



Baron Albert d'Anethan.

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 Grand Cordon de l'Ordre du Soleil Levant, Commandeur de l'Ordre de la Rose du Brésil,
 etc. etc. etc.

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FOURTEEN YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC LIFE IN JAPAN

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LEAVES FROM THE DIARY OF
BARONESS ALBERT d'ANETHAN

AUTHOR OF
"HIS CHIEF'S WIFE," "IT HAPPENED IN JAPAN,"
"TWO WOMEN," ETC.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
H.E. BARON KATO
JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES

WITH A PHOTOGRAVURE FRONTISPIECE AND
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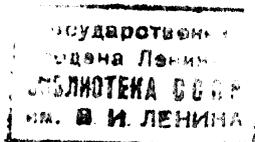
БИБЛИОТЕКА

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THIS RECORD OF
A PORTION OF OUR MARRIED
LIFE, AND OF OUR HAPPY COMPANIONSHIP,
IS DEDICATED
TO THE MEMORY OF
MY HUSBAND
BARON ALBERT d'ANETHAN.

E. M. d'A.

LONDON, *April* 1912.



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AUTHOR'S FOREWORD

THESE pages herewith presented to the public are the daily annals of many happy years passed in Japan, and it is a pleasure to me to recall the fact that during the interesting and busy period employed by my husband at his post in the Far East, these simple records were from time to time of service to him for reference as to dates and to events.

It is in fulfilment of an earnest desire expressed during his last illness—that not only should these diaries be given to the world, but that they also should be presented in the personal form in which they were originally inscribed—that they are now published.

In complying with this desire (which to me is sacred,) I am fully confident that I have accepted a most difficult duty. These records were written with absolutely no thought of publicity, and on wading through volume after volume of the MS. it has seemed to me an almost impossible task—however interesting might be the country, the people, and the events referred to in its pages—to change the sketchy personal language of a diary, jotted down merely for the purpose of my own pleasure and reference, into a literary production worthy of publication.

I have therefore thought it wisest and best to refrain from the attempt; and with the exception of certain necessary corrections, and of considerable elimination (which is obviously imperative in a private and

profuse record such as this,) I have ventured to risk leaving the diaries in the simple form in which they were originally inscribed.

If, therefore, this daily history of a portion of our happy and united lives spent in a much-loved and progressive land, is found wanting in literary merit, if, in consequence of its plain, unvarnished style, the interest may flag at times, and, above all, if, which from the nature of the work is surely bound to be the case, the personal and egotistical note is struck too loudly and too frequently, I can but crave the indulgence of the critic and the reader.

I beg to offer my grateful thanks to Professor Conder, of Tokyo, for his kind permission of the reproduction in black and white of eight of the coloured illustrations in his valuable volume *The Floral Art of Japan*. I hereby also offer my sincere thanks to Baroness Sannomiya, Mrs. Ozaki, Colonel Hume, and others for various interesting photographs kindly lent to me for reproduction in my book.

E. MARY d'ANETHAN.

April 1912.