

anyhow? Was this a case of mutual admiration? No nothing of the sort. I was afterwards told that it was the old man's white hair that riveted her attention: for such is regarded with great respect in Japan.

NIKKO. The saying is current in Japan, "Do not say Kikko until you have seen Nikko"—Kikko meaning very grand. I had been told that Nikko was one of the places best worth seeing. It lies up in the heart of the mountains about 100 miles from Tokio—a beautiful and fashionable summer resort, and the sight of the most splendid temples in Japan. Arriving at Nikko we set out to inspect its remarkable group of sacred edifices all most interesting. In many instances the outside of the temples were elaborately embellished with bas-reliefs, one particularly attracted attention having a variety of monkeys finely engraven on an entablature over the main entrance. I need not waste time in trying to describe in fitting terms the charms of Nikko; I can only say my visit to it, brief as it was, left an indelible impression. I mounted my ricksha and bade Nikko farewell. We went down to the station at John Gilpin speed, and waited half an hour.

In all that hundred miles *en route* to Tokio we saw no stone or brick houses, no seats of country magnates, nothing but the dingy abodes of the peasantry. After joining the main line we made fairly good time, and without further incident arrived at Tokio.

The crowds of people and the clatter of wooden shoes left no doubt in our minds that this was the teeming capital of the Empire. Outside an army of ricksha men lay in wait; an official in uniform lifted his hand by way of signal that one of these white-coated, brown-legged coolies was wanted. I knew from the tariff 40 sen that it would be a drive of four miles to the Metropole, an excellent hotel facing the Bay of Yeddo. Early next morning I set out for the Central Park about two miles distant. This is a large open space with broad gravel walks and drives but scantily supplied with trees. A high stone wall on the further side is the boundary of the palace grounds in that direction. Within these precincts "no admission except on business," so we