

JAPAN'S FORWARD MARCH.

THAT MEN need not have a white skin, or belong to the much vaunted Anglo-Saxon race, to be somebody in this modern world; Japan has proved for some years past, is proving daily now, to the astonishment of W. Hohenzollern, J. Bull and even US.

The fact is that Japan has marched far and fast on the road toward civil and religious liberty, and has marched more rapidly and surely than any family of the Anglo-Saxon race ever did.

It was only a little over fifteen years ago that Japan became a constitutional monarchy, by the act of the present emperor, who saw that his people could thus be trusted, and should be. While this constitution does not provide for a republic, nor unlimited or even general suffrage, it placed Japan far ahead of Russia in point of civil liberty—about on a par with Prussia.

Under this constitution there is a parliament, very much like England's, but the emperor selects his cabinet irrespective of the majority in parliament, like our president. In this constitution are incorporated provisions popularly known as the "rights of man." All subjects are eligible to civil and military offices, and all males of suitable age are amenable to military and naval duty, and taxpaying. There is no privileged class through descent. The liberty of abode, right of property lawfully acquired, and freedom of speech and of religious belief, are guaranteed. A man's house is his castle, in Japan as fully as in England. Gradually more freedom is allowed the press. Gradually, too, the cabinet is becoming more responsible to the parliament, and less to the emperor.

Suffrage is as yet much restricted in Japan. Only citizens who pay a direct annual tax of at least \$5 a year can vote for members of parliament. No soldier or sailor can vote, nor can a man become a voter till he is 25 years old. These and other restrictions cut Japan's voting population down to about nine per cent of the number of male citizens over 21 years old. At the general parliamentary election of August, 1902, out of a population of 45,000,000, only 983,193 persons were eligible voters. In the United States the number of voters with the same population as Japan's would have been about nine millions.

Japan is divided into 45 prefectures, corresponding roughly to our states, the governors being appointed as our territorial governors are, but the legislatures are elective. In these elections any male citizen over 20, not a soldier or sailor in active service, who pays a direct annual tax of \$2.50, can vote. At the last election of prefect assemblies over 2,000,000 men voted. To vote for a municipal representative the elector is required to own at least a foot of land or else pay \$1 tax yearly. In the last of these elections about 3,500,000 votes were cast.

So Japan has not free and unrestricted suffrage as we have, nor yet as England or France, or even Germany has; but the caution with which suffrage has been extended is probably wise. And that the people are satisfied with the progress made in this direction, as well as in other respects with their government, is shown by their intense patriotism and its exemplification in the extraordinary response which they have made in the hour of their country's peril.

A LITTLE THING THAT INVOLVES SOMETHING BIGGER.

THE London Times recently reduced its subscription price, not a great deal, it is true, but still it reduced it. In and of itself the circumstance is trivial, for papers in all parts of the world have at one time or another done precisely the same thing. But in the case of the Times this step involves a broad and significant principle for it has been, if it is not even now, something more than a newspaper; it is actually an institution, almost one might say an integral part of the government itself. Up to the time of the Pigott affair its utterances were regarded in substantial English quarters as infallible, and people who stood

for all that was staid and respectable in the country if they could not afford to take the paper themselves took it in combination with others, each bearing a proportionate share of the expense. But they wouldn't do without the Times.

In recent years, however, steady if almost unappreciable inroads have been made into the public confidence by other newspapers. The more modern and enterprising of them, following conservative American methods and inclined to give a degree of display commensurate with its importance to the news, which spent money lavishly to secure it and adopted the very best mechanical effects, began to focus attention upon themselves, to gain enormously in circulation and to make profits that were fairly staggering in their totals. It could not, of course, be expected that the Times would come off its lofty pedestal or even affect to be influenced by the invasion of modern ideas. It was content to live in the glory of the past and pursue the even tenor of its dignified way. But unappreciated by it the world moved and those who failed to keep up with the procession were gradually shouldered aside. The people discovered that they could get the news, just as reliable, fresher and crisper, from newspapers in their way quite as responsible and costing very much less money to buy. Many of those who always had read the Times without being able to afford it found they could afford the cheaper papers and that they served their purposes just as well. And so, it is an open secret that steady inroads were made into the business, if not actually into the prestige of the big newspaper, and the first outward manifestation of it came, as it must eventually have come, through a reduction in its subscription price. This is first, a confession that the younger and brisker papers are gradually undermining its constituency, as they always will here and elsewhere, and secondly that not even a class circulation can be held unless some concession is made to the spirit of modern progress.

A well-known American case was that of the Philadelphia Public Ledger. Under the ownership of George W. Childs it enjoyed the respect and confidence of its readers to an almost unprecedented degree. They had perfect confidence in everything it said, and they had good reasons for their confidence. After Mr. Childs died the paper went by will to the son of his most intimate friend. Some slight concessions were then made to the spirit of progress but not enough to attract and hold new readers. The old readers clung tenaciously to the Ledger, but it ultimately became a case that every time an old and staid citizen died the Ledger permanently lost a subscriber whom it could never replace, for the reason that the younger generation sought for more than the Ledger was willing to give them. And so the paper was at last sold to men of modern spirit and enterprise who are endeavoring to bring it up to date.

The world moves and men and institutions must move with it or they will drop behind in the race. Journalism is a particularly jealous mistress. A record and mirror of passing daily events it above all other institutions must keep fully abreast of the times. That indeed is part of its mission and it should be the very last to attempt to stay the progress of events, to proclaim through its own pages even by indirection that the height of achievement had been reached, that there were no other heights to scale and that when it had reached the limit of what it could do a period was put to human achievement in this direction. When that point is reached retrogression sets in and no matter what high standard has been achieved, the moment the institution becomes impervious or indifferent to modern ideas it is unconsciously making a place for its brisker rivals at the head of the procession.

GRANT'S CABIN FOR THE FAIR.

THE EFFORTS of the Grand Army veterans to bring to Portland, for exhibition at the Lewis and Clark fair, the historic General Grant cabin, which is one of the attractions of the St. Louis exposition, will have the cordial sympathy and endorsement of every patriotic Ore-

gonian. Oregon has a peculiar pride in the great soldier-president, for the reason that it is one of the few western states in which he spent any considerable part of his life. While still only a lieutenant in the regular army Grant was stationed for nearly a year at Fort Vancouver, then a remote and almost unknown post. To the experience gained in the Mexican war he was adding that of life in a frontier garrison, and it would not be wholly fanciful to assume that the discipline of that year at Vancouver contributed much to the development of Grant's military genius. It is eminently fitting therefore that at the Lewis and Clark exposition there should be some memento which will recall this period of his career.

The famous Grant cabin, which the veterans are seeking to bring to Portland, is owned by a wealthy resident of St. Louis, through whose courtesy it is being exhibited at the Louisiana Purchase exposition. The request of the Oregon veterans will probably be seconded by the national encampment of the G. A. R., which convenes in Boston in August. The management of the Lewis and Clark fair could not do better than to aid in this effort to secure an exhibit so interesting as this historic old building.

THE UMATILLA ANNUAL FEAST.

PENDLETON PAPERS announce that among the local attractions of Fourth of July will be the great feast and celebration by the Umatilla Indians, and the suggestion is made that an excursion should be run from Portland and way points so as to enable as many as possible to witness these strange ceremonies of a disappearing race. The suggestion is an excellent one. Comparatively few of the people of Oregon have witnessed these Indian festivals, and few therefore appreciate their interest. To the mere sightseer as well as to the student of aboriginal history the annual celebration by the Umatillas is well worth seeing. The famous fire dance of the Yaqui Indians, which attracts thousands of visitors every year, is not more grotesque nor more curious than the strange orgies of this northern tribe, which from year to year performs the savage rites handed down from times immemorial.

The opportunity to study these mystic practices of the red men, having their origin long before the coming of the paleface, grows less each year, as the civilizing influences about them slowly alienate the Indians from the customs of their ancestors. To the student of early American history the spectacle is of intense interest and cannot fail to be of great value. To the tourist or the seeker after some new thing the sight is strange and weird in the extreme. Pendleton offers a Fourth of July week attraction which should bring many visitors within its gates.

A YEAR'S EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

PORTLAND'S foreign trade for the twelve months ending June 30 is evidently destined to show a heavy decrease, both in exports and in imports. Figures were published yesterday in The Journal showing that the decrease in exports, as compared with the twelve months previous, will be in excess of \$3,000,000, while imports have fallen off about \$1,600,000. At the same time the duties collected at this port have diminished about \$72,000. At first glance these figures might seem indicative of serious menace to Portland's trade, but a more careful examination shows that the decreased business is due wholly to influences which for the most part are only temporary, and which can have no lasting effects upon this port.

The Russo-Japanese war is largely responsible for the decrease in both exports and imports. Japan is the largest of Portland's foreign customers. For several months exports from this country to Japan were almost wholly interrupted, and even now they are much below their normal volume. Even under these adverse conditions the exports to Japan form one-third of the entire exports of Portland during the twelve months. Out of a total of \$7,672,542

Japan took \$2,560,110. Japan has also led all other countries in imports received at Portland. About 40 per cent of the imports during the year just ending came from Japan, despite the paralysis of many lines of business in the mikado's empire. It is apparent that with the return of peace in the orient the heavy trade with Japan will be resumed, and probably in even greater volume than before.

Other causes besides the war have contributed to the decline in the business of this port. The revenue from duties has been heavily reduced by the removal of the tariff on tea, previously the source of large income to the government. Coal was also admitted free until January 1. Imports have been reduced in a measure by the low freight rates, which have caused many owners to take their vessels out of commission, as they found it impossible to make exports. Last year the great demand in Australia and South Africa for American wheat supplied cargoes for all out-going vessels, but this year Australia has raised a bumper crop, sufficient to supply not only her own needs, but those of South Africa as well. This has been a strong factor in reducing the year's exports from this port.

In view of the causes which have brought about the reduction in the foreign trade of Portland during the year just ending there is no cause for any uneasiness as to the future, nor is there any reason to apprehend that the depression will prove to be more than temporary.

OREGON'S OPPORTUNITY.

CALIFORNIA is an excellent exemplification of the truth of the old doggerel "If you want to be healthy, wealthy and wise, don't neglect to advertise." No state in the Union has studied the art of advertising so thoroughly and practiced it so tirelessly as California. The Journal has had occasion to express its frank admiration of the persistency and enterprise with which California is constantly asserting its claims and proclaiming its advantages. Yet no one who makes an impartial comparison of the resources and attractions of California and Oregon can fail to be impressed with the conviction that Oregon, unadvertised and comparatively unknown to the tourist and the eastern investor, has in reality far more to offer than its sister state.

An illustration of Californian methods of advertising is to be found in the "Tournament of Roses," which is celebrated at Pasadena in southern California, on New Year's day of every year. The pageant is a beautiful one and the wealth of flowers displayed excites the wonder and admiration of thousands of easterners, who cross the continent to witness the spectacle. It is advertised from coast to coast, and though maintained at a heavy annual expense, it has done as much as any other one thing to swell the influx of tourists, who are one of southern California's chief sources of income.

Probably not one in one hundred of those who witness Pasadena's Tournament of Roses imagines that in Oregon is to be found an even greater abundance and richness of floral beauty. They do not know that the true "land of flowers" lies far to the north, and that if they would see roses in all their richest brilliance and beauty they must seek them in Oregon, not in southern California. If the people of Portland should attempt to give a floral pageant similar to that given in Pasadena, and should enter upon the undertaking with the same zeal and enthusiasm that is displayed by the Californians, the results would far eclipse anything that has yet been seen on this coast. Such a display, maintained for two or three years, would soon prove as strong an attraction and as good an advertisement for Portland as it has been for Pasadena.

This is but an instance. It serves to illustrate the fact that California has eclipsed Oregon, not in its advantages and resources, but only in the energy with which it has advertised them. Oregon need envy California in nothing save only in that spirit of aggressive enterprise which has done so much for her sister state.

SCHOOLS By ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

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STELLE APPLETON, of the University of Chicago, has sent out a list of questions asking for replies.

There is great hope for the future of our nation when the school authorities ask the co-operation of the public in pointing out the errors of the educational system.

Are our grade and high schools, in your opinion, doing all they can do under existing conditions, in furnishing the best preparation possible for home, for society and for business?

Can you suggest any changes in the present school curriculum, or the present methods of teaching, which would tend to remove the disinclination which many children, especially of the ages of 12 to 15 years, have toward attending school, e. g., is the work too easy, too difficult, unselected to the minds of the pupils, hours too short, too long, work too confining, too abstract, too much unlike home life, etc.?

The work is too varied, and there is not time enough given to the proper understanding of any one study.

There is not enough common sense used by parents, or teachers in fitting the studies to the children—all are put through a routine

with no consideration of different tastes, needs and capacities.

Some system should be established making an analysis of a child's mind, and a study of its special needs, a part of the preparation for entering school, and then the children should be classified.

Are the public schools developing in the most effective way the pupil's power of self-control? If not, wherein lies the remedy?

No, a thousand times no.

There should be two-minute talks on self-control given every day to pupils.

Each pupil should be made to understand what self-control is. To the majority of mature people in the world today the word has little meaning.

Do you think that explicit teaching of morals and religion is practicable or desirable?

No creeds should be taught in schools. But reverence for the Creator of this mighty universe should be imparted with such lessons as botany, natural history and astronomy.

Remind the children that with all man's vast learning and power he cannot make a single seed, or star, or animal, and that the intelligence which conceived the worlds about and above us should be thought of with reverence.

In morals there is no greater factor than the self-control already mentioned.

Many people think self-control means self-preservation.

Children should be taught that it means controlling the unworthy impulses only; and that each time anger, indolence, greediness or selfishness is controlled, it is one step toward a higher education and toward success in life.

To study when you feel like loafing, to persevere with a problem when you want to ask some one else to solve it for you, to go directly to school or home when you want to lag, to shut your lips close when you want to say unkind words, to put your pennies in a bank when you want to buy candy—all these are steps toward higher education, and they all mean self-control.

Continual brief reference to these facts as a basis of all worth-while character should be made in schools.

It is far more important than teaching children to dissect dead animals.

Should the duties of citizenship be taught in schools? If so, which method will be more effective, the study of a text-book on that subject or the organization of the school into societies similar to real political organizations? Are there any objections to the latter method? Is there any other better way?

The early ideals of Washington and Jefferson and others—men of great and broad principles—should be taught, and the chil-

ren given a sense of the responsibility of each individual, to make himself worthy of his country, and to aid in making his country worthy of the world's respect.

Can you suggest any way in which public school education can be more helpful in alleviating the condition of the lower classes of society, i. e., the extremely poor and the vicious classes, "the submerged tenth"? What, if anything, can be done through the schools to lessen juvenile crime? What is your opinion of the value of manual training, cooking and sewing in the public schools? Why?

Manual training, sewing and cooking are of great importance in the schools.

But before the "submerged tenth" enters the public or graded schools it should have a careful kindergarten training.

All the educators and philanthropists and reformers in America should band together to establish kindergartens for the children of the poor and vicious.

In its instruction, order, system and self-reliance are contained.

Not one child in America need be deprived of this advantage, were our wonderfully generous and philanthropic people aroused to the importance of the work.

Then the public schools should amplify their manual training advantages, and add to the number of teachers in those departments.

Beside this a thorough course of humane education should become a part of every school course.

Until this is done it is impossible to eradicate the tendencies toward cruelty born in almost all children, and criminal impulses born in the children of the vicious and selfish.

The majority of parents never do, and probably never will, unaided by the schools, educate their children to be humane, and kind to creatures weaker than themselves.

Wherever humane education has been introduced in schools there may be found a remarkable decrease of cruelty and viciousness among children.

They become proud defenders and protectors of the suffering or mistreated animals or human beings they encounter.

But to produce the desired results included in question No. 6 we must change our industrial conditions instead of our school curriculum.

At present most of our public school buildings are in use only six or seven hours per day. Can you suggest practical ways in which the school buildings and grounds can be made to serve the cause of education more fully?

Yes, by having free lectures given a half or a quarter of an hour each day on some instructive topics.

Monday, a stereopticon lecture on historic

places in America, where notable events took place.

Tuesday, pictures and talks about great people, and what made them great, and incidents in their childhood.

Wednesday, views of the poor districts in the school town and talks of the necessity for each one of the more fortunate beings to help the conditions.

Thursday, stories of the gratitude and affection of animals, and illustrations calling the children's attention to their need of our protection and care. Veterinary surgeons should be employed to give 10-minute talks regarding the proper care for horses, dogs, cats, birds and other pets.

Friday, stories and illustrations of insect life.

Saturday, a bazaar, or rummage sale in the grounds for charitable uses.

Do you approve of vacation and evening schools? Yes, decidedly.

Vacations are to human beings, whether children or adults, what the cool spring is to the wayfarer: they renew his strength and courage for his journey.

Night schools are doing more good in the land than the public day schools, because they are patronized, almost exclusively, by the people who really desire an education.

They should be enlarged, increased and encouraged.

THE ART OF SELF-DEFENSE By BELLE BLITZ

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THERE was a time when the education of every gentleman included instruction in the noble art of self-defense. Our ancestors in the stone age doubtless became skillful in the science of hunting and with a view of saving their own skins. Later on came the cult of swordsmanship. Then men perfected themselves in the use of their fists, and a habitiveness with the pistol is still esteemed a necessity in certain parts of our own country.

Other times, other manners. Most of us are now in little physical danger from our fellow creatures, but we are all in imminent peril every day of our lives of being bored to death, and it therefore becomes important that we should study the best methods of protecting ourselves against the bore, and routing him with slaughter.

There are people, of course, who are born fighters. They know instinctively how to use their hands and tongues, and are equal to any adversary. These words are not for them, but for the poor, meek, helpless people, who have never studied the art of self-defense in society.

Chief among this latter class are old maids who have no husbands, no children and no servants to discuss have suffered untold agonies from the married women of their acquaintance. The affliction of having to listen to these horses have driven some women into the madhouse, and others into matrimony, yet no spinster need hesitate to put on the conversational gloves with a married woman if she will first learn how to spar.

To do this she need only acquire a romantic love story, real or imaginary, and develop a mania for confiding it to a woman as soon as she commences talking about her husband. By all feminine parliamentary law a love story has the floor and nobody can interrupt it. Few, however, care to hear it, and if an old maid can establish the reputation of being ready to fire off the sad, sad story of her life at sight, she may confidently count on other women steering clear of topics that are likely to lead to personal reminiscences.

The mother of the infant phenomenon is a trifle more dangerous, but she also can be forced to throw up her hands. The old maid who means to protect herself here must go loaded for bear. She must study the funny columns in the newspapers and memorize the alleged bon-mots of imaginary infants. Then whenever the proud mamma relates the smart things her little Sallie said, or the funny things her little Jamie did, the old maid must blaze away with a fusillade of anecdotes about the baby wit of the comic paper.

Nobody wants to hear about the clever things that other people's children did, especially when it makes their own look like candidates for the feeble minded institution, and after one such attack the average mother will flee from the scene. In aggravated cases where the infant prodigy recites or plays on the piano, it is sometimes necessary to retaliate by bringing in a dog and having him go through his tricks, or introduce a parrot that, after much coaxing, can be induced to say "Polly wants a cracker."

Fortunately, though, such extreme measures do not often have to be adopted. For the women with the servant habit go through his tricks, or introduce a parrot that, after much coaxing, can be induced to say "Polly wants a cracker."

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desperate situations require desperate measures, and the provocation renders it admissible.

For the self-made man, who worships his Creator, and who yearns to spend hours telling you what a Napoleon of finance he is, and how he always knows which way the market is going, there is one line of self-defense so simple and so easy that a child can use it. Always ask him to subscribe to your pet charity.

The reason people talk about themselves so much is because talk is cheap, and the minute you make them pay for it they begin to economize on it.

On the other hand, if you are afflicted with an acquaintance who comes to see you to tell you his troubles, insist upon lending him a little money. The chances are that he will never darken your doors again, for he will always be afraid of getting rid of a bore like getting him out of your debt, and it is always worth the price.

To protect yourself from the fish liar, and the man who has shot big game in the west, or who was in the war, there is no known method, except to get the drop on him and blaze away at sight.

Unless you are quick on the trigger, you are lost. Once let him get started and you are in for the inquisition. Every prudent person, however, knows his enemies by sight and should be prepared to deal with them, and it is always perfectly possible to get such a running on and on, the only thing you can do is to get him on his feet, and imperceptibly steer him to the door. Few people will notice you will see that the man and woman who are fond of talking invariably pick out their friends among the silent and slow witted.

People with hobbies have to be fought with their own weapons. The only way to keep from being bored to extinction by your friends' fads, is to have a bigger fad yourself, and talk about it in a louder tone of voice. It's to keep and happiness.

From hearing about other people's causes that most of us go in for causes ourselves.

For the caller who never knows when to go an extremely uncomfortable chair is often a bulwark of defense. This is why women's drawing rooms never have a seat that doesn't tie knots in your legs and break the small of your back. If this doesn't work—if a man is indifferent to physical torture—and he stays on and on, the only thing you can do is to get him on his feet, and imperceptibly steer him to the door. Few people will notice you will see that the man and woman who are fond of talking invariably pick out their friends among the silent and slow witted.

Of course, these are only a few elementary principles of the noble art of self-defense, which we must all study if we desire to live in reasonable peace with our fellow creatures.

BUSINESS MEN TIRED OF WAR.

Some of the business men of Europe are beginning to think that war is a nuisance from the commercial standpoint, and a concerted movement is on foot to promote and preserve peace.

One of the promoters of this departure is Thomas Barclay, a noted English lawyer in Paris. "It is not so much a philanthropic measure, as a real business proposition," he explains, "for the furtherance of international commerce." "To effect our object we shall have a

powerful fund at our disposal. When the music-hall crowds begin to shout for war, and the newspapers adopt an aggressive tone, then we, as business men, will hold anti-war meetings, will flood Europe with anti-war literature, and spend money like water, if necessary, to

fight the war spirit wherever it occurs in England, France or Germany." "We are gathering the money together fast. The great business houses in England, France and even in Germany, have promised us sums amounting to \$5,000 per annum.

UNDER FIVE MONARCHS.

There resides at Folkestone a man, named George Keel, who in December next will reach the age of 104 years. He was born at Manton, a village near Marlborough in Wiltshire, and up to a few years ago followed the calling of a

shepherd. He still earns a trifle by tending gardens in Folkestone. Mr. Keel is a good walker. He reads without glasses, but is very deaf. As a non-smoker he declares that those who use tobacco are not meant for the kingdom of heaven. He uses alcoholic stim-