



M. ITO, JAPANESE IMPERIAL MINISTER.

and a viceroy may rule two or three provinces. These viceroys and governors have cabinets of their own. They have the power of life and death over their subjects. They each have an army of their own. Li Hung Chang had an armed and drilled force of about 35,000 men in the province of Chili. At Nanking the viceroy has an army of about 30,000 men. The governor of Foochow has 60,000 men under him, including his land and marine forces. He has charge of the large navy yard at Foochow, and has some thousands of men there at work building war ships.

Frank Carpenter writing of Peking, the capital of China, says:—

"Peking is a most cosmopolitan city. It is frozen up for six months of the year, and one can have sleighing on the Peiho at Christmas. In Peking you find representatives of every Chinese state, all different, and the dialects as various as the languages of Europe. There are celestials from all the large cities. Thibet, Mongolia, Manchuria, and parts of Afghanistan, are all tributary to China, and the people of half-a-dozen religions jostle each other as they wade through the streets. One of the strangest sights are the nomadic Mongolians, who ride into the city on great camels or dromedaries, covered with wool from six to twelve inches long. These come from the cold regions of Mongolia or Siberia, and one may often see caravans of these camels marching in single file, and fastened by sticks stuck through the thick flesh of their noses. They bring great bundles of furs for the diletante mandarins of Peking, and carry back brick, tea and coal to the Tartars and Russians. Many of these were ridden by Mongol women, who, clad in coats, pantaloons and fur caps, rode astride. Thus, too, one sees hundreds of Thibetan lamas in their gorgeous robes, and Mohammedans from the west part of China.

One sees many a strange sight in these Pekingese streets. They are filled with a stream

of 'yellow humanity of all classes, ages and sexes. You pass gorgeous officials on Mongolian ponies, the backs of some of which are decorated with arrows, and you know they are on their way to the shooting matches outside of Peking. You go by silk-gowned mandarins in carts, who scowl at you as you peep into the little glass windows of their vehicles. You see scholars with spectacles as big as trade dollars, and everywhere you go you are assaulted by beggars. "I remember," says Mr. Carpenter, "one boy who followed me day after day. The weather was bitterly cold, and I shivered in my fur ulster. This boy was naked to the waist and his arms had been cut off at the shoulder. He held a pan in his mouth and followed me, switching his body this way and that, to show me his mutilation. I was glad to give him two or three cents to be freed from the sight."

There is one gate in Peking which is always crowded with beggars, and one of the finest bridges in the city, a structure of marble, has been given up entirely to beggars. It is full of the lame and the halt and the blind, and men with festering sores, women without eyes, and persons possessing all sorts of horrible diseases crowd together upon it. They push their way into the city, and threaten to cut themselves if you don't give them alms.

"Side by side with these beggars walk the gorgeous officials, and poverty and wealth march together in pairs. There is no place in the world where the contrasts are so great, and for nine-tenths of the people it would seem to me their condition could not be worse. These Chinese are as industrious as any race on the globe. They are peaceable and easily governed, and the celestial officials, including the em-



TYPICAL JAPANESE ILLUSTRATION OF A VICTORY OVER THE CHINESE.