

Japanese coast, a flock of about 20 Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) came to rest on the rigging. They were very tired, and allowed themselves to be caught with the hand. Yokohama was at length reached on April 11th.

At Japan I had the good fortune to become acquainted with Mr. F. V. Dickins, a barrister, practising at Yokohama, who is an accomplished Japanese scholar, and at the same time deeply versed and interested in all branches of science. I am mainly indebted to him for what little knowledge I gained of the country. I travelled with him overland from Kioto to Yokohama.

I have never met with any persons, whether naval officers or members of other professions, or ordinary travellers who have been to Japan, who did not wish to go there again, so charming are the people, and so full of interest to every one is the country and its belongings.

No traveller can fail to be impressed by the great powers of endurance shown by the Japanese coolies. Two coolies will drag a man in a jinriksha a distance of 30 miles in six hours, along a road anything but good. The same two men dragged me at a fair pace 30 miles on each of two successive days.

When great speed is required, three coolies are taken, and as they run they encourage one another all the way with shouts, "quickly," "quickly," "now pull up," and so on, and when several jinrikshas are travelling together, the shouting reminds one of a pack of hounds in cry. The coolies only get from four to six shillings apiece for such a day's hard work.

I travelled more than 200 miles in this way with Mr. Dickins along the great military road between the two capitals, called the Tokaido (East sea road). The start was from Kobe. Here I was delighted to see a Sacred White Horse kept in a stall at one of the temples. The Japanese came up one after another and uttered a short prayer before the horse, clapping their hands reverently together in the attitude of prayer. Close by an old man sold small measurefuls of boiled maize to be given as offerings. I bought a measureful for the horse, which responded with alacrity to that form of worship, and I could not help going through the other form as well in memory of ancient reverence for the white horse in my own country.

There seems to be a parallel for everything European in Japan, even for the most out-of-the-way customs. At Kama Nisigamo, near Kioto, on the slope of a hill called Daimogiyama, is a huge representation of the written character "dai," "great." This is cut out on the hill side.