE GOODS.

White is asserting itself as never before for waists and costumes and your safety lies in making early selections. New patterns in Shirting Madras.

30c

A novelty shirt waist fabric is a beautiful Oxford weave, with mercerized stripe at

45c

200 pieces Satin Damase, a lovely fabric at, per yard

50c

A special in fine 40 inch India linen, at, per yard

15c

40 inch soft English Nainsooks, very cheap, at, per yard

20c

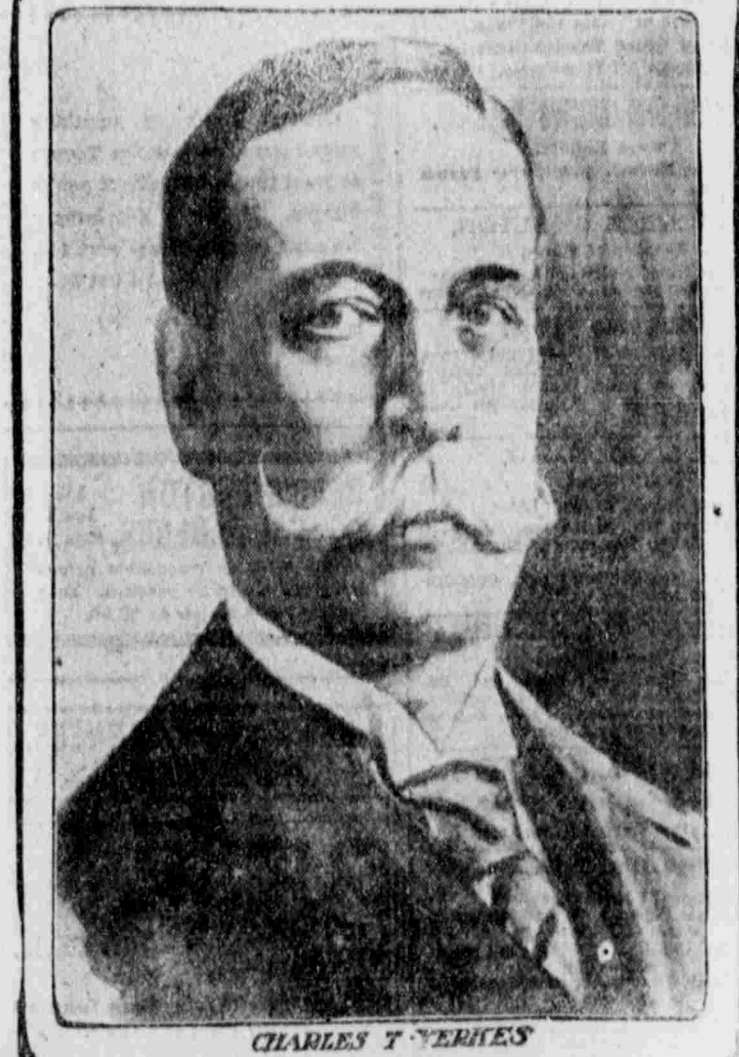
Fine imported plain India Dimities, per yard

15c

Long Cloth at, per bolt

\$1.25

This is the best value ever shown, yard wide and 12 yards in a bolt.



CHARLES T. YERKES

Here is the latest picture of Chas. T. Yerkes, the American capitalist, who has just completed the purchase of London's Baker Street Waterloo Railway. This makes the fourth London underground road that this American Divis has bought and his plans are said to include as many more. The British press is fearfully asking when this American's invasion of London will end.

The Japanese have been crowded out of Manchuria by Russia, and the powers have not permitted them to take