A Collection of Japanese Medical and Scientific Books from the Library of Richard C. Rudolph, Founder of Asian Studies at UCLA
Richard Rudolph (1909-2003), described as “the father of Chinese studies at UCLA,” received his higher education at UC Berkeley: B.S. in 1932, M.A. in 1936, and Ph.D.—with a dissertation on the *Shiji* (the first universal history of China, ca. 100 B.C.)—in 1942. He spent the war years as head of the Chinese section of the U.S. Navy Language School at the University of Colorado, and then became a professor at the University of Toronto and served concurrently as Assistant Keeper of Far Eastern Antiquities at the Royal Ontario Museum. He came to UCLA in 1947 and spent the rest of his career there, retiring in 1976.

Rudolph specialized in archaeology of the Han dynasty (206 BC – AD 220), and published several important works on that subject, but also published on Manchu manuscripts, Chinese riddles and puzzles, Chinese porcelain in Mexico, Chinese avian iconography (as well as numerous other subjects that touch on art history), Japanese maps, and more than a dozen other subjects. He co-authored what was probably the best textbook on literary Chinese of its time (*Literary Chinese by the Inductive Method*, University of Chicago Press, 3 vols., 1938 – 1960), which went through at least a couple of editions, and from 1968 to 1973 directed the American Council of Learned Societies project “Abstracts of Chinese Archaeology.”

The role Professor Rudolph played in establishing Chinese studies—and East Asian studies in general—at UCLA, and in crafting an environment for it to prosper, was enormous. He came to UCLA in the fall of 1947, and, with the assistance of Ensho Ashikaga (UCLA’s first professor of Japanese) and Y.C. Chu (UCLA’s first Chinese-language instructor), founded the Department of Oriental Languages (now called the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures), where he was the first chair and the first professor of Chinese. Professor Rudolph went on to serve UCLA with distinction for more than thirty years.

In 1948 – 49, Professor Rudolph traveled to China on one of the first Fulbright Fellowships, to study archeology—his specialization—and to fulfill a personal mission: to buy books to support Chinese studies at UCLA. With $1,000 in his pocket (later augmented by $9,000 from the library), Professor Rudolph boarded a plane for China (then a rare mode of transportation to East Asia). With civil war raging in China, books were cheap and available, but time was short: there was no assurance that when the Communists took over, books—and people—would be free to leave. Hurriedly combing through the bookstores of Beijing, Chengdu, and elsewhere, Professor Rudolph snapped up the standard reference works, anthologies, and other volumes that were essential to any decent Chinese library.

His purchases in the fields he was best acquainted with, archaeology and art history, were especially notable. Not wanting to miss a single opportunity, on his way back from China Professor Rudolph stopped in Japan and purchased still more books. On his trip, he had bought over 10,000 volumes. With this excellent nucleus, in 1948 the UCLA Oriental Library opened its doors, in the basement of what is now the Powell Library. In the apt words of a library publication, the Oriental Library “provided both a basic reference collection and a cultural retreat for faculty and students.” In 1965, Professor Rudolph was responsible for doubling the storehouse of the Oriental Library in one fell swoop by persuading the Monumenta Serica Research Institute to house its collection at UCLA. In 1981, in recognition of Professor Rudolph’s seminal contribution, the Oriental Library was renamed the Richard C. Rudolph Oriental Library, and in 1990 it was renamed still again as the Richard C. Rudolph East Asian Library. (From “Richard C. Rudolph, 1909-2003: Richard C. Rudolph, father of Chinese studies at UCLA, dies,” www.international.ucla.edu/article.asp?parentid=3646)
Rudolph's professional career all but began with his first trip to China in 1948-49, just before it closed with the Communist Revolution, and more or less ended with his second trip in 1973 as a member of the first group of American scholars to enter China before the normalization of relations. This closing of China during virtually his entire professional life was a deep disappointment to him, almost a personal tragedy, and one he compensated for to some degree with a love of Japan that lasted his whole life. He was a bibliophile and a linguist at heart, being fluent in Mandarin, Manchu, Mongolian, Japanese, German, French, Italian, and Spanish—and having begun but never finished Tibetan and Russian.

Almost immediately after coming to UCLA, Rudolph was awarded a Fulbright for research in China. This was for 1948 – 49, the culminating years of the Chinese Revolution. Always staying just a step ahead of the advancing Communist army—several of his friends who neglected to do this were either executed or spent the rest of their lives in prison—he managed to excavate an early seventeenth-century official's tomb in Qinghai, in northwest China, and to study the cliff tombs of Sichuan. Shot at on one occasion, threatened with death on another, and left for dead when very sick on another—still, his adventures are too numerous to relate here. (He was once approached to sell the movie rights to this academic research trip.) Unwilling to surrender a minute, his was the last plane out of Chengdu, headed for Guangzhou. When he finally reached Hong Kong, bodies were already floating down the Pearl River.

But as he always remembered it himself, it was book buying that was the greatest adventure of this journey to China. When he left UCLA, the university library possessed but a single volume in Chinese: a Shanghai telephone directory. By the end of that research year, it had 10,000—some of them rare, many of them important, all of them needed—the core of a functioning research library that is currently among the top ten East Asian libraries in the U.S. A true bibliophile, he was never happier than when examining some rare book or manuscript—or a number of works by some famous Chinese calligrapher, separated for centuries and now brought together again by him after years of tireless searching—unless it was when he was showing someone else these latest finds. He was always as well acquainted with the campus librarians as he was with his fellow scholars.

After his retirement in 1976, Rudolph took up the direction of the UC Education Abroad Program in Hong Kong and continued his research. But he became increasingly absorbed with collecting ancient maps, paintings, printing blocks, manuscripts, and rare books—even a little porcelain—focusing especially on Chinese and Japanese printing, medicine, botany, physiology, and the reception of Western science by the East. Radically failing eyesight became a great frustration to him, as did a seemingly unending succession of life-threatening but largely passing ailments, his phenomenal resistance to which constantly amazed his doctors.

To the end, he remained a scholar, devoted to learning and to Asian culture. In the most idealistic way, he was completely devoted to UCLA as a specifically public institution of higher learning, and would have been very pleased at the words recently written about him by a colleague, “there is much of him that is still very much alive at UCLA.” (From “In Memoriam: Richard C. Rudolph, Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Emeritus, Los Angeles, 1909–2003” www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/inmemoriam/RichardCRudolph.htm)

Cataloguer’s Note

The descriptions below are largely the work of Rudolph. We added leaf counts, measurements and some notes about condition where appropriate.
Thirteenth Century Sino-Japanese Manuscript

1. Daihannya-kyo Ch. 182. 255 cm. wide, 792.5 cm. long. Colophon dated 1266 (i.e. Bun-ei 3rd year, 8th lunar month, 20th day—when writing was finished). Original covers, accordion binding, black ink on light tan paper with a few interlinear inscriptions in red ink. Light worming, mainly on upper and lower margins. $9500

The Daihannya-kyo is the first “book” in the first section of the very formidable Buddhist canon. The formal name of this work is Daihannyaaramitta kyo, but in everyday use it is shortened as above; it is the Japanese pronunciation of the earlier Chinese title Ta-pan-jo-po-lo-mi-to-ching which comes from the original Sanskrit title Mahapragnaparamita sutra (sutra = ching = kyo = scripture). In short, Buddhism originated in India, slowly made its way north through India and Central Asia and entered China in the northwest, spread throughout that country and, eventually, to Korea and Japan in the seventh century. The meaning of the title is approximately Salvation through intuitive wisdom. Only the original Sanskrit title has meaning to it. The later Chinese title is made of words for their sound value which imitate the Sanskrit as closely as possible, and the Japanese title imitates the Chinese sound.

Excluding that primitive stage of the book in China, when inscribed slips of wood or bamboo were tied together, this folded sutra represents the second step in the evolution of Chinese books. Note that its 26 ft. (792.5 cm.) length is made of sheets approximately 17 in. (43.2 cm.) long pasted together; in this form it could have been made into a scroll, but, fortunately, it was made in the more efficient form it now has. If a priest wants to look up a passage he thinks is near the end of the work, he simply flips it open toward the end and scans a few panels; but if it is a scroll, he must unroll some twenty feet, which is easy enough, and roll up the twenty feet again tightly (to prevent damage) and accurately (with edges even, not spiraled), which can be very difficult indeed.

Certain characteristics of the scribe’s writing make it so distinctive that it could be picked out among others in a blind test. Notice how he thickens the last, or last two, downward strokes of certain characters by more pressure on his brush (red arrows) and how character X looks so near-identical with any other X in the manuscript. Muscular control developed since childhood certainly helps in this matter, but perhaps the rules of writing contribute even more. No matter if a Chinese graph is constructed of two or twenty strokes, there is an inflexible rule for the order, or sequence, and direction in which they are written (red outline of last eight graphs in last two full columns). Finally, in many manuscripts one can see characters become thinner and weaker as the hurried or lazy writer’s brush gradually runs out of ink, and then back to their original strength after he inks his brush once more. That is not the case in this writing. 39632

Thirteenth Century Buddhist Manuscript

2. Daihannya-Kyo Ch. 183. 255 cm. wide, 762 cm. long. Colophon dated 1266 (i.e., Bun-ei 3rd year, 8th lunar month, 22nd day). Original covers, accordion binding, rich black ink on light tan paper with some punctuation and corrections in red.
ink. The text is backed its entire length with a strong, lower grade paper. Light to moderate worming not affecting legibility. Signed by Priest: Kai-en. (the scribe—his name a religious one probably given him when he was ordained. The scroll’s paper contains finely ground mica; the purpose of this is to reduce friction and wear, especially in scrolls which must be bound tight to prevent entry of insects and dampness. $9500

As with the previous manuscript (no. 1), the characteristics of the scribe’s writing make it so distinctive that it could be picked out among others in a blind test. Notice how he thickens the last, or last two, downward strokes of certain characters by more pressure on his brush. 39633

3. Yakuseiron (on the properties of drugs/medicines). Manuscript scroll; 170 cm. long, 17.77 cm. wide; text 147.3 cm. long. Written in black on brownish paper and rubricated, divided into thirteen sections, the second a colophon. 1584. $8500

“Written and sent to the bureau on Kojima (island), 12th year of Tensno (1584), 9th lunar month, for Yasuda, Lord of Chikuzen province, by Muneshise (given name = close friend?).

The text, except for the final section, is in Chinese characters (Kanji), but are in a modified “gran writing” style which uses greatly abbreviated characters often used by those who must write rapidly in the interests of time. Numerous individual characters are recognizable, but others must be known only to the scribe himself. Three easy-to-read large characters at the right end of the scroll are the title of the manuscript. Around the middle of the marbled columns in the clippings it is possible to see how wildly the abbreviated style can deviate from the normal style.

In the rubrication we find a triangle which marks the title of the work; a circle for the name of the medicine and number of the ingredients in it; the “leaning 3” marks the section of ingredients as does the black horizontal stroke; the solid dot or mark indicates dosage according to seasons in the last line of the section, so in No. 1 that line reads “spring (and) summer three doses, fall (and) winter four doses.” The small script beside the larger characters can, at present, only be guessed at. Strangely, the numerals 10 (+) 4 or 14 appear frequently while other symbols remain unknown. Possibly these small-script characters are measurements and other instructions from physician to pharmacist. 39634

4. Manase Dosan (1507-1595). Myakuron koketsu, zoho. Secret talks on the pulse, enlarged. 5 volumes, illustrated, in cloth case. Tenwa 3, or 1683. Volume 3, pp. 21a-29b, is dated Genki 4, or 1573. Blue paper wrappers. 136 x193 mm. Covers rubbed, minor worming in gutter of volume 5, but text and
illustrations in all volumes in fine condition. Rare. $7500

Vol. I: 30 folded leaves.
Vol. II: 24 folded leaves.
Vol. III: 29 folded leaves.
Vol. IV: 24 folded leaves.
Vol. V: 26 folded leaves.

The Chinese archaeological record clearly shows that sphygmology was practiced and written about as early as the second century BC. The 1973-74 excavation of the massive tomb of a minor official near Changsha, Hunan Province revealed a large, complex and well-preserved coffin containing, besides the official’s remains, a hoard of manuscripts written on silk, bamboo and wooden tablets in various degrees of preservation. Fifteen of these manuscripts were classified under health sciences, and one silk scroll devoted to five aspects of health had a section on feeling the pulse. Other evidence showed that the tomb was dated 168 BC when its underground entrance was sealed prior to raising a huge tumulus over it (Wenwu, 1975, nos. 6, 9).

A large work on the pulse by the physician Wang Shu-ho was written around 280 and was regarded as the standard authority for a very long time. This was the Mo-ching or Pulse Classic, and was undoubtedly the inspiration, and source, for a succession of works that followed it. Finally, in the mid-13th century, 33 to 36 varieties of pulse were distinguished, named and illustrated; 26 varieties are explained in some detail by Wong and Wu.

Manase Dosan was trained in Chinese medicine and became one of the most prominent physicians of his time. His work contains 24 illustrations of pulses, vol. 2, pp. 10a-18b. The name of the pulse is in an octagonal frame and the graph in a circular one; after an explanatory paragraph there is a two-line uta (song, verse, ditty), probably serving as a mnemonic. Because Manase’s principal teacher in medicine was trained in China at the time when pulse graphs came into use, plus the close resemblance of his own graphs, it appears that this work is very likely a close translation of an early Chinese work on the pulse. 39635

5. Zofu keiraku yokai (Clear explanation of the acu-tracts of the internal organs). Comp. Okamoto Ipposhi. 5 vols., blockprinted, 36 full-page illus., of which 12 are hand-colored. 162 x 113 mm. Brown paper wrappers. In good condition, but traditional wrappers rubbed, and some worming, not affecting legibility, on a few leaves in vol. 2. Genroku 3 or 1690. Rare. $6500

Vol. I: 63 folded leaves; text illustrations (some hand-colored).
Vol. II: 36 folded leaves; text illustrations (some hand-colored).
Vol. III: 37 folded leaves; text illustrations (some hand-colored).
Vol. IV: 42 folded leaves; text illustrations (some hand-colored).
Vol. V: 51 folded leaves; text illustrations (some hand-colored).
In his fifty years of collecting early rare and interesting books on science and medicine in Japanese and Chinese, this is the only one Rudolph had ever seen in this field with these three desirable characteristics: on acu-channels of the viscera (including some imaginary and “shapeless” organs); hand colored illustrations in a medical work of this age; and a text so richly supplied with fine illustrations. “There were so many, in fact, that I found it useful to tabulate them on a separate sheet . . . . Further, this title cannot be found in the numerous Japanese pre-modern bibliographies of my own and those at UCLA. When you consider that this work has survived in good condition for 300 years in a land where the common and constant enemies of books are insects, fire and rain—to say nothing of major disasters such as earthquakes, civil wars, and the fire-bombings of the Pacific War, this too is exceptional” (Rudolph, private communication). A full listing of the illustrations is available.


A Chinese work, presumably compiled in the 16th century, it was so named because of the ten vegetable drugs that gave miraculous results in treating tuberculosis. Some of its symptoms are listed, and patients and imaginary germs are shown. The text is reproduced in Chinese with “reading marks” (small marks near corners of the squarish Chinese characters from the Japanese syllabary, indicating Japanese grammar and syntax), and the origin and prefaced in the introduction by the three characters, Cheryosho “evidence for curing tuberculosis.”

Literally the title means: Ten plants divine book but put into common sense and the reader’s grammar: Miraculous or marvelous work of ten prescriptions.

In the Chin-Yuan era it was generally believed that the disease was caused by the phthisis worm and this thesis was probably originally written in 1345 containing ten recipes, three for hemoptysis, three for cough, one hypnotic and three nutrients.

The author Ko Ch’ien-Sun, according to Richard Rudolph, was the son of a physician and was born in the Yuan or Mongoe dynasty (1280-1368) and he received these therapies from a “strange person” with whom he studied medicine. See Lee’ T’ao p. 249, Chinese Medical Journal 72 (1954): 225-242. 39637

“The last great landmark of the Yuan period”

7. Jushi keiraku hakki wage (Elucidation of the fourteen acu-tracts in Japanese). Tr. & ed. by Okamoto Ipposhi. 6 v. illus. plus 1 v. atlas. Genroku 6, 1693. $2500

I: 25 folded leaves.
II: 37 folded leaves.
III: 21 folded leaves.
IV: 30 folded leaves.
V: 24 folded leaves.
VI: 30 folded leaves.
VII (atlas): 16 folded leaves
Text illustrations. All volumes in blue paper wrappers, worn, some worming. 266 x 191 mm. Boxed.

The Chinese source for this work was *Shih-su ching fa-hui*, written in 1341 by Hua Shou, a celebrated medical writer in Yuan times (1280-1368). Okamoto is praised by some Japanese authorities for putting this important work into “mixed writing” (Chinese characters in conjunction with Japanese kana syllabary in the same word or phrase), very much like the spoken language, instead of the traditional straight Chinese text with miniscule kana around the characters to indicate grammar and syntax. This style was much easier for the public to read.

The cover title for the atlas, “Dojin yuketsu zu,” or “Illustrations of the acu-tracts on the bronze man,” refers to a bronze figure which showed such points and was used by students in the Academy of Medicine. Needham, *Celestial Lancets*, passim. 39638

*A Prescription Filled and its Materia Medica Source*


I: 73 folded leaves.
II: 68 folded leaves.
III: 59 folded leaves.
IV: 65 folded leaves.
V: 78 folded leaves.
VI: 54 folded leaves.
VII: 55 folded leaves.
VIII: 45 folded leaves.
IX: 43 folded leaves.
X: 52 folded leaves.

This Japanese materia medica is based upon Li Shih-chen’s famous *Pen-ts’ao kang mu*, China’s greatest materia medica, still used by Chinese around the world. The original Chinese edition was published in 1593; it contained the results of 25 years of research by the physician-author. The original edition had 52 sections of which two were illustrations, 1892 entries of medicinal substances, and over 11,000 prescriptions. This work is a truly remarkable achievement for its time when one considers the vast amount of earlier literature studied, the improved taxo-
onomic order used and the detailed information given for each substance.

Okamoto’s title page of his Japanese version gives some pertinent information: Line 1. his name and given names. 2. (total) medicinal substances 1834. 3. title. 4. old medicinal substances 1788. newly added ones 46. Both in his preface and foreword Okamoto says he used Li’s great work, but mainly to correct some of its faults. The main complaint, which others wrote about and pharmacists grumbled about, was the great confusion in Chinese and Japanese terminology of substances. Okamoto tried to correct this by giving names in kana phonetic symbols, explaining substances indigenous to China only; he also eliminated a number of Li’s entries. Meijizen Nihon yakubutsugaku-shi (pre-1868 history of Japanese pharmacy) 2:455-457.

With: A medication in a folded paper container, found in Okamoto’s work, v. 2, ch. 2, between pp. 15b-16a. This section treats licorice, but whether there is any relation between the medication and the plant is speculative, as is the question of its date. For a sketch of Pen-ts’ao / honzo, see Rudolph’s 1964 paper, “Illustrated Botanical works . . . ,” Lawrence, 1966. 39639


I: 64 folded leaves.
II: 46 folded leaves.

This work is based on one by the famous Chinese physician Hua Shou (fl. 1340) who is so highly praised by Needham. The artist used a much freer brush style than the thin-line drawings favored in the “traditional” works in this field. At the end of vol. 2 (blue tag) there is a section on the pulse. The slips on the covers and the first line of the text read Igaku shiyo sho or “Summary of the essentials of medicine.” 39640

10. Kaempfer, Engelbert (1651-1716). Amoenitatum exotiarum politico-physico-medicarum fasciculi v., quibus continetur . . . rerum Persicarum & ulterioris Asiae. 4to. [18], 912, [32] pp. Title in red and black. With engraved frontispiece by Daniel Marot (b. 1650), architect to King William III, and Jacob Gole (1660-1737), well known engraver of Amsterdam; 16 engraved plates (4 folding and 12 double-page), 63 full-page and 11 textual woodcuts and engravings. Lemgo: Heinrich Wilhelm Meyer, 1712. Contemporary vellum, edges worn, possibly rebacked sometime in the 19th century; lower section of title strengthened and 2 plates worn at fold; somewhat browned, otherwise a very good copy with wide margins. $14,000

First edition. This classic work on Asian natural history by Kaempfer was the only book he published during his lifetime. He was the first scientist to illustrate and

No. 9

No. 10
describe the plants of the Orient, including the Camellia (Tsubaki) and the date-palm. He was also the first European to bring a collection of botanical specimens back from Japan. Included in this work is one of the first European descriptions of the healing methods of acupuncture and moxa. Other observations of medical interest concern the guinea worm, endemic hydrocele of Malabar, asafetida, mycetoma of the foot, etc. Kaempfer's book also described paper-making and the custom of drinking tea. Of extreme importance is Facs. V which classifies nearly 500 Japanese plants. In most cases Kaempfer gives the Japanese names, illustrated with their Chinese characters.


Materia Medica by “Probably the . . . Most Successful Medical Writer of the Ch’ing”


$2500

V. 1 deals with almost 200 herbaceous plants; V. 2 treats woody plants, grains, vegetables, metals, minerals, waters and earths, birds, other animals and human products.


Profusely Illustrated Natural History of Ancient China

12. Moshi himbutsu zuko (Illustrated treatise of objects from nature in Mao’s Book of Poems/Songs/Odes), compiled by Oka Koyoku (Genpo). 7 books in 3 vols., 118 full page illus. by Yukosai Kunio of 226 objects including plants, trees, birds, warm-blooded quadrupeds, insects and reptiles, and fish. Expertly repaired minor worming in upper blank margins of a few pages in vol. 3; otherwise in fine condition. Heavy blue paper covers embossed with floral designs on a geometrical background. Heian (Kyoto), Kitamura Shirobei, Temmei 5 (1785). Slipcase.

$3750

Vol. II: 43 folded leaves.

“Mao’s Book of Poems” is the translated title of the edition of the Shih-ching (lit.: Poetry-book) by the scholar Mao. It is one of the six Confucian classics and is regarded as the fountainhead of Chinese literature. It is an anthology of some 300 “poems” selected by Confucius
(K’ung-tze, 551-479 B.C.) for the education of his disciples. They are various sorts of rhymed compositions from all classes of society in the states that comprised the China of that time. They are said to date from the 12th to the 7th cent. B.C. It goes without saying that poems with this broad coverage have to deal with all aspects of life and nature.

The Japanese owe a great cultural debt to China and readily admit it. Oka Koyoku, a physician in Osaka and the compiler of this work, as well as his friends who contributed prefaces, wrote in classical Chinese and had a good knowledge of the classical literature of China.

This work, printed on Nino paper (the best for block books), is a fine example of high-quality Japanese book production. Such a work can only be done by experienced and talented artists, calligraphers, block engravers, printers and binders.

There is good reason to believe that it is also quite scarce if not actually rare. Bartlett, Professor of Botany at the University of Michigan, was the principal contributor to the post-mortem publication of Japanese Botany During the Period of Wood-Block Printing (The Asa Gray Bull., Spring, 1961, 270 pages). He did not know Japanese but he did know what a botanical book looked like, and he collected them in Japan when they were plentiful and cheap during his travels in 1918, 1926 and 1935. In spite of the great collection he and his Japanese colleague built for Michigan, it appears from the third paragraph, p. 506, of the description of Moshi himbutsu zuko that there was no copy there and they used a copy of it in Holland. Neither did I have a copy of it when I wrote a rather lengthy paper on “Illustrated Botanical Works in China and Japan” for a conference on Natural History at the University of Kansas in 1964. The present copy was acquired during our stay in Hong Kong from 1987 to 1989 when (and where) prices were many times higher than in Prof. Bartlett’s time.

The illustrations include a few mythical animals (which were real to them) and an infant “Komodo dragon” or alligator-like lizard in a glass jar imported by Dutch merchants from the South Seas. The Shih-ching says their skins were used for drums. Needham, Science and Civilisation in China, v. 6:1, Botany, p. 469-470. The Asa Gray Bull., Spring, 1961. Meijizen Seibutsugaku-shi (History of Japanese Biology before 1868), p. 58, 311-312. 39643

No. 12

No. 13


A detailed index, unusual in books of this period, lists some 95 ailments which are indicated on 22 illus-
tions. One of the illustrations shows a woman with cancer of the right breast and carbuncle of the nipple.

Note that “surgery” in early works referred, with few exceptions, to treatment of external lesions (including syphilis). A large number of prescriptions, most of vegetable origin, are given for the indicated lesions, including a number of Dutch ointments at the end of the text.

This work may be a compilation of Chinese and Japanese works on “surgery” (suggested by the illustrations) and materia medica. 39644

First edition. Vol. I contains 19 divisions dealing with loss of consciousness, including loss of consciousness due to paralysis, declining vital force, sexual excess, stroke, bronchial asthma, sunstroke, noxious fumes from wells and mines, blood disorders, overeating, fright from apparitions, cholera, beriberi, overheated bath and intoxication. Vol. II is divided into two sections: the first, on sudden ailments, containing 22 divisions on such topics as vomiting of blood, nosebleeds, bleeding gums (scurvy), blood in the urine, excessive loss of blood, pharyngitis, migraine, pain in the epigastric region, jaundice, dumbness, elongated uvula, deafness, ear infections, swollen tongue, urinary obstruction, and exiting tapeworms. The second section, on traumatic injuries, contains 11 divisions, including accidental cuts and war wounds, injuries to the tongue, abrasions, falls from heights, eye injuries, protruding eyeball, scalds and burns, frontbite, and bites from humans, insects and animals. Vol. III is divided into seven sections: unnatural death (seven divisions), foreign objects in the nine apertures (7 divisions), accidental poisoning (4 divisions), prenatal emergencies (5 divisions), delivery (1 division), postpartum emergencies (2 divisions), and infantile emergencies (8 divisions).

The author, Taki Gentoku (also known as Taki Moto-nori, 1731-1801), came from a long line of successful and respected physicians. In 1791, the year after publication of Emergency Remedies was completed, the family’s private medical academy, the Seijukan, gained official status when the shogunate made it the Institute of Medicine (Igakkan) at Edo. This promotion not only gave the Taki household the hereditary privilege of training and recommending physicians to the shogun’s court, it also put the household in a position where it could influence the practice and development of medicine in Japan for years to come. Under their authority, the Chinese-Japanese or Eclectic School of medicine, the main counterforce to Western medicine in Japan, predominated until the second half of the nineteenth century. Taki Gentoku himself was a recipient of the honorary title hoin and physician-in-waiting at the court. It was while he was serving there that the enlightened shogun Tokugawa Ieharu (r. 1760-86) commanded him to compile a book on first aid. The profession of medicine was hereditary in early Japan. Even so, there were few physicians available to the public at large, including the wealthy. The compilation, publication, and distribution of the emergency manual was intended as a statement of the shogun’s concern for the people under his rule. (A more literal translation of the Chinese characters in the title might read Widespread Benevolence, with Emergency Prescriptions.) Coincidentally, it also served to remind them of the shogun’s sur-
passing merit. There is a four-page encomium to Ieharu in the preliminaries, and his name (or, rather, an honorific taking the place of his name), when it appears, is shifted to a new line and raised one word space above the top margin, where it is easily recognizable even to those not literate in Japanese.

Because the emergency remedies collected in the manual were meant for the ordinary person who might fall victim to accident or injury while traveling or otherwise out of reach of trained medical assistance, most of the drugs called for in the prescriptions derive from plants that were widespread in Japan; only a few derive from animals. A fair number of the treatments illustrated in the manual are conducted by physicians or male nurses or bystanders, and an almost equal number of ailments are treated by acupuncture and moxibustion; but the majority of the remedies included in the manual rely on common botanicals.

The Japanese readily admit their cultural debt to China, which began around the sixth century A.D. with the introduction of Buddhism to Japan, then an emerging nation. They adopted Chinese culture and institutions on a broad spectrum. Among their specific borrowings were Chinese medicine and the Chinese script. Some Japanese scholars of the history of medicine have suggested that many of the ailments and accidents treated in Gentoku’s work were inspired by the world’s first forensic manual, written in China circa 1247, the Hsi-yuan lu (The Washing away of Wrongs or Clearing up of False Imputations), which treats a number of like subjects. One characteristic of the Eclectic School championed by the Taki household, in fact, was was the critical study of medical classics. Gentoku’s father, Genko, was especially known for his understanding of Chinese medical works dating from the Han (206 B.C.-A.D. 220) through the early Ch’ing (1644-1911) dynasties. The very nature of the subjects included in the coroner’s handbook and the first-aid manual, however, would assure a certain amount of coincidence between the two works at any rate, so it is difficult to assess the exact degree of influence of the older, Chinese work.

Taki Gentoku’s emergency manual was first introduced in Western medical literature in Aruturo Castiglione’s Storia della medicina (Milan, 1936), fig. 40, where the author reproduces one of the manual’s illustrations on the revival of a drowned person. Strangely, he calls it a “Chinese print,” without referring to or naming the text that it came from.

Among the various medical works compiled by Gentoku and his forebears, the Kokei saikyuho is, due to shogunal patronage, the most outstanding, by virtue of both its usefulness and its aesthetic quality: most impressive are the large number of superb illustrations, the bold and consistent calligraphy of Ueda Bunkei, the printer’s craft, and the fine grade of the Mino paper employed. Meiji-zen Nihon igakushi (History of Japanese Medicine before 1868), vol. 5, pp. 230-32. Mori Junzaburo, Takishi no jiseki (History of the Taki Family). Sugimoto and Swain, Science and Culture in Traditional Japan, A.D. 600-1854, pp. 302, 375-76. Whitney, “Notes on the History of Medical Progress in Japan,” Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan 12 (1885), pp. 825-26.


15. Shinkan Geka seiso (Traditional surgery, printed from newly cut blocks). 4 vols., block-printed, in chitsu slip case. 36 fine full-page Chinese-style illustrations of patients. This work is in excellent condition, with only a few negligible worm tracks; original covers and title slips present. Ed. Ogino Gengai. Kansei 3, 1791. Based on Wai-k’o
cheng-tsung, by Ch’en Shih-kung (Wan-li 45, 1617). $2500
Vol. II: 103 folded leaves.
Vol. IV: 106 folded leaves.

In this work, Ogino Gengai, noted acupuncturist, reproduces the original Chinese text and adds Japanese reading marks and his own emendations in boxes above the top margin; and he retains the Chinese title, now read Geka seiso. He reproduces it, he says in his preface, because the printing blocks for the “old [1633] edition” were destroyed in the great Tokyo fire of 1788.

There are 160 numbered topics in the table of contents, which are treated at greater or less length in the text. The first 20 concern etiology and diagnosis of various surface afflictions such as cancer, boils, and carbuncles. The next hundred list a broad spectrum of ailments, with treatments for them. They include periodontal and venereal diseases and what must be leprosy (“the bone dies and the bridge of the nose collapses”). The last topics deal with emergency treatments, the preparation of medicines, and a physicians’ code of behavior, in two sections, which echo the Hippocratic Oath: five things a physician must not do, and ten that he should. Among the former five are two reminders that the physician must maintain absolute propriety, both physical and mental, when treating female patients: sexual harassment, it seems, was an issue in China even in the early 1600s. In another interesting and unusual item, Ch’en gives precise instructions for the fabrication of acupuncture needles, including specifications concerning size, configuration, and fineness of points “for ease of insertion.” He also emphasizes that they should be made of steel and not of iron.

Two of the illustrations of patients awaiting treatment are of special interest: the twelfth, of a man with a carbuncle on his left knee, which is perceived of and illustrated as a human face; and the thirty-second, of a woman with a cancer on her right breast.


China-Korea-Japan: The World’s First Coroner’s Manuals

16. Muenroku (jutsu). Negation of injustice (in inquests). 2 vols. 260 x 182 mm. Original wrappers, worn, in chitsu case. N.p., 1799. Covers of both volumes slightly rubbed as usual and are contained in a chitsu (case) from another work so outside title is not valid; there are several wormtracks but they do no serious harm to the text. $2500
Vol. II: 39 folded leaves.

Jutsu (recounted, retold, etc.) is often found at the end of book titles when they have been changed from the original and does not appear in the title of the prototype. This Japanese manual was indirectly derived, by way of a Korean edition, from the original Chinese work Hsi yuan lu, compiled by a judge, Sung Tz’u in 1247, plus derivatives of that work. The Chinese title of this work was Wu yüan lu, “Negation of injustice,” by a certain Wang Yü in 1308 (McKnight, 31). This confusing state of affairs is due to the fact that the Chinese have never, at least until modern times, blushed at the thought of plagiarism.

The publisher’s text on the title page briefly relate the above and note that jutsu (4th character of title) was added to original title due to the elimination of any Korean syllabary mixed with Chinese text. The following foreword does the same; it is dated 1736, some 30 years before the printing. The colophon has two dates, 1768 for completion of carving the printing blocks, and 1799 for printing. Rudolph knew of no other editions of this work. Much of the intervening time between editions.
may be accounted for by obtaining government permission to print, raising funds, and red tape. The work has two illustrations, anterior and posterior views of a corpse with vital and other significant points marked and named.

Provenance for this work is noteworthy. The large square seal on the first page page of each volume reads “Shirai family library,” and the same is in brush writing, with one character less for “library,” appears on the last pages. I feel certain, although only the surname is given, that this is the seal, and probably the writing, of the famous scientist Shirai Mitsutaro.


Vol. II: 42 folded pages.
Vol. IV: 35 folded leaves.

First edition of three. The first volume is devoted to the rice wine industry and describes and illustrates the various steps in producing sake with 6 double plus 1 single page woodcut. Vol. 2 describes quarrying and the manufacture of stone products, bee raising, the trapping of falcons, geese, bear, and other mountain products: 18 double page woodcuts. Vols. 3 and 4 (14 double, and 17 double + 4 single cuts) illustrate and describe many aspects of the fishing industry, different ways of gathering various marine products and the processing of them. Vol. 5 describes the manufacture of lime, the different steps in the production of the famous Imari pottery, cotton spinning, and loom weaving, and sealing by the Ainus, a Caucasoid group in Northern Japan who are physically and linguistically distinct from the Japanese; this volume is illustrated with 15 double page woodcuts.

18. Fukusho kiran (Abdominal diagnoses, illustrated) and its supplements, by Inaba Bunrei et al. Block-printed. 12 vols. in 11, 144 ills., with some
Comprises six series:


Vol. I: 34 folded leaves. 19 illustrations.
Vol. II: 40 folded leaves. 23 illustrations.


Vol. III: 38 folded leaves. 20 illustrations.
Vol. IV: 34 folded leaves. 18 illustrations.


Vol. V: 37 folded leaves. 10 illustrations.
Vol. VI: 40 folded leaves. 9 illustrations.


Vol. VII: 40 folded leaves. 10 illustrations.
Vol. VIII: 45 folded leaves. 8 illustrations.


Vol. IX: 37 folded leaves. 5 illustrations.
Vol. X: 23 folded leaves. 7 illustrations.

Vols. XI–XII, *Fukusho kiran yoku (shihen)* (Supplement to Abdominal Diagnoses, Illustrated, series four), by Wakuta Tora. Recut Osaka, Kaei 6 (1853).

Vol. XI: 33 folded pages. 4 illustrations.
Vol. XII: 30 folded pages. 11 illustrations.

During the first half of the nineteenth century, many medical practitioners slighted other forms of diagnosis in favor of palpation of the abdominal area. *Fukusho kiran* is an outstanding illustration of that practice. The illustrations show full-length images of patients suffering from various ailments, each with blue or green markings indicating the seat of their complaints. A remarkable aspect of this work is that while it contains close to 150 illustrations of figures male and female, each is distinct and occurs nowhere else in the original text or its supplements. Prescriptions for the ailments illustrated follow each illustration. The complete set is very rare.


Vol. II: 50 folded leaves.

Shusei completed the draft of this work and wrote a preface to it in 1823. Upon his death in 1824, Shusei's disciples added another preface to it as well as a small amount of text, edited the entire work, and, in 1826, published it. The book contains a large number of essays on various topics, including conception, gestation, lactation, twins, difficult births, different presentations, prolapse of the uterus, and postnatal care. These essays often refer to the forty-some illustrations in the second volume, which are also accompanied by brief explanations of their own.

On the verso of the first illustration in the second volume, the relative size of the fetus during the first through the fifth months is shown (and likened in the text to
birds’ eggs of various types and sizes). The lower illustration opposite this shows an aborted fetus at seventy-five days; and a longitudinal section of it shows veins and arteries and cell structures (which the author likens to fish eggs). Rare. Meijizen Nihon igakushi (History of Japanese medicine before 1868), vol. 4, pp. 184-85. Mestler, “Galaxy”, Part II, Bull. Med. Lib. Assoc. 42 (1954): 496. 39650

Pediatrics: A Rare Illustration of Hydrocephalus

20. Hasama Shigen / Shiyo. Robashinsho [Tales of an old woman (midwife?)]. 2 vols., illus. Original wrappers, slipcase. 264 x 182 mm. Moderate worming, but text and illustrations in good condition. Written notes on the back covers say that this work was acquired for the Tosa family library in Showa 3 or 1928. Blockprinted, Bunka 14 or 1917. $1500 Vol. I: 33 folded leaves. 5 illustrations. Vol. II: 27 folded leaves. 1 illustration.

Compiled by four of Hasama’s disciples from his lectures. The disciples, whose names are given as Mori, Hasunuma, Tanabe and Suzuki, are identified at the head of each volume. A preface written in 1817 by Sugimoto Ryo, court physician and Buddhist priest, tells of the difficulty in treating infants who cannot describe their ailments. Another preface written by Hasama in 1816 explains why the students compiled a draft of his lectures (posterity must not be deprived of his precious treatments) and submitted it for his approval. Vol. I contains a description of a special five-ingredient herbal medicine given to newborns to dispel poisons from their bodies. Vol. II includes an illustration of hydrocephalus. Modern Japanese historians praise Hasama for his warning against the tightly wound abdominal girdles, traditionally used after the fourth month of pregnancy. Meijizen Nihon igakushi (History of Japanese medicine before 1868), vol. 4, p. 199, vol. 5, p. 379. Mestler, “Galaxy”, Part II, Bull. Med. Lib. Assoc. 42 (1954): 488. 39651

Vol. III: 45 folded leaves.
Vol. IV: 28 folded leaves.
Vol. V: 34 folded leaves.
Vol. VI: 40 folded leaves.
Vol. VII: 42 folded leaves.
Vol. VIII: 27 folded leaves.

The “collected opinions” are derived from the twenty-eight book titles listed between the index to vol. 1 and its text. Except for the selection of the acu-points, this work exhibits a radical departure from traditional works in this field in three ways: 1) The illustrations are fine-lined realistic renderings of specific small parts of the body. They convey an impression of scientific accuracy (in contrast to earlier works) and indicate a definite advance in anatomical knowledge. 2) Coverage of the body is now complete, from head to foot, which Western anatomists used centuries ago, and not by the fourteen meridians or channels. 3) Venesection is now included whereas bloodletting was avoided in earlier times.

Briefly, the contents of the volumes are: 1, head and neck; 2, shoulders, back, and loins; 3, chest, abdomen, and lateral surfaces of the body; 4, hands and arms; 5, feet, legs, and thighs; 6, Venous (arterial?) and nervous systems in order of the fourteen meridians; 7-8, “strange acu-points,” or auxiliary non-orthodox points, situated away from any of the standard acu-tracts or meridians. Their locations were found by predetermined lengths of cord reaching from A to B. In the sixth century the Chinese medical authority Sun Ssu-mo used the length of the first joint of the thumb for an “inch” to determine the location of acu-points; later, the second joint of the thumb for an “inch” to determine the location of acu-points; still later, the second joint of the middle finger was used for this purpose. These methods are shown in the first two illustrations in volume 1.

Hara Nanyo (1753-1820), a native of Mito where his father was physician-in-waiting to the lord of that fief, left home to study medicine in Kyoto. There he specialized in pharmacology and obstetrics under eminent physicians who were trained in both Japanese and Western medicine. After some practice, he published about a dozen medical works, including the present one. While this work was well received and widely used, it was his Toride-gusa, published in 1811, the first Japanese work on military surgery and medicine, that made him famous. Meijizen Nihon igakushi (History of Japanese medicine before 1969), vol. 3, pp. 264–66; vol. 5, pp. 380–81. Bull. Med. Lib. Assoc. 42 (1954): 478. 39652

No. 21

No. 22

22. Anpuku zukai [Illustrated account of massage], by Ota Shinsai. Kyoto, 1829. 1 vol. with a large number of illustrations interspersed by text which mutually supplement each other. 31 folded leaves. Paper wrappers, slipcase. 259 x 186 mm. The print-
ing blocks, mainly in the illustrations, show slight wear, and a few leaves have faint dampstains, otherwise this volume is in excellent condition. $1250

Most of the illustrations are of procedures, but a few are of detailed parts of the body with specific points of importance to be considered in these procedures. The red ink circles and dots inserted by a reader indicate important terms or passages--much like underlining, so beloved by the western college student. In other cases, especially Chinese, tiny bits of red paper serve the same purpose.

39653

Syphilis in a Dust-Jacket

23. Baika yo’ryo (Essentials for syphilologists), compiled by Kimura Shutei, edited by two of his disciples, the Yamada brothers Shogen and Kotaru. Blockprinted. 31 folded leaves. Paper wrappers, with seldom seen publisher’s original dust jacket laid in. 259 x 185 mm. Good condition but for small wormtrack on front cover, slight loss on edge of back, and several small dampstains. Osaka, Bunsei 13 (1830). Scarce. $2250

This work has an eclectic text based mainly on Chinese and Western sources, with emphasis on the latter. It contains seventeen essays on the etiology, source, and toxic nature of syphilis; on foods and activities to avoid during treatment for syphilis; on treatment for chancre, gonorrhea, external and internal lesions; and on pharmacology. It also includes a section of questions and answers concerning the disease and its treatment, as well as eighteen recipes for medications in the form of powders, pills, decoctions, liquids, and ointments (mercury and China root count among the ingredients although the former was in disfavor at this time). A postface of six leaves ends the main text, and a final folded sheet contains an advertisement for seven of the author’s medical works, including this one.

Western and Japanese sources agree that the earliest appearance of syphilis was in India in 1498, the year Vasco da Gama arrived there in the first ship from Portugal. It was transmitted by unknown means to the southern Chinese port of Canton around 1505; from there, it spread northward to the major port cities of the China coast and, eventually, throughout the empire. The Chinese called it the “Cantonese disease” after its presumed point of origin. Although numerous early Chinese medical works contain references to venereal diseases, it was not until 1632 that a two-volume work on syphilis and its treatment appeared. This was the Mei-ch’uang pi-lu, by Ch’en Ssu-ch’eng, which details the foreign origin of the disease, its different manifestations, and hereditary transmission. Mercury, in the form of calomel (mercurous chloride) was the original drug of choice for treatment; but after witnessing the ill effects mercury had on the human body, Chinese medical practitioners came to prefer China root (Smilax prolifera Roxburgh) for its effectiveness and lack of harmful side effects.

Syphilis finally reached Japan, thanks to the high volume of travel between the island empire and China (if it was not introduced by the Dutch, the only Europeans allowed to trade in Japan), and a number of Japanese works on the subject were published. The first Western book on syphilis to reach Japan was L. Nolst’s I (Amsterdam, 1781), a Dutch translation of Doctrina de Morbis Venereis (Vienna, 1779), by the Austrian physician Josef Jacob Plenck. It was taken to Japan around 1790. Various manuscript translations were made of it by Western-style physicians and medical students who knew Dutch, but no printed version appeared until 1821.

The book jacket takes the form of an open-ended envelope covering both sides, the spine, and the fore edge. It serves a dual purpose very effectively where books are commonly displayed on sidewalks: the boldly imprinted jacket advertises a new publication to the passerby, and also protects the book from the dirt and grime of busy
streets. This dust jacket is imprinted with a replica of the title page made from the same printing block. After the book has been removed from its cover long enough for air to penetrate between the folded leaves, and moisture to be absorbed by the paper, the book increases slightly in bulk; however slight this increase may be, it makes the book difficult to slip into its jacket once it's been removed. Evidence for this is shown on the present jacket. On the spine edge, near the top right corner of the frame, is a short tear leaving a tongue of wrinkled paper, apparently caused by an attempt to return the book to its jacket. These jackets were meant to be ephemeral in every sense of the word, and that is why they are seldom preserved with a book of any age. This one was preserved by the original and subsequent owners and, folded, placed inside the book by the Japanese dealer. Wong and Wu, *History of Chinese Medicine, 2d ed.*, pp. 217–19. *Meiji-zen Nihon igakushi* (History of Japanese medicine before Meiji) 1: 394-402. 39654

24. Okochi Sonshin. (title page R-L) 1. Itsubi honzokai buppin mokuroku (1835). Natural History Society catalogue of objects. 2. Owari de Tempo roku nen itsubi (1835) haru sangatsu jugonichi kainichi (In Owari Tempo 6 itsubi (1835) spring third month 15th day meeting). 3. Donen shoshu nanagatsu shako (Same year early fall seventh month (I) wrote this). Manuscript. 13 folded sheets, title and last page browned, first leaf and top margins of last 5 leaves repaired, insignificant worming, paper covers, in slipcase, very good condition. Numerous illustrations. 205 × 133 mm. Signed Okochi Sonshin at end of text. $2750

In the early 19th century a group of intellectuals in and around Nagoya in Owari Prefecture who were interested in foreign science formed a society to pursue studies in natural history and science in general. They also used western books and consulted with the Dutch emissaries, especially the physician, when on their way from Nagasaki to report to officials in Edo (now Tokyo). Okochi was a leader of the Natural History Society, but many others were also Rangakusha, as those who studied Dutch (i.e. western) science and culture were called. Their first public exhibition was held in a hall just south of the Tokugawa castle on the 15th of the 3rd month of 1835. Members of the society brought their most important specimens to be shown and served as guides for the public.

Okochi's manuscript is an abstract of the botanical exhibit, omitting minerals and animals. The first part illustrates and describes his choice of plants, and the last is a catalogue of the others, giving descriptions, growth habits, medicinal use if any, and sometimes the Latin names for them. *Meiji-zen Nihon Seibutsugakushi* (History of Japanese Biology before Meiji) 1: 394-402. 39655

The Anglo-Chinese Opium War


Vol. I: 20 folded leaves.
Vol. II: 22 folded leaves.
Vol. III: 27 folded leaves.
Vol. IV: 27 folded leaves.

Louise Norton Brown's *Block Printing & Book Illustration in Japan* (London 1924), reproduces an illustra-
tion from this work as Plate 42 and briefly describes the work on page 215. It is listed in Kenji Toda, Descriptive Catalogue of Japanese and Chinese Illustrated Books in the Ryerson Library of the Art Institute of Chicago (Chicago 1931), p. 441. Sir George Sansom, in The Western World and Japan (New York 1950), says: “The outbreak of the Anglo-Chinese war of 1840 had made a deep impression throughout the Far East, but particularly in Japan. The naval strength that had enabled an English squadron to destroy Chinese warships without loss to itself came as a great surprise to most Japanese. . . . Extraordinary rumors were circulated, and repeated by serious scholars, such as a report that the English navy was composed of 25,860 vessels . . . A scholar named Mineta . . . published a book called Kaigai Shinwa, or New Tales from Overseas. . . . This work contains an illustration depicting the English fleet assembled below London Bridge for the expedition to China. There is a great forest of masts extending to the horizon, and immense crowds throng the embankment . . . . It is interesting to reflect that at this time probably not one Englishman in a thousand knew or cared about the China war, and in general the Japanese seem to have had very mistaken notions as to the British attitude towards Japan . . . .”

Note the covers; not the blue which is so usual, but embossed ones which meant more time and expense for the publisher. On an interlocking T background are three circles containing two birds in postures suggesting flight or mating (joining of positive and negative forces), very probably derived from an early Chinese design. In ancient Chinese mythology, the sun was a fabulous bird and the moon another one. 39656

**Most Important Early Japanese Physics Book and its Original Dutch Source**

26. Kikai kanran kogi (Physics, enlarged and improved), by Kawamoto Komin. 5 large vols. (25.7 x 17.8 cm.), illustrated. Yellow paper wrappers, encased in a four-sided chitsu. 258 x 180 mm. Ansei 2 (1855), from newly cut blocks based on the first edition of Kaei 4 (1851). The five volumes are in exceptionally good condition, with all title slips on covers present, some light stains and negligible signs of wear on the paper covers, and no trace of worming.

Vol. II: 91 folded leaves.
Vol. IV: 74 folded leaves.
Vol. V: 64 folded leaves.


In 1827 Aochi Rinso (1748-1833), a physician who had studied western medicine and science, compiled the Kikai kanran, or Physics, based largely on a current edition of Johannes Buijs’s Natuurkundig Schoolboek. Rinso’s work was written in classical Chinese, which limited the book’s use to the more highly educated class.
A quarter century later, Kawamoto Komin (1809-71), onetime physician to the Mita clan and student of the famous proponent of western medicine and science Tsuboi Shindo (1795-1848), married Rinso's third daughter—a family connection that must have given him access to the older physician's library. During the intervening years Komin himself acquired reports and works on science from Europe, including an updated edition of Buijs's Schoolboek, and from the sum of these materials he compiled the Kikai kanran kogi (Physics, enlarged and improved). His former teacher, Tsuboi Shindo, wrote a preface to it in which he points out that while Rinso's was the first book on physics to appear in kambun (classical Chinese), the later work by his son-in-law was superior in many ways: it was written in the Japanese vernacular, rather than classical Chinese; and it was more comprehensive in scope, including “supplements” to some of Rinso's subjects as well as entirely new material on discoveries in the medical arts. Plates, based on those in Buijs but with the figures in them rearranged, are found at the end of most chapters.


27. Gunjin biyo: Kyukyu tekiho and Gunjin biyo . . . . , zokuhen (Battlefield preparedness: Select remedies for emergencies and Supplement), by Hirano Genryo. 2 vols., blockprinted, numerous illustrations. 181 × 125 mm. Yellow wrappers. Good condition, no worming. Edo (Tokyo), Kaei 6 (1853), Ansei 3 (1856). $2750

Vol. I: 45 folded leaves.
Vol. II: 55 folded leaves.

The first work in Japanese on military medicine and surgery was Toride-gusa, published in 1811, by Hara Nanyo. The present work is apparently the second Japanese work on the subject and, not surprisingly, shows some influence from the first one.

By the mid-nineteenth century, Western firearms of all types were known and made in Japan, and Western medicine was widely practiced. Consequently, the first volume of this set is concerned with every kind of wound or ailment an army in the field might encounter, including the irritation and confusion caused by “poison smoke,” a primitive form of chemical warfare compounded of burning sulfur and other noxious materials and employed when the enemy was positioned downwind. Also discussed are the treatment of gunshot wounds and the extraction of bullets; the treatment of burns and “metal wounds” resulting from hand-to-hand combat; the prevention of blood loss and techniques of bandaging; bone-setting and the management of various types of luxation; and the handling of heatstroke, freezing, and drowning. The volume concludes with the text of eight prescriptions. This volume has 23 full-page illustrations of Western-style medical instruments, bandages, splints, and tourniquets, as well as a number of interesting scenes depicting the repair of dislocations in all parts of the body.

The second volume is largely given over to supplementary material relating to the first volume; but it also includes some new material, such as the treatment of food poisoning, cholera, and toxic conditions in general, and epidemic fevers and diarrhea. At the end of the text, again, are eight prescriptions. Superb illustrations, also at the end of the volume, show the location of the “eight flowers,” or moxa spots, around the navel of a seated male figure, and the four plants used in the prescriptions cited.

Under normal conditions, one would hardly expect a physician to write, or a publisher to publish, or the reading public to buy, works on military medicine like the two noted above. But it is perhaps not altogether coincidental that three years before the publication of both Toride-gusa and the supplement to Gunjin biyo Japan
was confronted, or so it was believed, by threats from foreigners who would savagely attack their country. Like other insular ethnic groups and nations, Japan feared outsiders who looked unlike them and who thought differently from them and who controlled an advanced technology that might aid them in seizing the islands of Japan.

In 1808, the English frigate *Phaeton*, without warning, anchored in Nagasaki Harbor. Because the area was so lightly defended, the sight of this armed warship from a foreign nation stirred panic among both officials and populace.

Some years later, the United States, rebuffed in its proposition to open trade relations with Japan, sent a sizable naval force to the Far East under the command of Commodore Matthew Perry. Perry anchored in Tokyo Bay in July 1853, and again panic ensued when the Japanese realized that their feeble shore defenses were useless against the heavy armament of these steam-powered warships. After presenting a letter from President Millard Fillmore to the emperor of Japan, and some discussion with Japanese officials, the commodore withdrew to the nearby Ryukyu Islands for the winter, but he returned with a formidable fleet early the following year. After months of confusion, fear, and argument, the Tokugawa government realized it had no choice, and signed a treaty allowing a limited amount of trade with America.

Thus, it might reasonably be assumed that the motive behind the publication of these two works was acute xenophobia, generated by the sight of the *Phaeton* and Commodore Perry’s ships—fear, that is, that a strange nation of aggressive and militaristic persuasion might challenge Japan’s sovereignty and bring it to war. Rare. *Meijizen Nihon igakushi* (History of Japanese medicine before 1868), vol. 3, pp. 264–68. C. R. Boxer, *Jan Compagnie in Japan*, 1600–1817 (1st ed.), p. 41. 39658

**Japanese Version of John Stevenson’s “Weakness of Sight”—Manuscript of an Unpublished Translation**


For historico-commercial reasons, the Dutch were the only Europeans allowed access to early Japan, and even then the xenophobic natives confined them to Deshima, an artificial island in Nagasaki Bay. Besides the lucrative exchange of merchandise, there was also an exchange of knowledge: some Japanese scholars were allowed to study Dutch and Western learning, especially medicine and science.

Probably the most outstanding of these early nineteenth-century scholars was Ogata Koan (1810-63). Koan started the study of medicine at the early age of fifteen, in Osaka. After four years in Osaka, he moved on, in 1831, to Edo (Tokyo), in spite of his straitened circumstances, to continue his studies. There the well-known physician Tsuboi Shindo recognized Koan’s exceptional ability and supported him through another four years of study. Kōan finally traveled to Nagasaki, the center of Western learning, to improve his understanding of the Dutch language and to study with the foreign doctors resident on Deshima.

Koan returned to Osaka in 1838 to open his own medical school, the Teiki-juku. Because of the shortage of Japanese-language texts on Western medicine, Kōan eventually translated numerous Western books, or selections from them, into Japanese for the use of his students. A few of them were published, but others, including his
translation of Stevenson’s work, were not. Kōan was completely dedicated to his students and the teaching of Western medicine and science, and his school soon became one of the most influential in Japan.

Internal evidence shows that in all probability the present manuscript is not written in Kōan’s own hand but is copied from it: on the first page, line four, the scribe has made an error in writing the left part of the first character in Kōan’s name and has had to write over it. It is unlikely that one would make such a mistake writing his own name.

Searches of Japanese medical bibliographies find no published translation of Stevenson’s work. Stevenson’s treatise was first published in English in 1810; the Dutch translation, from the second English edition, appeared in 1816. Meijizen Nihon igakushi (History of Japanese medicine before 1868), vol. 5, p. 451 (biography); vol. 4, p. 367 (Stevenson manuscript). John Z. Bowers, Western Medical Pioneers in Feudal Japan, p. 143-48. A detailed and moving account of Ogata’s devotion to his many students, and theirs to him, as well as his dedication to the teaching of Western medicine; this account also relates the growth of his school into one of the most important centers for Western learning and his recognition as one of the most influential proponents of Western medicine. Details differ between the above sources. G. K. Goodman, Japan: The Dutch Experience, pp. 181-84. 39659

**Benjamin Hobson’s Chinese Textbooks on Medicine**

29. Hobson, Benjamin. Five medical textbooks in fourteen volumes, as described below. $15,000

(1) Chi’üan-t‘i hsin-lun, 1851; Zentai shinron, 1857. Chinese and Japanese sources agree that 1851 is the correct date. 2 vols. Vol. I: 49 folded leaves; text illustrations. Vol. II: 45 folded leaves; text illustrations. 248 x 174 mm. Yellow embossed paper wrappers, printed labels. Boxed. An outline of anatomy and physiology, beginning with the bones and a comparison of the skeleton structure of various animals; proceeding to the ligaments and muscles; then to the brain, spinal cord and nervous system. After a short account of optics and acoustics, the sense organs and their various adaptations are discussed. The work also covers the viscera, circulatory system (including pulmonary circulation), and the genito-urinary system. Wong and Wu, note 308.

(2) Po-wu hsin-pien, 1855; Hakubutsu shimpen, 1872. [General science, newly compiled*]. 3 vols. Vol. I: 67 folded leaves; text illustrations. Vol. II: 30 folded leaves; text illustrations. Vol. III: 34 folded leaves; text illustrations. 248 x 174 mm. Yellow embossed paper wrappers, printed labels. Boxed. An elementary text on science in general. The illustrations show the apparatus of a science laboratory of the time: vacuum machines, scales, thermometers, stills, electromagnets, electrostatic and other electric machines. The work covers astronomy, natural history, climate, water, light and electricity. Wong and Wu, note 309. [*This Chinese title is correct, but the one in Wong and Wu means “astronomy.” The main headings are climate, heat, water, light, electricity with the industrial uses of them, plus astronomy and biology, richly illustrated from western sources dating from around 1850.*]


After taking an M.B. at University College, London, in 1839, Benjamin Hobson (1816-73) traveled to China as a medical missionary and ultimately stayed there for twenty years. On first arriving in the East, Hobson was put in charge of a small hospital in the Portuguese colony of Macao, a peninsula located in the Pearl River estuary, adjoining Kwangtung province, not far from Hong Kong. When, not long after, Hobson was transferred to Canton, he became extremely active in hospital administration, treating patients, founding new hospitals and clinics, and training a number of young Chinese to perform minor surgery, assist in major operations, and prescribe for common ailments. He later did the same kind of work in Hong Kong and Shanghai.

Understandably, Hobson was dismayed by the Chinese ignorance of western medicine, and so, with the aid of a Chinese assistant, he set out to compile a series of five medical textbooks, all but one of which (no. 5 below), were well illustrated. Much to the surprise of the foreign medical community, these books proved so popular with the Chinese public that the original editions were quickly bought out. Government officials commissioned artists to make large-scale copies of some of the illustrations and certain portions of the text, which were subsequently mounted on hanging scrolls, and private print shops made unauthorized reprints of Hobson's works. This explains why copies of the original Chinese editions are scarce, not to say rare, today. (Later, even the first Japanese reprints would be exhausted and subsequent printings made; e.g., no. [2]).

Copies of Hobson's books soon reached Japan, where they were highly regarded and welcomed by Japanese physicians. The texts were soon reprinted in the original Chinese and in modern Japanese translation. Notes and illustrations from these editions can be found in various volumes of Meijizen Nihon igakushi (History of Japanese medicine before 1868).

In spite of Hobson's and other western physicians' heroic efforts, it is not clear when the first full-term western medical school was established in China. It appears, at least in Hobson's time, that only English-speaking Chinese were accepted as students, each attached to a single doctor or clinic as apprentice. In stark contrast to this are the beginnings of western medical education in Japan. Hobson's Dutch counterpart and contemporary in Japan, Pompe van Meerdervoort, M.D., founded the first medical school with a full five-year curriculum in a teaching hospital of 120 beds in 1857. Initially Pompe, the sole member of the faculty, delivered his lectures in Dutch, with Japanese interpretation. He eventually learned enough Japanese, and the students enough Dutch, that a common language emerged and interpretation was no longer needed.

Hobson's five medical textbooks in fourteen volumes are described in Wong and Wu, History of Chinese Medicine (1st ed., pp. 220-21 nn. 308-12; 2d ed., pp. 364-65 nn. 308-12), and my Japanese copies are numbered accordingly. These descriptions are taken from Lockhart and are sometimes abbreviated, so the latter's text is also included. The above list includes Chinese titles, with publication dates, followed by Japanese titles and publication dates.


No. 30

30. Ch'i Cheng luêh shu (strange diseases briefly related). Title (single sheet, on yellow paper), 21 folded sheets printed on both sides, illustrations. 239 x 135 mm. Paper wrappers, slipcase. Edited at General Aid Clinic, Tseng-Sha Village, Canton, T'ung-
Chih 5, 1866. Back wrapper has a 4-line inscription in German. $2750

The unidentified author's preface has a moralistic tone and warns against the evils of wine, women and opium, the illness and tragic results that can result from their use. It is signed “American Medical Doctor, Chia Yuen-han”. This is the Mandarin pronunciation, but in Cantonese it would be much different. Given time, it may be possible to identify him. The text is divided into nine sections: bladder stones, gunshot wounds, difficult births, menorrhagia, tumors of various sorts and venereal disease, eye and ear, dentistry, curing opium addiction and elephantiasis.

Data in all sections but the last are like a present-day case history: patient's name, address, age, sex, date of arrival at clinic, complaint, when first noticed, procedure used, time in clinic if any, date of discharge.

"Until evidence to the contrary is found, I consider this title unique because it is not in the standard 4 volume bibliography of Chinese medical titles: Chung-Kuo i-hsueh Ta-Tzu-Tien, 33, 4817, 245 pp. Taipei, 1958. The author was undoubtedly a medical missionary and through my study and collection of Chinese art I am confident that the pen-and-ink illustrations were made by him or another Westerner. Western artists can only rarely make a convincing representation of the epicanthus fold of the eyelid. I am not happy with the ‘General Aid’ name for the clinic... the aid character is related to benevolent or charitable help or succor, and this clinic was apparently meant for the sick poor.” —Richard Rudolph, correspondence August, 1990.

First Scientific Botany in China, Japan

31. Chih-wu hsüeh (Botany) / Shokubugaku (Botany), tr. by Li Shan-lan and Alexander Williamson. 3 vols., block print ed., about 200 illus., red library stamp of Tokyo Military Preparatory School. 265 × 174 mm. The traditional yellow thick paper covers and outside title slips are only slightly rubbed; at the top of the title slips is a small two-character term meaning “reprint.” The text is in literary Chinese and has kunten (Japanese reading marks) added; in the last column of the last volume is the name of the Japanese block engraver, Kimura Kahei. On the obverse of the title page is the Chinese date of Hsien-feng 8 (1858). This work is in excellent condition. Japan, 1867? $5000

Vol. II: 40 folded leaves.
Vol. III: 29 folded leaves.

About 1857, a Scottish missionary in China and a famous Chinese mathematician started to translate John Lindley’s Elements of Botany (1841). Williamson translated the first seven chapters of that work into vernacular Chinese, but then had to return home because of illness. Joseph Edkins, another missionary, finished the eighth and last chapter, and Li Shan-lan, the mathematician, put the vernacular translation into literary style Chinese and recorded it. It was published in 1858.

This translation was a landmark in the history of Chinese botany because, for the first time, Chinese scholars could study Western scientific botany and its terminology in their own language. The importance of this work was soon recognized by the Japanese and they began making reprints and translations of it in 1867. Ueno Masuzo, 1973, Nihon hakubutsugakushi (Natural History of Japan), 572, 588. Masuzo, 1982, Satsuma hakubutsugakushi (Natural History of Satsuma), 274 (reprints). Arthur Hummel, Eminent Chinese of the Ch’ing Period, p. 479 (Washington 1943). 39662

Major Work of the “Father of Viennese Surgery” Abstracted in Japanese

32. Geka tsuron (Introduction to Surgery), by Sato Susumu. 25 vols. 118 numbered illustrations. 225 × 152 mm. Traditional blue paper covers show light wear; minor worming professionally repaired. Previous owner’s name seal obliterated with black ink.
Vol. I: 33 folded leaves
Vol. II: 34 folded leaves
Vol. III: 21 folded leaves
Vol. IV: 41 folded leaves
Vol. V: 33 folded leaves
Vol. VI: 28 folded leaves
Vol. VII: 39 folded leaves
Vol. VIII: 29 folded leaves
Vol. IX: 41 folded leaves
Vol. X: 39 folded leaves
Vol. XI: 53 folded leaves
Vol. XII: 41 folded leaves
Vol. XIII: 34 folded leaves
Vol. XIV: 33 folded leaves
Vol. XV: 28 folded leaves
Vol. XVI: 38 folded leaves
Vol. XVII: 33 folded leaves
Vol. XVIII: 56 folded leaves
Vol. XIX: 34 folded leaves
Vol. XX: 24 folded leaves
Vol. XXI: 31 folded leaves
Vol. XXII: 25 folded leaves
Vol. XXXIII: 26 folded leaves
Vol. XXIV: 26 folded leaves
Vol. XXV: 30 folded leaves

Sato Susumu (1845-1921) was first a disciple, and later the adoptive son, of Sato Shochu, who operated the Juntendo Hospital in Tokyo. Here he had some training in Western-style surgery before deciding, in 1869, to go to Germany for further study. In Berlin and in Vienna, he came under the influence of the famous Viennese surgeon Christian Albert Theodor Billroth (1829-1894). This “Father of Viennese Surgery” had a number of surgical firsts to his credit, as well as an international following of disciples, and his magnum opus was translated into ten languages.

Returning to Tokyo in 1875, Sato helped his adoptive father administer the Juntendo Hospital again. The text of these twenty-five volumes is based on lectures he gave there, which were abstracts from Billroth's major work, Die allgemeine chirurgische Anatomie und Therapie in fünnzig Vorlesungen (Berlin: G. Reimer, 1863). This family hospital eventually developed into the Juntendo University Medical School.