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JAPAN IN HISTORY, FOLK-
LORE AND ART, PP. 1-218**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649617555

The Riverside Library for Young People, Number 10. Japan in History, Folk-Lore and Art, pp. 1-218 by William Elliot Griffis

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WILLIAM ELLIOT GRIFFIS

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AND ART**

BY WILLIAM ELLIOT GRIFFIS



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BY

WILLIAM ELLIOT GRIFFIS

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BOSTON AND NEW YORK
HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY

The Riverside Press, Cambridge

1894

- 28153 -



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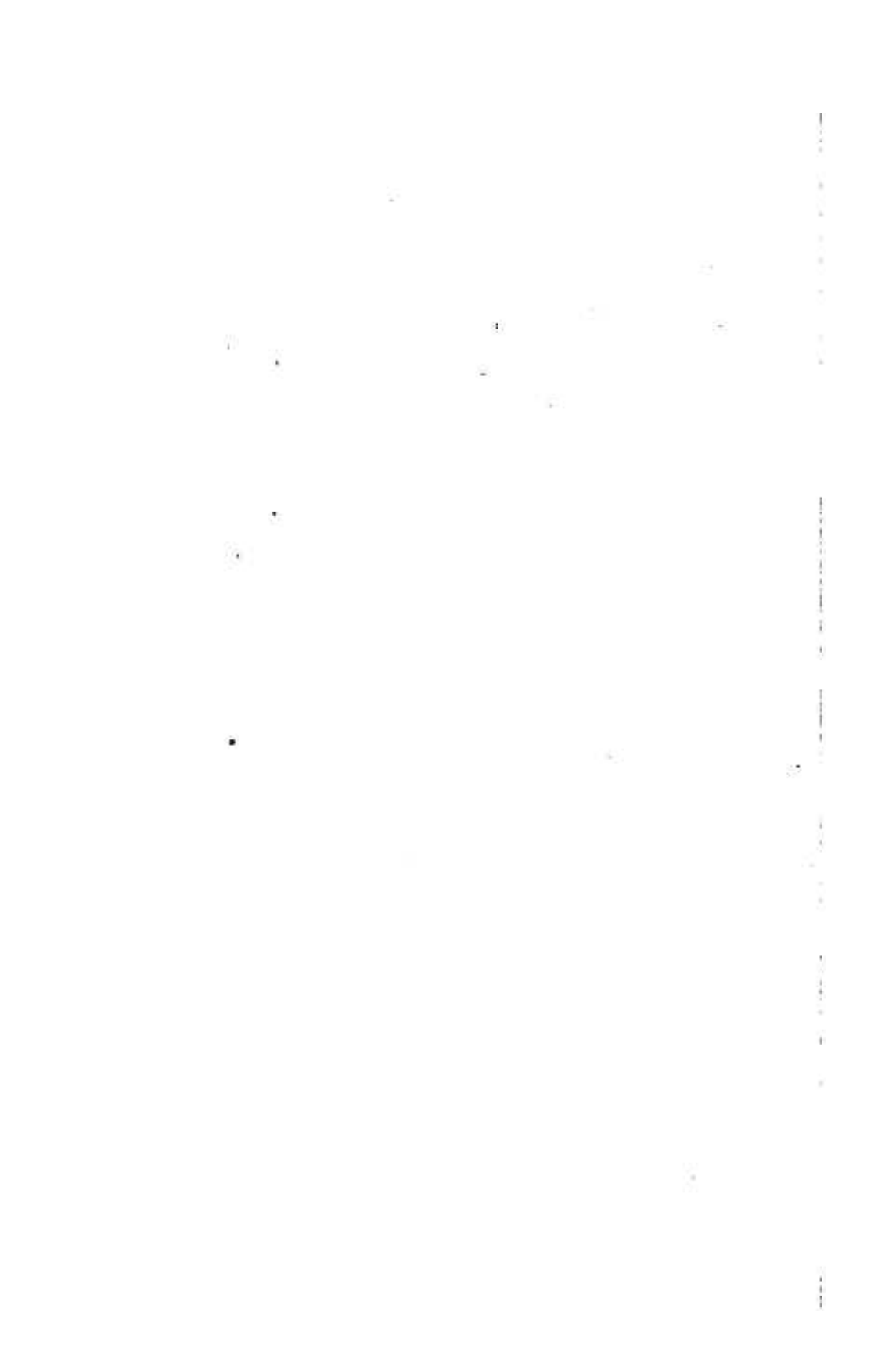
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The Riverside Press, Cambridge, Mass., U. S. A.
Electrotyped and Printed by H. O. Houghton & Company.

DEDICATED
TO
THE BOYS AND GIRLS
OF
CONSTITUTIONAL
JAPAN





PREFACE.

IN this contribution to the Riverside Library for Young People, I have told more about Kioto than about Yedo. I have sketched in outline the Japan of ages rather than of our own age. While political history is the chief theme, my aim has been to show how and why the Japanese see and think as they do. The adoption of Western civilization changes the outer, but does not greatly modify the inner man. Believing also that what the dignified historians write is only part of a people's true history, I have sought, from their customs and folk-lore, as well as from the interpretation of their artists, material with which to brighten the narrative. Fact and fiction, however, are presented in separate chapters.

No writer on Japan can fail to acknowledge deep obligations to that noble band of English students, Messrs. Satow, Aston, and Chamberlain, who have made such profound researches into the