

We would fain speak at length of the Kyoto Art School, of the Lace School, of the Deaf and Dumb School, of the workers in Lacquer, and of many other industries whose attractive products will certainly figure at the Exhibition. But the space at our command is limited to this brief notice.

IKEDA SEISUKE.

Among the general art manufacturers of Kyoto, mention must be made of Mr. Ikeda Seisuke, who, though originally a dealer in bric-à-brac only, has of late years developed a spirit of remarkable enterprise. His show-rooms are in themselves worthy of a visit, for they certainly rank at the head of all such places in Japan, and constitute a striking example of the national taste in interior arrangement combined with the facilities of an exhibition. It was evidently Ikeda's prime idea to contrive that his customers should be able to see for themselves the actual processes whose beautiful products are displayed in his show-rooms, so that he might appeal simultaneously to the inquisitive and acquisitive propensities of the public. In one of his ateliers may be seen the manufacture of that beautiful *tetsu-zogan*, or iron inlaid with gold and silver, for which Kyoto and Kaga are so famous. Ten years' constant practice is needed to educate a proficient in this most difficult work, but like all the beautiful products of Japan the processes are simple and the appliances few. The emoluments, too, are petty, for an artizan, whatever skill he may develop, cannot look forward to receiving more than £40 annually. One of Mr. Ikeda's most notable innovations is the use of copper as a basis for lacquer. Only the finest gold lacquer can support the extreme changes of temperature in an American residence: the wood on which the lacquer is laid warps and splits. This difficulty is of course overcome by substituting metal for wood, and in Ikeda's factory the substitution has been effected with such skill that while the lightness and delicacy of the wooden fabric are preserved, absolute durability under all circumstances is secured.