

CRITICAL REVIEW

... DEVOTED TO ...

Literature, Music, and the Fine Arts

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The Chrysanthemum in Japanese Art.

By Dr. ÉDOUARD MÈNE,
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 (Concluded.)

All kinds of Japanese porcelains and faïences both ancient and modern, as well as old Chinese porcelain are frequently found, decorated either with a peony, a cherry blossom or a Chrysanthemum. The celebrated porcelains made in the province of Hi-zen in the island of Kiu-siu, those of Arita (formerly called Ta-naka) dating from 1510 and those from Ama-kusa, which were sold at Nagasaki for the first time in 1646, dating from 1750, often bear the Chrysanthemum flower, either full faced or seen from the side with the stem, while about the ground-work are scattered Chrysanthemum petals either in medallions or hap-hazard. Sometimes they are worked into the border, and either dark blue, light blue, red, pink, green or gold in colour.

On the most ancient of the Hi-zen porcelains the Some-Tuke (white ground with blue designs painted by hand and covered by transparent enamel), the Chrysanthemum is also the commonest ornament as well as on the Arita flower-vases dated 1820 and on the porcelains made in the same village, known by the name of *Gōku-ryū*. It frequently appears on the *mitu dau-gu*, a piece of porcelain composed of a candle-stick, flower-vase and incense burner.

The old Imari pots are nearly always garnished with either peonies, cherry blossoms or Chrysanthemums; sometimes on the lid, the button of which is a tiny cask with a full faced Chrysanthemum on the top, either blue on a white ground, or white on red.

The Satuma porcelains and potteries which date from 1598 when the Prince of Satuma, Simadu Yosi-kisa, brought from the provinces of Satuma