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Rambles in Japan

Clergyman and ornithologist H.B. Tristram (1822–1906), was an early supporter of Darwin's evolutionary theories – in his 1859 paper 'On the Ornithology of North Africa' – who became both a Fellow of the Royal Society and canon residentiary of Durham; he was also the Church Missionary Society's representative in the county for forty years. This 1895 volume, the last of many travel narratives he published, is an account of a sojourn in Japan, visiting his daughter Katherine, then headmistress of the Society's school for girls in Osaka. As well as describing the country's minority Christian communities, Tristram's highly readable narrative covers Japanese customs, industries, shrines and ornithology, with asides on both native wild birds and local practices for taming them. It illustrates the author's ongoing interest in both religion and the natural sciences, as well as illuminating cultural contact between Britain and Japan in this formative period. Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

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Rambles in Japan

The Land of the Rising Sun

HENRY BAKER TRISTRAM



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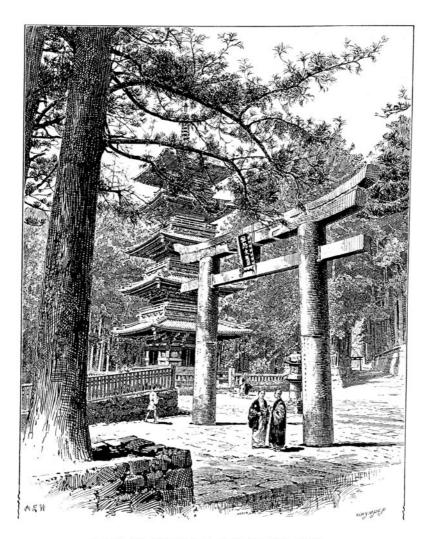
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PAGODA AND ENTRANCE TO LARGE TEMPLE, NIKKO.

RAMBLES IN JAPAN

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

BY

H. B. TRISTRAM, D.D., LL.D., F.R.S. canon of durham

WITH FORTY-FIVE ILLUSTRATIONS BY ED WARD WHYMPER FROM SKETCHES AND PHOTOGRAPHS

LONDON

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY 56, PATERNOSTER ROW, AND 65, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD 1895

PREFACE

An apology may reasonably be expected for another book on Japan by one who has been a mere visitor, not a resident. The following pages are for the most part a transcript of the author's daily journal, written without any view to publication. But when, shortly after his visit, the eyes of the whole world were suddenly fixed upon the Land of the Rising Sun, and its unexpected display of military genius and power, it was suggested to him that his notes might be of interest, not only as describing some parts of the country seldom visited by foreigners, but as touching topics not generally dealt with by previous writers.

The primary object of the author's rambles was to master thoroughly the position of missionary work in Japan, especially that of the Church Missionary Society, and to ascertain the practical working of Buddhism as compared with the Buddhism of China and Ceylon. He had special advantages in being accompanied by his daughter, who, from her residence of some years in the country, her knowledge of the language and customs, and intense sympathy with

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PREFACE

the people, enabled him to gain an insight into many things which would otherwise escape the stranger's notice. He trusts also that his readers will forgive him, as a field naturalist, for many allusions to zoology and botany. He will be well rewarded, if he shall, however slightly, contribute to deepen interest in a race peerless among Orientals, and destined, when it has embraced that Christianity which is the only root of all true civilisation, to be the Britain of the Pacific.

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