similar laws and regulations to our Chinese registration act, providing for the registration of all American skilled and unskilled laborers residing in China, and binds this government to report to the government of China the full name, age, occupation and place of residence of all citizens of the United States, including missionaries, within and without the treaty ports of China.

The Coming Nation.

We may appropriately close this chapter by an extract from a leading American journal respecting the rapid progress and increasing influence of the Land of the Rising Sun:

The recent progress of Japan is the marvel of the world. History records nothing like the advance she has made within the last quarter of a century. Coming up from paganism and semi-barbarism, she now boasts police and educational systems equal to those of the United States. She has established a national system of customs, post-offices, telegraphs, telephones and railways. She has a national mint and a decimal currency. Her recent victories arise from the fact that she has her own arsenals and ship-yards, with a well-disciplined, finely-officered army and a steel-clad navy with all the modern appliances of warfare.

A Sabbath of one day's rest in seven has been ordained, and is kept as a general holiday. Every dweller of Japan is free to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience. With the birth of religious liberty began the era of Japanese progress. No other so-called pagan land gives so warm a welcome to missionaries of the Christian faith. Its people have been quick to recognize the fact that wherever the faith prevails, there the elevating and refining arts of life have their highest development. In reckoning the agencies which have brought about this peaceful yet radical revolution in Japan the work of the Christian missions must be given a very high place.

These Yankees of the Orient have been eager to assimilate all Western culture and to exchange for it the traditions, prejudices and superstitions of an effete past. They have sent many of their brightest young men and women to study in European and American halls of learning; they have summoned to Japan as teachers in all arts, sciences and professions representatives of the best occidental talent and learning. This hospitality to new ideas has brought about the entire transformation of a whole people.

Modern Ideas.

It is to be regretted that Japan signalizes her new birth of freedom, education and all progressive arts by making war upon a neighboring nation. But war is a wickedness which even the most advanced Christian nations have not yet outgrown. It seems to be ordained that in this way Japan should teach to her benighted neighbor the value of modern ideas; the utter worthlessness of a civilization which draws its whole sustenance from the past, and obstinately hugging old traditions, shuts its eyes to the fact that the world moves, and that the nation which does not move with it must eventually be crushed under the wheels of its car of progress and hasten to its own downfall.