

A JAPANESE REGIMENT AT HOME

BY LIEUT.-COLONEL ANDREW HAGGARD, D. S. O.

To Major Ohi, Aide-de-Camp to the Minister of War.

MEMO

April 2nd.

"Colonel Haggard will see the Barracks of the 3rd Regiment of the 1st Division of Infantry on Wednesday the 3rd (to-morrow) at about 10.30 a. m. Yamada will call on Col. Haggard at his residence to-morrow at about 9.30 a. m. to accompany him to the said Regiment."

WRITTEN as above, in English, upon the Imperial paper, surmounted by the Emperor's crest of a chrysanthemum, was a paper which I received unexpectedly one day last year in Tokio.

It was accompanied by the card of Mr. Y. H. Yamada, *Interprète de la Maison de S. M. l'Empereur*. And upon Mr. Yamada's card was written "From Baron Sannomiya"; so I knew it was owing to the kind offices of my friend the Grand Master of the Ceremonies that I was to have an opportunity of seeing a Japanese Regiment at home. But this was only one of many kindnesses for which I had to thank Baron Yoshitane Sannomiya and his amiable English wife; while to the Viscount M. Tanaka, another high dignitary of the Imperial Court, was I also indebted for being allowed to witness various "Things Japanese" quite out of the reach of the ordinary European; and in thanking these two nobles for their amiability I wish also to thank them for their generous hospitality.

When next day Yamada called for me at the Belgian Legation, where I was the guest of my brother-in-law Baron A. d'Anethan, it was raining so hard that the worthy interpreter thought we should not see much of the soldiers themselves, even if we did see their Barracks. But as he explained he did not know a thing about soldiers, whether Japanese or otherwise, I decided that we would go on. Explaining therefore to Mr. Yamada the meaning of the motto "*nec aspera terrent*" borne upon the colours of my