

Foreword

This year of 2017 falls on the centenary of the purchase by Baron Hisaya Iwasaki (1865–1955) in 1917 of the Morrison Collection. Dr. George Ernest Morrison's (1862–1920) eponymously named Asiatic Library includes 24,000 books, MSS, serials and more in Western languages on the history and culture of China and its neighbors (further information about Dr. Morrison, his collection, and its transfer to Japan is given in Appendices A. B. C. at the end of this book).

Iwasaki aimed to lay this invaluable collection as the momentous cornerstone of Japan's first genuine 'research library' for scientific Asian studies which is to be founded by himself with the name of the Toyo Bunko Foundation, or Oriental Library in 1924. During its initial phase (1917–1924) when the Morrison Collection was housed in the "Morrison Corner" on the 2nd floor of the Iwasaki Family Affairs Office, the efforts to expand and supplement it had already got started. However, there were some problems in cataloging and classification. The system of cataloging and shelving that Morrison himself had used to identify his collection at a glance (see Catalogue of the Asiatic Library of Dr. G.E. Morrison, Now a Part of the Oriental Library, Vol. I & II. Tokyo, the Toyo Bunko, 1924) was to classify his collection according to eleven Western languages and then to put each title of the books in alphabetical order by author name. This system could not be feasibly employed in the expansion and supplementation, nor naturally fit into the overall plan for the future of Toyo Bunko.

Toyo Bunko Head Librarian Ishida Mikinosuke (1891–1974) and his staff set out to devise a new system. Since there was no previous case in Japan of a library faced with the task of cataloging Japanese, Western language and other Asian language titles into an integrated collection, they made a thorough examination of all the best works in Western library-science dealing with oriental studies in order to weave their bibliographic network, and came up with the following scheme which has been followed to the present day. It divides the holdings into three basic language categories: Western languages, classical Chinese, and other "non-Western" languages (including Japanese).

The Western language titles were in principle catalogued first into general works and 19 regions (18 Asian and the Americas). Then the cataloguing continued in gazetteer fashion, based on such topic as geography, history, social sciences, and economics (see the outline of classification table at Toyo Bunko as of 1924 shown in Appendix E). They were also coded according to bibliographic types and period. The codes by types include: oversized (L), manuscript (MS), pamphlet (P), engraving/map (E). As for chronological periods, two codes are used: old printings (O) and the books and MSS which are specifically rare and precious (PB). The criteria for O and PB are by and large in common with those of standard usage in library-science. Only the fixing of the lowest limit for the old printings at 1817 adopted by Toyo Bunko needs explanation. It is for a simple reason that the year of 1817 precedes our acquisition of the Western books of Morrison Collection by exactly a century.

In 2009–2011, on the occasion of the reconstruction of our building so as to ameliorate a space issue for the stacks, the Toyo Bunko Foundation decided to restore a whole set of the Morrison Collection to its original integrity. It would also be moved separately to a museum located within the new Toyo Bunko building (it had been shelved with a mixture of other Western books). Needless to say, Toyo Bunko's public services such as allowing for perusal of Morrison Collection books in the reading-room or copying them for researchers have been continued as before. Yet taking advantage of this restoration we set to edit a classified catalogue of the Morrison Collection by coded section which we had aimed to do for some time.

This Volume I includes the first results of such an endeavor. It contains the catalogue of Morrison Collection's MS and Rare books sections. The cataloguing of the rest of the books and materials will come out in several installments in the not distant future.

For reader's convenience, let me try to give a brief sketch of the contents of sections of MS, Rare books, and Old books in this volume.

- MSS

Of 57 entries in the MS section, there exist two groups of MSS that stand out among others. One includes letters such as the collection of original letters written by missionaries (particularly, those of the Society of Jesus) stationed in China (some in Siam, Tongking, and Japan). Most such letters were written in relation with the issue of the Rites Controversy in a broad sense and they span from the late sixteenth to mid eighteenth centuries.

Another group of letters concern Lord Macartney's Embassy to China during 1792-1794. Such MS, MSS are letter books or bundles of envelopes containing letters: Macartney's handwritten letters, draft-letters, copies of conversations with the British government and the East India Company, letters addressed to Macartney from persons such as Sir George Leonard Staunton, Warren Hastings and others. There are also log-book proceedings of the Majesty Ship Lion and sketches from nature drawn during the journey to and from China.

In addition to the aforementioned two groups, the MS section contains other sources of interest, including missionary works in Chinese-Latin, a Chinese-English dictionary, MSS of diplomatic relations between China with Tongking and France, as well as three log-books not of the Majesty Ship Lion as stated above (one log from North America to China; two from England to India and China).

- Precious books

The Toyo Bunko Foundation assigns 29 titles of books in the Morrison Collection as Precious books. 17 of them are early printings of Marco Polo's *The Description of the World* (publishing years of them are 1485, 1496, 1508, 1533, 1555, 1556, 1601, 1602, 1611, 1626, 1657, 1664, 1671, 1671, 1672 respectively). They are followed by 6 early printings of Sir John Mandeville's *Tractato de le piu marauegliose ...* (publishing years of them are 1485, 1488, 1497, 1684, 1722, 1727). It is noteworthy here that Dr. Morrison exerted all possible efforts to amass various sorts of editions of *The Description of the World*; not only those of different dates of printing but also of different versions of translation. They reach a total of 44 within a whole Dr. Morrison's collection. Out of the 6 remainder, what attract our attention are: Gaspar Castner's *Relatio sepultvrae magno Orientis apostolo S. Francisco Xaverio erectae in insula Sanciano anno saeculari MDCC* (1700), Ferdinand Verbiest's *Typus eclipsis lunae, anno Christi 1671, Imperatoris Cam Hy decimo, die XVto lunaeiue id est, die XXVto Martij*, and a scroll drawing 17 figures of a lunar eclipse of March 25, 1671.

- Old books

1,029 books are contained in this section. The time period covered by these Old books coincides with the Age of Discovery, when East-West close encounters had begun to take place. As a matter of course, this section includes works of geography and records of voyagers and travelers. Much of the Old books are by the hands of the learned Roman-catholic missionaries, who traveled to and stayed in China and other Asian countries from the sixteenth century. In China, some of missionaries knew Chinese perfectly and were appointed as officials, thereby joining with the bureaucratic elite. Some of them exhibited their profundity in Chinese or in Manchurian languages in their works. And yet, no matter whether such authors were inside or outside the missionary orders, their curiosity about Asian countries would have been touched off by the universalistic spirit of the period. Let me mention some of them here as examples:

- González de Mendoza, Juan, *Historia de las cosas mas notables, ritos y costumbres, del gran reyno de la China ...* . Rome, 1585.
- Semedo, Alvaro, *Imperio de la China. ...* . Madrid, 1642.
- Martini, Martino. Blaeu, Joan, *Atlas nuevo de la Extrema Asia, o Descripcion geographica del imperio de los Chinas ...* . Amsterdam, 1659.

- Anville, Jean Baptiste Bourguignon d', *Nouvel atlas de la Chine, de la Tartarie chinoise, et du Thibet ...* . Den Haag, 1737.
- Intorcetta, Prospero, *Compendiosa narratione dello stato della missione cinese*, Rome 1672.
- Bouvet, Joachim, *L'etat present de la Chine ...* . Paris, 1697.
- Du Halde, Jean-Baptiste, *Description géographique historique, chronologique, politique, et physique de l'Empire de la Chine et la Tartarie chinoise ...* . Paris ... ,1735.
- Müller, Andreas, *Specimen lexici mandarinici. Ubi Sinarum voces & pharases mandarinicæ ...* . Berlin, 1684.
- Fourmont, Étienne, *Meditationes Sinicæ ...* . Paris, 1737.
- Guignes, Joseph de, *Essai Historique sur l'étude de la philosophie chez les anciens chinois*. Paris, 1777.
- Rémusat, Jean Pierre Abel, *Programme du cours de langue et de littérature chinoises et de tartare-mandchou ...* . Paris, 1815.

Dr. Morrison offers a striking and exhaustive amassment of gems and other salient works of “baroque sinology” (the 16th through 18th century writing of early Chinese studies). And he concentrated his energies on the acquisition of sources on two matters. The first one is a body of the ‘recueil’ (collected works) of letters and papers that written by the missionaries of the Society of Jesus stationed in China and Japan and sent to Europe (*esp.* France). Among the books, there exist two sets of Le Gobien, Charles, and Du Halde, Jean-Baptiste, eds. *Lettres édifiantes et curieuses*, vols. 1–28 (29–34 are lacking), Paris, 1707–1758, and a New Edition, (in full volumes), Paris, 1780–1783. They are rare and valuable because these sources supply us with early Qing period information ranging from the government, laws, philosophy, religion, ethics and language, to way of living in cities and countryside, social norms, communications, commerce and industry. The information fills a lacuna in our knowledge of these subjects which contemporary Chinese sources often fail to provide. The other collection subject to which Dr. Morrison devoted himself ardently is Lord Macartney’s diplomatic mission to China (1792–1794). In the Old Books section, there are more than twenty works related with this theme. Above all what stand out from the rest are the 1st and 2nd editions of *An authentic Account of an Embassy ...* by Earl George Leonard Staunton (then, private secretary to Macartney) and *Some Account of the Public Life, and a Selection from the Unpublished Writings of the Earl of Macartney*, by Sir John Barrow (then, attaché, British Embassy at Peking).

Finally, as chief editor of this project, I wish to acknowledge my deep indebtedness to the staff members involved. To Library Department Director Dr. Tanaka Issei, I should like to express my deep appreciation for all his efforts in pushing forward this project. He also contributed a valuable essay about the geographic distribution and chronology of the printing houses of all the titles contained in this catalogue. Regarding the restoration of the original form of the Morrison Collection, I am most grateful to Ms. Nakamura Kuniko for her efforts on this difficult project. I should also like to thank Ms. Takishita Saeko, who had looked after the editing and production of this catalogue with careful attention. Additionally, special thanks are due to Ms. Tachibana Nobuko, Ms. Takada Mayumi, and Miyauchi Yasuaki who assisted Ms. Tachibana’s work, for their painstaking devotion to the whole process of cataloguing and editing. With their devotion this volume came to fruition.

SHIBA Yoshinobu
Executive Librarian
Toyo Bunko

