

# THINGS JAPANESE

BEING

NOTES ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS CONNECTED WITH JAPAN

FOR THE USE OF TRAVELLERS AND OTHERS

BY

BASIL HALL CHAMBERLAIN

EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF JAPANESE AND PHILOLOGY IN THE IMPERIAL  
UNIVERSITY OF TŌKYŌ

Fourth Edition Revised & Enlarged

LONDON :

JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET

YOKOHAMA  
SHANGHAI

{

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED

{

HONGKONG  
SINGAPORE

1902

[*All rights reserved*]



*Comprendre les choses, c'est avoir été dans les choses puis en être sorti ; il y faut donc captivité, puis délivrance, illusion et désillusion, engouement et désabusement. Celui qui est encore sous le charme et celui qui n'a pas subi le charme sont incompetents. On ne connaît bien que ce qu'on a cru puis jugé. Pour comprendre il faut être libre et ne l'avoir pas toujours été . . . . . Comprendre est plus difficile que juger, car c'est entrer objectivement dans les conditions de ce qui est, tandis que juger c'est simplement émettre une opinion individuelle.*

(H. F. AMIEL, *Journal Intime*.)



## PREFACE.

---

In the unlikely event of any one instituting a minute comparison between this edition and its predecessor, he would find minor alterations innumerable,—here a line erased, there a paragraph added, or again a figure changed, a statement qualified, a description or a list brought up to date, even a score of completely new articles inserted. But take it altogether, the book remains the same as heretofore. It would seem to have found favour in many quarters, to judge from the manner in which, years after its first appearance, newspapers and book-makers continue to quote wholesale from it without acknowledgment ; and the title, which it cost us much cogitation to devise, and which we borrowed ultimately from the Spanish phrase *cosas de España*, has passed into general use, even coming to supply titles for similar works written about other lands in imitation of this one.

The article on *Archæology* contributed by Mr. W. G. Aston, C.M.G., that on *Geology* by Prof. John Milne, F.R.S., and that on *Catholic Missions* by the Abbé