

JAPAN AND THE PACIFIC



JAPAN & THE NORTH PACIFIC.



JAPAN AND THE PACIFIC,

AND

A JAPANESE VIEW OF THE EASTERN QUESTION.

BY

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(Cantab)

WITH MAPS

London

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TO
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THIS BOOK IS RESPECTFULLY
DEDICATED
IN GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HIS KINDNESS
AND IN ADMIRATION OF HIS QUALITIES AS A
HISTORIAN
BY THE AUTHOR

PREFACE.



I FEEL that some explanation is due when a Japanese ventures to address himself to English readers ; my plea is that the matters on which I write are of vital importance to England as well as to Japan. Though I feel that my knowledge of English is so imperfect that many errors of idiom and style and even of grammar must appear in my pages, yet I hope that the courtesy which I have ever experienced in this country will be extended also to my book.

My aim has been twofold : on the one hand, to arouse my own countrymen to a sense of the great part Japan has to play in the coming century ; on the other, to call the

attention of Englishmen to the important position my country occupies with regard to British interests in the far East.

The first part deals with Japan and the Pacific Question : but so closely is the latter bound up with the so-called Eastern Question that in the second part I have traced the history of the latter from its genesis to its present development. Commencing with a historical retrospect of Russian and English policy in Eastern Europe, I have marked the appearance of a rivalry between these two Powers which has extended from Eastern Europe to Central Asia, and is extending thence to Eastern Asia and the Pacific. This I have done because any movement in Eastern Europe or Central Asia will henceforth infallibly spread northwards to the Baltic and eastwards to the Pacific. An acquaintance with the Eastern Question in all its phases will thus be necessary for the statesmen of Japan in the immediate future. I have confined my view to England and Russia because their interests in Asia and the North Pacific are so direct and so important that

they must enter into close relations with my own country in the next century.

I cannot claim an extensive knowledge of the problems I have sought to investigate, but it is my intention to continue that investigation in the several countries under consideration. By personal inquiries and observations in Eastern Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia, China, and the Malay Archipelago, I hope to correct some and confirm others of my conclusions.

I have to thank many members of the University of Cambridge for their help during the writing and publication of my book. To Professor Seeley especially, whose hints and suggestions with regard to the history of the eighteenth century in particular have been so valuable to me, I desire to tender my most hearty and grateful thanks. To Dr. Donald Macalister (Fellow and Lecturer of St. John's College) and Mr. Oscar Browning, M.A. (Fellow and Lecturer of King's College) I owe much for kindly encouragement and advice and assistance in many ways, while I am indebted to Mr. G.

E. Green, M.A. (St. John's College), for his labour in revising proofs and the ready help he has given me through the many years in which he has acted as my private tutor.

The chief works which I have used are Professor Seeley's "Expansion of England," Hon. Evelyn Ashley's "Life of Lord Palmerston," and Professor Holland's "European Concert in the Eastern Question." The latter I have consulted specially for the history of treaties.

M. INAGAKI.

CAIUS COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE,
April, 1890.

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