

OKUMA, THE PRESIDENT MONROE OF JAPAN

THIS is the year of triumph for Japan. It is especially the year of triumph for Premier Shigenobu Okuma, leader of the party of the people, and for his war cry, "Asia for the Asiatics."

There has been a little discontent at the "compromise" with China. This was bound to be so in the most warlike nation on earth. But Japanese who are better informed know there has been no compromise. Group V may have been left "for later discussion," but the Japanese leaders will exact every demand embodied in it from time to time.

Thus Okuma, the one-legged grand old man of Japan, sees his great idea coming to fruition. He knows the Japanese people will willingly spend their blood like water. All Japan has needed for conquest is money. Japanese strategy is not of the year or the decade, but of the century and the millennium. Money, but not enough, has come out of Korea and South Manchuria. Money—money for battleships and siege guns, for submarines and aeroplanes—will now flow from China into Japan.

Centuries ago untutored Japan made conquests on the mainland and adopted Chinese culture. Sixty years ago she threw off the culture of Japan for the efficiency of the West. Now she will go a step farther and with iron fist impose western efficiency on China.

Modern wars are fought with factories. With 400,000,000 Chinese laboring to supply munitions of war in her rear, sixty millions of Japanese will present the front of their warrior nation to the white race and tell it to get out of the western Pacific—and some day will tell the French to get out of Cochinchina and the British to get out of India.

These are the aims of Okuma. They are not hazy national aspirations, but active policies that Japan is working every minute of her time to carry out. Okuma proclaimed them openly and loudly when he was of the party of the opposition. On this platform of militarism he won his campaign in the spring of 1914 and ousted the Yamamoto party. For a year he has been in control and his hold is stronger than ever.

Being at the head of the nation his words soften. He exudes honey to Great Britain and sends messages breathing the spirit of peace to the United States. Japan is not deceived. They have long seen these two irreconcilable currents of expression flow from Okuma's mouth—and they know which one to believe. They believe only the one which accords with the spirit of the samurai, the "two sword man."

In Japan both the nobles and the commoners are militaristic. Okuma is a noble, but he has chosen to lead the commoners. Perhaps this is because he came from neither of the two leading clans which for many years controlled Japan, but of a weaker clan, the Hizen. Throughout his life he has fought against the clan system and in favor of the constitutional monarchy, now for years strongly established.

At seventy-seven, Okuma is still fiery and energetic. He was a boy of twenty, living in a small Japanese town, when the visit of Commodore Perry and the granting of treaty rights to foreigners by the shogun set all Japan talking about the "red-haired barbarians." Okuma had a great curiosity to learn about the world outside Japan. He heard of an American missionary, Doctor Veerbeek, and went to him secretly—not to embrace Christianity, but to learn. First of all he learned to read the Bible. Then came the one political document the devoted missionary possessed, the Declaration of Independence.

His soul was set on fire. When seventy years old, he said: "The reading of the Declaration of Independence when I was a boy made such an impression upon my soul that the doctrines proclaimed by it have ever been my guiding rule in life." Thomas Jefferson became his model and he studied everything he could find about the American statesman.

In his youth came the great Japanese civil war between the mikado's party and the old feudalists. Okuma left school and plunged into the thick of the fray. The mikado's party, having adopted western military tactics, won its battle, and the mikado was established as supreme in Tokyo. Okuma was put in a position in the office of foreign affairs.

The intricacies of Japanese politics in the last half of the nineteenth century are difficult for an American to understand without long study. Sufficient to say that Okuma was in the

FAMOUS IN ENGLISH HISTORY

Canterbury Cathedral a Point of Interest That Has Few Equals in the World.

The only king buried in Canterbury cathedral is Henry IV. and his tomb is on one side of the place of the shrine. On the other is the tomb of Edward the Black Prince. Above him hangs the armor which he wore. The ancient stone coffin of Hubert Walter,



EMPEROR OF JAPAN

their lives as light as the weather. On the other hand, Americans and Europeans attach too much importance to money; those who love money love their lives. Suppose the Americans and Japanese—whose ideas of death

are fundamentally different—should come to fighting. The final result will be easily foretold.

Although not so truculent just at present Count Okuma for several years in the caucuses of his party, in his newspaper organs, and in the familiar conversations which he was wont to hold with the former pupils of his great school, had a habit of speaking of the United States very much as he spoke of Russia in the years before the war, as a great power which will have to be humbled to secure the salvation of Japan.

Even before the Russian war the count said: "A Japanese must be respected wherever he goes. We yield to no one, not even to the Romans, in pride in citizens and citizenship."

The British probably have not forgotten Okuma's famous outburst in which he said:

"Being oppressed by the Europeans, the three hundred million people of India are looking for Japanese protection. The Japanese ought to go to India, the South ocean and the other parts of the world."

Nor will anyone who knows Japan's history doubt that she intends to hold Kiauchau, the Carolines, Marianne and Marshall islands in the South Pacific. She took these from Germany and already some capital is being invested and experts have been sent from the ministries of agriculture and commerce to study the question of the exploitation of these islands.

PIRATES IN CHINESE WATERS

Freebooters Extend Their Operations to Land Expeditions, and Frequently Loot Villages.

A favorite form of freebooting in Chinese waters takes the form of river piracy. The pirates themselves are, unlike their deep-water outlaw brethren, more of the jackal type, slinking, cowardly, but still murderous and deadly whenever they fall in with unarmed parties. They infest the shallow rivers, creeks and canals which cut in from the China coast.

The big junks, in use by the deep-sea freebooters, are of no earthly good in shallow waters, and so the river robbers make use of light-draft craft known locally as "fast crabs" and "scrambling dragons." The West river near Canton is a favorite ground for these shallow-water freebooters, although the great Yangtze-Kiang river is also infested with them.

In their little craft they navigate without trouble over the shallows and rapids inland as far as Chungking, which is more than 1,000 miles from the coast, and instead of preying upon the merchant ships and steamers of the deep, they loot villages, murder travelers, massacre white concessionaires, and cause untold trouble to the missionaries, of whom there are many hundreds in this part of inland China. And it is against these river pirates particularly that the activities of the little Palos and Monocacy will be directed.

For several years England, Germany and Japan maintained light-draft river boats for use against the pirates and now the United States follows their example. China, too, will soon add several vessels of a similar type to her service.

During the last four years several citizens of the United States have been murdered by Chinese pirates.

created archbishop by Richard I on the field of Acre, always interests tourists, for as chancellor he raised the ransom for his king.

In the warriors' chapel is the tomb of Archbishop Stephen Langton, who led the barons in their struggle against King John, compelling him to grant the Magna Charta.

When Henry VIII separated the English church from Rome he emptied the wealth of the cathedral into the king's treasury; otherwise the tourist would be permitted to view a vast

WHERE MEN LIVE AND FIGHT

Visitor to the German Trenches Describes Their Construction and Arrangements.

Three hours later I was in the German trench at La Bassée. When I had accustomed myself to the steady crackling of rifles in the firing pits, which I could not see, but which I knew must be close by; when I had nervously counted the bursting of 20 shells, all in an appalling few minutes, yet had heard no plop of fragments burying themselves into the mud above, I began to be able to look about me. I was standing in a pit about seven feet deep and barely wide enough for two passing men to squeeze by. By turning my indispensable electric torch this way and that I could see in the rear wall of the trench a series of caves dug in the earth, their entrances so low that a man would have to enter them on hands and knees. In some I saw the faint yellowish gutter of candles and others were pitch dark. But in the front wall of the trench there were cut, at intervals so short that the place seemed a catacomb, narrow passages that led to the shooting pits, recesses not more than five feet wide, reinforced at the level of the ground with sandbags and armor; and on either side of these approach passages I saw the holes in the earth in which men lived, and ate when they weren't in the pits, their guns toward the enemy. At the lieutenant's suggestion I went down into one of the caves.

"Later," he said, "you won't want to be moving around much. It'll get hotter then, and you'll want to remain in one place where you're sure the shelter is good."—The Christian Herald.

Yorkshire has 12,000 looms weaving khaki.

amount of priceless gifts left at the shrine.

Crownwell once stabled the horses of his army in the church, and the marks of the hoofs are plainly discernible in the nave.

When visiting England make a pilgrimage to Canterbury, for this old cathedral, begun in 1070, is rich with historical interest, and in its architectural features can be traced the building of the English empire. Her archbishops wielded a mighty influence to the time of the Reformation.

In the PUBLIC EYE

SUPERSTITION OF MR. MORTON



house, fate being thus vetoed, according to the tradition governing it.

And all this was done. Washington was surprised to see the old Morton house go down, for old though it was, it was still one of the great houses of Washington. It stood on Scott Circle, occupying a whole triangular block and imposing in its mass of pressed red brick, the whole treated in Queen Anne style. Here in his day Mr. Morton has entertained lavishly, for he is many times a millionaire.

Levi P. Morton, vice-president under the second President Harrison, who has just celebrated his ninety-first birthday, has successfully weathered a superstition, over which he is congratulating himself as much as over the fact that he is well on the way to a full century of life. When eighty-nine years old he wanted to live in a new house in Washington, which he had determined upon as his winter residence, giving up New York city, where he had lived. He also wished to have the house on the site of the one he had occupied while vice-president and which he owned. He was aware, however, of the superstition that when a man pulls down an old home of his and displaces it with a new house he is likely to die in it in the course of the first year of his occupation of it. Nevertheless he was determined to have the new house, and to get around the superstition used some of the old walls in the new

HEIR TO GREEK THRONE

Should death be the result of the illness of King Constantine of Greece, it will bring to the throne one of the most soldierly young princes of Europe's young royalty. Crown Prince George, the oldest son of King Constantine and Queen Sophia, saw service in the two Balkan wars and gained a reputation for bravery and valorous performance. He was wounded in action at Janina. Until the present war he enjoyed the distinction of being the only heir to a European throne who bore the scars of battle. He is twenty-five years old.

Reports conflict as to the stand Prince George takes concerning the great European war now going on. One has it that the heir apparent has been identified with the war party and is an intimate friend of ex-Premier Eleutherios Venizelos, who resigned recently as head of the Greek cabinet because the king was not in sympathy with the allies. This report also carried the prediction that in the event of King Constantine's death the new monarch would at once summon Venizelos to form a cabinet, a course which would be tantamount to the entry of Greece into the war.

On the other hand, the sympathies of the crown prince in the present struggle are said to be on the side of Germany. This report gains credence from the facts of his German kinship and German education and military training. His mother, the queen, is a sister of Kaiser Wilhelm. The king was also educated in Germany and received his military training there.



BOUGHT WINDOW DISPLAY



anxious to know just why the millionaire publisher desired this collection of pictures of some more or less noted persons.

An interesting story is being told in Washington about Mr. John R. McLean. Mr. McLean is very fond of taking walks downtown in the business district, disdaining the use of any automobile or carriage, as a rule, when he wishes to go from one place to another, or to take the air in a saunter along the crowded thoroughfares. The other day he was strolling down F street and happened to see in a photographer's display window a complete collection of photographs of all the prominent persons who have been identified with the controversy between the Riggs National bank and officials of the treasury department. A fancy struck Mr. McLean to have the collection, and he marched himself into the photographer's and bought the collection outright, having it sent home, and thus breaking up one of the most interesting window displays on F street.

LEADER OF WOMAN LABORERS

Once there was an eager little German girl, of whom, perhaps, you could find traces in the brave, forceful face of Emma Steghagen, labor leader, delegate to the recent convention of the National Women's Trade Union league at New York. You might find a suggestion of the thin, emotional child in the figure, bowed by factory labor, yet energetic with the spirit of protest.

This little girl lived before woman suffrage had become a national issue, before the serious magazines were producing special suffrage issues, even before the cartoons were exploiting the "suffragette"—yet in her own mind she had evolved the theory that women had a right to suffrage and to labor organization. She was only fourteen when the time came for her to stop school and go to work in the factory.

"I was miserable at the time," said Miss Steghagen, in telling the story, "for it was my ambition to be a schoolteacher, which was, of course, impossible, since my father was a laborer. One of the things which I have to be thankful for in life is that I did not realize this ambition; that I was able to champion the cause of labor from the laborer's standpoint. I was bound to have devoted my life to this work of organizing the woman workers, and my usefulness has been increased tenfold because I have been a boot-and-shoe worker myself for twenty-five years."



Expression Misunderstood.

There is a certain young man who used to be notoriously egotistic. Some of his acquaintances were one day speaking of him before an old lady who was not "up" in the slang expressions of the day.

The next time she met him she put out a congratulatory hand.

"Oh, Mr. Smith," she cried, "I am so glad you are better! I heard last week that you had a swelled head."

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And No Wonder.

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