

Postscript

Banno Masataka was a scholar. This was evident in his talk, his work, and his teaching. To those who never knew him these words may suggest a fusty if learned man. But those who were fortunate to have met him even once know better. For they learned from him the vitality of the human mind, the ability to draw meaning out of careful and astute analysis of documents, the need to listen to documents until the past begins to talk, and most of all the depth of scholarly commitment an individual was capable of in all his activities. And yet, there remains the man himself, capable of wit in three if not four languages, of grasping and recharging the key points in a discussion, and of giving much needed advice to younger colleagues with the minimum of verbage and the maximum of grace. He is missed, and this collection of essays is but a paltry testimonial to the respect and affection the contributors will always retain for him. We only wish he were here to remark on its publication.

(J. P. McD.)