

## Our Dress.

Our dress is quite different from foreign dress. It is a very curious, inconvenient, and peculiar dress, not fitting tight to our bodies, and reaching below our legs, but it is <sup>so very</sup> convenient and agreeable in summer that many foreigners wear it, instead of ~~wearing~~ their own dress. We wear long robes which are fastened around the waist, with a girdle. In this girdle, we formerly carried two swords, a large and a small one, for fighting. We also wear wide loose trousers called Hakama, instead of close trousers. To cover our feet, we use black or white socks made of cloth or muslin, so that they keep our feet warm in winter, and also they shield our feet in summer. In cold days in winter, we <sup>wear</sup> a long loose coat called Haori which is made of silk, cloth, over our other clothes, and also we use a hood which is black or brown to cover our head. At funeral, or festival days, and at marriages we use a very curious dress called Omishimo. The Japanese woman's dress is also long robes, like the men, which are also bound round the waist, with a large and wide girdle, which is made of silk, and other beautiful materials.

But now all these fashions are almost changed  
in Japan because the men wear hats and caps  
after <sup>the</sup> European style, and also foreign dress  
for convenience.

9

K.O. Katome.

