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19TH CENTURY ENGLISH-LANGUAGE JOURNALS FROM THE FAR EAST



This collection provides researchers with six rare English-language journals, five of which were founded by Western missionaries in the Far East in the 19th century, covering a wide range of topics such as East-West communication, Christianity in China and other parts of Asia, and China's political, economic, and cultural landscape.

Date Range: 1817-1901

Content: 14,094 images

Source Library: The National Library of China Press

Detailed Description:

This collection comprises three sub-collections: 1. *A Compilation of Rare English Journals Published inside and outside China before 1911*; 2. *The China Review: or Notes and Queries on the Far East* (1872-1901); and 3. *Indo-Chinese Gleaner* (1817-1822). Founded by Western missionaries or scholars in mainland China, Hong Kong, Malacca, and elsewhere, these journals have one shared goal-introducing to the West Asia, in particular China, in terms of its languages, literature, history, philosophy, arts, geography, and political systems; spreading Christianity; and covering Asia and China's current affairs. The first sub-collection puts together such early and rare English journals as *Canton Miscellany* (1831), *Chinese Miscellany* (1845-1850), *The Chinese and Japanese Repository of Facts and Events in Science, History, and Art, Relating to Eastern Asia* (1863-1865), and *Notes and Queries on China and Japan* (1867-1870).

Canton Miscellany is by and large a literary journal that was published in Guangzhou (Canton) between May 1831 and the end of the year. Anonymously edited, it targets the well-educated English elite. It contains a variety of literary articles but does not cover current affairs. The last two issues contain lengthy articles on the history of Macau, the first to be written in English.

Chinese Miscellany was founded by Walter Henry Medhurst (1796 -1857), an English Congregationalist missionary to China. Made up of four volumes, the journal aims to

introduce China's silk and tea industry, geography, manufacturing, trade, and customs to the Western audience.

The Chinese and Japanese Repository (editor: James Summers [1828 -1891], a professor of Chinese language of the University of London) is an early and important journal that documents China and Japan's often violent reactions to the presence of foreigners from the perspective of Westerners. Among the topics discussed are the Jews in China, Chinese literature, Chinese mathematics, religious practices in China and Japan, the British commerce with Japan, the conquest of Taiwan (Formosa) by the Chinese in 1662, and the railways in China.

Notes and Queries on China and Japan is one of the earliest sinology journals. Edited by Nicholas Belfield Dennys (1840-1900) and published in Hong Kong, it focuses on topics such as Chinese history and culture while Japan and Korea were also covered. A total of four volumes were published; however, volume 4 is not included in this collection as it's not easy to come by. The journal was widely circulated and well received in Europe, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Tianjin, Singapore, New Delhi, Bombay, and Yokohama as well as in the U.S. and Australia.

Consisting of 25 volumes, *The China Review: or Notes and Queries on the Far East* is arguably the first Western sinology journal in the true sense and many of the renowned sinologists of the 19th century had contributed articles to the journal, including James Legge, Herbert A. Giles, Joseph Edkins, John Chalmers, Ernst Faber, Edward L. Oxenham, W. F. Mayers, Alexander Wylie, Edward Harper Parker, and Frederic Henry Balfour. It was founded and edited by Nicholas Belfield Dennys in Hong Kong in 1872 and E. J. Eitel (1838-1908) was its second editor. It provides a valuable source for the study of Western sinology in the late 19th century as well as the Chinese history, society, and culture during the late Qing period.

Indo-Chinese Gleaner was a quarterly founded by Robert Morrison (1782-1834) and William Milne (1785-1822) in Malacca in 1817 and ceased publication in 1822 with the passing away of William Milne. It has published three volumes in 20 numbers and 1,001 pages. Major columns cover missionary activities, reports on the social, political, religious, military, economic, and cultural affairs of China and other Asian countries, and introduces the literature, philosophy, history, and so on of countries in Asia, especially China and Southeast Asia.