

traveller who spent several weeks studying the Japanese at first hand (in the ports, mind you), makes up her mind that there never was so immoral or so unreliable a people as the Japanese. Dr. Sidney L. Gulick, in his admirable book, "Evolution of the Japanese," contends that the characteristics peculiar to them as a people are social and not racial. As an eminent authority on sociological theories he writes with much weight and convincingly. Kipling's theory that the East and West can never meet receives quite an upsetting by the proof of actual "Occidentalization."

Japan has taken on our civilization, and not as a mere veneer, but founded on bases of stability and enlightenment. When in private conversation I have said this, doubt has sometimes been expressed. The proof lies in the fact that our governments have withdrawn all extra territoriality claims and Anglo-Saxons live under Japanese laws while in Japan. When we first went there this was not so.

It is a wonderful history Japan has been making these fifty years past. To have compressed in so short a space of time the changing of a feudal system to one of twentieth century enlightenment so that men now living remember clearly the incidents of the Perry expedition, explains the use of the words "a miracle of history" which is so often applied to Japan. It is like looking at the wonderful succession of views in a good moving picture film.

Back of all this successful change stand the men who brought it about. How could they do this? How did the new spirit begin to work where all foreign influences were shut out? Why did they seek a new order of things? A study of Japanese character shows all this. Looking back we find a civilization younger by centuries than that of China or Korea, a people of mixed race—Malay, Mongolian, Aryan—a favorable environment. Keen always to discern their needs and not too conservative to borrow ideas, they had the help of the older continental civilizations. From China and Korea they received methods of education, religion, art; but they fought among themselves in inter-tribal warfare their own government and by clan-combinations forced the country into the rigid laws and conventions of a strictly feudal society.

A new foreign influence came with the entrance of the Jesuit priests who were welcomed and treated as friends. The terrible