THE EMPIRE OF JAPAN: BRIEF SKETCH OF THE GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION

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The Empire of Japan: Brief Sketch of the Geography, History and Constitution by Various

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THE

EMPIRE of JAPAN

BRIEF SKETCH OF THE GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION.

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PREFACE.

The important changes which have taken, and still take place in Japan, being a frequent subject of discussion in foreign publications, the Japanese Centennial Commission has decided upon publishing the following pages, in order to furnish such authentical information as may be welcome to all those who study the history of nations. Besides the outlines of Japanese history and geography, they contain the plan of organization of the central government, and a complete list of the various government officers, with the duties assigned to them. Finally, some financial and commercial statements have been added, chiefly with regard to the foreign trade of Japan.

Philadelphia, July 12th, 1876.

NIPPON, JAPAN.

REIGNING SOVEREIGN AND FAMILY.

Tenno Mursu Hito, Emperor of Japan, born at Kiyoto, on the 22d day of the 9th month, in the 5th year of Kayei (Nov. 3d, 1852), second son of the late Emperor Komei Tenno and of the Empress Fujiwara Asako; nominated Prince Imperial and heir-apparent on the 28th day of the 9th month of the 1st year of Man-yen (Nov. 10th, 1860); succeeded to the throne on the death of his father, on the 9th day of the 1st month, 2d year of Kei-ô (Feb. 13th, 1867); crowned at Kiyoto on the 27th day of the 8th month, 4th year of Kei-ô (Oct. 12th, 1868).

On the 8th day of the 9th month, 4th year of Kei-0 (Oct. 23d, 1868), the Emperor chose the name of Mei-ji to designate the era of his reign; married on the 28th day of the 12th month, 1st year of Mei-ji (Feb. 9th, 1869).

HARUKO, Empress of Japan, daughter of Ichijo Tadaka, noble of 1st rank, born the 17th day of the 4th month, 3d year of Kaye (May 29th, 1850).

Singhero, Ume no Miya, daughter of the Emperor, born the 25th day of the 1st month, 8th year of Mei-ji (Jan. 25th, 1875).

PARENTS OF THE EMPEROR.

Komei Tenno, father of the Emperor, 4th son of Ninko Tenno and of the Empress Fujiwara Yasuko.

ASAKO, Empress dowager, daughter of Kujo Naotada; born the 14th day of the 12th month, 4th year of Tempô (Jan. 23d, 1834).

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE IMPERIAL FAMILY.

Princess Katsura Sumiko, 3d daughter of Ninko Tenno.

" Chikako, Sei Kuwan-in no Miya, 8th daughter of Ninko Tenno. Prince Taka Hito, Arisu Gawa no Miya.

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- " Taru Hito, Arisu Gawa "
 " Yoshi Aki, Higashi Fushimi "
- " Akira, Yamashina
- " Morinaga, Nashimoto
- " Sadanaru, Fushimi "
- " Hirotsune, Kuwachô "
 Asa Hiko, Kuni "
- " Yoshi Hisa, Kita Shirakawa "
- Princess Sojun, Fushimi no Miya.
- " Bunshu, " " Prince Yasu, Kan In no Miya.