

complished its reformation and forsook Asia for the companionship of progressive Europe and America. It was the completion of the first period of constitutional development, and only statesmen of clear discernment, comprehensive plans and high executive ability could so successfully have surmounted the innumerable difficulties and discouragements. Foreigners, resident in Japan, warmly united with the Japanese in the rejoicings.

*The Treaties.*—The successful negotiation of a new treaty with the United States followed almost immediately. Again, foreigners united with Japanese in mutual congratulations. Japan seemed at once to place herself fairly in the company of the most advanced nations. Difficulties with which her statesmen had struggled for years, disappeared as if through the intervention of a higher power. The American minister was everywhere thanked by the people and the press. Upon his retirement to the United States, consequent upon the change in administration at Washington, he was honored, as perhaps no foreign minister before had been. The new treaty was extolled as another evidence of the fairness and friendship of the government of the United States. Germany and Russia soon negotiated identical treaties. It only remained for ratifications to be exchanged, and the new treaties were to be put in force on the 11th of February, 1890. Not a voice was raised against the treaties, not an objection was made to their terms. On the contrary, Great Britain was soundly berated because her minister did not at once follow the same course. Certain young Samurai, of the baser sort, went so far as to threaten Englishmen with personal violence if their government should longer hesitate. The new treaties abolished extra-territorial jurisdiction, and placed Americans under Japanese law. When Japan was first opened to foreign residence, the nation was neither ready nor desirous of jurisdiction over foreigners. The Japanese desired to confine the intruders within the narrowest limits possible, and to have as little to do as practicable with them. Their presence was accepted as a temporary and most unwelcome necessity. On the other hand, Europeans and Americans could not be expected to submit to the laws of a land that made the profession of the Christian religion a capital offense; that openly used torture in its judicial process, and that possessed no modern civil or criminal laws. Japan was opened by force, and the treaties were made with the full knowledge that residence was possible only on the condition that foreigners have the protection of their own laws.

For years the system continued with the full consent of the Japanese. Even after the restoration of the emperor, popular attention was not directed to the anomalous fact that sixteen different Powers were exercising judicial powers in the ports and the very capital of the empire. Indeed, for a time the old anti-foreign policy was intensified, as the watchword of the restoration had been "Expel the foreigners."