First edition of this very rare work; it is “probably the first Japanese book on modern metallurgy” (Iida, see below); WorldCat describes only the 1977 reprint and a manuscript of the text at Harvard. “Taisei Shichikin Yakusetsu, the first Japanese literature representing the local understanding of modern European metallurgy, was written by Baba Sadayoshi (1787-1822), a scholar of western learning in the late Edo period, who first served as a Dutch interpreter in Nagasaki and later made important contributions to translation (from Dutch, Russian, English and so on) at the Temmon-kata [astronomy office] of the Bakufu [Shogunate] as bansho wage goyogakari [translator of western literature into Japanese]. The book was published in a limited issue of 200 copies in 1854, 33 years after Sadayoshi’s death. Printed with wooden type, it is also regarded as an important landmark in the history of modern printing in Japan…

“As its title indicates, the book consists of translated accounts of ‘seven metals,’ supplemented at the beginning with seven drawings illustrating western processes of smelting them. The whole work consists of five volumes, the first on gold, second on silver, copper and iron, third on tin and lead, and fourth and fifth on mercury, and states where, how and in what varieties each metal is yielded, how it is smelted, what properties it has and what purposes it is used for…

“Perhaps because of Sadayoshi’s own knowledge of and interest in medicine or because its compilation was supervised by Shibue Chohaku, a well-known herbalist of the day and Bakufu-retained physician, the book dwells in particular detail on the pharmaceutical effects and uses of the metals. Thus it is less a book on metallurgy
than one on chemistry and pharmacy. I would like to note the fact that, in this first comprehensive book in Japan to introduce western knowledge on metals, the significance of the seven metals was primarily grasped as they related to the basis of people’s everyday life, and above all the role of iron was given a due position.”–Ken’ichi Iida, “Origin and Development of Iron and Steel Technology in Japan,” on-line resource under the auspices of the Institute of Developing Economies, Japan External Trade Organization.


Link: http://bit.ly/2kOGBBz

Acupuncture & Morphine


[bound with]:


First editions; the Rougier is a rare and early work on the use of morphine as an anesthetic.

I. An early French monograph on acupuncture. Cloquet (1790-1883), the eminent French anatomist and surgeon, made numerous experiments with this method of treatment hitherto only little known in Europe. The present volume, published by one of his assistants, contains 91 case histories, preceded by a historical introduction, and followed by a description of the procedures.

II. Rougier (1792-1863), who served as a military doctor in the Napoleonic wars in Hungary, was later appointed as staff physician at the Hôtel Dieu in Lyon. In this work, Rougier advocates the use of strychnine in order to test the effectiveness and duration of the sedative effects of morphine to treat painful diseases. With the use of a heated hammer to vesicate the skin, he employs the endermic method, which is then followed by the sprinkling of morphine on the raw epidermis for the rapid alleviation of pain.

Fine copies, preserved in a box. A contemporary reader has made numerous annotations in both works.


First edition to be published in Japan of a quite fascinating book. Hobson (1816-73), after studying medicine at University College, London, served with the London Missionary Society in China. Hobson arrived in Macao in 1839 and spent about twenty years in China in hospitals in Macao, Hong Kong, Canton and Shanghai. He was a pioneer in proposing the establishment of a medical school in Hong Kong for Chinese students and wrote many books, including an English/Chinese medical dictionary.

A serious student of the Chinese language, Hobson also wrote in Chinese a series of four original medical books with two Chinese collaborators: *Outline of Anatomy and Physiology* (*Quanti xin lun*, 1850), *First Lines of the Practice of Surgery in the West* (*Xiyi lielun*, 1857), *Practice of Medicine and Materia Medica* (*Neike xinshuo*, 1858), and the present work (1858). These books were not translations of individual European medical works but entirely new and unique distillations of what Hobson considered to be the best in Western medicine. They were widely used within the Chinese missionary medical schools for the rest of the century.

Their immediate success caused the present work to be quickly published in Japan as well. A copy had been presented by one of Hobson’s Chinese assistants to the Japanese publisher Fukuchi who added the Japanese reading marks and issued it in Tokyo for the Japanese market in 1859. Vol. I deals with conception, pregnancy, and birth. The second volume is concerned with pediatric medicine.

The fine woodcuts depict many views of the pelvic girdle, the fetus in utero, and birth positions. Fine set.

4. IGUCHI, Johan. *Tenmon Zukai* [trans.: *Illustrated Explanation of Astronomy*]. About 60 woodcut illus., many full-page & double-page, in the text. 32; 31; 37; 64; 54 folding leaves. Five vols. 8vo, orig. wrappers (rather rubbed with some wear), orig. block printed title label on each upper cover, new stitching. Osaka: Itamiya Mohe Kaihan, 1689. $22,500.00

First edition of “the first astronomical book published in Japan. Although all five volumes mention the study of mathematical astronomy, the first volume has circular star maps and the second has figures of the lunar lodges. Most of the stars are shown as black circles, but those of the lunar lodges and other notable stars in the circular star map are shown as white circles, as are the determinative stars in the figures of the lunar lodges.”–Miyajima, “Japanese Celestial Cartography before the Meiji Period” in *History of Cartography*, Vol. 2, No. 2, p. 590.

The present work is one of the finest illustrated science books published in Japan in the 17th century. The nine-sphere universe diagram in the first volume was reproduced from the Chinese edition of Matteo Ricci’s *A Profound Demonstration of the Two Spheres* (1603).

Volumes 2-4 are largely concerned with the reform of the Chinese lunisolar Hsuan-ming calendar, adapted in Japan in 862. It had become very inaccurate in predicting solar and lunar eclipses. In early Japan, knowledge of astronomy and the ability to predict eclipses were considered by the imperial court to be of the greatest importance and the need for calendar reform took a high priority.

Iguchi (active 1689-98), was one of the first Japanese astronomers to grasp the superiority of Western astronomical concepts. A student of the prominent mathematician Kenjo Maeda, Iguchi was a collaborator of Harumi Shibukawa (1639-
1715), “one of the greatest astronomers to have lived in Japan” (Miyajima, p. 588). Shibukawa was appointed to be the first astronomer of the shogunate’s Bureau of Astronomy and was responsible for preparing the official civil calendar each year. Shibukawa probably made the first systematic astronomical observations in Japan (see D.S.B., XII, pp. 403-04). His proposal for calendar reform, based on these observations, was finally accepted by the Japanese government in 1684.

As mentioned above, the first volume contains a series of woodcuts, including double-page, full-page, and text illustrations. Several of the woodcuts are derived from Chinese astronomy, one from Buddhist astronomy, and several others are inspired by Western astronomy. One of the most interesting is the double-page illustration of the eastern hemisphere which depicts Japan in the center, the China coast, Korea, the East Indies, New Guinea, and part of Alaska. There is also a fine woodcut of an armillary sphere with legs in the forms of dragons. The text of this volume presents the author’s theory of astronomy and planetary motion which is based on Chinese, Buddhist, and European astronomy. The text describes cometary appearances based on the author’s own observations. Iguchi expressed the possibility of comets reappearing some years before Halley demonstrated this.

Iguchi comments that the Buddhists still insisted on erroneous ancient ideas, while the Confucians had amended their concepts to fit the modern theory of the spherical earth.

The end of the fourth volume deals with the “yun qi lun” theory which is one of the theoretical foundations of Chinese medicine and acupuncture.

The fifth volume is devoted to calculating the positions of planets, the moon, and stars. There are a number of geocentric woodcuts of the planets and moon, diagrams of solar and lunar eclipses, and constellations of stars.

In spite of the wear, a very good and clean set. Ownership stamp of “Masuda” on covers and first and last leaves of each volume. Preserved in a box.


Link: http://bit.ly/2lcpVEL


First edition and privately published. Kuroda (1840-90), served as the second Prime Minister of Japan in the years 1888-89, during which he oversaw the promulgation of the Meiji Constitution. During the early 1870s, he had travelled widely: Korea, China, America, and Europe. In 1874, he was appointed director of the Hokkaido Colonization Bureau and invited many American agricultural experts to visit Hokkaido to provide advice on which crops would be the most successful. Unfortunately, in 1881 he became caught up in the Bureau’s scandal which caused him to resign from public office. As a result, he again travelled in Europe and the United States during the years 1886-87.

The present book is a detailed account of Kuroda’s travels, including a vivid
account of his crossing Siberia from Vladivostok to St. Petersburg. He gives careful and full details of Korea, Russia (including Moscow and St. Petersburg), Istanbul, Italy, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Amsterdam, Brussels, Scotland, England (including London), Paris, New York (where he carefully studied the Brooklyn Bridge), the Erie Canal, Niagra Falls (of course!), Chicago, and San Francisco (including the fish canneries).

Throughout he provides many observations on agricultural practices, industrial methods, foreign trade, the manufacture of steam engines, political and educational systems, public safety, transportation and communication systems, Chicago slaughter houses, military education, taxation, the punishment of criminals, and much statistical information.

Very good set.


**The Copy of the Prince of Wales**

6. [KINGLAKE, Alexander William]. *Eothen, or Traces of Travel brought Home from the East*. Folding hand-colored lithographed frontis. & one colored plate. 1 p.l., xi, 418 pp. 8vo, 19th-cent. vellum over boards (minor foxing to first few leaves), spine lettered in gilt, dentelles gilt, t.e.g., arms in gilt of the Prince of Wales on upper cover. London: J. Ollivier, 1844. $1350.00

First edition. “In August 1834, Kinglake set out on an eighteen-month odyssey through Europe and the Ottoman empire. After encountering plague in Constantinople, he travelled to Smyrna, Cyprus, Beirut, the Holy Land, and Jerusalem, before crossing the Sinai Desert to Cairo. Following three weeks in Egypt, he returned north through Damascus and Asia Minor then via Athens, Corfu, Rome, and Turin to London. On 5 May 1837, Kinglake was called to the bar but…continued to travel, visiting Switzerland in 1843, and the following year *Eothen*, his account of the 1834–5 Turkish adventures, was published and included two of his own watercolours.”–ODNB.

A very good copy in a fine binding. Bookplates of William Orme Foster and Norman Travis.


“*The Basis for Coptic Studies*” & “*A Tour de Force of 17th-Century Typography*”

7. KIRCHER, Athanasius. *Prodromus Coptus sive Aegyptiacus…cum linguae Coptae…* Woodcut vignette on title, woodcut illus. in the text, & many exotic type fonts used. 12 p.l., 338 pp. 4to, late 18th-cent. half calf & marbled boards (some browning as is usual with this book), spine gilt, black morocco lettering piece on
First edition. This present work is “the first Coptic grammar to appear in the West, [it] was for centuries the basis for Coptic studies, along with Kircher’s later work *Lingua aegyptiaca restituta* (1643). Kircher had encountered hieroglyphs during his tertianship (a one-year period of religious study in preparation for the ministry) in Speier, and he was convinced — correctly — that Coptic was a late vestige of ancient Egyptian. While at Avignon he was given several Coptic manuscripts by his friend and patron Nicolas Claude Fabri de Peiresc. Later in Rome Kircher acquired an Arabic-Coptic vocabulary brought from Egypt by Pietro della Valle. On the basis of these, and with Peiresc’s encouragement, Kircher compiled the *Prodromus*. As the title reveals, it was to be a precursor of a later work on the Egyptian language, perhaps the *Lingua aegyptiaca restituta*. In both works he stresses the importance of Coptic for interpreting hieroglyphics. Because ‘things Egyptian’ were the rage in seventeenth-century Europe, the *Prodromus* attained immediate popularity and firmly established Kircher’s reputation as a scholar…

“Type fonts include Greek, Syriac, Arabic, Hebrew, Estranghelo, Samaritan, Armenian, Chaldean, Rashi, Amharic, ‘Saracen,’ hieroglyphic, and of course Coptic — a tour de force of seventeenth-century typography.”–Merrill, *Athanasius Kircher*, 3.

This book is virtually a type specimen of the fonts possessed by the new established (1626) Press of the Propaganda Fide.

Very good copy. Stamp on free front endpaper of the “Biblioteca Privata Pasquale Regina” and a signature on blank portion of title. Dunnhaupt notes two settings of the title-page (no priority): 1. with the insignia of the dedicatee, Francesco Barberini, and 2. a medallion of Christ and Apostles (as in our copy).


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Limited to 300 copies. A fascinating view of the early days of collecting Japanese prints in America by one of the greatest collectors. Fine copy.

First edition of this survey, based on Western science, of astronomy, geography and geology, and anthropology. This book reflects the uneasy transition away from traditional science towards Western science which slowly took place in the 18th century and dramatically quickened in the first half of the 19th century.

The first part describes the system of the planets, the nature of stars, a careful description of each planet, the distances of the planets from the sun, recent astronomical discoveries (Olbers, Herschel, and others), eclipses, the causes of the tides, etc. The fine full-page woodcut of the solar system depicts the sun in the center.

The second part provides a list of the active and inactive volcanoes on earth, the highest mountains, sources of waters, a description of the oceans and seas, earthquakes, mountain ranges, glaciers, deserts, winds, etc. The third part is anthropological, describing the differences between people on the five continents, starting with Europe, then Asia, followed Africa, North America, and South America.

The first leaf of Vol. I is defective with loss of a couple of characters. Some occasional worming.

10. OTSUKI, Gentaku. *Rangaku Kaitei* [trans.: *Introduction to the Dutch Language*]. 32 folded leaves; 31 folded leaves. Two vols. 8vo, orig. wrappers, orig. block printed title label on each upper cover, new stitching. N.p.: 1788. $8500.00

First edition of Otsuki’s highly important introduction to Dutch language and studies; it is the first primer on Dutch studies published in Japan. Gentaku Otsuki (1757-1827), studied Dutch medicine under Gempaku Sugita and learned Dutch from Ryotaku Maeno. Entering the service of the Date family, lords of Sendai, he set up the Shirando (a school), where his followers included Sokichi Hashimoto, Sampaku Inamura, Saisuke Yamamura, and others. During the Bunka era (1804-1818), Otsuki studied astronomy on orders from the shogunate, and translated Chomel’s encyclopedia under the title *Kosei shimpen*.

The *Rangaku kaitei* is organized in two volumes and 25 chapters. Volume I gives a brief description of the history and background of Dutch studies, while Volume II is divided into sections entitled Letters, Numbers and Measures, Rhyme, Phonology, Rhetoric, Exegesis, Interpretation, Translation of Words, Translation of Texts, Explanation of Terms, Synonyms, Idioms, Auxiliary Particles, Punctuation, Bibliography, and Explication, with brief descriptions of each topic.

While the work was intended for beginners and is far from complete, it gained wide acceptance as a systematic grammar of Dutch, and greatly stimulated interest in this language among the general public.

Fine set.

Link: [http://bit.ly/2hOeIaM](http://bit.ly/2hOeIaM)

First edition and an enormously useful book in which the author compares many of the weights, measures, and currencies of antiquity with modern counterparts throughout Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. Paucton (1736-98), professor of mathematics at Strasbourg, was later in the Paris bureau of surveys.

This is a classic book in the history of weights and measures; Gibbon described it as “useful and laborious.” “At the era of its publication this very learned work was universally admitted to be the most complete and important that had appeared on the subjects of which it treats; and though materially affected by the changes which have taken place in the interval, especially the introduction of the metrical system into France, it continues to be held in high estimation. Exclusive of the subjects which properly belong to a treatise on Metrology, it embraces a great various of curious and profound discussions upon collateral topics, which, though they have added considerably to its bulk, have greatly increased its interest and value.”–McCulloch, p. 137.

Chapter VIII examines, country by country, the physical size of the whole world and provides detailed demographic breakdowns for Europe in particular.

A very fine copy of a book full of the most wonderful information which is difficult to find anywhere else. If you want to know what French money was worth in Palermo or Beijing in 1665, this book will furnish the information.

É. Poggendorff, II, 378.


First edition of this translation, with additions, on an unknown work by Scott (?), an American author, on military medicine. Volume I is devoted to pharmacological matters, especially methods to prevent cholera amongst the troops.
The second volume deals with injuries on the field, including bandaging, transporting injured troops, ways of preventing altitude sickness, techniques of resuscitation, how to traverse snow-covered mountains, problems of malnutrition and syphilis, gun shot wounds, fractures, burns, etc., etc.

The translator, Kumagawa (1838-1902), studied both Chinese and western medicine. He later served on a naval ship as physician and became director of a veterans’ hospital. At the end of his career, he helped establish one of the most important hospitals in Tokyo, which still exists.

- OCLC catalogues this under the translator’s name.


Prior to the arrival of Admiral Perry’s squadron of ships in Tokyo Bay in 1853, there were numerous earlier attempts by Russian, British, and American ships to open relations with Japan. They all failed.

As a result of these foreign attempts to establish trade relations, there was a
growing and passionate national debate within Japan in the first half of the 19th century about whether the country should remain closed or should be opened up. Within the two opposing camps which developed, there were many factions with their own separate ideas about how to deal with this serious problem. Some policy makers claimed that it was necessary to use the foreigners’ techniques in order to repel them. Others argued that only traditional Japanese methods should be employed. Following the British victory over the Chinese in the First Opium War, many Japanese realized that traditional ways would not be sufficient to repel future Western advances.

The author of the text of this manuscript, Shioda (1805-71), was a member of a prominent family of physicians and practiced medicine in Tokyo. Because of his schooling and the fame of his family, he had a wide circle of influential and opinionated friends in and out of government. With the debate raging over Japan’s future, Shioda began to collect texts on the subject of how to successfully avoid foreign domination. Shioda gathered the texts impartially, from writers within the government and from the independent intelligentsia and strategists. A corpus of nearly seventy texts — some previously in circulation and some not — was ultimately collected and Shioda prepared a master manuscript of them. To many of them he added his own comments.

Some of the contributors were Gentaku Otsuki, his son Bankei Otsuki, Kando Hakura, Genzo Akai, Heibei Kashiwagi, Kunpei Gamo, Sosui Yamaga, and Nobuhiro Sato.

This manuscript is also particularly well-illustrated, with many of the depictions in rich colors. There are maps; representations of foreign ships (steam-powered ships and the Columbus, an American ship which visited in 1846); portrayals of sailors and soldiers from various foreign countries; many representations of American sailors (captains, officers, and deck hands), American coins; cannons; a depiction of a Western navigating instrument with a moving part; flags of many countries; illustrations of Japanese military ships and weapons; defensive installations on beaches including cannon placements, explosives, chains, etc., etc.

The themes of the articles include military strategies to repulse the foreigners both on land and sea, concerns about the weakness of the “North Front” (Hokkaido), internal discussions about the increasing visits of foreign ships to Japan, the weakness of the Chinese in combating the English during the Opium War (including the strategic failures of the Chinese both diplomatically and militarily), gossip gleaned from conversations with the Dutch at Dejima in Nagasaki, the availability of rifles and cannons, details of the weaponry available aboard foreign ships, an account of the negotiations during the attempt in 1792-93 by the Russian Laxman to initiate relations with the Japanese, and histories of other negotiations between the Japanese and foreigners. There is also a section on the detailed vocabulary used by Americans and English sailors during military engagements.

Because of the controversial (some texts were absolutely forbidden) nature of the texts, manuscript copies were prepared and circulated. The manuscripts vary in contents and illustration. The collection of texts were finally published only in the 20th century. Our copy is one of the most complete in existence with numerous and
very fine illustrations; it is written in a very fine hand. The entire manuscript, in 38 volumes, is in fine and fresh condition.

This manuscript offers important insights into one of the most interesting and complicated periods in Japanese history.

Link: http://bit.ly/2lYw9Yg