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THE HEAD-HUNTERS OF FORMOSA

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THE Japanese are learning in Formosa that those who adopt the white man's ideal of civilisation and the white man's thirst for territorial expansion must also take up the white man's burden of pacifying and civilising the warlike and barbarous races of whom the white man is the self-constituted guardian. They are learning, too, what the Americans have learned in the Philippines, the Germans in South-West Africa, and the British in every outlying corner of the Empire, that the wars which require the greatest patience and give the least glory are not the dignified duels with the well-ordered troops of some powerful nation, but guerrilla contests with savage tribes in their native fastnesses. In eight months Japan broke the fighting power of China, and in eighteen that of Russia. But Japan has had possession of Formosa for thirteen years, and yet over one-half of the island her control is little more than nominal. That half is the "Savage Territory," the home of the Head-hunters.

When the Chinese first visited Formosa, just 1,300 years ago, the ancestors of some of the present savage tribes were there; and when the Dutch established their trading-posts on the island in 1624 they found it thickly inhabited. Of its population at that time only about 25,000 were Chinese; the rest were the so-called

aborigines. Later settlers came since then, carried in their frail canoes over hundreds of miles of open sea, by the ocean currents which flow through the Malay archipelago, past the Philippines and along the east coast of Formosa. In dress, customs and language, the Formosan savages show their close relationship to the inhabitants of the Philippines, Borneo, and other islands to the south.



FORMOSAN HEAD-HUNTERS, WITH SCALP-
ING KNIFE AT BELT