

variably show exquisite taste in the arrangement of colours.

Tea, sweets, and saki were served in diminutive china cups, and before we left, attendants brought in, and placed before each, gold and lacquer bowls with chopsticks. Chicken and vegetables, duck and sweet jelly, fish and seaweed, were passed round.

At first we found some difficulty in using the chopsticks, which amused our fair friends very much; nor could we help laughing ourselves at our awkward attempts. Then pipes and tobacco were in requisition, the ladies joining; and although their pipes are small, and the tobacco used is of a delicate description, I should infer from what I saw that they are great smokers.

It was near sunset as we took our leave, the ladies bowing low and speaking a few words in their native language, which we understood to be all sorts of good wishes for our future success, the host accompanying us to the porch, bidding us farewell.

We had spent a most agreeable and entertaining day, the kindness, hospitality, and general good temper of our host and hostess leaving a very pleasant impression.

The view from this point was very fine, embracing the far-off hills of the opposite shore, the island of Awadji, at the entrance of the inland sea, the river to Osaka, and an ever moving mass of white sails of