ARISTOTLE'S THEORY OF
PRACTICAL COGNITION

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BY

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P R E F A C E

I have much pleasure in writing a preface to Mr. Takatura Ando's book on Aristotle. Apart from his intrinsic importance, as one of the three or four greatest of all philosophers, Aristotle is important on having given for many centuries the greatest influence in moulding the thought of European countries. The language difficulty has no doubt prevented him from exercising very much influence on Japanese thought, and I welcome very warmly to hear that Mr. Ando is about to have his book printed in Japan. I hope it will be widely circulated, as it must certainly deserve that.

W. D. ROSS

AUTHOR'S FOREWORD

In publishing this book, I cannot prohibit myself of reminding the days and nights when it was written. In that era of world-wide madness, Aristotle's philosophy was the only refuge wherein my depressed mind could come to life. It was written bit by bit under all desperate circumstances throughout the war time. My heart was set on the completion of this work while the fate allowed me to live. It was nearly carried out by the end of the war. Having no hope of survival, I buried my manuscript in the earth, without however any expectance of a better lot for it.

The situation grew worse and worse. Towns and cities were burnt and perished day by day. There remained only few of them. In a summer night of 1945, an inauspicious siren blew as if pronouncing our end. I let my wife take refuge with the child, and lied alone on the ground beside the hole in which my manuscript was stored. The blue sky was scattered with twinkling stars, and the buzzing of air corps came far over from the depth of serene night. I was gazing the stars with resignation and despise to human nature, but the corps passed over my head without making any attack. Few minutes later, the sky grew red near the horizon, and I found that the victim of that night was the unfortunate neighbouring city. After few days the citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki met the atmost misery in the history. The war was over, and I survived with my manuscript.

Since that time I tried to publish this manuscript only in vain. At last, I came to the idea to translate it in English and show it to Sir W.D. Ross. When this idea was realized, to my great joy, he gave me a letter full of favour. He acknowledged that he was in the same opinion with regard to many of my arguments, and guaranteed that my treatise would be able to contribute to modern study of Aristotle.

Being much encouraged by this letter and following his advice, I engaged in revising my English by the aid of Dr. S. Nivison of

Stanford University. Now, I am firmly convinced of myself being the most fortunate fellow who lived under that starly heaven, not only to enjoy again the Lipton tea, of which I sadly dreamed in that dreary nights, but also to get the favour of an eminent British scholar, not only to taste again Californian raisins that I vainly desired in that weary days, but also to receive kindness of an excellent American scholar.

I debt my English also to my previous colleague Mr. Tyuzo Utidate, who read through my manuscript and gave many advices. My special thanks are due to Prof. John D. Goheen of Stanford University, who paid warm attention to my work and gave me some help. I am grateful to Miss Nobuko Iwai for her assistance. As regards English rendering of the text, I owe much to Oxford translations and Hicks's *De Anima*.

1958

T.A.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The correction of this new editon was restricted to numerous misprints and some grammatical errors, not because the author found little demand for change but because he found that most of the faults could not be improved unless they were rewritten. It is doubtful whether this book in such a defective form is still worthy of circulation; the author humbly begs tolerance of readers for his negligence of thoroughgoing revision.

1965

T.A.

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