



**Charles MacFarlane**  
***Japan: an account, geographical and historical,***  
***from the earliest period at which the islands composing this empire***  
***were known to Europeans, down to the present time,***  
***and the expedition fitted out in the United States, etc.***  
**New York and London, 1852**

The author Charles MacFarlane (1799-1858) is a British writer who left behind him numerous works on history. Becoming intrigued with Japan through exchanges with an acquaintance who had spent time in the country, MacFarlane compiled this book at an opportune time when the U.S. fleet's Japan expedition plans were attracting greater interest in the West.

Comprised of 11 chapters providing a comprehensive account of Japan and the Japanese people, ranging from its geography and history to its culture and national character, this book is based on many works authored by other foreign nationals who visited Japan, including Engelbert Kämpfer (1651-1716), Vasily Mikhaylovich Golovnin (1776-1831), and Carl Peter Thunberg (1743-1828), on what they saw, heard, and observed.

This book was published in 1852 in both the United States and Britain. In November of the same year, a U.S. fleet led by Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry (1794-1858) set sail from Norfolk on the U.S. East Coast with a mission to open up Japan. On display are two books—one published by G.P. Putnam in New York and one published by G. Routledge in London.