

Review

JAPAN AND THE JAPANESE

ESSAYS

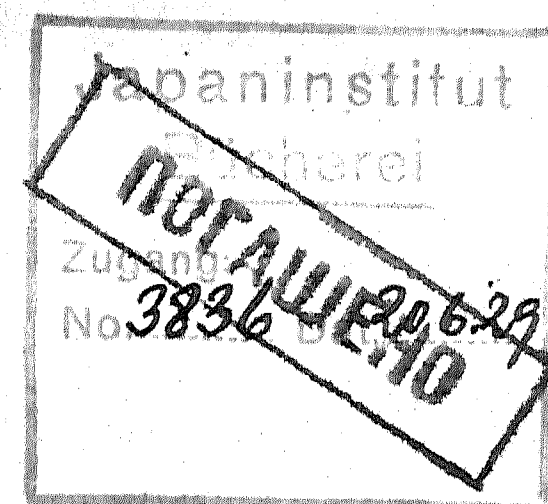
BY

KANZŌ UCHIMURA.



TOKIO, JAPAN:
THE MINYUSHA.

1894.



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JAPAN AND THE JAPANESE

ESSAYS

Institut zur Förderung
der wechselseitigen Kenntnis
des geistigen Lebens
und der öffentlichen Einrichtungen
in Deutschland und Japan.
(JAPANINSTITUT)

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NOTE.

Owing to the absence of the author from the seat of the press, many errors and omissions have crept into these pages, the more conspicuous of which are as follows :

PAGE	LINE	CORRECTIONS AND INSERTIONS.
4	22	For "Huns....crushed" read "Ham....cursed."
10	6	For "considerable" read "considerate."
12	16	Insert "harm" after "without doing."
15	25	For "things" read "thinks."
20	7	For "restoring" read "resorting."
22	26	Insert "thought" after "associations."
40	16	For "just" read "first."
44	19	For "look a look" read "look a little."
52	13	For "goldlike" read "godlike."
54	33	For "having" read "leaving."
66	5	For "natural" read "paternal."
75	29	For "also" read "alas."
77	10	Insert "the son" before "filial."
78	22	Insert "and unbelievable" after "believable."
79	26	For "imititative" read "initiative."
81	31	Insert "and" after "faith."
83	32	Insert "with" after "near by."
92	18	For "image" read "imagine."
93	20	Insert "sects" after "older."

PREFACE.

These Essays, the last two of which were already once given to the public, and the others prepared with no special aim for the present occasion, are now printed together, with a hope that their appearance in this form at this time may help somewhat the right appreciation of some of our chief national characters. The author is fully aware of the truth of a statement once made by Lord Macaulay that no noble work of literary art was ever composed by any man, "except in a dialect which he had learned without remembering how or when;" i. e. except in his own mother-tongue. While yet this may be all very true, the advantage of one writing about his own country is evident enough; and when, as at present, so much is written about Japan by travellers who examined it "at the rate of forty miles an hour," anything that is "of native origin" may not be wholly unwelcome. It certainly is no glory to an author to be ever compelled to employ a *foreign language* in expressing himself to the world, for thereby he admits the world-narrowness of his own. The Great Taiko's noble ambition to make Japanese the language of the world is yet to be realized; and till that is accomplished, an attempt like this is often necessity. With an entire confidence therefore in our aims and purposes, and no confidence whatever in our syntax and gerund-laws, these are sent forth for what they are really worth, and for no more.

The Author.

Kyōto, Japan.

The Day after the Naval Victory
in the Yellow Sea.

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