

**A MAKER OF NEW JAPAN REV.
JOSEPH HARDY NEESIMA,
LL.D., PRESIDENT OF DOSHISHA
UNIVERSITY, KYOTO**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9781760575519

A maker of new Japan Rev. Joseph Hardy Neesima, LL.D., president of Doshisha university,
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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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J. D. DAVIS

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JOSEPH HARDY NEESIMA AND HIS WIFE

A MAKER OF NEW JAPAN

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L.L.D.

PRESIDENT OF DOSHISHA UNIVERSITY, KYOTO

BY

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"For me to live is Christ, to die is gain"

PHIL. I, 21

"For none of us liveth to himself, and none dieth to himself"

ROM. xiv, 7

With many Illustrations



FLEMING H. REVELL COMPANY

NEW YORK CHICAGO TORONTO

Publishers of Evangelical Literature

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PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

THE life, character, and work of our brother who was so recently "called up higher" were remarkable and unique; much of his life was spent in our midst here in Kyoto. For over fourteen years it was my privilege to be very intimately associated with him, and I have been asked to prepare a brief sketch of his life which may perhaps serve as an introduction to larger works which will doubtless be published later both in Japan and in the United States.

In preparing this sketch I have consulted Dr. Neesima's diary, written before he left his home for Hakodate, while on the voyage thither, and in Hakodate, up to the day he sailed from that place on his great quest for truth, and also a copy of the brief sketch of his life written by the late Miss Phebe Fuller McKeen, one of his Sabbath-school teachers; this sketch was written after Dr. Neesima had been in Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass., about a year. I have quoted freely from the latter in the first chapter and the beginning of the second, using Dr. Neesima's own words in broken English which he wrote out, or which his teacher above referred to copied from his lips before he had had an opportunity to master the English language. I have also quoted from his journal written on his trip around the world in 1884-85; I also quote freely from letters received from our brother during the last fifteen years, and I give in some detail the history of the

founding of the Doshisha schools, the great work of Dr. Neesima's life.

His presence with us has been a blessing, and his memory is a benediction to us all. My hope and prayer is that God may use this sketch for his own glory in the advancement of his Kingdom in Japan.

J. D. DAVIS.

DOSHISHA, KYOTO, February, 1890.

Preface to the Third Edition

THE ten years which have elapsed since the first American edition appeared have been eventful ones in Japan and in the institution to which Dr. Neesima gave his life.

The nationalistic and materialistic waves which were rising ten years ago, and which, for a time, threatened to change the character and the fundamental Christian principles of the Constitution of Doshisha, have spent their force, and the school is established on a permanent basis, in accordance with the new Civil Code of Japan. The new Board of Directors, five years ago, unanimously adopted a resolution stating that: "While it is invested with the title to the property of the institution and charged with its management, it holds all the properties of the Company in trust to carry out the wishes and purposes of its founder, in accordance with the unchangeable provisions of the Constitution." The members of the Board also stated that their understanding of the Christianity "which is to form the basis of the moral teaching in all the departments of the Doshisha school, under the unchangeable principles of the Constitution, is that body of living and fundamental Christian principles believed and accepted by the great Christian Churches of the world."

Nearly five hundred and fifty students were enrolled in the school during the last school year, and its Christian spirit, its discipline and its *esprit de corps* are constantly improving. The school is loyal to the memory and the principles of its founder.

A glance, taken a year ago, at the outcome of the school shows that it has had, and is having no small part in the moulding and regeneration of this nation, which is astonishing

the world by her progress along all material lines of advancement, and especially by her success in the mighty struggle in which she is now engaged with Russia. More than five thousand students have entered the school since its beginning. Of these, nearly one thousand have been graduated. In March, 1903, it was found that, of these graduates, over eighty were preaching the Gospel, one hundred and sixty-one were teaching, two hundred and twenty-one were engaged in business, one hundred and fifty-six were studying, twenty-seven were officials, sixteen were editors, etc.

Over one hundred graduates of the Girls' Department were in homes of their own, most of them centres of Christian homes, while more than seventy graduates of the Training School for Nurses were engaged as nurses.

About four thousand have left the school before graduation, and very many of these are engaged in useful work as preachers, teachers, etc.

The school looks forward into the future with great hope and courage. The rapidly increasing Christian constituency of the school, and the fact that the higher schools in Japan cannot receive more than one-third of the graduates of the Government Middle Schools, open a great field for the Doshisha, for it can furnish courses of study for young men to fit them for practical work along the lines which are most needed now in Japan, and at the same time give them the Christian teaching and the moral influence they need to make them men of character and ability.

The school greatly needs a larger endowment. It is crippled for lack of funds to do the work which is opening before it. May the time be hastened when some of those who are able to endow the educational institutions of America with their millions, shall have their vision and their love so broadened that they will gladly give to such institutions as Doshisha, in Japan and in China, their much needed endowment!

With many hundreds of Chinese and Korean young men and