

in any quantity; then basket and lacquer work, earthenware, toys, and glass ornaments. However, passing on so rapidly, it was not more than a cursory glance that could be obtained of the novelties displayed. Hundreds of similar vehicles to the one I was in were passing in all directions; while the number of foot-passengers, all apparently happy and contented, gave the scene an air of life and animation.

Leaving the streets for the suburbs, showy little cottages, each surrounded by gardens laid out with tasteful neatness and artistic skill, are passed; and so through shady lanes, bordered by hedges with rich and waving foliage, until reaching the inclosure where my vehicle stops. "Ikura ka," I was taught to say, and I found I had been riding all this distance for an *ichi-bu*. My friend was in waiting to receive me, and we entered the building he occupies, which had at one time been attached to a large temple near at hand, and for which this part of Yedo is famous. The house appears to have been built in the position it occupies with a view to the charming prospect it commands. It has broad verandahs running round it, every door and partition sliding backwards and forwards in grooves, instead of opening and shutting in our ordinary way.

Entering by the doorway, and passing through a spacious hall, matted according to the government regulation, which prescribes that every mat manufactured throughout the empire shall be of one size,