

# Premier of Japanese Empire Outlines Working Policy of His Country

## Katsura's Message to the United States



"FOR JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES—MUTUAL FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL HARMONY—(SIGNED AND SEALED)—KATSURA."



MARQUIS TERA KATSURA, JAPAN'S GREAT WARRIOR STATESMAN.

(Copyright, 1909, by Frank G. Carpenter.)  
**T**OKIO—(Special Correspondence of The Bee.)—It is a great thing to be a military general and lead your soldiers to victory in war. It is greater still to be at the head of a nation during a war and manage its finances and government in such a way as to bring that war to a successful conclusion, and greater than all to be able to take hold of the government when the war is over and direct it along the lines of prosperity in the arts of peace.

**Story of Katsura.**  
All these things form a part of the past life and the present situation of Marquis Taro Katsura, who is now the premier and also the finance minister of the Japanese empire. Born in 1847, when James K. Polk was president of the United States, and only six years before Commodore Perry made his first expedition to Japan, he fought, as a boy, for the emperor in the civil war which made his majesty the real ruler of the Japanese people. Shortly after that he was sent to Germany to study military science, and when he returned was made vice minister of the War department.

When the Japan-China trouble broke out Katsura was made the commander of a division, and in 1900 he became war minister, and held that position under several premiers. As such, he has had much to do with bringing the army to its present efficiency, and when the war with Russia broke out, he in the meantime having been elevated to the premiership, was of the greatest value to his country, in carrying on that great struggle. He was still in office when peace was declared, but there was such public discontent over the terms of the peace that he retired, recommending the Marquis Satow as his successor.

**Premier of Japan.**  
That was in 1906. Now, only three years later, we find the great warrior marquis again at the head of the government. The emperor and his leading advisers, including the chief statesmen and financiers of Japan, have decided that the country is going too fast and that its business needs reorganization. They find that they have an enormous national debt growing out of the war, and that the revenues and expenditures of the government must be reformed. As their leader they have picked out Katsura, and he has held the premiership. There is no man in the empire so well fitted for the position. He appreciates the military necessities of his country to the full, and he has at the same time a working knowledge of its financial requirements. He has already inaugurated a policy of retrenchment, economy and reform which has raised the value of the Japanese bonds in all of the great markets of the world, and which in time, if carried out to a conclusion, will probably make the Japanese one of the creditor nations of the world.

I was to talk with Marquis Katsura about the financial situation of the country that I called upon him at his official residence this morning. Each of these high Japanese officials has an official residence in addition to his private home. That of Marquis Katsura is back of the State department and right next the Chinese legation. It is a large house, in the foreign style, and it was in a big parlor, furnished in red, with a red carpet and red walls, that I was received by the premier. His excellency does not speak English and Mr. Sassaon of the Department of Foreign Affairs acted as our interpreter.

But let me tell you how the premier looks. He is of medium Japanese height, which is considerably under that of the average American. He is straight and well formed, having a big round head firmly set on a pair of broad shoulders. He has a high forehead, short black hair and a thin black mustache. His eyes are very bright, but they grow serious now and then as he talks.

**"For Peace, Always Peace."**  
During the conversation I referred to him as a military hero. He replied:  
"I do not care to be considered as a man of war. I am for peace, and I have no more additional ammunition and supplies as we are needed."

"Where were your bonds chiefly placed?"  
"Mostly in United States and England."

**Japan's Financial Condition.**  
"What is the financial situation of the empire today?"  
"It is not bad," replied the premier. "This country has abundant resources and our people are generally well off. There is no great suffering in a business way, and the times are no harder here than in most other countries. The curtailment of business has been largely due to the work-

panic which began in the United States more than a year ago, and which has affected every trading nation. The chief trouble is not as to our condition, but as to our methods of regulating the revenues and expenditures of the government. Japan is abundantly able to pay all its obligations and to carry out all its hopes of development for the future; but it must go slowly and along different lines from those of our past administrations. What we expect to do is to take more time in making national improvements and thus spread the cost over a greater number of years. In the past we have been regulating our revenues by our expenditures, making up the deficits, if any, by loans. We shall issue no more loans for the present, but shall decide what our revenues are to be and regulate our expenditures by them. We expect also to reduce the national debt at least \$50,000,000 a year."

"Will your new policy curtail the size of the Japanese army or navy or its plans for the future?"  
"No, the present establishment will be continued, but we shall economize where possible, and as to the military works which have been planned, including the increase of our navy, we shall delay the completion of them so as to spread the payments for them out over more years. For instance, we have extended the period of six years allowed for such works to one of eleven years. The sum of money thus postponed amounts to about \$100,000,000."

**Business Japan.**  
"Along what lines is Japan to be developed from now on? Will it devote itself to the attainment of military glory, or to commercial and business prosperity?"  
"Most emphatically the latter. No nation can be prosperous in any other way."

**Tillman as a Woolhat.**  
M. TILLMAN understands politics, which is the art of arousing the ignorance of mankind," writes Alfred Henry Lewis in the New York American. "In his peculiarly palmetto state of South Carolina there are two tribes of politics. There are the aristocrats, who live on the rich flatlands in the eastern or seaboard half of the state, and there are the 'woolhats'—rude, uneducated, those whose lack of fineness was only equalled by their lack of common sense."

They tell this story. It serves to exhibit the humbug side of Mr. Tillman. A railway lawyer, Mr. Spaulding, came up from Atlanta to talk with Governor Tillman concerning outrages, which, for his glory with the "woolhats," Mr. Tillman meditated against Mr. Spaulding's clients. The two were acquainted, and while Governor Tillman, alive to his own "woolhat" needs of politics, in no wise abated his antagonistic attitude—had a highly pleasant chat. Mr. Spaulding was about to leave. Mr. Tillman stood waving him an affable "adieu."

**Cleveland's Imagination.**  
Some have thought Mr. Cleveland a man without imagination. His Princeton life does not confirm this. The fact that the main business of his life was practical statesmanship, and the further fact of his own unlikeliness to the dreamer or artist, may be the ground for the criticism. But he had hidden depths and imaginings of his own. Call it by whatever name he showed at times something of the instinct of a seer, writes Andrew F. West in the Century.

If we concede high imagination to the man of science, brooding on the deep truth of nature, emerges to his sight, then it was a like brooding on the troubled flood of human society and government that enabled him to see and utter truths all had felt, no doubt, and yet none but he had expressed so surely. It is true he did not care for the word "imagination" and did not keep his own on parade, but was in the background. Yet he said again and again that a man or a community or a business firm or a university or, most of all, a free people, without standards of right beyond what they saw or did, without allegiance to something unseen above them all, would soon sink below their own level. There was a touch of another imagination in him that sometimes appeared when he was out of doors. A scene of sylvan beauty in the springtime, especially when the apple blossoms were coming into flower and the greenery, and the songbirds were

our aim is to develop our agricultural, manufacturing and commercial possibilities to the full."  
"What are you doing along agricultural lines?"  
"We are trying to learn how to make two blades of grass grow where one has grown before. We are studying intensive farming and by artificial fertilizers are materially increasing our rice and other products. We are planting forests and are bringing under cultivation a great deal of land which has until now been idle. We are also educating our farmers, and we have many experiment stations as well as some agricultural schools."

**Foreign Trade and Ship Subsidies.**  
"How about your foreign trade? Is it increasing?"  
"It has been going so almost steadily until within the last year. During 1908 the whole world has been spending less than usual. The hard times have cut down the purchases of every nation, and Japan has had to suffer with the rest. As to the increase of our trade, in 1877 our exports were a little more than \$3,000,000 yen. Thirty years later they were more than \$22,000,000 yen. In that period they rose from 31 cents to \$4.43 per head. This increase of our exports has continued, and in 1899 they reached more than \$100,000,000 per year. They have since exceeded twice that amount in several years, and they will probably amount to more than \$200,000,000 in 1909. As to our imports, in 1877 they were almost \$14,000,000, and in 1907 they approximately \$50,000,000. The increase in those thirty years in our foreign trade, including both exports and imports, aggregates more than \$150,000,000 yen, or almost \$140,000,000. I see no reason why this increase should not go on."

**Japan for the Japanese.**  
"Does Japan need foreign capital?"  
"If you mean foreign loans, I should say no," replied Marquis Katsura. "It is a part of our policy to curtail rather than increase our foreign indebtedness. We wish to cut down our national debt and to put ourselves in the way of gradually paying it. I would like to see our bonds held more largely at home."

**Military Party.**  
"Is there not a commercial party developing in Japan? I understand that the military party still controls everything."  
"It is true that the most of the offices of the government and the administration of affairs are in the hands of what you might call the military party," said Marquis Katsura. "But the military party of Japan is different from that of any other nation. This is naturally so from our history. Before the restoration, which marked what might be called the practical beginning of the New Japan, we had a feudal system consisting of several distinct classes. There was the upper class, embracing the daimyos and their retainers, who practically governed the empire, and there were the common people, consisting of the farmers and those engaged in manufacture and trade. The daimyos and their retainers went about with swords and they cut off the heads of such individuals of the common class as displeased them. When the time of the restoration came it was this military class that did the fighting, that reorganized the government, and that practically made the Japan of today. It was the educated class, and, necessarily, it was given the chief of the official positions. Theoretically, all men were equal, and the merchant or mechanic had an equal chance with the others, but in reality it was not so, on account of his antecedents, training and education. This has been the case until recently, but members of the other classes are rapidly coming into the government, and what you might call a commercial party is being developed."

**A Popular Book.**  
One can imagine a book which would be worth \$500 to any publisher who could get hold of the necessary material for it. This would be a volume containing Mr. Roosevelt's table talk—or some of it—since he first came to the presidency, says Harry Thurston Peck in the Forum. For frank indiscretion, absolute bluntness and the most irreverent pungency of phrasing, the table talk of Mr. Roosevelt is extraordinarily interesting. No matter who happens to be his guest, the president always speaks without the slightest reserve, giving his actual opinions of senators, representatives, public men in general, ambassadors, and even foreign potentates, in a way that makes one's head swim with astonishment.

**Mark Twain and the Indian.**  
The days when "Sam" Clemens "stuck type" on the Hannibal Union are recalled by this anecdote. One morning "Sam" came into the office very thoughtful, hung up his coat and went to the frame. He worked diligently for several hours without any copy on his small cap case in front of him. He was setting up the story of a wonderful find he and some of his comrades found in McDougal's cave the Sunday before. The narration was to the effect that a crowd of boys, while exploring the great cave on Sunday afternoon, ran across a petrified Indian. The citizens were greatly worked up over the story and they hired a scientist from Quincy to look the dead Indian in the face and report. The man who came to perform this task wore gray mutton chop whiskers, a thoughtful brow, and spectacles of course. He was an unemotional chap and he looked learned and the committee was satisfied of his ability. By the terms of his contract he was to write a complete report, detailing every possible feature of the discovery for historical preservation. The investigator re-

turned at nightfall, covered with clay, with clothing torn and skin barked in countless places by falls of rock. He sought out the chairman of the committee that employed him and silently delivered to him this curious narrative. I think he was carefully collected and published, but probably not until many men now living have died.

**A Standard Oil Lawyer.**  
One hundred thousand dollars a year as a retainer, and \$100 a day when he is actively on duty, isn't half bad as a salary for a 45-year-old lawyer, is it? That's what Morris Rosenthal, the Standard Oil attorney, once of Chicago, now of New York, has to struggle along on, anyway.

The Standard Oil, which has made so many famous, and not a few infamous, names, did not have to serve as a publicity promoter for Morris Rosenthal, says Human Life. His ability as a lawyer of mark brought him before the public eye long before his connection with the Oil trust, although his brilliant defense of one Archbold during the trial of Judge Moses, especially the recent most threatening one, where John D. Rockefeller and John D. Archbold were subjected to a grueling oral defense, has certainly augmented his fame.

**Eighty Years' Retrospect.**  
Eighty years ago in an old house of an old English town, writes Goldwin Smith in the Cornell Era, a little boy was lying in bed listening to the "Christmas chimes," perhaps the last call of the watchman in the street, and looking at the servant lighting the fire with the flint steel and tinderbox of the olden time. Since that morning what changes!  
The main storm of the French revolution may be said to have ended at Waterloo. But there have been a series of after-

servants have carried their master's interesting notes to the newspapers, for the president often talks quite as freely in their presence as when he is alone with his invited guests. Some day or other in the distant future many of these interesting and very pungent bits of phrase exist, despite the death of Judge Moses, collected and published, but probably not until many men now living have died.

blasts which has changed the political face of all Europe and is now apparently extending itself to the hitherto stagnant east. We may set down in some measure to the same account the overthrow by civil war of the same power in the United States.  
The impelling force everywhere has been democracy, generally triumphant, advancing to rule apparently, even in Russia, and in England completely possessed of the legislative seat of real power, the House of Commons, though a remnant of aristocratic control still remains a precarious existence in the House of Lords.  
The United States now, instead of being the vanguard of democracy, might almost be said to be its rear guard, the power of the president and the senate making the constitution in some respects the most conservative of the set.  
Not less, but rather more, momentous than the political movement, and fraught with ultimate change, is the advance of science, which in two or three generations has been almost miraculous, and has carried mechanical invention with it. Mechanical invention, with steamship, rail and telegraph, is bringing the nations into far closer communication and making of them in some respects almost one commonwealth.  
In one way, unhappily, invention has been retrograded. It has always been increasing the construction of new instruments of war, the incentive to enmity between nations, or the appeal to violence and destruction.  
The growth of physical science, or the increase of its influence over the mind, has had the most momentous effects in another sphere. Those Christmas chimes, when the child first heard them, spoke to all hearts alike, both of home and the church. To not a few they now speak of the home alone. This change has come rapidly and startlingly over the intellectual world.  
The child when still a youth heard a great professor of physical science struggling to reconcile geology with Genesis. Now he reads the work of a religious writer, such as Gladstone, struggling to reconcile Genesis with geology.  
Let this evolutionist, however, remember two things: First, that evolution cannot have evolved itself; second, that unlike brute, humanity, as we cannot tell here noting, advances, and we cannot tell what the end will be, whether it may not be the final ascendancy of the spirit over the material in man. Man, let the evolutionists remember, advances and rises. The beast does not.

**Chief Kills Strong Man.**  
Intolerable regret, crumbling all the vital forces of his being, is believed to have caused the death of Charles Wingen, who lived with his wife and seven children in Chicago, Cook county, Minn. Wingen, who was only 27 years old, was strong and healthy until a few weeks ago, when he shot and killed a neighbor, his closest friend, in mistake for a deer. The official report of Wingen's death stated he died of apoplexy, a rare complaint for a young man who has lived his whole life in the healthy open air. Those who knew Wingen best say he died of a broken heart.  
Wingen shot his friend when hunting a few weeks ago, and his remorse was so keen that, after giving himself up, he pleaded guilty to a charge of manslaughter as soon as he was brought to trial. He was sentenced to a term in the reformatory, but public opinion was so strong that he was morally innocent that petitions in his favor poured in, and the pardon board, being into consideration the needs of his family, which was left destitute without him, released him on parole a week ago.

## Timely Told Tales About People in Public Life

**Timely Told Tales About People in Public Life**  
back again, moved him to deep silence. "I can't find a word for it," he said quietly on just such a day, after a flood of sunshine had burst through a light April shower. "What makes it so beautiful? There is no word good enough. 'Ravishing' would mean people whose eyes are turned from? Do you know what I mean? It is too good for us. Do you understand me? It is something we don't deserve." Well, if one of our acknowledged aesthetes had said this to anybody we should not soon hear the end of it.  
Then another incident. One bright, still day in September he was fishing on a clear lake circled by hills covered with the green forest, and only here and there were leaves touched with crimson and gold. It was too much for him, and he stopped fishing. Then he gazed long and tranquilly at it all, as if spellbound. There was a look of joy in his face like that Fenimore Cooper gives in his novel to the old huntsman walking through the sunlit woods in calm communion with something beyond and back of what eyes could see. Long afterward he spoke of it, and with hesitation, he had felt it all.

**Champion of the United States.**  
HAMPION pants patcher of the United States is the unique title won during the Omaha National Exposition at Omaha last year by Miss Selma Fredeen of Aurora, Neb., who in competition with girls and women from twenty states, beat them all for neatness. In addition to the title, the championship carries with it \$50 in gold. Miss Fredeen is only 17 years old.  
There were over 500 contestants in the patching class, but the young Nebraska girl romped home, an easy winner, over women who declared they had been patching pants for fifty years, and certainly ought to know more about it than any 17-year-old girl in the country. But the judges decided that the girl was right on the job and gave her the gold and the title.  
This is not the first prize for neat needlework the little lady has been awarded. Some time ago, in her home town, she carried off a prize as the nicest and neatest apron maker in the county. She is as modest as she is successful with her needle and the honors she has won rest lightly upon her.

**Measle to the United States.**  
"What the feeling in your country as to the United States?"  
"It is of the friendliest nature. We look upon you as our friend and feel that your interests and ours are along the same lines toward the preservation of peace. It means much to the world, as well as to Japan, that your country and ours should continue to have friendly relations. Any war that would involve us would involve the whole world, and what we both want is peace."  
With these words the interview closed. As I rose to go I asked the premier if he would, through me, send a message to the United States, just a line giving in a nutshell what he thought the relations of the two countries should be. He replied that he would do so, and send it to me. The message, in Japanese, beautifully written in his excellency's own hand on a wide strip of white silk, he before me. It is signed with the seal of the marquis. Translated it reads:  
"For Japan and the United States—Mutual Friendship and Mutual Harmony."  
FRANK G. CARPENTER.

**Formosa and the Philippines.**  
"How are you getting along with Formosa? You were once general governor of that province?"  
"Yes, I went there in 1897, at the close of the military administration, and did something as to reorganizing the island. It was my aim to make it pay its own expenses, and this policy has been carried on by my successors, Baron Nogi, the late Viscount General Kodama and General Sakuma. A great work was done in the civil administration by Baron Goto. The island has now been brought into thorough subjection. Its finances have been reformed and its resources so developed that it is now paying its own way. It is a valuable territory and will become more and more so as time goes on."  
"How about the Philippines? Has Japan any ambition to possess them?"  
"No," said the premier, "Japan is glad that the Philippines belong to the United States, and we believe that it means much to the peace of the Orient and to the peace of the world that it is so. This sentiment is common among all classes of our people from the highest to the lowest. We are glad to have the United States in the Orient, and we feel that the fact that there is a great protection to our trade and to the preservation of the open door."

**Chief Kills Strong Man.**  
Intolerable regret, crumbling all the vital forces of his being, is believed to have caused the death of Charles Wingen, who lived with his wife and seven children in Chicago, Cook county, Minn. Wingen, who was only 27 years old, was strong and healthy until a few weeks ago, when he shot and killed a neighbor, his closest friend, in mistake for a deer. The official report of Wingen's death stated he died of apoplexy, a rare complaint for a young man who has lived his whole life in the healthy open air. Those who knew Wingen best say he died of a broken heart.  
Wingen shot his friend when hunting a few weeks ago, and his remorse was so keen that, after giving himself up, he pleaded guilty to a charge of manslaughter as soon as he was brought to trial. He was sentenced to a term in the reformatory, but public opinion was so strong that he was morally innocent that petitions in his favor poured in, and the pardon board, being into consideration the needs of his family, which was left destitute without him, released him on parole a week ago.

**Eighty Years' Retrospect.**  
Eighty years ago in an old house of an old English town, writes Goldwin Smith in the Cornell Era, a little boy was lying in bed listening to the "Christmas chimes," perhaps the last call of the watchman in the street, and looking at the servant lighting the fire with the flint steel and tinderbox of the olden time. Since that morning what changes!  
The main storm of the French revolution may be said to have ended at Waterloo. But there have been a series of after-



SELMA FREDEEN, CHAMPION PANTS PATCHER OF AMERICA.