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perfect effect, clothing all the mountain sides with purple and russet hues, giving a mantle of rich and ever changing colour to all the headlands and distant ranges. Junks and boats, with their picturesque sails, and war-vessels of different nationalities, are never wanting to give life and movement to the whole.

There must be something essentially pleasant in new sensations and novelties in almost every form, since not only do we give ourselves much trouble to acquire them, but generally find gratification when they are secured. No travelling in Europe can rob Japan of its peculiar claims to admiration under this head, for nothing in the West resembles a thousand things that meet the eye. It must often have been remarked how books or photographs fail to enable any one completely to realise a new country and people. Once amongst them, it is discovered immediately that the ideal is something very different from the actual embodiment. This is essentially true of people, towns, and streets, and the effect of costumes, differing widely from those to which the eye has been accustomed. Certainly, as regards the first view of Japan, there are special items, in the figure, physiognomy, costume, and customs of the people, for which even I was not prepared, although I had so recently seen much of the Chinese.