

Grand Hotel,
Yokohama,

Jan. 21, 1921.

Dear Mr. Tomabe, Mr. Chiai
and Mr. Otani,

As a friend of Lafcadio
Hearn's, and for that and
other good reasons, as a friend
of yours, I am taking the
liberty of saying that in
your "Hearn Memorial
Translations" you are "run-
ning true to form" - a thing
to be confidently expected, of
course - in the proof you
give that his whole-souled
affection for his Japanese.

pupils and associates was not at all misplaced, but, on the contrary was strikingly warranted in the hearty return to him in full measure of a like affection.

I want to say further that to have had as your Teacher a literary star of first magnitude (now blazing alone in the literary firmament as yet without schools or satellites) is a distinction to be exceedingly proud of, but that which is something still more to be proud of, is the service you are, yourselves, now in the way of rendering those of the present and rising generations of

Japan, who have room in their hearts for love of country — and who are they that have more room in their hearts than the Japanese have for love of country?

In that matter, I earnestly trust have been heaven-sent to Japan that with his mighty pen he could acquaint your own intellectuals as well as the outside world with the virtues of a great People, at that time a newly recognized Member of the Family of Great Nations. Your people have long been made familiar enough with those who looked only for Japanese vices, and finding, of course, some that are common to all mankind — now let

They became intimately acquainted with the man who looked for, found, could see and could tell what was to be applauded in them — much more, in fact, than they themselves were even faintly aware of — to their glory be said!

The time has come when Japan should learn what it means to "know thyself" as seen in the study of Heaviside's writings — and, at the same time, thus, to learn English at its best, for, after all, a wide and intimate knowledge of English is a practical consideration of utmost importance. In fact not the least important feature of what you are doing for your people is making it pos-

sible for them to participate
 with you in the work of the
 man of whom it was said
 by the distinguished Asso-
 ciate Professor of English
 at the Columbia University,
 New York — John Suckine, Ph.D.
 — that his (Hearn's) lectures
 were "criticisms of the finest
 kind, unmatched in
 English unless we return
 to the best in Coleridge,
 and in some ways
unequaled by anything
in Coleridge!

Your familiarity with
 the language — thanks
 to Hearn — qualifies you
 to put his incomparable
 English into Japanese as
 nearly as it can be done, but
 the greatest service you
 are doing your fellow

scholars lies in giving them Hearn's English, at the same time that you make it accessible to the Nation at large.

To speak only of the very beginning of your "Hearn Memorial Translations" - every one of the fine books a gem of first water - is to invite attention to what stirs the emotions to the depths of the soul, and, any fair minded man, having read it, who would, at once, resent an unkindness - much less an injustice - to the kind of people there described, is unmanageable.

The time is bound to come when present day unreasoning wherever existing will be made to give way to reason.

ness of mind, and in that
time the benevolent in-
fluence of Hearns work and
that of his disciples will be
keenly felt and fully appre-
ciated Haste the day, dear
good friends, and bless me
Always faithfully yours
Mitchell McDonald