

**AN ARTIST'S LETTERS
FROM JAPAN.
[LONDON-1898]**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649063208

An Artist's Letters from Japan. [London-1898] by John La Farge

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THE GREAT STATUE OF BUDDHA AT KAMAKURA.

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BY
JOHN LA FARGE



LONDON
T. FISHER UNWIN
PATERNOSTER SQUARE
1898

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3/2/14

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THE DE VINNE PRESS, NEW YORK, U. S. A.

TO HENRY ADAMS, ESQ.

My Dear Adams: Without you I should not have seen the place, without you I should not have seen the things of which these notes are impressions. If anything worth repeating has been said by me in these letters, it has probably come from you, or has been suggested by being with you — perhaps even in the way of contradiction. And you may be amused by the lighter talk of the artist that merely describes appearances, or covers them with a tissue of dreams. And you alone will know how much has been withheld that might have been indiscreetly said.

If only we had found Nirvana — but he was right who warned us that we were late in this season of the world.

J. L. F.



謹寄岡倉雅兄先生夏下文

拙文を存りて雅兄之尊名を以りて所以余
最初雅兄に接遇し書話を教聽し去るを
日本に凡ゆる愛慕ありし感懐を絶し
加て余貴名を以りて雅兄を思ひて
日お國を思ひ居りてあり

余文中に雅兄に意趣を會者し言ひ
雅兄が是を看破りて是級會の所
草を踏迫し流るる水は如く眼前
明に身を以りて是を種に河に流るるを
以て雅兄に余の意の之陽に地を以り
是後流るる水は如く是を以りて
多かりて今會也

WHICH IN ENGLISH MEANS:

AND YOU TOO, OKAKURA SAN: I wish to put your name before these notes, written at the time when I first met you, because the memories of your talks are connected with my liking of your country and of its story, and because for a time you were Japan to me. I hope, too, that some thoughts of yours will be detected in what I write, as a stream runs through grass—hidden, perhaps, but always there. We are separated by many things besides distance, but you know that the blossoms scattered by the waters of the torrent shall meet at its end.