

the Mikado," wrote the editor when arents were being made for my work in the Orient. The chief little knew what a task he was laying out for me. The first official to whom I mentioned my desire of obtaining information concerning the temperament and habits of the Emperor, "If it were known at the palace that you intended to write such an article would be requested to ahandon the idea at once. Please do not refer to it aguin.

why not?" I insisted, "the re-"But is prompted by the best of mo Our people have a friendly interest in the Japanese and admire them greatly. They merely want to know the intimate facts about your sovereign in order to become better acqueinted." no use. Further insistence and repeated assurances of good will would not induce the otherwise polite and obliging of-ficial to discuss the subject. My efforts met the same reception no matter of whom I inquired. It is a topic about which

#### Unlawful to Discuss Emperor.

The cause of all this reticence is found in the third article of the constitution of Japan, which says: "The Emperor is sacred and inviolable." Further explanation of this clause is made: "The Emperor is heaven-descended, divine and sa-His hallowed throne was established at the time when the heavens and the earth became senarated. He is pre-Not only shall there be no irreverence the palace walls. for the Emperor's person, but he shall not be made a topic of derogatory com-ment, nor even one of discussion."

Thus it will be seen that the Japanese consider their ruler too sacred to be talked about, and have inculcated in the of the land the prohibition of his name in ordinary conversation. The dif-ficulty of securing material under these circumstances is apparent. It required weeks of persistent effort to ascertain what is herein contained. Although it was gathered piecemeal from many sources its reliability in most instances is reasonably certain. It should be said in the outset that the mystery which sur-rounds the Mikado is not due to his being tyrannical, nor because his daily life ich that it will not bear publicity. he contrary, his acts are invariably tempered by clemency, and his habits are marked by simplicity which is almost fru-

He has no dissipations and practices

ants. Although His Majesty cannot read or speak any language other than his own, he is an inveterate reader of newspapers, keeping his interpreters may translating the utterances of the foreign press for his perusal. Quits in conform-ity with the idea his subjects have about his being a saint is the claim that he never shows emotion. If there are moeminent above all his subjects. The law ments when his anger gets beyond con-has no power to hold him accountable to trol no reports of such reach further than

## Facts About the Mikado.

The Emperor has absolutely no amuse-When a young man he was quite nents. skillful in the practice of archery, and for a time spent a portion of each day in drilling a company of floops. He is taller than the average Japanese, but his walk is somewhat affected by the ravages of rheumatism. When he appears in public he is always attired in military uniform. He wears a trimmed beard, and his countenance represents the finest type of Oriental dignity. The fact that he is susceptible to seast-kness is said to be the reason why the Emperor does not have an imperial yacht. Whenever it becomes necessary for him to journey on the water he travels in a steamer chartered for the occasion, or utilizes one of the bat-

Although His Majesty has a number of country palaces and game reserves, he rarely or never visits them, preferring to

which his foreinthers used, even retain-ing the old-fashioned bucket and rope which draws the water from a near-by cistern. respects. That he is fastidious in other respects, however, ie shown by the state-ment that the weavers who make white naluce with modern furniture, which, although boasting a later style, cannot equal the artistic elegance and richness of the furnishings which adorned the cas-The manners of his court are almost entirely borrowed

#### from Europie Record-Breaking Dynasty.

It is undoubtedly true that no other march in history ever saw such a change in the affairs of his people as the present ruler of Japan has witnessed during his reign. He became Emperor when he was 15 years of age, and he will be 52 if he lives until the third day of next November. He is the list ruler of his dynasty, belonging to a line of monarche which stretches across the unparalished the first ancestor of the present on of Heaven, sat upon the throne in

Although the seclusion of the present monarch causes much comment, his perthe utmost regularity, spending his whote time in the discharge of official duties.

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The utmost regularity, spending his whote the successors to the throne of our support to monarch causes much comment, his per- sent to his proper to his people:

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Morning noon and night he receives his characterizes the habits of the Emperor, the olden time the Mikado was altogether nowear to the imperial founder of our ministers to discuss with them the affairs of state. He is said to resemble the bath in a wooden tub similar to those wife, his concubines and his most important ministers were ever permitted to look extensive with the heavens and the earth, being able to choose trustworthy assisting the old-fashioned bucket and rope upon his august face. When receiving he ment that the weavers who make white eliquette that his secred feet should never sold never for His Royal Highness are touch the earth. In his journeys he travers to our other imperial ancestors, and implore the but once. Even if it be true that the mane could not be spoken aloud by the Mikado clings to the primitive bath-tub rank and file of his subjects, and when the future to fall to be an exting the last stroke of the writing brush. | spirits witness this our solemn eath."

FIRST GATE TO PALACE GROUNDS

## Attitude of the People.

Thus it will be seen that the present attitude of the people toward their sovereign, extravagantly reverent though it may seem, is in reality a great mo tion of the usages of the past. The sovereign does not have a family name. He needs nothing of the sort to distinguish him from men because he to the Son of Heaven and a relative of the gods. Therefore the only appellation necessary is one silence. If, as you travel in Japan, you meet a member of the imperial family. period of 1565 years. Greater progress has your linrikisha will be stopped by a po-been made in the last half century than liceman, who will request you to get out Further, promote the public interests and occurred during all the time since Jimmu and take off your hat. The following is a advance the public affairs. Ever respect

upon his august face. When receiving he sat upon a matted throne and his face the ancient form of government. We now was protected from view by a richly embroidered curtain. It was a strict rule of spirits of the imperial founder of our

## Utterances of an Emperor.

Following is a portion of an imperial rethe Emperor to script issued by the Emperor to the school children of Japan. The substantial and it is frequently read aloud as the children bow their heads in revere "You, our beloved subjects, be fillal to to distinguish him from the other defties your parents, be affectionate to your people.

of his line. He is called Mutso Hito. brothers, he loving husbands and wives. When he passes his subjects in the street and truthful friends. Conduct yourselves consideration for the happiness of children. they do not shout, but bow their heads in with modesty and be benevolent to all. Develop your intellectual faculties and perfect your moral powers by gaining part of the prefude to one of His Majes-ty's sacred pronouncements to his sub-laws of the country; and in cases of jects. Its devout, lofty tone further re-emergency courageously sacrifice yourveale the sanctity of the ruler's relation-ship to his people: support to our imperial dynasty, which

The Empress of Japan is a noble and | was once used at an European court to inspiring character. Her name is Haruko, and she is the daughter of a noble of the to go sleigh-riding in mid-Summer. To highest rank. She is two years older than the Mikado. Her marriage to the most conspicuous figure in Japanese history oc-curred in 1868. A further indication of the sacredness in which the imperial persomsges are held la shown by the inci-dent which occurred when it was deter-mined that the court ladies should adopt European dress. At this time great diffoulty was experienced in getting dichles to fit Her Royal Highness. The profune hands of a dressmaker could not be al-lowed to touch the person of the Empress, so a court lady had to pose as a model until the garments were gradually made

The Empress has a poetic inclination and is the author of several volumes of verse. One of the features of all state occasions is the singing of a song by the them by Her Majesty. dition of this song the children stand with their heads bowed as if in prayer. The Empress takes a great interest in all school work and has in her private apartments a large collection of the best position done by the pupils of the Empire.

## "Home in Hearts of People."

A story is told which reveals the kindliness of Her Majesty's character: Some forced to take temporary quarters in a opportunity to inspect the grounds before out of repair. Although the proportions of the place were ample, it was altogether was noted by the band playing the native of the place were ample. It was altogether was noted by the band playing the native of the place were ample. lacking in the luxuries of the palace. A tional anthem: On this occasion the Emrepresentative of the people expressed to peror was suffering from a slight indis-the Empress the grief which her subjects position and did not appear. After walkman His Majesty really is. It is indeed a felt because she was denied her usual ing about the grounds for a short time, strong exhortation to proper living, conveniences. She arose to the occasion, the Empress, accompanied by her suite, Copies of this are provided for all schools, by writing a graceful little poem, in retired to one of the pavillons, where she which she said that it mattered little how she was situated so long as she was sure of a home in the hearts of her

Another story illustrates Her Majesty's One of the little Princesses once con-ceived the unreasonable idea of wanting to give a cherry-blossom party in Decem-Although April is the earliest that This reminds one of the story related in their Empress went history of the unusual deception which

to go sleigh-riding in mid-Summer. To secure the effect of snow the ground was covered with salt, over which the Imperial sleighing party took its way with

The two great events in the social life of Japan are the garden parties given twice a year by Their Imperial High-nesses in the palace gardens. One to given in the Spring, when the cherry blossoms are in bloom, and the other in Pall during the time of the chrysanthe-During my stay in Japan I was invited to attend one of these parties. The translation of my invitation was as follows:

"By order of Their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress, the Minister of the Imperial Household respectfully invites Frederic J. Haskin, Esquire, to a Cherry, Blossom Viewing Gathering prepared on the 24th of April, at half-past 2 in the afternoon. If he be prevented from being present by any official business or illness he is requested to report at the Board of Ceremonies." The translation of my admission card read as follows: "Frock coats required. To alight after entering the palace gate. This card to be shown to officers in attendance on arrival. No party to be held if the day happens rainy."

Although the invitation read 2:30, the rears ago, when the castle in Tokio was gates were opened a half hour earlier in burned, the Emperor and Empress were order that the guests could have an held a short reception, at the conclusion of which refreshments were served to the several thousand guests. No one was permitted to leave the grounds until after

the royal party had retired.

This open-air reception was indeed a pretty and imposing spectacle. The brilllant gardens, with their winding walks and mirror lakes with their rustic bridges, formed a fitting background to the plothese trees may be expected to put forth ture as the stately little Empress led her their delicate buds, skilled artificers were dignified procession under the flaming arch called in, and after much labor created of the cherry trees. The beauty of the the desired effect by pinning to the trees garden and the color of the pageant left myriads of pink and white blossoms made a pleasing memory, but the most endurof tissue paper. Thus the whim of the ing recollection was the absolute devotion eccentric little Princess was gratified in the deameaner of the Japanese as FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

Smith Receives a Remarkable Communication From a Justice of the Supreme Court

# SHADES OF THE FATHERS AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

cogent argument against the continued free coinage of silver was that its threat-

ened overproduction destroyed its value

(10) To what extent can the production

of gold be increased without impairing its usefulness as a standard of value?

(II) Do you favor an income tax? Do

(12.) Do you favor or oppose the gov-

ernmental ownership of railroads and similar utilities, and why?

I mailed copies of the above questions

to men whose names are familiar to the reading and thinking public, and in a few

days began to receive replies. The first batch was disappointing, and consisted of

polite refusals, regrets and excuses from

such public men as Grover Cleveland, Ad-

Mayor McClellan, of New York City, Paul

Morton, Bishop Potter, Carl Schultz, Sec-

retary William H. Taft, of the War Department; Thomas E. Watson, Governor LaFollette, of Wisconsin, and other busy

or cautious men.

The mail of the next day contained a

it best not to permit the use of his name.

The letter read as follows:
"John Smith, Esq. Dear Sir-For rea-

George Dewey, John A. McCall,

Introduction—The shades of Washington, lefferent and Samuel Adams are pictured by this gifted imaginative writer as having returned for a period to the country they helped iblish. Late at night they visit the room of Smith, an author, and find conversation with his friend Brown, o establish. who is a pronounced Radical. These five into a spirited discussion of live ques tions, and later decide to make a tour of the country, first visiting Washington. They appear in the ordinary civilian garb, and Smith, who keeps this record, finds it difficult to realise that they are not mortale. The Three Shades pose as visitors from England, Washington taking the name of "Mr. George," Jefferson that of "Mr. Thomas," while Samuel

Adams retains his former name.

No articles written in recent years on eco omic questions have aroused more comment than these from the pen of Mr. Adams. The letter quoted in the following article was ad-dressed to the author by one of the Justices of the Superme Court of the United States. with the etipulation that his name should no used. It is a significant and remarkable

HE National Capitol was taking its annual Summer nap, and we soon ascertained that we would waste our time in search for statesmen whose opin-ions were worth quoting. The President and most of his Cabinet had fied the city. I was at a loss to know what to do, when Jefferson made a suggestion. . First us try the efficacy of your postal

aystem." he proposed one evening after we had made a fruitless search for not-

"In what way?" I asked "We will prepare a list of questions and

you mail them to such distinguished characters as will be likely to give them consideration and an answer," he replied. "General Washington, Mr. Adams and I will draft these questions, and you and Mr. Brown prepare a list of names to whom they shall be addressed."

The list prepared by Brown was a distinguished one, and I smiled as I gianced they secure to the depositors sure incomes and absolute security. There is a popular of them would respond. of them would respond. "Most of our celebrated statesmen

financiers and manufacturers are inclined to be lame on political economy," ad-

chance. We may hear from some of

them. Our three guests spent considerable time in the preparation of the list of ques-tions, and finally submitted the following: (1) The wealth of several of our American capitalists is now conservatively esti-mated at from \$100,000,000 to \$500,000,000. Can a man render to his country or to mankind a service which will entitle him to so great a financial reward?

(2) Does the possession of a billion of collars in the hands of an individual conatitute a menace to the Republic? (3) What surn, if any, would constitute such a menace in the hands of an individual engaged in business, finances or

manufacturing?

(4) Assuming that a man legally acquires a billion of dollars, and that on his death he wills it intact to a dishonest, reckless, unscrupulous and deprayed heir-should society have any protection against such

(5) Is it practical or advisable to set any limit to the amount of property individual can hold or bequeath? What should be the limit, if any, and what dis-position abouid be made of the surplus? What position should be made of the surplus?

46) The National, state, private and eavings banks have taken in as cash deposits nearly ten billions of dollars, whereas there is only about a quarter of that amount in existence. Most of this bank liability is represented by mortgages, bonds and other securities which are ample in times of confidence and prosperity, but which cannot speedily be liquidated in times of panic and stringency. Do you in times of panic and stringency. Do you consider this a safe and scientific system

(7) By what right does the National Gov ernment withdraw money from its treas-ury, deposit it in National banks and per-mit it to remain in them for indefinite periods without the payment of interest by the banks thus favored?

(8) Postal savings banks are a demos strated success in Great Britain, France, Germany and other countries. They are a source of revenue to these countries, and Should Congress ignore or grant this demand, and why?
(3) Since 1855 the world's stock of gold

has increased from four to six billions

letter written in so peculiar a hand that we had some difficulty in reading it, but the contents more than rewarded our patience. A glance at the signature showed that the writer was a conspicuous mem-ber of the Supreme Court of the United States, and I regret that he has deemed

> sons which seem to me sufficient. I prefer to say nothing for publication over my strictly responsive, I will state them.
> The real problem is not who owns, but who consumes the annual product. The identification of these two very different questions is the source of many fallacies, and misleads many working men. The real evil of \$50,000 balls and

sion in the minds of the ignorant by an appeal to their imagination, and make them think that Vanderbilt and Rockeas a standard. In the past ten years we have produced one-third as much gold feller swallow their incomes like Cleopatra's dissolved pearls. The same confusion is at the bottom of Henry George's "Progress and Poverty." He thinks he as was mined in the preceding four cen-turies. We now produce in six months as much as was in all Europe when Colum-bus discovered America. Do you consider is finished the discussion when he shows the tendency of wealth to be owned by the landlords. He does out consider what gold a fair and scientific standard of

the landlords do with it.
"I conceive that economically it does not matter whether you call Rockefeller. wheat in the United States, if that wheat annually is consumed by the body of the people, except that Rockefeller, under the illusion of self-seeking or in the con-scious pursuit of power, will be likely to bring to bear a more polymant scrutiny of the future in the effort to get a great-er return for the next year. If then, as I clieve, the ability of the ablest men under the present regime is directed to getting large markets and the largest returns, such ability is directed to the eco-nomically desired end.

"I have vainly urged our various statisticians to exhibit in the well-known form the proportions of the products of the many, and those of the few, e. g., ex-pressed in labor hours or in any other convenient way. That would show whether private ownership was abused for the production of an undue proportion of luxuries for the few. I don't believe the luxuries would be I per cent.
"It follows from what I have said that

the objections to unlimited public owner-ship are sentimental or political, not economic. Of course, as the size of a private fortune increases, the interest of the public in the administration of it increases. If one man owned one-half the wheat in the country and announced his intention to burn it, such an abuse of name in answer to your questions, but as ownership would not be permitted. The I entertain some opinions which seem to crowd would kill him sooner than stand have some bearing on them, although not it. But it seems to me that if every demonopolist intent on getting all he could for it (subject to the limitation that it must be consumed, if consumption was, as usual, economically practical, and that it important the monopolist intent of consumed as usual, economically practical, and that it must be consumed, if consumption was, as usual, economically practical, and that it important the subject is all the consuments. The only other question on which I know, Brown, and I must confess that this Judge is almost too radical in his conservation. Taxes, when thought out into things and results, and most in the consumption was, as usual, economically practical, and that it investments.

The only other question on which I know, Brown, and I must confess that this Judge is almost too radical in his conservation. Taxes, when the property of the property of the property of the consumption was, as usual, economically practical, and that it investments.

The only other question on which I know, Brown, and I must confess that this Judge is almost too radical in his conservation. Taxes, when the property of the proper

spectively, that they would be by those who were able to get them, and that that would be the ideal result

"The first question put-if I may be permitted to say so seems to me rather fan-ciful. I see no way of answering it in-telligently, and, if I am right, it appears to imply an acceptance of what I have already tried to show to be a fallacy or confusion. So far as I could answer it. what I should say would be this: All that any man contributes to the world is the intelligence which directs a change in the place of matter. A man does not create the matter he handles or the force he exerts. The force could be got cheaper if the directing intelligence were not needed, and the whole progress of the world in a material way is to put the need of intelligence further back. It is obvious that the intelligence of an archi tect contributes more to the change which takes place in a house than that of all the laboring hands. How can any one measure the scope and value of remote auses of change? Of a new judicial conception, for instance? The charming thought is that it will result in conduct a hundred years after the thinker is forgotten.

"How can I compare the present effect on the lives of men of the speculation of Kant and the empire of Napoleon? I should not think it absurd to assert that the former counted for the more, though, of course, it is impossible to prove it. My practical answer is, that a great fortune does not mean a corresponding consultion, but a power of command; that so one must exercise that command, and that I know of no way of finding the St man so good as the fact of winning it in the

competition of the market. "I have already intimated my opinion taxes. There have been some rather ather that the owner of a great fortune has erous claims made recently for the rights public functions, and therefore-subject of wealth, but this learned Judge ...as intention to burn it, such an abuse of to legal questions which I am now con-ownership would not be permitted. The sidering—should be subject to some nega-crowd would kill him sooner than stand tive restraint. Among others, I should

nual product for governmental purposes, and cannot mean anything else. Whatever form they take in their imposition they must be horne by the consumer, that is, mainly by the working and fighting men of the community. It is well that they should have this fact brought home to them, and not have it too much disguised by the form in which taxes are

"I am afraid that the chances are that whether you agree or disagree with it you will not care for what I have we'tten, but the only thing I can do is to state preliminaries as they lie 'n my mind, and which profoundly affect the emphasis of the questions you propose. Very truly yours,

I read this letter aloud, pausing now and then to note the effect of more striking climaxes on my listeners. They paid close attention, and Brown was the first one to speak.

"Isn't that a wonder?" he exclaimed, grasping the letter from my hands and looking at the signature. "If I didn't know this Justice intimately, Smith, I should be tempted to think that he was having a little fun at your expense. Isn't his frankness delightful? The Judge has rendered his verdict, and now we know that we would be much better off if Rockefeller owned the whole shooting match, but we must watch him lest he takes a notion to make a bonfire of half of it. It strikes me that the worthy Judge is hardly liberal on that point. If you prevent a man from burning what is his do you not interfere with his individual liberty? It looks that way to me, but, of course, I know nothing of the law. It takes all my time to meet my said the last word. There is no question

of his conservatism."
"You talk as if that letter were an it. But it seems to me that if every de-sirable object were in the hands of a great sums to charities which could not of the private views of one member of it," monopolist intent on getting all he could be clearly justified as long-sighted vablic I said to Brown. "I have little sympathy opinion from the Supreme Court instead of the private views of one member of it,"

mitted Brown. "but we will give them a dollars, or 50 percent in a decade. The is that they tend to confirm this confu- ; the intensity of the desires for them re- ; mean an abstraction of a part of the an- ; studying one of its paragraphs. "It is a remarkable letter, but it is based on com-mon law. His views are founded on prec-edents hundreds of years old, and these relics of the dead past still govern the decisions of your courts. All that he says is 'good law,' but that does not save it from the impeachment of being lacking in common sense, deficient in statesmanship and lacking in patriotism. Do not misunderstand me as intimating that your Supreme Court or any of its members come under this impeachment. They deem it their duty to abide by precedents which are not and cannot be applicable to new conditions. Before all else they are Judges, and a Judge is as much a creature of tradition and dogma as a priest. He weighs everything by the standards of the past.

"Nothing could more clearly show that you are living under unprecedented con-ditions than this letter. Under the law, Mr. Rockefeller may acquire the owner-ship of the entire world, and if this Justice of the Supreme Court be right, the couris must refuse their sanction to all new legislation which may tend to interfere with him. The gentleman who wrote this letter believes not only that such is the law, but he also believes that it is right. He argues that complete private monopoly is the ideal condition. On this point the body of which he is a member seems to have differed from him in some

recent decisions."
"In the opinion of this Judge, an individual can become greater than this Government," mused Samuel Adams. "If that he your modern interpretation of the spirit of the law in a republic, you must

expect a new slavery."

"When a Justice of the Supreme Court writes like that," indignantly declared Brown, "it gives us reformers a hint of the kind of ammunition which will be used against us." I wish that the Justice could have been

present to take part in the discussion which followed.

## Insurance.

New York Sun. Life is real, life is earnest, And the grave is not its goal; Rather 'tie to see which party Shall the surplus funds control.