

**JAPAN TO AMERICA: A SYMPOSIUM OF
PAPERS BY POLITICAL LEADERS AND
REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS
OF JAPAN ON CONDITIONS IN JAPAN
AND ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN
JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES**

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Japan to America: A Symposium of Papers by Political Leaders and Representative Citizens of Japan on Conditions in Japan and on the Relations Between Japan and the United States by Naoichi Masaoka & Lindsay Russell

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NAOICHI MASAOKA & LINDSAY RUSSELL

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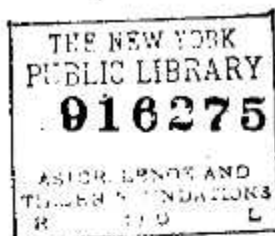
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Lindsay Russell
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INTRODUCTION

THE utterances of statesmen and other leaders of thought in Japan which are presented in this volume as a message to the United States are regarded by the Japan Society as possessing present interest and continued importance for the American public; and we cordially commend this volume to all persons who desire to secure a trustworthy knowledge and correct understanding of the people of Japan and of their aims and ideals. These essays make clear the conviction on the part of the foremost thinkers of Japan that the best and lasting interests of their country lie in the preservation of the historic friendship with the United States. It is hoped that a wide circulation of the book may do much to further friendly relations between the United States and Japan.

LINDSAY RUSSELL,
President.

NEW YORK, October 31, 1914.

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The Japan Society was organized in New York ten years back. Its declared purpose is "to promote friendly relations between the United States and Japan and to diffuse among the American people a trustworthy knowledge of the people of Japan, of their arts, sciences, industries, and economic condition, and of their aims and ideals." The present membership of the Society comprises about nine hundred Americans and one hundred Japanese.

PREFACE

IN 1905, Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt of the United States acted as mediator between Japan and Russia, which were then at war with each other, and as the result of his mediation the peace conference was held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, U. S. A. I was then one of the newspaper correspondents who accompanied the peace ambassador Baron Komura from Japan. Then, in 1909, when the six chambers of commerce of the Pacific coast of America invited a party of Japanese business men to visit America, I was the only newspaper correspondent who went with that party from Tokyo and together visited some fifty different American cities. My stays in America have not been long, but the two visits I made have been most important in the interest of Japanese-American relationship. The fact that I had then an opportunity to observe America is still to-day a source of lasting pleasure. These two visits to America taught me the following lesson, namely, that "the Japanese views of America so far have been erroneous in the main. At least the Japanese have fallen into the same international prejudices as many Europeans." So I

have devoted myself for four years in writing books on America, and in August, 1913, have succeeded in publishing one under the title *America and the Americans* (1300 pages). Again another book was published under the title *American Expansion* (650 pages). I expect to publish a second series to *American Expansion*.

I, however, have come to realize that the Americans need to learn truths about Japan as the Japanese do about America. Moreover, what the average American knows about Japan is far less than what the average Japanese knows about America.

What is most important in the intercourse between one individual and another is that each understands the other perfectly. It is the same with regard to the relations between one nation and another. Most-international differences are the results of the lack of mutual understanding. If understood perfectly by each other, any two nations which had been quarrelling with each other in the past would see how foolish they had been to engage in quarrels. I have already done something to introduce America to Japan. Why should I not do something to introduce Japan to America?

I have a desire to write a book in English with this object in view. In the present work, however, I have confined myself to collecting the views of representative Japanese. I take great pleasure in presenting the copies of this work to the Ameri-

cans. That the Americans in reading this work will find, out of their open-hearted spirit, "the true Japan" represented in it is what I earnestly hope and firmly believe will be the result.

N. M.

TOKYO, March, 1914.