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Preface to the Indexes to the Great Chinese Botany *Zhiwu Mingshi Tukao* 植物名實圖考 of Wu Qijun 吳其濬

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Abstract: The paper focuses on the efforts of the US botanist Walter T. Swingle to disseminate information on Chinese traditional botanical literature, especially facilitating access to the outstanding Zhiwu mingshi tukao by Wu Qijun. For the latter purpose he prepared indexes and correlation tables to cover the then available different editions in Chinese and Japanese. This research tool was never printed but a small number of photostats was circulated among interested scholars. The paper introduces Swingle's work and presents his preface in which he underlines the importance of Chinese botanical literature and explains the method behind this index volume. In addition it offers the translation of the original prefaces to the different editions of the Zhiwu mingshi tukao, prepared by such scholars as Jiang Kanghu, the historian of literature and Yuan Tongli, later director of the National Library of China.

Key words: *Zhiwu mingshi tu kao*, Wu Qijun (1789–1847), Swingle, Walter Tennyson (1871–1952), Botanical literature in China.

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Walter Tennyson Swingle (Canaan, Pa. Jan. 8, 1871 — Jan. 19. 1952 Washington, D.C.) (Bartlett 1952; Seifriz 1953), botanist, citrus and date expert, worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He grew up on a farm in Kansas and attended a one-class rural school and he quickly took in all knowledge it could offer. But he was eager for more, his strong point was perseverance, and he was interested in nature. Thus, he had no problem in going through college, guided and motivated by good teachers. He was full of ideas but never became a model administrator. He dealt with the culture of citrous fruits, including parasite control, solved the issue of the pollination of the Smyrna fig and supported the introduction of the date palm into North America. His research concerned also *metaxenia* and *neophosis* — he had worked in genetics already during his study term at Bonn University; at first he had to cope with disbelief and opposition to his experimental results but he managed to

convince his critics by well-founded presentations. The Department showed generosity regarding his projects and ideas but this attitude changed in 1933 when a restructuring took place which focused upon immediate application. His previous work even if it had found much recognition by scientists was no longer of any importance. He retained his position but the Bureau of Plant Industry was abolished, and from then on he was just one of numerous employees — his ideas were not in demand any more. But he kept on working, especially on his citrus material which became part of the standard work the *Citrus Industry* (Swingle 1943–1948).

Swingle belonged to a small circle of scholars and scientists who promoted East Asian Studies in the USA. Frank D. Venning has a long paragraph in his appreciation of Swingle:

"Swingle's studies to straighten out the classification and descriptions of citrus and its relatives had led him to explore the history of the cultivated varieties. The genus Citrus is native to Southeast Asia, and has long been cultivated in China. There were records and descriptions in the Chinese literature and a collection of Chinese books at the Library of Congress, so he had sought help there. By a series of coincidences, this led to his taking on and accomplishing in fifteen years, merely as a sideline, what would have been a full time career for most persons, the guidance of the development of the Oriental Collection in the Library of Congress.

Until 1898, the Chinese collection in the Library of Congress was a miscellany of minor books, mostly uncatalogued and therefore unavailable for general use. The collection had never been rounded out to cover any special fields of knowledge and could not be counted on to serve the needs of special investigators. In it, however, were some choice, basically important and valuable items. The first American commissioner to China, Caleb Cushing[1], had personally collected Chinese books, and had given them to the Library in the late 1840s. A classical Chinese herbal, edition of 1655[2], was presented by the Emperor Tongzhi in 1869. In 1898 the famous Chinese Ambassador Wu Ting-Fang[3] inspected the collection, and through his courtesy arranged for it to be "catalogued by some learned gentlemen connected with the embassy." At that time, the collection contained 2.888 volumes.

In 1904, the Chinese Government had exhibited 1,965 volumes at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition[4]; in 1905 it presented them to the United States. The learned William Woodville Rockhill[5], Orientalist and special American Minister to China, personally purchased and presented an aggregate of 6,000 volumes. There followed, in 1908, the gift of a sumptuous set of the Imperial Encyclopedia[6], in 5,041 volumes, brought to Washington by a special ambassador and presented on behalf of the Empress Dowager to the American government as a memorial tribute of China's appreciation of the remission by the United States of the last of the indemnity for the destruction that had occurred during the Boxer

[1] Caleb Cushing (1800–1879), lawyer, statesman and diplomat. H was dispatched to China as a plenipotentiary in 1843 to negotiate the treaty of Wangxia in 1844. Cf. Walravens 2016.

[2] *Bencao gangmu* 本草綱目, compendium of medicinal plants. The donation comprised ten important works.

[3] Wu Tingfang 伍廷芳 (1842–1922), statesman and diplomat, 1896–1902 and 1908–1909 ambassador to the USA, later on (1921–1922) foreign minister under Sun Yatsen.

[4] World Exhibition in St. Louis, Missouri, to commemorate the centenary of the acquisition of Louisiana in 1803.

[5] William Woodville Rockhill (1854–1914), ambassador and Orientalist; see Varg 1952; Wimmel 2003.

[6] *Gujin tushu jicheng* 古今圖書集成 of 1726–28; reference is here probably not made to the original edition (printed from movable type) but the reprint made at the end of the 19th century, commissioned by the Zongli Yamen, on white paper and in original size.

uprising. With these gifts, the collection numbered 15.894 volumes, and was on the way toward becoming one of the important Oriental libraries in the West. This was where things stood in 1911 when Swingle began using the collection.

The Chinese botanical and agricultural literature held records of economic plants going back many hundreds of years, but the old volumes accessible to Swingle referred to still older works. When he would ask to consult these, he found that most were not in the collection. Many were known to have survived in China or Japan, or might turn up if searched for. The Library kept adding these titles to its list of desiderata, but had no operating plan for developing its Orientalia. By his intensive use of the materials and his requests for titles not held by the Library, Swingle was, de facto, guiding its development.

In 1915 Swingle was preparing for his first trip to China. Foreigners now had access to some official Chinese libraries. Swingle needed to consult these older references, and queried Herbert Putnam[7], the learned and far-seeing Librarian of Congress, as to where he might find them. Putnam was interested in systematically rounding out the Library's holdings so that it would serve scholars adequately, and here was Swingle with a long list of herbals and encyclopedias not in the collection. Would Mr. Swingle be willing to accept a commission authorizing him to buy important books that would supply these deficiencies? Mr. Swingle was mightily pleased at such a prospect. Together the two men worked out the broad outlines of a program, and Swingle undertook his commission with typical enthusiasm.

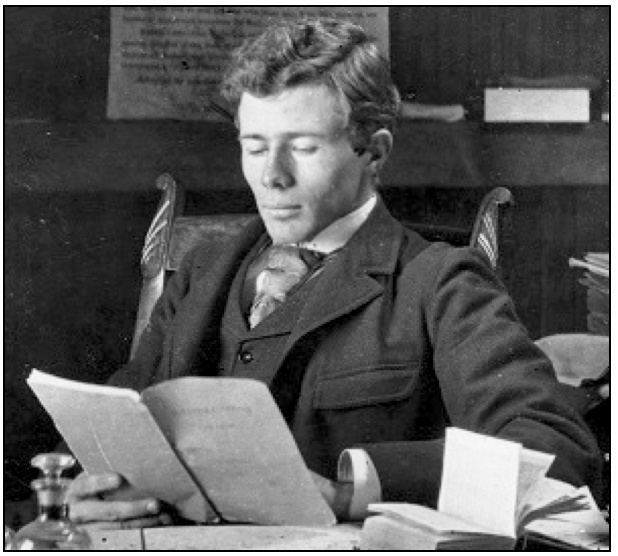
From this point until 1928 the growth and development of the Division of Orientalia, Library of Congress, was systematically guided by Swingle, and his interest continued for the rest of his life. The ability to transmit his enthusiasm to others enabled him to obtain efficient collaboration in the task, not only from friends in the Bureau of Plant Industry, but from persons he knew only through correspondence. From 1916 to 1928 he wrote the Annual Reports on Far Eastern accessions for the Librarian. He continued to contribute to the reports for the botanical, agricultural, and geographical accessions until 1935. His reports were brief but highly effective, and actually constitute a history of Chinese science. In them, he enumerated the most significant Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Mongol, Manchu and Annamite accessions, adding inspiringly enthusiastic annotations. They gave our American botanists and agriculturists an inkling of what they might find in the ancient herbals, encyclopedias, and gazetteers, of Chinese economic botany and ethnobotany. Others reading these reports caught his enthusiasm and offered to collaborate.

From the herbals and encyclopedic agricultural works, Swingle turned his attention to the gazetteers that the Chinese periodically compiled for the country as a whole, and for provincial and lesser subdivisions. These gazetteers include not only geographic descriptions, but annals of each general or local administration, detailed local history and biography, records of the utilization of natural products, development of manufactures, reports on official tours of inspection, and such a vast amount of information that they are an inexhaustible mine of facts bearing on every phase of Chinese culture. When Swingle's good friend O.F. Cook[8] travelled widely in China in 1919 to investigate the cultivation of cotton, Swingle asked him to buy any gazetteers he came across to help build up the already nota-

[7] The librarian Herbert Putnam (1861–1955), son of a well-known publisher; he served as the Librarian of Congress from 1899 to 1939 and turned the library into one of the world's most important book repositories.

[8] Orator Fuller Cook (1867–1949), botanist and entomologist. He specialized in cotton, rubber producing plants and palms. Cf. Anonymous 1953.

ble collection in the Library. With the help of his assistant, Mr. Yeh Yuen-Ting [Ye Yuanding 葉元鼎], Cook secured no less than 108 official gazetteers in 1,239 volumes. As a result, Swingle was able to report with pride in 1920 that "the Library of Congress now contains the largest collection of official gazetteers to be found outside of China". In the same year, a professional copyist began copying valuable selected manuscripts in the great library of Canton. And Berthold Laufer,[9] the great Orientalist of the Field Museum of Chicago, cooperated in the acquisition of Mongol books.



Walter T. Swingle
(4 Corners of the World. *blogs.loc.gov*)

Swingle also sought out Chinese *congshu* 叢書, or collectanea. These consist of sets in which are reprinted rare books long out of print and unavailable as separate volumes. Individual *congshu* usually cover a special field of endeavor, and are ambitious undertakings. The bulkiest of them all, the *Yongle dadian* 永樂大典[10], had the objective of including all "serious works" of Chinese literature extant in the year 1400, excluding novels and plays. It comprised 11,095 volumes, and was never printed. It existed at first only in the origin ill draft and one final copy. Later a new copy was made. Swingle stated that "some 8,000 years' labor of scholars was spent in compiling, copying, and proofreading the original work, and that another 2,000 years' labor went into the copies and transcripts. «So far as is known, only scattered volumes of this monumental *congshu* have survived, of which the Library of Congress has 33; only the Library of the Chinese Ministry of Education has more, holding 60» (Annual Report, 1922)» [Venning 1977: 22–24]

[9] Berthold Laufer (1874–1934), one of the most outstanding Sinologists, who undertook four collecting trips to East Asia where he assembled a large amount of books and artefacts for the museums and libraries in New York and Chicago. He became director of the Anthropology Dept. at Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. Cf. Walravens 1976 and 1982.

[10] This work belongs to the category *leishu* 類書 which is often translated by *encyclopedia* but in fact it is rather a thematically arranged collection of material consisting of long quotations from books (or even whole books).

Swingle contributed the following essays to the *Annual Report of the Librarian of Congress*:

Orientalia, Chinese. 1917: 83–99.

Orientalia 1920: 187–192.

Far Eastern acquisition. 1921: 169–172.

Orientalia: acquisitions. 1922: 176–186.

Orientalia: acquisitions. 1923: 171–195.

Chinese books added to the Library of Congress, 1923–1924. 1924: 258–279.

Chinese and other East Asiatic books added to the Library of Congress, 1924–1925. 1925: 255–278.

Chinese and other East Asiatic books added to the Library of Congress, 1925–1926. 1926: 313–334.

Chinese and other East Asiatic books added to the Library of Congress, 1926–1927. 1927: 245–278.

Notes on Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Tibetan accessions. 1928: 287–299.

Notes on Chinese accessions, chiefly medicine, materia medica and horticulture. 1929: 311–333.

Notes on Chinese accessions on medicine and materia medica, and the Nashi pictographic Manuscripts. 1930: 368–390.

Notes on Chinese, Korean, Japanese accessions on materia medica, medicine, and agriculture. 1931: 290–299.

Notes on Chinese herbals and other works on materia medica. 1932: 199–207.

Notes on early Chinese records on maize, on natural products, and on medicine. 1933: 119–131.

Pictographic books of the Nashi people. 1934: 153–158.

Noteworthy Chinese books on wild and cultivated food plants. 1935: 193–206.

Chinese famine herbals and Nashi pictographic manuscripts. 1936: 184–195.

New and old Chinese treatises on materia medica. 1937: 189–196.

Among the important historical botanical works which stick out for their reliable descriptions and illustrations of plants, is arguably the most prominent the *Zhiwu ming shi tukao* of the provincial governor Wu Qijun 吳其濬 (1789–1847) which was released in 1848. When in the beginning of the 20th c. botanists became interested in Chinese source material it seemed a priority to facilitate access to the by that time several different editions, i.e. by means of correlation tables and indexes. Swingle and his team did exactly that but to make this handbook available would have been very costly, and therefore photostats were prepared for the numerically small number of scholars.

In a preface Swingle explained the access method to three different editions and added also the original prefaces with translations in order to make the respective editorial concepts more transparent.

It may be useful to look at Swingle's contributions to the *Annual reports of the Librarian of Congress*[11] to get some background information on the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao*:

"The author (acting governor general of Yunnan and Guizhou Provinces in 1844) is the author of the great Chinese botany *Zhiwu mingshi tukao*, a work of 60 books in 60 volumes, containing 1714 excellent full-page illustrations of Chinese plants. It was first published in

[11] See Walravens 2021 for an index to the East Asian sections of the A*nnual reports*.

1848 by the provincial press of Shanxi Province. The author took the highest degree in 1817 and held many high offices during his long career, in which he served in 10 of the 18 Provinces of China, usually as governor or acting governor general" (Annual report of the Librarian of Congress 1928: 297–298).

"This year a hitherto unknown Chinese edition [of the Zhiwu mingshi tukao] was secured from Japan. This a reprint made in Yunnan Provincial Library in 1915 of the Japanese reprint of this work first published in Tokyo in 1884. The Yunnan edition has a preface by Mr. You Yunlong (*zi*, Kuiju), who was apparently in charge of the Yunnan Provincial Library at the time.

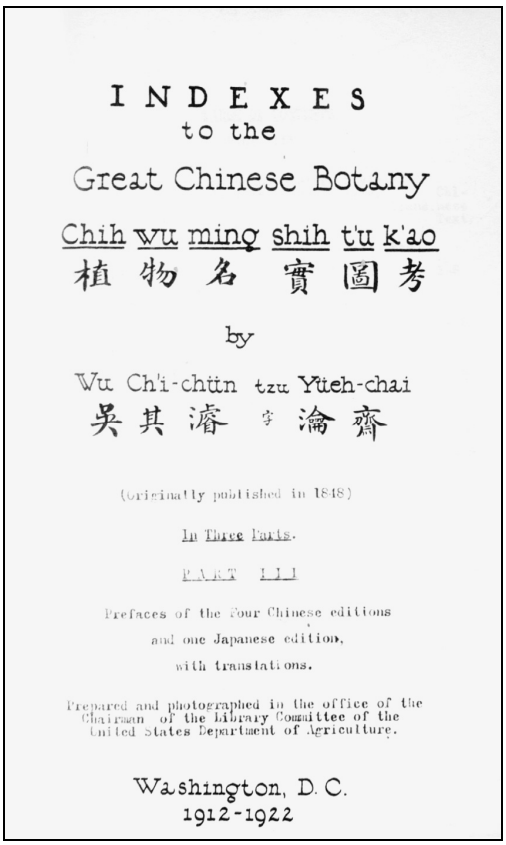
He states in his preface that when he was a student in Japan he heard of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* through the botanist, Prof. K. Yabe; upon his return to Peking he tried to find it in the secondhand bookstores there, but was unable to secure a Chinese edition, although he did see the Japanese edition. Finally, upon entering his official duties in Yunnan in 1914 he again took up the matter and was able to secure a copy of the Japanese edition through a friend living in Yunnan. After rather disparaging references to the older Chinese works which discuss plants he extols the work of Wu Qijun who, as he points out, formerly served as Governor of Yunnan and notes that a Yunnan man, Lu Jiatang, published Wu Qijun's great botany after the author's death in 1848, so that this work is of special interest to men of Yunnan. The reprint is a photolithographic one, as is shown by the fact that the Japanese phonetic renderings of the plant names, written in *furigana* alongside the Chinese characters, are included although they would be misleading to anyone who could read them in China as they give the Japanese pronunciation of the Chinese characters that make up the plant names.

Although in the meantime a third edition of Wu Qijun's great botany has been reprinted recently by direction of the famous governor of Shanxi, Yan Xishan, for the most part from the original blocks used in the edition of 1848, nevertheless, the Yunnan reprint noted above is of interest, inasmuch as it reproduces page for page the Japanese edition, and the Japanese edition is the one cited by Prof. J. Matsumura in his great work, *Shokubutsu-mei-i, revised and enlarged edition*, Tokyo 1921, which ties up the Chinese names of the plants with the Latin names in international use. This edition of Wu Qijun's great botany is likely, therefore, to prove very convenient for use in connection with Professor Matsumura's work in view of the rarity of the Japanese edition" [Annual report of the Librarian of Congress 1929: 326–327].

The following texts are reproduced from Swingle's typescript and show his sincere interest in Chinese botanical literature. After Emil Bretschneider and Berthold Laufer he was an important promoter of the value of Chinese traditional botanical, agricultural and medical texts for the growing and improvement of cultural plants.

China has the richest flora of the north-temperate zone.[12] Over one-half of the trees of this zone are native to China. China is the only country north of the equator where tropical regions adjoin temperate regions with no impassable barriers, deserts, seas, or lofty mountains intervening. In consequence we see in China many tropical plants that have become adapted to cold winters (for example, the fan palm, *Trachycarpus excelsa* Wendl., the trifoliate orange, *Poncirus trifoliata* (L.) Raf. etc.) and, on the other hand, in Indo-China, especially in the plateau region, many temperate zone plants such as Pyrus, Hicoria, etc. are found far to the south of the tropic of Cancer.

[12] E.H. Wilson, who probably has as good a first hard knowledge of the Chinese flora as any man living, says in his *Naturalist in Western China* (v. 2, p. 2. New York: Doubleday Page & Co., 1913): "The Chinese flora is, beyond question, the richest temperate flora in the world. A greater number of different kinds of trees are found in China than in the whole of the other north-temperate regions" (Swingle's note).



INDEXES
to the
Great Chinese Botany
Chih wu ming shih t'u k'ao
植物名實圖考
by
Wu Ch'i-chün tzu Yüeh-chai
吳其濬 字 滄齋
(originally published in 1848)
In Three Parts.
PART III
Prefaces of the Four Chinese editions
and one Japanese edition,
with translations.
Prepared and photographed in the office of the
Chairman of the Library Committee of the
United States Department of Agriculture.
Washington, D. C.
1912-1922

[Preface to the Index volume]

The Chinese for forty centuries have cultivated most intensively the soil of China. Chinese agriculture, unlike that of Europe, seeks to find crops adapted to each type of soil, rather than by draining, liming, etc., to change the physical and chemical properties of the soil.

As a result, the Chinese have developed an unrivaled series of crops fitted to swampy soils and to other special types of soils not usually planted to crops in Europe or America.

Then, too, the Chinese have for ages been attached closely to the ancestral soil and have not willingly sought to reclaim single-handed the uninhabited regions. Even today considerable areas of uncultivated land, usually mountainous land, often surround densely inhabited valleys.

Occurring famines have, by dire necessity, driven the inhabitants of each region to seek out every plant capable of serving for food or medicine.

A highly developed culinary art, probably the most perfect in the world, not only from the gastronomic but also from the dietetic and economic points of view, has guided the Chinese in their wonderfully effective working out of tasty, digestible dietaries at all possible ranges of cost. They have surpassed all western people in their range of food substances, especially of plant foods and condiments.

All of these influences operating through many centuries of time in the seat of the oldest existing civilisation of the world have resulted in the development in China of an unrivaled array of cultivated crop plants and wild species which are used for food, medicine, perfumes, or ornamental purposes.

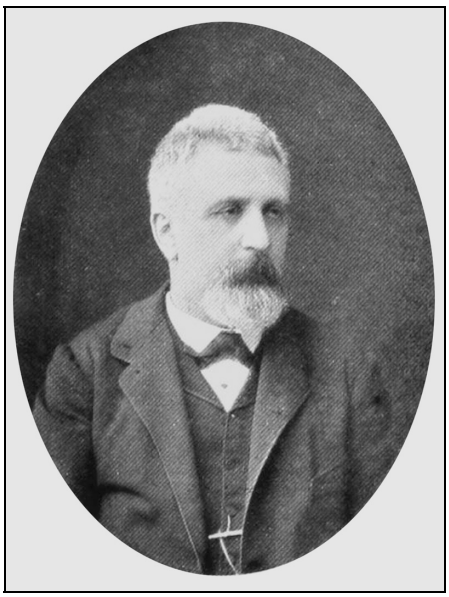
Because of the ultra-continental character of the East Asiatic climate, Chinese plants can brave the vigors and sudden changes of North America and can of course easily become adapted to the mild climate of Western Europe.

As a result of an age-long policy of non-intercourse with foreigners, a policy persisted in up to the last decade, the plant resources of China have hitherto been only imperfectly known to other peoples. Consequently China is today the richest warehouse in the world of plant useful for food, for medicine, or for ornament. It becomes, therefore, a matter of prime interest to the whole world to know what plants the Chinese make use of. Most of these will grow readily in Europe or America. Many of them yield products that will be appreciated by Western peoples. No inconsiderable number will doubtless eventually be grown on a large scale in the West.

Fortunately, there exists in China a splendid treatise on the useful plants, the last and best of a great number of similar works. Written not quite a century ago, it is still thoroughly in the spirit of the old Chinese civilization. The new Chinese botany of the twentieth century is something very different than in the time being much less useful, though without doubt the future holds high promise in this as in any other fields of scientific work. This work on the useful plants of China one of the lasting monuments to the greatness if the Chinese, is the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* 植物名實圖攷 written by a high official of the late Qing dynasty, Wu Qijun 吳其濬, a native of the Gushi 固始 district of Guangzhou 光州 prefecture, Henan. He took the highest degree, *jinshi* 進士, in 1817 and held various offices in Peking, and in the provinces, and in 1840 was appointed acting governor-general of Huguang. He was made governor of Hunan in the same year and became governor or acting governor-general of five other provinces before he retired in 1846. Shortly after retiring he died. During his busy official life he held high offices in ten of the eighteen provinces of China proper. In spite of his meteoric career and heavy official honors he found time to study the plants of all parts of the empire that he visited. It is said of him if he had a few moments leisure in his arduous official duties, he was nearly always to be found talking to some farmer about his crops.

He made first of all, early in his career, a great compilation of the cream of the old Chinese literature relating to plants; and he was then persuaded by his friends to undertake a first-hand study of the plants themselves. This first-hand study, thus undertaken, was put into the very front rank of Chinese works of its class by the excellence of the illustrations with which it was furnished.

The *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* was not published until two years after his death, in 1848, when it was issued by the Shanxi provincial printing office at Taiyuan fu. It is well printed, in large characters, in sixty books, bound in sixty volumes, of which twenty-two bulky volumes include the *changbian* 長編 or historical part of the work which has no illustrations, and thirty-eight thinner volumes the illustrated part of the work, which contain no fewer than 1,714 full page wood-cuts of the more important useful plants of China. Not only are these plates for the most part artistically composed and well executed, but also the essential characters of the plant are so well emphasized by the omission of all unnecessary detail that very many of them can be recognized instantly by a botanist familiar with the flora of China.



Emil Bretschneider

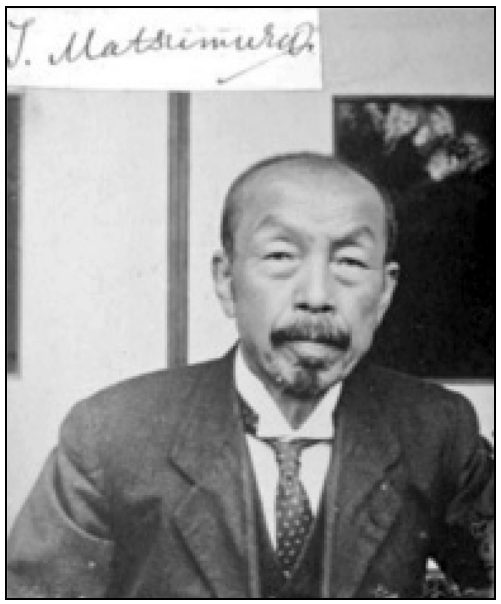
The excellent illustrations of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* early attracted the attention of foreign students of Chinese botany and Dr. E. Bretschneider[13] specifically called attention to the value of this work in a three page note in his *Botanicon sinicum* I., which note is here reproduced photographically towards the end of the third part.

Many of the plants illustrated and described by Wu Qijun have been determined by Western botanists, sometimes with specific reference to the illustrations of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao*. The greater part of them have been identified, i.e. the Latin scientific names assigned, by Professor J. Matsumura[14] in his *Shokubutsu mei-i* 植物名彙 Pt. 1, Chinese Names of Plants. Tokyo: Maruzen 1915. He lists a great number of Chinese character plant names under the alphabetically arranged scientific names. In many cases the book and folio of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* are cited. Unfortunately, however, the Japanese edition only is cited and as it is paged differently from the Chinese edition and has been for years out of print and very difficult to secure, the citations given by Professor Matsumura are often very difficult to locate in any obtainable edition of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao.*

The publication by the Commercial Press of Shanghai in 1919 of a stroke index to the Chinese character plant names in their edition of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* would at first seem to have solved the difficulty, since there is a Chinese character index to Professor Matsumura's book. Unfortunately, the characters in Professor Matsumura's index are not arranged in any definite order (except that all one, two or three character names, etc., are together) so in view of the large number of characters in the Matsumura index and their small size, it is often very difficult to locate a given Chinese character name.

[13] Emil Bretschneider (Riga 1833–1901 St. Petersburg), embassy physician, botanist and Sinologist. Cf. Walravens 1983; Lenz 1970.

[14] Jinzō Matsumura 松村 任三 (Ibaraki 1856–1928 Tokyo), Botanist. He studied at Würzburg and Heidelberg. In 1890 he became prof. of botany at the university of Tokyo, and in 1897 director of the Koishikawa Botanical Garden.



Matsumura Jinzō

The collation table in the first part of the present work permits a citation to the Japanese edition of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* to be located at once, either in the original Chinese edition and its two facsimile reprints, or in the new Commercial Press edition. It is arranged in the order of the Japanese edition so the citation from Professor Matsumura's book can be located without any trouble in the first column following the Chinese character names. The next two columns to the right give the corresponding citations to the two parts of the original Chinese edition and the last two columns to the two parts of the Commercial Press edition. The last column gives the page (to the) references in the illustrated part of the Commercial Press edition. The Chinese character index contained in this edition permits of a prompt reference to all plant names in the Illustrated Part, but names contained in the *changbian* (historical part) are often hard to locate.

In order to locate citations to the historical part, a special *changbian* collation table is given in the middle of the present part following the main collation table. It permits the prompt finding of references to the *changbian* or historical part of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* in the original Chinese and Japanese editions, as explained in the directions for use at the beginning of the *changbian* collation table.

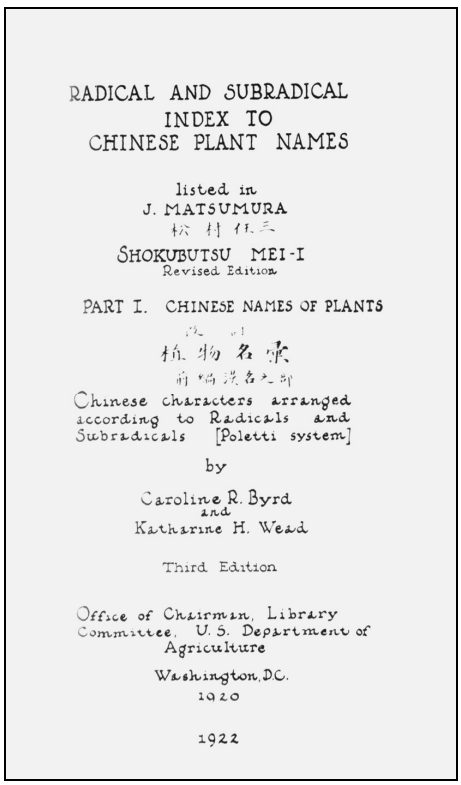
At the end of the first part of the present work is given an enlarged photographic copy of the stroke index to the Chinese character plant names found in the Commercial Press edition of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao.* Being from a Chinese book, the pages run in the reverse direction from those in the collation table, so the last page of part one is the first page of the Chinese character stroke index.

By the use of the two collation tables and the stroke index of Chinese character plant names, it is easy to find whether any given Chinese plant name occurs in the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* and also just where it is found in each of the three editions. This does not permit of finding promptly whether the Chinese plant in question has been identified in a Western botanical sense, i.e. whether the Latin scientific name is known or not. This can be deter-

mined in most cases by consulting Professor Matsumura's *Shokubutsu mei-i.* Pt. 1, Chinese Plant Names, noted above by means of the Byrd-Wead Index [Byrd and Wead 1920] to the Chinese character plant names. This Index is a magnified photographic reproduction of the Chinese character index of Prof. Matsumura's book, rearranged by the radical and subradical or Poletti [Poletti 1905] method. It cites the pages in Professor Matsumura's work where the Latin name is given and under the Latin name the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* is cited in the Japanese edition. By referring to the main collation table in the present part the corresponding citation to the Chinese edition can be found at once. Of course, the Byrd-Wead Index also gives many Chinese character names not found in the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao.* The title page and a sample page of the Byrd-Wead Index is given in the appendix of the third part of this work.

These two indexes constitute the two most important parts of a complete multi-index which it is hoped will some day be prepared to enable the Chinese character plant names to be looked up by any one of the commonly used systems of indexing characters. The stroke-radical index is the one that will be preferred by the Chinese, and the radical-subradical index is the one preferred by Western students of Chinese.

It should be added that Matsumura's Chinese Names [of] Plants itself constitutes an alphabetical index to the Latin names of all the plants that are treated in the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* that had been, up to 1915, associated with their Latin scientific names. The main text of Professor Matsumura's work is arranged alphabetically by the Latin names and so can be used as an index to the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* which is either cited where it describes or gives the figure of the plant in question.



RADICAL AND SUBRADICAL
INDEX TO
CHINESE PLANT NAMES

listed in
J. MATSUMURA
松村任三
SHOKUBUTSU MEI-I
Revised Edition

PART I. CHINESE NAMES OF PLANTS
植物名彙
前編漢名之部

Chinese characters arranged according to Radicals and Subradicals [Poletti system]

by

Caroline R. Byrd
and
Katharine H. Wead

Third Edition

Office of Chairman, Library Committee, U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.
1920

1922

Furthermore, another work, the *Zhiwuxue dacidian* 植物學大辭典 (A Complete Dictionary of Botanical Terms) published by the Commercial Press of Shanghai in 1918, although it does not cite the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao*, may nevertheless be used to determine the Latin scientific names of very many of the plants it illustrates and describes. This dictionary of botanical terms gives the descriptions of a multitude of plants, the descriptions being arranged in the body of the text in the order of the number of strokes in the first character of the name. It gives the Chinese name of the plants as used in Japan, the identifications being mostly taken and the illustrations all taken from *Saishin zusetsu naigai shokubutsu shi* 最新圖說內外植物誌 (New general iconography of plants), by K. Saida 齋田功太郎[15] and R. Sato 佐藤禮介[16], second edition, published Taishō 6 VIII (August 1917) by Dai-Nihon Tosho Kabushiki Kaisha 大日本図書株式会社, Tokyo, Japan. Unfortunately, in some cases the Japanese do not use the Chinese character plant names in the same sense as do the Chinese. An example cited by Bretschneider is *Ma xian hao* 馬先蒿 used in China for *Incarvillea sinensis* Lam. and in Japan for *Pedicularis resupinata* L. This statement of Bretschneider is confirmed by Matsumura [*Chinese names of plants,* l.c., p. 189]. In the "Botanical Nomenclature" the name is applied only to *Pedicularis resupinata* L.

The second part of this present work is a photographic reproduction of the table of contents of the two parts of the first Chinese edition, with references to the folios added. This permits of glancing through the work rapidly and easily and locating any desired plant.

The third part gives photographic reproduction in natural size of the three prefaces of the original Chinese edition and its two reprints, and prefaces of the Japanese and Commercial Press editions, with approximate translations. Sample pages showing the size and appearance of the three principal editions are also given.

It should be noted that the original Chinese edition is reproduced exactly in the two later reprints, which are made from the original blocks in the Provincial printing office of Shanxi at Taiyuan fu with the exceptions of the blocks for new prefaces accompanying each reprint and, in addition, seventy-two blocks that were lost and which had to be re-engraved (in facsimile, of course) for the first reprint. To all intents, the 1880 and 1919 Taiyuan fu reprints are identical with the original edition issued in 1848 except that some of the blocks are slightly worn.

In addition, the third part of the present work contains Bretschneider's notice of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* and his valuable sketch of the life of the learned author, Wu Qijun; photographic copies of the title page and a sample page of the text of Professor J. Matsumura's *Shokubutsu mei-i*, Part 1, Chinese Plant Names, and of the Byrd-Wead Index to this work; and the title page and a sample page of the Commercial Press edition.

There still remain a number of plants figured and described in *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* that have not yet been identified, i.e. their Latin scientific names are not yet known. It is to be hoped that these will be determined in the future.

It should be noted that the first careful study and attempted identification of the plants illustrated in *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* was made by Dr. E. Bretschneider in his *Botanicon sinicum*. The first Botanicon sinicum, published in 1882 (*Journal of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, New Series, 16: 1–230) lists the principal Chinese works on botany including the Zhiwu mingshi tukao. *The Botanicon sinicum* II, published in 1893 (l.c., N.S. 25: 1–408) treats of the useful plants mentioned in the principal classical works

[15] Saida Kōtarō (1859–1924).
[16] Satō Reisuke (fl. 1903–1934).

of the Chinese, and in the discussion critical remarks are often made on the illustrations cited in *Zhiwu mingshi tukao.* The *Botanicon sinicum* III, published in 1896 (l.c. N.S. 29: 1–623) treats of the Materia Medica of the ancient Chinese, giving in Part II critical notes on the illustrations which appear in the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao*. The references to Bretschneider given by Matsumura in his Chinese Names of Plants should always be looked up in order to consult his notes on the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao*.

It is hoped that the Chinese botanists will heed the sound advice of that progressive leader, Yan Xishan, governor of Shanxi Province, as given in his preface to the 1919 reprint of the Chinese edition, where he regrets that the modern textbooks on botany in use in the Chinese schools are usually translated from foreign languages and ignore completely the great work in this field already accomplished by the Chinese themselves.

A critical revision of Wu Qijun's great work along the lines of Western botanical science would yield results of the highest interest and value for China and the whole world

Washington, D.C., 1 April, 1922

Walter T. Swingle
Chairman of the library Committee of the United States
Department of Agriculture, Physiologist in Charge, Crop Physiology and Breeding Investigations

Preface by Lu Yinggu[17] to the original Chinese edition (1848) of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao*
Approximate translation by S. C. Kiang Kang-hu 江亢虎[18] June 1920

The Book of Changes states that "the Heaven and the Earth change, and grasses and trees are abundant". When the positive principle comes to intercourse with the negative principle, the roots of all plants grow; when the negative comes to the positive the branches and leaves grow. All lives in the botanical kingdom flourishing everywhere are forms of expression of the great kindness of Heaven and Earth.

Therefore, the former rulers encouraged the science and art of planting according to the nature of the land, in order to benefit the people, and not merely for medicinal use. Hemps and mulberry trees are for clothes, grains and beans are for food, vegetables and fruits are for dishes, and bamboos and woods are for timber, every nourishing and useful material is from a plant. Because the world cannot live a day without plants, so the products of plants are more valuable than other products.

The names of many plants are first recorded in the *Zhouli* and the details are given in the Bencao. All the three and sixty plant varieties contained in the latter classic are useful plants and not one of them exists merely in name. In the *Bielu*[19] and *Tujing*[20] later generations have added more species to them; the *[Bencao] gangmu* which was published last mentions the largest number. But all these works include records of the five elements (metal, wood, water, fire and earth) and utilize them for the service of the ten remedies. Lines of different origins and forms are found together. There are, indeed, few works like

[17] Lu Yinggu 陸應穀, governor of Henan province.

[18] Jiang Kanghu 江亢虎 (Yiyang 1883–1954 Shanghai), historian of literature and politician.

[19] *Mingyi bielu* 名醫別錄, Additional Records of Famous Physicians, dates back to the 3th–4th ct.; it is a supplement to the materia medica *Shennong bencao jing* 神農本草經.

[20] *Tujing* 圖經, "Illustrated Classic", designates the appendix to the *Tang bencao* 唐本草, the *Shu bencao* 蜀本草 or also, as an abbreviation, the *Tujing bencao* 圖經本草.

the *[Qimin] yaoshu*[21] 期民要術 by Jia Sixie 賈思勰 and the *Jiuhuang [bencao]* by Prince Zhou Xian which are devoted especially and entirely to botany. Was it because people lacked knowledge or because most authors were physicians and adhered to their own occupation and neglected the abundant utility of plants in general and their importance in very day life?

Yuezhai 瀹齋 (Wu Qijun) was a scholar of very rare attainments and traveled over half of the Empire on his official duties. He alone saw the value in botanical study and read over the books of all the four classes seeking for knowledge about plants of various kinds. He collected and compiled all the material extracted from his reading and compiled a work named *Changbian*. After this he worked on those plants of which he had personal knowledge and compared the records in ancient and modern works, examining their forms and colors and classifying them according to their natures and tastes. Then he wrote his definitions and drew pictures of the plants. The work *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* was thus completed. It contains ten thousand articles, stands above all other works of its line, and opens a new era in the study of plants.

A common mistake in our books is that the names and facts do not correspond with each other. Some books have their names correct but not the facts and some have the facts but not the names. This author was very particular about this matter and made minute examinations, in order to make no mistakes, no matter how slight. From this work the reader may readily recognize the scholarship and also the administrative ability of the author. His aim is to doctor a country and to heal the people as a whole and to try to become a great physician.

The idea of omitting all animals and insects as medicinal materials is the same as that of Zhenbai[22] in his compilation of the *Qianjin yifang*[23]. The author meant to preserve the lives of lower creatures in view of the great kind heart of Heaven and the Earth. Therefore the value of this book is practically unbounded.

I am an unlearned officer, but as I have received word from the author and as I know his worthy purpose, I therefore undertake to write this preface and publish the book, with the hope that it may be widely read in this country.

On the fifth day after the Qingming festival in the twenty-eighth year of Daoguang [1848], Lu Yinggu of Mengzi 蒙自 District [Yunnan] wrote this in the office of the Prefect of Taiyuan [Shanxi].

Preface by Zeng Guozhuan[24] to the first reprint (1880) of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao*.
Approximate translation by T.L. Yuan 袁同禮[25] January 1922.

I have read the *Bencao gangmu* which treats of many varieties of grasses and trees growing on water and land. Some are good and others should be avoided. Plants are indeed of great benefit to the people. Persons living in villages who have studied a little about medicine are often tempted to become physicians. They cannot apply properly even a few com-

[21] Treatise on agriculture of the North Wei period.

[22] Zhenbai apparently refers to Sun Simiao 孫思邈, a famous Chinese doctor of the seventh century A.D. who compiled a work of the title given in the text. However Zhenbai may possibly mean another and still earlier physician and writer named Tao Hongjing 陶弘景.

[23] *Qianjin yifang* 千金翼方, Additional 1000 pieces of gold prescriptions, by Sun Simiao.

[24] Zeng Guoquan 曾國荃 (1824–1890), military leader and official, brother of Zeng Guofan. Cf. Hummel 1943–1944: 749–751.

[25] Yuan Tongli 袁同禮 (1895–1965), later director of the National Library of China, bibliographer. Cf. Chen 1965/66.

monly used drugs. As a result, these doctors kill people by trying to relieve them of their diseases. How benevolent they are!

During recent years the physicians in Shanxi have been much more isolated than those of the other provinces. The reason is due to the limited supply of books, which has made advanced study impossible. Last year I petitioned the Emperor to establish a Junwen Printing Office 濬文書局 at the Provincial Capital, after the system used in the southwestern provinces. Besides printing the four philosophies and the six classics, it buys medical books of good editions and makes blocks of them, in order, by printing these books, to satisfy scholars and save the lives of those inflicted with disease.

Long ago the Deputy Governor, Mr. Bao Zhijing, spoke to me about the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* and the energy that author had spent in compiling this book, many features of which are not found in the [Bencao] gangmu. The blocks are kept in the Yamen of Taiyuan fu and the total number of blocks that had been lost was fifty-two. Mr. Bao asked me to compare these blocks with a copy of the printed work and arrange the blocks in the proper order. It was made complete at a small cost. The achievement was creditable because thousands of blocks were thus prevented from being burned in the stove.

No sooner had this plan been made than I was ordered to quarter my troops at Shanhaiguan for frontier defense. The Emperor made Mr. Bao Governor in my place; so I turned over the work, which Mr. Bao had entrusted to me, to him.

The book was written by Mr. Wu Yuezhai 吳瀹齋 but it was later published by Mr. Lu Yinggu 陸應穀. Then some of the blocks were lost. Mr. Bao has been able to do the revision and reprint the work. Ah! how difficult it is to complete a book, especially for us who are officers and have little time at our disposal. Do we not need fellow-workers for cooperation when we are engaged in one piece of work? At the completion of the revision, Mr. Bao asked me to write a preface. I feel that the desire of Mr. Bao to save the world is like mine and it is also similar to that of Mr. Wu and Mr. Lu.

Zeng Guoquan

The tenth moon of the sixth year of Guangxu [1880]

Preface by Yan Xishan to the second reprint of the Zhiwu mingshi tukao (1919)

Approximate translation by T.L. Yuan 袁同禮 January 1922.

Among our books on botany, the *Bencao* has been regarded as the most extensive work. It investigates the nature and distinguishes the taste of various plants. It is full of concise and abundant data. It is indeed a pioneer work and unsurpassed. But as it lays emphasis on medical theories, covering the five elements and recording both prescriptions and drugs, it is not exclusively a work on plants.

New books on the subject have since appeared. Books such as *Qunfangpu* 群芳譜 contain detailed treatment with references only to beautiful flowers. One seldom finds a work which deals with plants, each of which is treated separately, by examining their properties and uses, which is not inspired merely by curiosity but is based on well founded facts, and which propounds theory with a view to its utilization.

“It is a shame for a scholar to omit the recognition of a single thing”. Especially this is true of botany, since during the recent period of development along scientific lines, this subject has become a special branch of study. How can research be carried on without an accurate and concise work?

During recent years school textbooks are usually translated from foreign languages. We regret, however, that no attempt has yet been made to publish what China had already contributed in this field.

This book was written by Mr. Wu Qijun of Gushi district. Mr. Wu was a learned and profound scholar and was an official in more than ten provinces. Wherever he went, he studied the properties of plants that he saw and drew pictures of them. The more he studied, the more accurate became his examinations. His work is independent of *Bencao* and eliminates the superfluous material. It is made up of thirty-eight books classified with descriptions and illustrations and it is certainly an excellent work in the study of botany. Mr. Wu died before he could see its publication. It was printed for the first time in the twenty-eighth year of Daoguang [1848] by Mr. Lu Yinggu. By long lapse of years the blocks were decayed and became imperfect. Later, in the sixth year Guangxu, Mr. Bao Zhijing reprinted the work. It had a wide circulation and was eagerly sought by the scholars. It has been again nearly forty years since the last edition was issued. The demand for copies from readers in different provinces has been great. The good old copies are getting fewer and fewer; not only do they fail to satisfy the desire of numerous readers, but also they may ultimately be lost. I, therefore, have ordered the Provincial Printing Office to undertake the reprinting of this work. The blocks that had become dim that have been changed, and the illustrations that were worn away have been replaced. By this reprint of many copies, the work of Mr. Wu may, I hope, last for a long time and it may serve as a reference book to readers interested in botany. At its completion, I have, therefore, wished to write a few words.

Yan Xishan[26]

Huairen Hall, Yamen of the Military Governor, Taiyuan, Shanxi.

Seventh moon of the eighth year of the Republic of China

Prefatory note by Motoyoshi Ono[27] to the Japanese edition (1883) of *the Zhiwu mingshi tukao*[28]

Approximate translation by Tyōzaburō Tanaka 田中長三郎[29], March 1922

This book was compiled by Wu Qijun during the Daoguang period of the Chinese Empire, and contains universal accounts of trees and herbs produced in the country which was once reigned over by the legendary Emperor Yu 禹. The descriptions of plants, accompanied by illustrations, are admirably accurate and true to nature, and the quotations from writings of ancient and modern authors are extensively rich and are arranged with complete command and thorough understanding. I, therefore, believe that every student of plants of our country or of China will find great advantage in using this book compiled with such completeness as is seldom found in any other work.

In China, this book seems to have had a rather small circulation, and Professor Itō Keisuke 伊藤圭介[30] received the first information about the work from Bretschneider, a Rus-

[26] Yan Xishan 閻錫山 (Wutai, Shanxi 1883–1960 Taibei), governor of Shanxi. Cf. Gillin 1967.

[27] Ono Motoyoshi (小野職慤 1837–1890) was a Japanese naturalist during the late Edo period and Meiji era.

[28] Go Kishun [Wu Qijun] 吳其濬: *Shokubutsumei jitsuzu kô* 植物名實圖考. Tokyo: Keibundō 奎文堂 1883–1889. Co-editors were Itō Keisuke (1803–1903) and Okamatsu Ōkoku 岡松甕谷 (1820–1895). 38 maki in 40 fascicles.

[29] Tanaka Tyōzaburō 田中長三郎 (Kōbe 3. Nov. 1885–28. Juni 1976), botanist and mycologist, citrus expert.

[30] Itō Keisuke 伊藤 圭介 (Nagoya 1803–1901 Tokyo), physician and botanist.

sian Professor, in a discussion upon Chinese botanical literature. Professor Itō then obtained a copy from the capital of Yan 燕 [Peking] by asking a German citizen called Schinn[31] 刺因 to make the purchase. This was probably the first copy brought into this country, and it happened not further back than ten years ago. After this event, the excellence of this book gradually became known, and at the present time we can count several persons who are in possession of copies of this work.

Recently the Minister to China, Mr. Takezoe 竹添, then stationed at Tianjin secured two copies of this work from a person who lived in the capital of Yan [Peking] therefore made a request to him, with the assistance of the proprietor of Keibundō 奎文堂 to give us one of these copies for use in making a reprint, and since this was permitted at once, we are now able to set the type and make the print in order to distribute copies among scholars. I celebrate the success of the undertaking as a sign of scientific activities in the prosperous reign of the present Emperor.

In the original work, the thirty-eight books of the *benbian* 本編 and twenty-three books of the *changbian* 長編 are bound separately, but for the convenience of the reader, I rearranged them without changing the original order to bring the text of the *changbian* to the same heading where the corresponding texts of the *benbian* are found and the former is distinguished by the sub-heading *changbian*. For those plants which are illustrated in the *benbian* in one class and described in the *changbian* in a different class, I have put both together in the class where the illustration is given. For instance, *lujue cai* 鹿角菜 is illustrated in the *benbian* under the class of water plants, but its description in *changbian* is found under the class of vegetables, so that I placed it under the water plants to the principle given above. Those plants which are described in *changbian* but not illustrated in the *benbian*, I have placed under the chapter in which the text of the *changbian* is found, because such a plant is not classified in the *benbian*.

The Japanese names given to the headings listed in the table of contents of each book are generally in accord with the previous identifications, but in case the illustration of the plant does not agree with the current Japanese identification, I have omitted the Japanese names as is noticed in *baitou weng* 白頭翁. If the previous Japanese identification is evidently mistaken, I made literal changes in the application of the Japanese names; for instance *canzi* 穇子 is Kamoma takibi not Hie as previously approved, whereas *baizi* 稗子 is Hie and not Nobie, similarly *rang he* 蘘荷 is Ubayuri and not Myōga, and *yanghuo* 陽藿 is Myōga which has not been identified before.

I compiled an additional volume which contains Chinese names arranged according to the number of strokes, and the Japanese names according to phonetical order. This will be helpful to the scholars who desire to find names. [Apparently never printed.]

Meiji jūrokunen jūnigatsu mikka December 3, 1883)

Notes by the revisor Motoyoshi Ono 小野職慤

Preface to the Commercial Press edition (1919) of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao*

Approximate translation by T.P. Wang 王德溥[32] April 1922.

The twenty-two books of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao changbian* [Historical section] and the thirty-eight books of the *Zhiwu mingshi tukao* [Illustrated section] were compiled by

[31] Probably Otto Schinne, who lived in Yokohama and made his living as an "agent". Cf. *Meiji Portraits*. (online file maintained by Bernd Lepach).

[32] Wang Depu 王德溥.

Wu Qijun of the district of Gushi and were printed by Lu Yinggu of Mengzi. Wu was a distinguished *jinshi* scholar of the Jiaqing [1796–1821] period. He was at one time Deputy Governor of Shanxi. The various official missions with which he was charged during his life necessitated his traveling through half the territory of China. Wherever he visited, he examined the farm crops, studied the soil, and acquainted himself with the local products, scrutinizing their appearance and character. After he had stored up sufficient knowledge of these products, he undertook to pick out everything relating to plants and trees grown on the land or in the water which he had previously read in the *Siku [quan]shu.* This material he compiled into the *changbian* for the purpose of studying various species of old plants. In addition he gave to us what he had gained by ear and eye examination the knowledge of numerous species of modern plants, drawing pictures and writing explanations of them. Altogether 832 varieties of plants were listed in the historical section and 1711 in the Illustrated section. The thoroughness and completeness of these two works have not been surpassed in the past.

Two years after the death of Mr. Wu, Lu Yinggu printed the work in Taiyuan. Later many of the blocks became incomplete so that an original edition could not be easily obtained.

After the introduction of botanical study into Japan, the native botanists adopted the Western method of natural classification of plants. Since then any distinguished botanists have become known. Their researches into plants and agricultural products have been made mostly by consulting the materials contained in this work.

In recent years the number of Western experts sent to this country by educational associations in Europe and America, has been daily increasing. Consequently this work has begun to attract attention of plant students in all parts of the world: and its popularity and value are rapidly increasing.

Inasmuch therefore, as the original edition of this work is nowadays difficult to obtain and as the reprints are likewise rarely seen, the management of this Press, aiming to facilitate studies for the students of botany, has secured the original edition and has undertaken to revise and reprint it. Herewith we respectfully attach our directions for use of this work.

The original text laid stress on illustrations. The drawing and engraving were skillfully and thoroughly done. The present work reduces the original illustrations to two-fifth of the original size. Zinc plates have been used in photographic illustrations. The results are very clear and are identical in detail with the original.

During the revision, the work of printing and photographing the original texts has passed through the hands of several proof readers. They have performed their duties with extraordinary carefulness. Their experience has shown that the original printed copy has many omissions and errors. The management of this press in making the reprint of this work undertook only to copy exactly the original text and therefore has refrained from making changes, notwithstanding the discovery of mistakes. In cases where the omissions and errors have been very serious, the management has notes attached in order to indicate them. Of course, mistakes by our proofreaders in missing a few pages and mistakes in printing or photographing which are not found in the original text, are inevitable in this present work. We would ask the indulgence of our readers.

The form and appearance of the original copy varies at different parts of the text. The management, during this revision and reprint, has let the form of the original edition remain unchanged throughout; only when there have occurred many blank lines has it been found necessary to make a few slight alterations. For such alterations the management begs the reader's pardon.

This work lists more than 2500 species of plants. As most of these plants have several names, it is not an easy task to look them up. To facilitate the search the management has prepared, according to the number of strokes in the initial character of each plant name, a key index which is appended at the end of the Illustrated section.

Respectfully submitted,
The Commercial Press
October 1919

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Предисловие к Индексам ботанического атласа «Чжиу минши тукао» 植物名實圖考 У Цицзюня 吴其濬

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Аннотация: В статье освещается деятельность американского ботаника Валтера Т. Свингла по распространению традиционной китайской литературы по ботанике, в особенности популяризации работы У Цицзюня «Чжиу минши тукао». Для этого он подготовил индексы и таблицы соответствий различных китайских и японских изданий этого произведения. В статье рассказывается о работе Свингла по традиционной китайской ботанике и публикуется его предисловие к индексам. В статье также приводятся переводы оригинальных предисловий к различным изданиям «Чжиу минши тукао», выполненных историком литературы Цзян Канху и директором национальной библиотеки в Китае Юань Тунли.

Ключевые слова: «Чжиу минши тукао», У Цицзюнь (1789–1847), Валтер Теннисон Свингл (1871–1952), литература по ботанике в Китае.

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