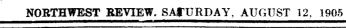
and liberty-loving. The Japanese finally became tired of this regime, and it is a marvel how they could have lived tranquilly and submissively for two centuries and a half. During all this time, the real sovereign, the emperor, had, as it were, completely disappeared from the world. The Shogun, with the greatest demonstrations of respect, affected to honor him as a god and imbued the nation at large with the same feeling toward his person as too holy and too elevated to meddle with the things of this world. At the same time, and, of course, from the same motive, he had him guarded as a captive in his palace at Kyoto, watched over his conduct, controlled all his intercourse, and let him feel the want of commodities and even of the necessaries of life. Throughout the country, those who knew the state of things became indignant. Towards the end of the eighteenth century, a few men, bolder than the rest, dared to think and express in writing that the empire belongs first of all to the emperor.

During the fifty or sixty years that followed, the power of the Shogun declined by degrees. The corruption of the government officials, although carefully concealed, was too great to escape notice, and the number of the malcontented increased. The feeling of uneasiness soon spread. However strictly guarded, the country was not completely cut off from all the news of the outside world. The most intelligent among the Japanese felt that the world had progressed without them. The old watch-word, "Out with the barbarians!" was no longer sufficient to reassure them. There were no more barbarians in Japan; but there was another question to be answered: "Should their country be invaded by foreigners, how would they be able to defend it? And this invasion was looked upon by many as near at hand of them were old men, they all again and inevitable.

Such was the state of things when, in 1854, a small American squadron under the command of Commodore Perry, appeared for the first time in Japanese waters. The effect this sight produced upon the minds of the Japanese people was incalculable. It was seen that an attack on the part of other countries was possible, and whatever the Japanese might have thought of their own superiority and courage at the time, they were forced to acknowledge at least that they were not sufficiently armed to defend themselves.

"At that time," says Count Okuma, "we had only arrows and spears. A boat laden with dry grass, with a little powder to burn the enemy's ships, was the acme of our naval strategy. It was, as we all understand, quite inadequate against the foreign war ships.

. We were convinced (not without pain, for it cost us a great effort) that to be able to resist the powers of ; Europe and America, it was necessary to master their sciences. At first we studied medicine, which in our own country was then limited to empirical English and French, we found that, so





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customs, commerce and industry of the different nations. For two years they travelled through more than sixteen countries. . . Although many became students, and brought back with them to Japan the lessons they had learned abroad. All the rights which the common people in European countries had obtained from their sovereigns by force, were then freely granted to the Japanese people by the emperor.

"However, the preoccupation to defend ourselves against foreigners never ceased to be a fixed idea. And, moreover, what we have seen in Europe has increased our feeling of envy; and it is with a sort of vexation that we decided to take foreigners as models in everything." (Ex-Tokyo, July, 1904.)

In fact, if there was anything distressing and painful for the Japanese as they were then, it was to go to school to, and to put themselves under the influence of, these same foreigners, whom they had so long and so deeply despised and hated. To let the soil which their gods had inhabited beatrod upon by barbarians, to acknowledge that their country was three centuries behind time, and to have recourse to enemies of three hundred years' standing, to learn from them the very art of defending themselves, are sacrifices which, never since Japan existed, have processes and to healing powers of been imposed upon the inhabitants. herbs and barks. Then, while studying Nevertheless, they resigned themselves to these sacrifices. In order to be inlong as we had not a powerful army, ferior to none, they seemed ready to sacrifice everything for a time,-ideas, prejudices, customs, traditions, even national pride itself.

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the hope of repelling the barbarians would never be anything but an idle dream. Along with the science of warfare it was necessary to learn the art of casting cannons and making guns, of constructing battleships, etc. But for all these enterprises, money was required; the vile metal that the samurai by local applications, as they cannot became precious, and the study of dustries was imposed upon us.

standard. For that reason, those who flamed condition of the mucous surled the others in crying, 'Out with the faces. barbarians!' became gradually less We will give One Hundred Dollars reason to repent.'

"The imitation of foreign countries Sold by Druggists, 75c. became then the order of the day. A Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation return from Europe or America was universally celebrated. Any one, even an ignoramus, who had gone to England St. Boniface Hospital or America, had a right to speak out boldly his opinion, and he was listened

to. The saying, 'That is a European,' was a magic word before which everybody bowed.

plenipotentiaries to Europe. . We sent them by the dozens. The object of their mission was, in reality, to study the constitution, civilization, (To be continued)

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

of old Japan had affected to despise, reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness economical sciences and financial in- and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed con-"Thus, in proportion as we came in dition of the mucous lining of the Eucontact with foreigners, those who be- stachian Tube. When this tube is infore seemed to be barbarians, and whom flamed you have a rumbling sound or we compared to the very animals, imperfect hearing, and when it is enfinally appeared to us as men, having tirely closed, Deafness is the result, and also a country, and whose power was unless the inflammation can be taken even formidable. We then became con- out and this tube restored to its normal scious that we were courageous, indeed, condition, hearing will be destroyed but lacked the means of showing our forever; nine cases out of ten are caused courage and maintaining its high by Catarrh which is nothing but an in-

strenuous in the demand. In fact for any case of Deafness (caused by we began to say, 'Let us beware of Catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's becoming imprudent, lest we have good Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

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