

## Uji.

This is a small but historic town on the bank of the River Uji, which is the outlet of Lake Biwa. Many battles were fought here in ancient times. But one charming building called Hōōdō or the Phoenix Hall has miraculously escaped destruction and is much admired by both foreigners and Japanese. The town no more hears the sound of spears and arrows as of old; but in summer time thousands of people come here to watch the noiseless battle of fireflies along the beautiful river. The main product near by is tea.

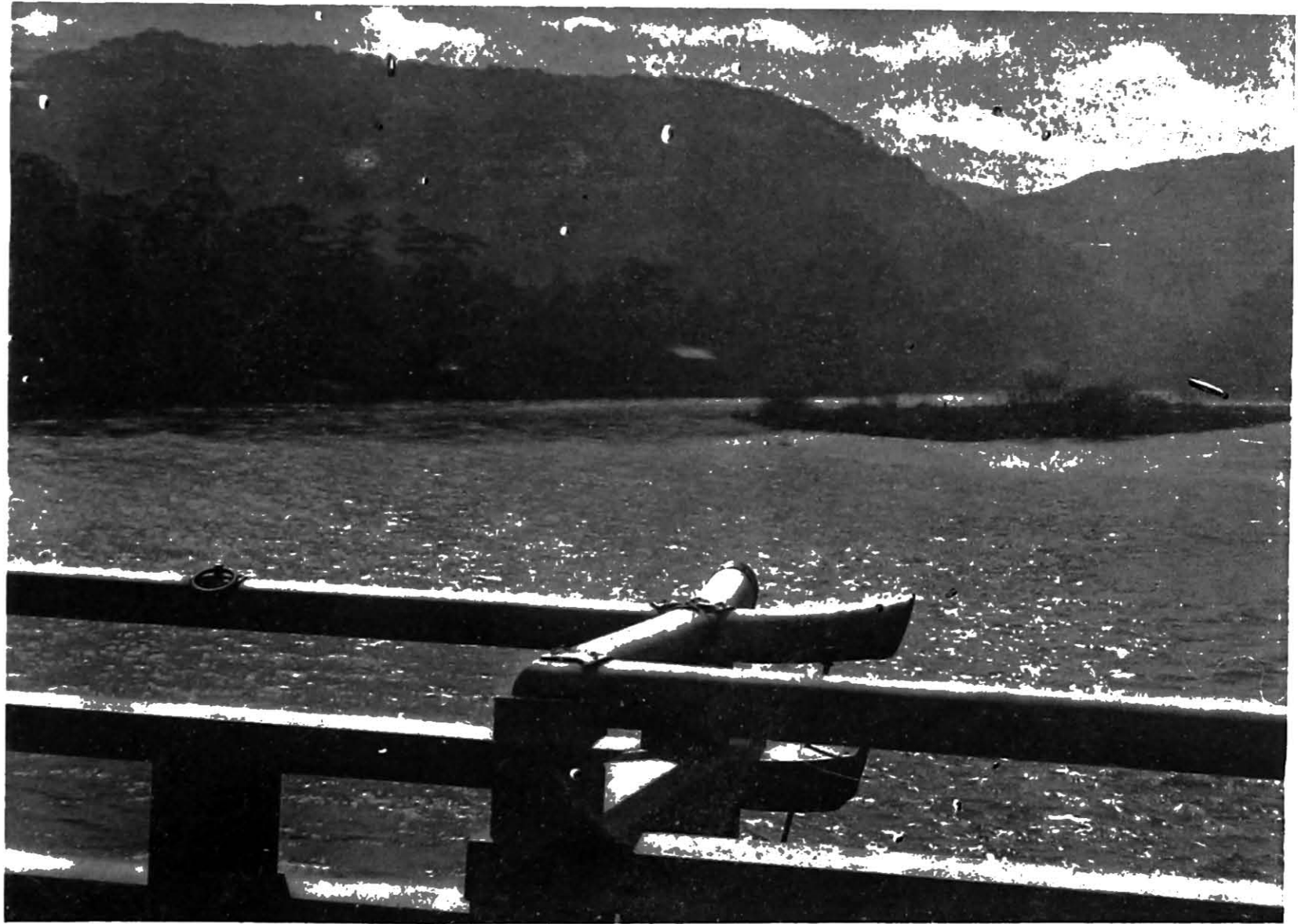
The River Uji flows here past Seta, Ishiyama, and Nangō.

During its course it greatly beautifies the landscape, because of the rapids and crystal water.

The Ukijima pagoda, a 13-storeyed stone pagoda on an islet in the river, was erected in 1286.

The Uji Bridge was originally built in 646 A. D., and from it there is a very wide view of the river and the surrounding country.

The Hashidera Temple, Kōshō-ji temple and Uji shrines on the eastern bank of the river, and the Agata Shrine on the west side of the Byōdoin, are all important attractions of Uji district.



## Mampukuji.

Ingen, the founder of this temple, came from China in 1654. At first he lived in Nagasaki; but five years later Shōgun Iyetsuna gave him about 10 acres of land to the south of Kyoto. So he began to build a temple here in 1661 and completed it in 1668. The building was copied from Mampukuji on Mt. Ōbaku, China, and took the same name. From that time until the thirteenth high priest, the high priesthood was always held by a naturalized Chinese, and the whole atmosphere of the temple was quite Chinese. From the fourteenth, to the twenty-first, the office was sometimes held by a Chinese and sometimes by a Japanese. From the twenty-second it was given entirely to the Japanese.

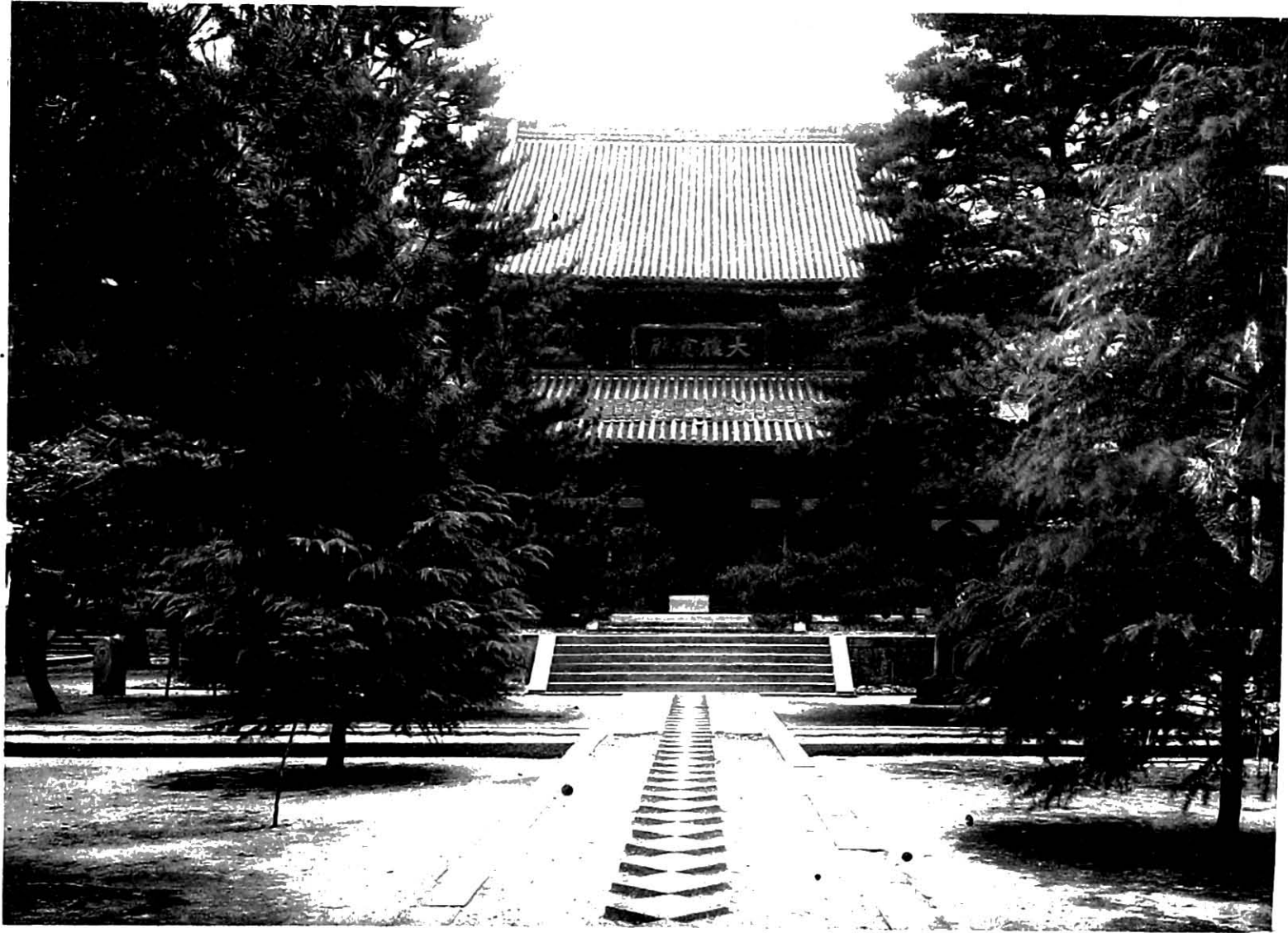
The Sammon, the two-storeyed main gate, stands a little distance back from the first entrance.

It has three bays and one passage way.

Going straight up, one comes to the Tennō-den, in which a statue of Miroku is enshrined.

The main hall is just at the back of the Tennō-den, two-storeyed with Irimoya-zukuri style.

In the main hall there are three famous tablets with inscriptions, one by the founder himself when he was 77 years old, another by his immediate successor and the third by Emperor Meiji. The library behind the main hall contains 40,000 wood blocks used in printing the Buddhist scriptures.



## Daigoji.

This temple, located one mile from the railway station, Yamashina, was founded in 992 A. D. by the priest Shōbō (Rigen-Daishi).

The original structures, having been partly destroyed during the Ōnin war, were rebuilt by Toyotomi Hideyoshi in the 16th century.

At the zenith of its power and fame, the magnificent art treasures of Daigo-ji were richer than those of any of the Kyoto temples.

The priests are very proud of the temple and its lineage, because from the time the two sons of the Emperor Kameyama became its chief priests in 1260—1274 A. D., the heads of the institution have always been princes.

The situation of the group of buildings in the midst of a stately old park is, indeed, admirable.

The five-storeyed pagoda, erected in 951 at the devout wish of the Emperor Murakami, is the best example of the early Fujiwara architecture, and the oldest building in the prefecture.

The interior of the building is decorated with many Buddhist paintings on the walls and on the columns.

The Buddhas and Bodhisattvas in these pictures are painted with gentle curves and delicate lines of fine vermilion, and the robes are coloured with various hues and even kirikane or gold filigree.

The garden of the Sambō-in is also a representative work of the Momoyama Period laid out by the direction of Toyotomi Hideyoshi.



### Painted Incense Burner in the form of a Lotus Flower.

Owned by Hō-kongōin, Hanazono.

Jinsei's work in the Tokugawa age.

0.266 m. high.

Diameter of the mouth—0.245 m.

Circumference—0.778 m.

~~The~~ shape of the whole burner simulates the leaf and flower of the lotus.

The form of the body is lotus and the stand is in the shape of an inverted lotus flower.

On the lid, of lotus leaf form, there is a lotus flower bud attached to "Dokuko"—a kind of Buddhist utensil.

Also on the lid, which has ornamental open work, Sanskrit characters are painted.

A burner is usually made of metal, but this one especially is ceramic and is highly esteemed by people.

Every part is beautified with exquisite and gorgeous pictures, affording an excellent example of Japanese taste.





## Lacquered Hand Box.

(National Treasure)

Owned by Kōdaiji.

Executed in the Momoyama age.

0.264 m. high up to the top of the lid:

0.5 m. long : 0.31 m. wide.

It is said that the Box is one of the utensils used by Kitanomandokoro, wife of Toyotomi Hideyoshi.

From the top of the lid to the middle of the body the Box was divided obliquely, and was painted gold with autumn grass design on a black ground, and also with a bamboo design on aventurin ground.

The design is magnificent and furnishes an indication of the luxurious state of the Momoyama age.

This production constitutes a very rare example of Kōdaiji Makie.