

porcelain in Kyoto, who introduced him to Mr. Kotaro Asukai, an experienced expert who had just left the institute, and they worked together for the common end. The result was the organization of the Teikoku Porcelain Factory. Not long after this the factory found true sympathizers in Dr. Tsunezo Saito, Managing Director of the Toyo Spinning Co.; Mr. Tominosuke Kadono, Vice-President of the Nagoya Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Teiji Okano and other prominent men of the city, by whose investments the factory was converted into a limited partnership under the present firm name with a capital of ¥150,000, on the 1st October, 1911.

Providing the workshops with kilns and machines of the latest pattern the company's manufactures won high opinions in the foreign market and were able to cope with the German and Austrian articles. On the 1st March, 1914, the Terazawa firm, hitherto managed by Mr. Terazawa for the sale of porcelains, was amalgamated with the company. This amalgamation added further prosperity to the concern. In December, 1915, the capital was increased to ¥225,000 fully paid up.

The market opened up abroad at that time for the company's manufactures was confined chiefly to America, followed by England, Korea and a part of China. As the result, however, of the outbreak of hostilities the outlet has been extended to Australia, India and Southern Islands.

In order to meet these increasing demands the company established two more furnaces last year and at the same time enlarged the workshops. In the meantime the demands in America have greatly increased. The company is therefore establishing three more kilns, expecting to have them completed in December next, when the furnaces in operation will number nine in all.

Remarkable improvements have been made in the art of manufacture, the most notable being the manufacture of dinner vase. Improvements made in the art of painting is no less remarkable. In order to keep abreast of the times the company dispatched its officers abroad to inspect the latest situation of the market. It has lost no opportunity to put its articles on exhibit both at home and abroad and was awarded many prizes on these occasions. In exporting its articles the company has made it a general rule to send them direct to customers instead of through intermediate hands. The company has under contemplation the establishment of branches and agencies abroad.

Managing partners comprise Messrs. T. Terazawa, K. Asukai and K. Horiguchi.

SPECIALITIES :—Dinner sets, tea sets, chocolate sets, berry sets, trinket sets, cups and saucers, plates, bowls, dishes, jugs, egg cups, boxes, vases etc., in printed and hand-painted designs, both of coloured and blue and white for export only. The annual output reaches ¥1,200,000.

MR. NAMIKAWA YASUYUKI.

(MAKER OF CLOISONNE WARE.)

THERE are two master makers of cloisonne ware in Japan, who are justly called the leaders of the art.



CLOISONNE WARES MADE BY MR. Y. NAMIKAWA.

One is Mr. Yasuyuki Namikawa, living at Horiike-machi, Sanjo-dori, Higashi-iru-Kitaura, Kyoto, and the other Mr. Sosuke Namikawa in Tokyo. The former has for many years been Teishitsu Gigei In, or Artist to the Imperial Household, as his elaboration of the art of making cloisonne ware, striped with gold and silver, is so highly appreciated both by the Court and the nation.

Mr. Yasuyuki Namikawa has never been apprenticed in this line of art, and all he has done has been invented by himself. He is an original inventor, and an artist in the truest sense of the word. The great master was a samurai in the service of an Imperial prince, and immediately before and after the Restoration he and his master underwent many hard trials.

When stricken with extreme poverty, chance brought him a friend who had some knowledge of cloisonne ware. With very scanty means, these friends commenced, in their shed, to manufacture crude articles. It was in 1870, when

Mr. Namikawa showed his articles to a certain firm in Kobe, that the novelty struck the proprietor of the firm, and between them a contract was arranged that all articles produced by Mr. Namikawa would be bought by the firm.



MR. Y. NAMIKAWA.

A few years later, Mr. Namikawa was deserted by his friend, while lying ill. He was thus compelled to commence again with the support of a lacquer ware wholesale dealer in

Kyoto. Everything had to be newly devised and prepared by himself, from the simplest process of fastening wires to copper plates to the mixture of colours. Mr. Namikawa often spent months in producing a single colour effect. His diligence was, however, soon rewarded, for his exhibits at the industrial exhibition in Kyoto, in 1875, were appreciated and he was awarded a copper medal.

His name as a cloisonne ware maker was soon widely known, and he was given many commissions, but more trials and difficulties were in store for him, for in 1881 he was compelled to rearrange his affairs for the second time, as his articles were rejected by a Yokohama firm with whom he had a contract for five years, they being unsaleable, while he realized there were many defects and shortcomings in his goods.

He discharged all his hands, and with a few apprentices again began his experiments. The new experiments and trials met with success and he could resume his business with confidence. His hard struggles and diligence of many years are now amply rewarded, and he enjoys the high honour of being ranked among the finest artists in Japan, being decorated with the "Blue Ribbon" Medal.

Mr. Namikawa has his workshop in the compounds of his residence. There he works all the year round. A kiln is also constructed in the compounds of his residence, where no one but himself is allowed to enter, and everything from a small pot to the largest flower vase is finished by himself.

NIPPON GAKKI SEIZO KABUSHIKI KAISHA.

(THE JAPAN MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.)

THIS company, situated at Hamamatsu, Shidzuoka prefecture, is widely known, both at home and abroad, as a first class manufacturer of all kinds of musical instruments. Especially pianos, organs, and violins have the name of "Yamaha." "Butterfly" harmonicas are produced by the company, also toy organs and other wooden articles on an extensive scale. Large quantities of these goods go to Europe and America, as well as to China, Australia, British India, Hongkong, and South America.

The company's head office and factories are situated at Hamamatsu, Shidzuoka prefecture, with branches at Dairen and Tokyo. The Tokyo Office at Takekawa-cho, Ginza, carries on business under the name of Kyoeki Shosha, and the Dairen Office under the style of the Yamaha Yoko. The firm was originally established in the early years of Meiji by the late

Mr. T. Yamaha, at Hamamatsu, under the name of the Yamaha Organ Manufactory. It was the first establishment in Japan to turn out perfect Western musical instruments.

In March, 1889, Mr. T. Yamaha's personal business was converted into a limited partnership, with a capital of ¥30,000 and the enterprise assumed a more definite and business-like shape. With this the demand for its manufactures increased, and Mr. T. Yamaha enlarged his activities.

Just before the Sino-Japanese war, the company was in difficulties owing to the general depression in business circles, and Mr. Yamaha's firm suffered, but he struggled with his experiments in the manufacture of pianos, and won success in 1897.