The City Pablic Hall.

Kyoto, where the capital was situated for over one thousand years, had no public hall, till 1914 to its great inconvenience.

This grand building in Okazaki Park, was built originally as the banquet hall for the coronation of the late Emperor Taishō in 1914. After the coronation the Imperial Household gave it to the city, and it was moved to the present site at an expenditure of Y 16,000. With its graceful singled roofs against evergreen pine trees, the building is most picturesque. The interior of the hall is richly ornamented.

People are deeply inspired by the building, which was given to the citizens by H. I. M. the Emperor's benevolence.

The Hall is conveniently available for the citizens' meetings and holds over three thousand people.



Kurodani.

Kurodani was founded in the 13th century by Honen Shonin, who had severed his connection with the Tendai Sect to establish the Jodo Sect of Buddhism.

The present structure, so well-kept in every way, was built in 1911 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Honen.

Far from the noise and commotion of the great city, at the northern edge of the Higashiyama hill-side there stand many old temples, e.g., Eikwando, Kurodani, and Shin-nyōdō.

Shinnyōdō stood in the Jokōdō, Hiei, but in Eikwan 2, (984) Saint Kwaisan moved it to the Kirarazaka, having a sacred dream.

After diligent search, he found by another dream that the place was in the detached Palace of Empress Shirakawa.

The Empress had a similar sacred dream and held a solemn celebration for the image, which was removed to the inside of the Palace.

After about 700 years the present position was selected. The founder of Eikwandō is Archbishop Shinshō, the pupil of Bishop Kōbō.

In Shōreki era (1077-80) the enlightened Risshi Eikwan became the head priest and restored its prosperity.

Afterwards people called the temple Eikwando.



Ginkakuji, or Silver Pavilion.

In 1477 A. D., the Shōgun, Ashikaga Yoshimasa, who had abdicated in favour of his son, built for himself a palace on the slope of Higashiyama. Here he retired to lead a life of pleasure and extravagance, employing the most celebrated artists to carry out his plans in the building of his villa.

The classical garden was laid out by Sōami, a painter, a poet, a professor of tea-ceremony and a prime favourite of Yoshimasa.

Various feudal lords contributed their share in the making of this famous garden, out of their respect for the power and the influence then wielded by the Shogunate.

After the death of Yoshimasa the structure was converted into a temple under the name Jishōji, but it is better known as Ginkakuji, or Silver Pavilion.

Although little silver is in evidence, it was the original intention of Yoshimasa to cover the pavilion with silver leaf, but his plans failed to mature.

A stretch of silvery sand, trees thickly planted, stones fantastic in shape—these are combined to the best advantage according to the resources of the art of landscape gardening, so that it has served as a model for centuries.



Illustrated History of Kitano Tenjin.

(National Treasure)

One of nine rolls owned by Kitano Shrine.

Painted by Fujiwara Nobuzane in the Kamakura age

Colouring on paper.

0.515 m. long.

The rolls are the illustrated history with pictures of Lord Sugawara Michizane.

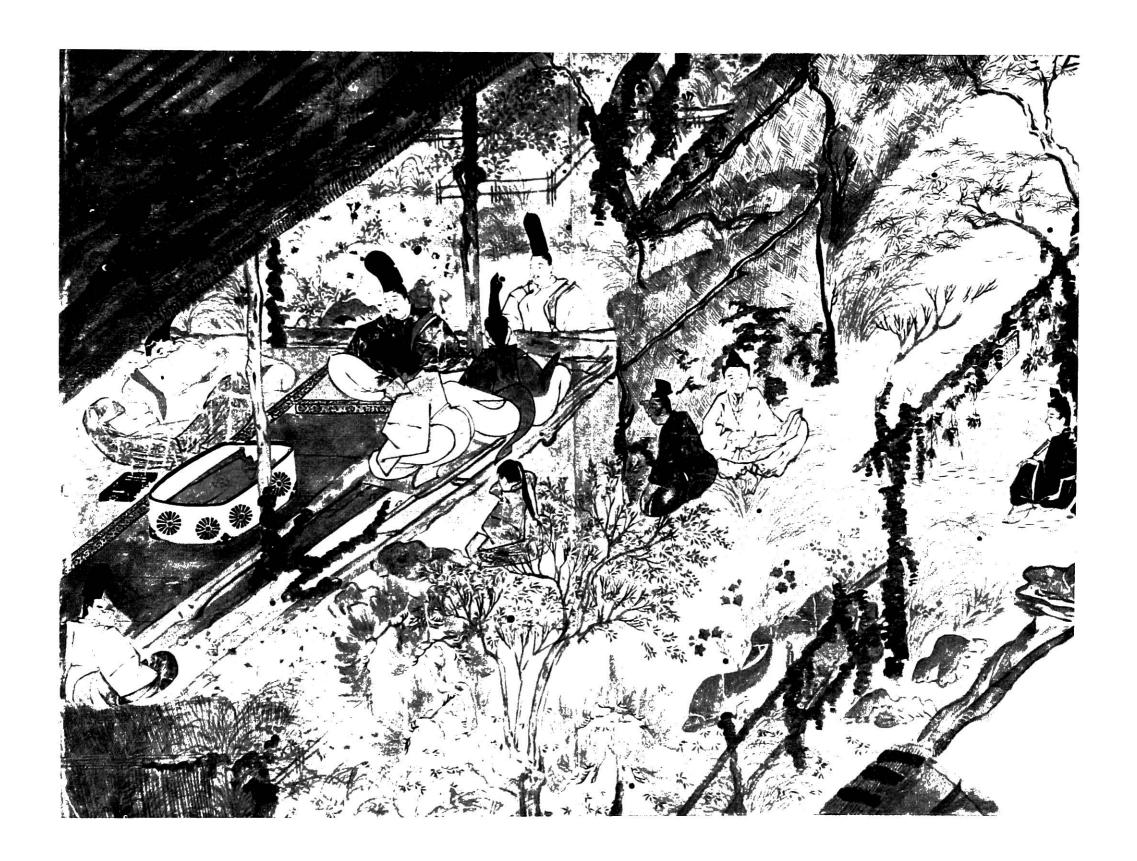
Naturally the History has several rolls, of which this is one—the oldest and the most famous, called the original illustrated history.

The picture shows the most important scene in the rolls—Lord Michizane composing a poem, feeling his heart torn for the change of his rank, and deeply moved by the Emperor's benevolence, holding the dress given, at the place of exile,—Dazaifu, Tsukushi.

Moreover the season was autumn, which made him more sorrowful, and even a little white flower tenderly blooming in the hedge was a matter of tears to the person dismissed.

Any one looking at the picture may readily imagine how distressed he was, because the picture is a very realistic representation.

Nobuzane, holding his office of Ukyō-Gon-Dayu, was an expert of Yamatoe—a style of painting in the Kamakura age, and died in 1265 at the age of 89 years.



The Kyoto Imperial University.

This university was founded in 1897. At first, instruction only in science and engineering was offered, but now seven departments of study are open to students: jurisprudence, medicine, literature, science, engineering, economics and agriculture.

The University boasts a well-equipped library, and affiliated with the Department of Medicine,—the large University Hospital.

The museum belonging to the Department of Literature is rich in archaeological specimens and historic documents.

Sonjō-dō was established by the late Viscount Shinagawa Yajirō, a pupil of Yoshida Shōin, who was a patriot at the end of the Tokugawa regime.

The University has collected here the autographs of the patriots of the Restoration Period, and there is an annual memorial celebration for them here.

The Third High School is to the south.



Shimogamo Jinsha.

This Shinto shrine is one of the religious foundations in Kyoto, and is said to date from 673 A. D. or nearly a century before Kyoto became the capital.

The divinities enshrined here are Tamayori-Hime and he father. Kamo-Taketsunumi-no-Mikoto, who was a general in the imperial army of Emperor Jimmu.

Since then the shrine has been worshipped with devotion by successive emperors, and a visit was paid to it by the reigning sovereign whenever there occurred an event of national importance.

The approach to the shrine is through a long avenue of cryptomeria and other trees, including beautiful maple-trees attractive in autumn.

Bright-coloured edifices seen through venerable-looking trees are highly picturesque, and the tiny streams—Izumigawa and Semi-no-Ogawa—traversing the shrine enclosure are sources of pleasure for their clearness of water and the divine music they give rise to as they flow smoothly along.

Passing the first and the second torii, one first comes to a two-storied gate, and then to the Imperial Messenger's Hall and two other buildings.

The main shrine is the innermost one. Most of the buildings are protected by law as national treasures.

