



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Aug 29 1889
w.

General A. Pitt-Rivers.

Sir, I beg to enclose the
anglicized copy of Mr Schikawa's
translation. I would also
desire to say that I saw yesterday
a remarkably handsome gold
embroidered Turkish silk Portière
10 feet by 6 in, and remembering
that last year you seemed
desirous of securing one I thought
you might like to hear of this
one and if in town shortly
might possibly like to see it.

It is on view at the Ladies
Sale & Exchange rooms in Brook
St, Hanover Square.

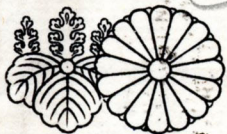
They ask £20 for it but I
dare say it could be bought
for £15.

I am Sir

Yours respectfully

John Sparks.

B426

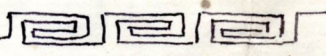


JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Sept 21 1889.
W.

Sir,

I was extremely sorry to hear on my return from the Bank that you had called and I had not been in to receive you especially as I had a little bowl to shew you which is both old ^{Chinese} and decorated with one of the patterns you wished me to try and find viz 

Also I wished to ask you whether you would like the other volumes of the Chinese book translated.

Would you like me to wait on you respecting same.

I have also a fine old short sword I should like to have shewn you

Yours respectfully
John Sparks.

Sparks.

8426

Rushmore,
Salisbury.

Dec 9 90.

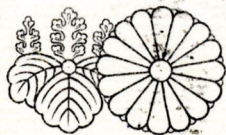
Sir

The following is the inscription on
the inside of the back of the iron helmet
of which you can find me the translation of it.
I should be much obliged.

土	
羽	Tosa-no ju ¹⁴
住	(a province of Tosa)
明	
珍	Miochin
紀	
宗	Ki-no
室	Muneshige ¹³
作	Saka

Please write it on the side of the inscription
if you can, let me know
the date of the helmet I see now
It is built up in pieces 2
rivetted. a shield is made in the same manner, which accompanies
A Pitt Rivers.

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Dec 12 1890
W.

Sir

I enclose Translation of
signature. Miochin Muneshige
was one of the family of the great
Miochins Iron workers and
your Helmet therefore is a
specimen of his work and
is of the 14th century.

I am Sir

Yours respectfully
John Sparks

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Sept 25 1891

Sir,

I have had offered to me today a really very fine collection of Bizen pottery, there are Twenty four pieces and all are fine specimens, it includes every description, the white, the blue, the purple and the brown. It is quite unique and is the property of a Japanese gentleman, the

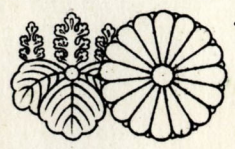
price asked namely £200
is not cheap but on the
other hand it is not dear
as no other such collection
in its perfect completeness
exists. I have not shewn
or mentioned it to anyone
yet in case you might
entertain the idea of
purchasing it and if you
were coming to Town very
shortly I would hold it
but if not may I ask
you to be so kind as to

send me a line to that effect
so that I may know I am
free to try the Museums and
others. If you would
like me to bring a few
pieces as samples to Rushmore
I will do so.

I am Sir

Yours respectfully
John Sparks

8426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Oct 2 1891
w.

Sir,

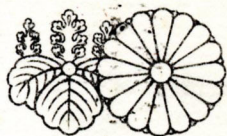
I thank you for your
kind note and will send
tomorrow a few pieces of
the collection that I have
been enabled to pick out
They are all genuine and a
fair sample and at the
same time those I thought
the cheapest. If you
would like to see me personally
I could run down next
Thursday by the 9.5 am train

which would enable me to
return to town same day.

There is one piece I should
like you to have but dared
not send it as it is large
and would require much
more care in handling than
the Railway C^o are likely to
give. It is a Skyllin in
a recumbent position, fully
Three feet long and about
18 inches in height price
£25. if you thought it at
all likely you would
purchase it & wished me
to bring it I would do so
I enclose list.

Yrs respectfully
John Sparks

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Oct 3rd 1891
W.

Sir,

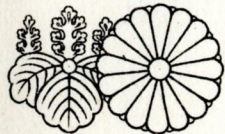
When packing the Bizen
this morning I discovered that
the Blue Bizen bottle had not
been brought from the dock
warehouse but in its place
an old Brown Bizen clove
infuser price £4. so I have
packed it in lieu of the bottle.

Yours respectfully

John Sparks.

I have addressed the box to you
at Rushmore via Tisbury Station

B426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT.

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Oct 12 1891
W.

Sir,

I shall be in Fishwy
on Wednesday, having an
appointment with Mr. Alfred
Morison, but as I shall
be leaving Fonthill about
2 pm I should yet have time
to drive to Rushmore and
be back to catch the last
train if you wished to see
me, if not and you
would like to return any
or all of the Bizen specimens

I sent for your approval, would
it be asking too much if you
could send me the box to
Tisbury station on that day
so that I might take it back
to London with me.

As I leave town by the 9 am
train and consequently may
miss the morning post would
you be so kind just this time
as to favour me with a wire
tomorrow (Tuesday) if you
wish me to call.

Yours respectfully
John Sparke

LONDON, 18

John Sparks
PROPRIETOR

JAPANESE

15, Duke Street,

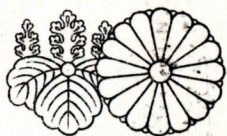
FINE ART DEPOT
MANCHESTER SQUARE.

- B426
- | | | | |
|--|----|----|---|
| 1. Pair Old Bizen hanging bases
in shape of Moths | 4 | " | " |
| 1. Old Bizen Group
"Hotei" on stand with boys. | 7 | " | " |
| 1. Old Blue Bizen bottle | 2 | 10 | " |
| 1. Old Blue Bizen Gony with silver
top a very rare fine piece | 12 | " | " |
| 1. Old Bizen Hotei | 5 | " | " |

Returned Oct. 22/91.

L. J. W. Raily.

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Oct 26 1891
W.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge
the safe receipt of the pieces
of Bizen sent for your approval.

If you are coming to town,
I have received a small con-
signment of valuable old porcelain
Lacquer etc. worthy of inspection.

Yours respectfully
pro John Sparks
J.S.

8426

Ans^d
Sept. 7/92
W. H. P.



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street Manchester Square,

LONDON, Sept. 6 1892
W.

Sir

Having returned yesterday from my holiday at the sea, I at once forwarded your design with full particulars to my Agent in Japan asking him to give it his immediate attention.

I beg to enclose for your inspection a small drawing of a very fine old Bronze Vase inlaid with Cloisonné Enamels, that I have just imported and which I consider one of the most interesting specimens

I have acquired for a very long time. It is evidently a finely preserved vase of the Ming dynasty probably about 1450 AD. the portions I have marked with the pencil, darkly, are plain bronze, the rest is Enamelled. Part of the designs are almost Egyptian in character and the colours neutral Reds, Yellows and Greens on a Turquoise blue ground.

I have as yet shown it or spoken of it to no one and will wait your reply as to whether you would

like me to bring it or send it for your inspection.

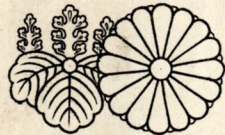
It stands 2ft. 6in and I have drawn it to scale, the price is £50.

I am Sir

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

2426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, June 15 1894
W.

Sir,

In answer to your query I am sorry to say I have never heard it described or had it invoiced other than as Kioto Enamel work on Silver; but can quite see, as you point out that there should be some distinguishing appellation in contradistinction to the cloisonné Enamel, and as I am writing to Japan tomorrow I will ask my agent to make enquiries amongst those best qualified to give a correct reply, and on hearing from him will at once

let you know.

The blending of the colours in the Enamels in the best pieces is all done by one man, whose work is entirely kept in the hands of one native merchant from whom my agent can alone procure them, Mr. Musa Shiya a wealthy fine art dealer in Yokohama and Kioto.

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 29 1894.
W.

Sir,

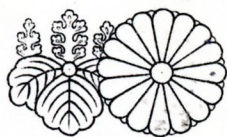
If you are coming to Town shortly - would you kindly honour me with a visit, as I have a remarkable and unique old Chinese Screen which is well worth inspection, besides one or two fine things lately received from Japan.

Yours respectfully.

pro John Sparks.

LL

B426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, June 13 1895
W.

Sir,

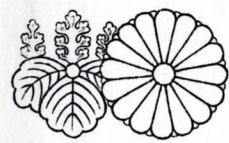
I should both much like you to have the pair of very fine small Gold Caskets, with the pearl Dragons, and to sell them, so will you not kindly help me by meeting me in price, say £32-10-0 which really leaves me scarcely any profit

Yours respectfully

John Sparkes

B426

JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,



15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, June 14 18 95
W.

Sir,

In reply to your letter I can only express my sincere regret that you should have been so troubled and ask you kindly to send me the vase and piece of inlay that I may get it properly repaired. I can only surmise that the maker of the vase has been the victim of the modern evil of cheapening everything and had some of the wretched cheap glue or cement that is now being imported in immense quantities to Japan from Europe.

I am constantly writing out to my agents urging them to impress

The enclosed translation is
from the interior of the little old
nashiji round lac box you
bought the other day.

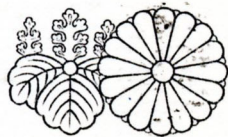
upon the makers of these beautiful
things the imperative necessity
of using only the best materials
if they are to keep up the sale
of their labours and even offered
to buy & send out anything they
might require but unfortunately
it seems as if they too readily
believed the words of the various
local agents who are out there
to sell these inferior goods.

With regard to the pieces
of embroidery you speak of I
will look through my stock
this evening and see if there
are any at all suitable and
then write you particulars.

I sent the silver plate to
Grosvenor Gardens on Monday
thinking you were still in Town
shall I fetch it away & send it on
to Rushmore. Yrs respectfully
John Sparks

Ans.
Dec. 6/95.

8426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT;

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Dec 4 1895

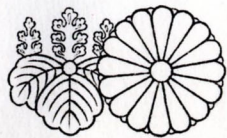
Sir,

I have just got from
Japan Two life size bronze stags
of the Early eighteenth century
They are simply wonderful;
most beautiful, elegant and
life like with an exquisite patina
so if you are coming to Town they
would well repay a visit.
The price is £120. *ridiculously cheap

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

8426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Dec 7 1895

Sir,

In response to your query
 the height of the Buck from ground
 to top of shoulder 2 ft. 8 in and
 from ground to tip of Antlers 5 ft
 The doe is grazing with head close
 to ground and her height from
 ground to top of back is 2 ft 8 in
 Length of Buck from nose to Tail
 4 ft.

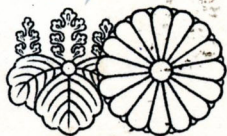
Yours respectfully

John Sparks

Genl. Rivers' Test Jap: Buck is
 2 ft. 6 1/2 in. from bottom of feet to
 Shoulder. Doe:- 2 ft. 5 in.

Ans'd
Sept. 8/96

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Sept 7 1896
W.

Sir,

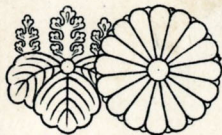
Having received from
Japan an unique and splendid
old Bronze in the form of a
life sized horse which was
secured from a Temple in
the Boma province, may
I request the favour of a
visit of inspection at an early
date

Yours faithfully

John Sparks

information lowest price

8426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Sept. 8 1896
W.

Sir,

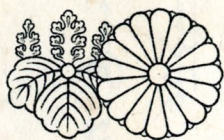
In accordance with your wishes I beg to say that the very lowest price I would take from you for the bronze is £150. but in the event of your not caring to buy it yourself I would respectfully ask you to be kind enough to not mention the price I name to anyone, as I am asking £200 for it especially as one connoisseur who has seen it values it at fully £500 I gave over a hundred for it but my agent got it very cheap under exceptional circumstances

Yours respectfully

John Sparke

Ans.

B426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Oct 26 1896
W.

Sir

I thank you for your letter received and will accept your offer although I know if I chose to wait a week or so I can get £150, but I am not unmindful of your kindness in the past and am pleased to think you should have secured, what even Mr Gowland declares to be the finest Japanese bronze he has ever seen and which I am positive will when next sold fetch at least double what you are

praying for it. I enclose Photo
of the Stags which if you like to
take also I will accept now £40 for
altho' I pledge you my word of
honour they cost me £66. as that
would make the amount £200 ^{altogether}
I need scarcely say under any
other Circumstances I should not
accept such a sum and must
ask you to be kind enough not
to mention it to anyone as my
price for the pair is one Hundred
Guineas nett.

With regard to the Iron Tongs
I am willing to bear the expense
of making them etc but before
fixing them on I feel sure it
will be wiser for you to see
the Horse first and try it in
its place on the pedestal or block
first, as I am afraid you might

think the iron plates spoilt its appearance, if I

might suggest, I should think bolts sunk in the block
just with long heads protruding that would fit into
holes bored in the feet of the horse would be quite
safe and look so much better.

May I not send the horse down first and then
when you have judged what is best, my man here
could run down if you wished and take the holes
there, or screw the plates if you preferred.

Yours respectfully

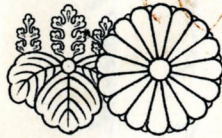
John Sparrow





Ans'd.
Oct. 29/96.

B426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Oct 28 1896
W.

Sir,

I thank you for your letter duly received this morning and will at once make arrangements for the delivery of the Bronze.

I want if possible to get a cart such as is used for lame horses and cattle by the Railway C^o; put the Bronze carefully in it and then send cart and all direct to Tisbury from whence perhaps you would kindly give orders to have it housed and brought on to Rushmore.

If you wish I would of course come down myself and see it

on its arrival and then if you thought fit I could have any plates etc made in London that we found necessary for its security.

The Bronze is certainly patinated but I should imagine that if occasionally wiped over the wet would not injure it in any way, smoke of course would be detrimental.

The Stags are not exactly like the ones I sold to the Marquis of Bute as this pair is 6 inches shorter than his but in appearance they are similar because ~~are~~ both are modelled from a celebrated drawing by the Artist "Bosen," as to Lord Bute ⁽¹⁷⁶⁰⁾ returning his I can assure you he told me himself last June that he was more than

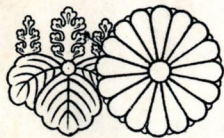
pleased with them and thought them both beautiful and very moderate in price; he gave me £125 for the pair and would not be likely ever to part with them. They are in the stall at Rothesay Castle and look splendid there.

Yours respectfully

John G. G. G.

Amad.
Oct. 31/96.

(B426)



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Oct. 30 1896
W.

Sir,

Upon turning the horse
over on its side this morning to
prepare it for the bolts, we found
to our surprise that the hoofs were
not solid consequently we cannot
have the "bolts" but must have
the Tangs you first proposed
so therefore ~~consequently~~ I had the plates
cut at once and by this evening
they will be screwed on. I
have had the plates cut the
exact size of the hoof with a
tang coming 8 inches out
behind, drilled for three large



Two inch metal screws, the plates on the hoops I have had screwed where the screw would grip and where not, rivetted, so as to be sure and have the fastening secure as per your request, while at the same time they could easily be taken off if you did not like them on, and wished it fixed any other way.

I may tell you that today, I received a communication from the South Kensington Museum asking for lowest net price of the Horse, as they were inclined to purchase it; but I wrote them of course that ^{it} was sold.

I had thought of trying to get it on the Railway tomorrow if possible on account of there being always less traffic (Goods)

Saturday night but as you say wait I will do so until I hear from you either by letter or wire.

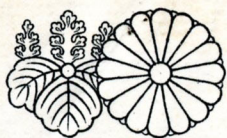
My man who has made the plates and fitted them on, can come down any day you like if you will kindly say, when. He could leave by the early morning train reaching Tisbury about 10.30 am, altho' perhaps you will think your own people could manage the screws equally well. The rocky base will most certainly be a more fitting adjunct than a plain pedestal.

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

Recd
Nov. 3/96

8426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 2 1896
W.

Sir,

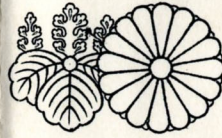
I think there need be no fear but what the plates as now fixed are quite sufficient for the purpose, the thickness of the metal varies from a quarter of an inch to an eighth but where it was too thin for a screw to hold my man put a small rivet. He says he is quite certain no wind could possibly blow it over or even move it when once it is screwed down. So would it not be better to have it down and try it, as it would not be difficult afterwards to turn the horse over if necessary & fill the hoop with lead.

Yrs respectfully

John Sparks

Angd.
My Telegram
Nov. 5/96.

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 4 1896
W.

Sir,

I have made all the arrangements and the horse will be packed carefully in a low horse cart and leave about midday^{tomorrow} so should arrive at Lisbury either late Thursday night or early Friday morning. Will you therefore kindly give orders for a horse to be at the station at whatever time on Friday suits you best to bring it on to Rushmore as I feel sure it would save expense, the railway company always charging so heavily for delivery far from the station. The cart being

so low there will be very little
difficulty in getting it out, as
Eight men can lift it comfortably
four on either side.

Only please give orders to see
that they lift it carefully so
that the Tangs do not catch
as they move forwards or backwards.

It may interest you
to know that Messrs Alma
Tadema + Onslow Ford came
here expressly to see it yesterday
and were both much surprised
and spoke in the highest terms
of its excellent qualities both
of conception and technique

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

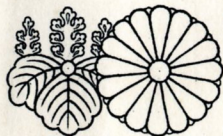
You will of course send for me
if you deem my presence would
be of any real service.

drop me a line when it has
reached you.

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

3426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPOT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

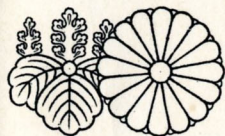
LONDON, Nov 5 1896.
W.

Sir,

In confirmation of my
Telegram, the horse left in a
cart securely and safely packed
at noon to day. one horse drew
it easily to Gauthall, a distance
of about four miles, cart and
horse (Bronze) weigh I believe
about a Ton, or a Ton and a
quarter. The shafts will take a
large strong horse in them.

I should be very grateful
if you would let your secretary

B426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 6 1896
W.

Sir,
I regret sincerely the delay
caused in delivering up the Bronze
but I have not yet been able to
find the cause as some three or
four days ago one of the London
agents of the Railway came here
and I fully explained all to him
saying that you would send
horses to fetch it from Tisbury
and therefore why they should
have thought it right to stop
delivery until wiring me is
inexplicable to me but needless
to say I have written sharply
to the Agent here and await
his explanation. Hoping

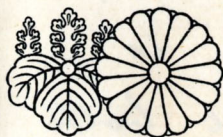
however that ere this it has
reached you safely and has
given you satisfaction

I am Sir

Yrs respectfully

John Sparks

8426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT;

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 9 1896
w.

Sir,

I thank you very much
for kindly writing and am so
glad ~~and~~ you are pleased, though
I felt sure you would be, it so
fine. I really think that if
you saw the pair of stags you
would buy them at once also
as they are in their way almost
equally as fine and though
a trifle smaller than life
still not much so as all the
deer I saw in the Temple grounds
in Japan were very small.

With regard to the plates

on the Horse's hoofs I do not know of course if the "site" is unusually exposed but both the man who did the work & myself feel confident that it would have to be an extremely heavy gale that could move it when once it was screwed down. Why here in London they are not fastened on the stone pedestals at all, but merely stand on slightly sunken beds for the hoofs, the rounded surfaces affording such slight resistance to the wind.

As to the screws holding, I should recommend boring holes in the stones three or four inches deep under the plates, then fill

them with lead and ~~fix~~ ^{bore} the screws into the lead as then the movement if any would not wear away the lead as it would stone.

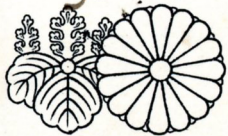
On the other hand if you decide to take off the plates you will not find it at all difficult nor will you injure the hoofs in the slightest if ordinary care is used as there are only one or two "rivets" and the other screws will come out quite easily when once started.

I will look very carefully through my own and other collections for any trace of the different kinds of Chevrons and write you very shortly the result, returning your drawings

Yours respectfully
John Sparks

Ames Nov. 13/96 J.L.H.

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT ·

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 12 1896
W.

Sir,

If it is of the greatest convenience to you to keep the horse in the cart I am willing to let it remain, only please return as soon as ever it is out and kindly advise me so that I may send to Nine Elms station to fetch it away as I have to pay 5/- each day for its hire until it is returned.

Yours respectfully

John Brantley

for my personal reference and
therefore return you originals

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

Amnd.
Nov. 23/96 H.L.



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 19 1896
W.

Sir,

I am very sorry to hear
you were disappointed with the
horse when seeing it out of the
cart, but altho' undoubtedly the
depth of the shoulder is exaggerated
still the Japanese horses, (or Chinese
Ponies as they are called) are very
similar to the Bronze one as
they are very thick built and
strong and splendid mountain
climbers.

The date of the casting is undoubtedly
about the middle of the last
century or possibly earlier but
for full particulars as to its

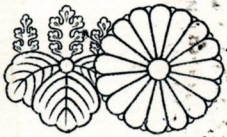
history it is impossible to get at
because like all these fine
Temple specimens they are sold
"sub rosa" and under conditions
that the name of the vendor
and his locality is never divulged.

It was sent to me as
having been purchased from
a Temple at Soma, but from
what my agent writes I have
very little doubt it was stolen
from the "Temple of the Bronze
Horse" at Nagasaki as I
know a very similar specimen
to this was mysteriously lost
about three years ago and
was replaced by a new one
which is nothing like so fine

as yours as anyone will tell
you who has seen the one now
at Nagasaki.

I am sending for you
to look at Two Guards, one
Iron damascened with gold
& silver ~~to~~ Soten school
Early 17th Century and one
floral of the 18th century also
an old carved suit (probably
18th century) as all these have
diapers somewhat after the
style you seek for. Other
specimens I am still on the
look out for and will forward
you if possible as I come
across them. I have
taken copies of your drawings

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

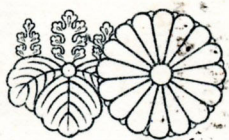
LONDON, Nov 24 1896
W.

Sir,

I am in receipt both of
the parcel and your letter and
beg to say the prices of the Tsuba
and the old carved nut are
Thirty shillings each

Yours respectfully

John Sparke



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 25 1896
W.

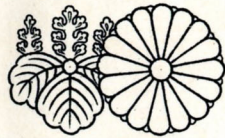
Sir

I thank you for your
letter and you may be sure I
will do my best to find further
traces of the diaper patterns
chevrons etc

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

B426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Dec 1 1896
W.

Sir,

I thank you very much indeed for your kindness in sending me a cheque so promptly.

I am glad to say I have found you another specimen of the diaper pattern and am sending it to you for your inspection but of course it is quite optional with you whether you keep it or return it. It is on the hilt of an old dagger which by the crest on the sheath must have originally belonged to a nobleman of the Honda clan

The blade is signed by Kanekado
a well known sword maker (1450)
and the Guard and mountings
are by Teruhide early 16th century
signed

This therefore should be of
real use in giving authentic data
to the use of the pattern

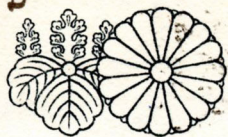
The price of the dagger is £3.0.0.

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

Ans.
Dec. 31/96.

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT;

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Dec 30 1896
W.

Sir

Among the many things
I purchased at D'Arts' Sale
was the fine old wooden carving
No 536 (as per enclosed). I gave
Twenty Guineas but value it
at nearer Forty. Would
you care to have it for £25.

Yours respectfully

John Sparks



£20 offered.

8426

JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Jan 1 1897
W.

Sir, In response to your queries
I beg to inform you that the
height of the figure itself is 3 ft
the Glass Shade over it a few
inches taller and the whole length
from floor to top of stand 6 ft.

Kin-Kan-Kuji is the name
of a Temple on the outskirts of
Kioto.

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

The lacquer on the figure is almost
hidden by a thick coating of blackish
sediment caused by the smoke from
the incense burnt in front of it for
centuries.



No. 536.—Statue of Buddha from the Kin Kan
Kuji Temple, 10th century.

ground

536

A UNIQUE FIGURE OF BUDDHA WITH PASTORAL STAFF, *standing on a lotus pedestal, carved in wood and richly lacquered,* PURCHASED FROM THE PRIEST AT THE TEMPLE OF KIN KAN KUJI, WHITHER IT HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM NARA. *The figure is full of the ancient prayer papers, the head being removable. A singularly fine relic of the 10th century, in ebonized case. Illustrated*

B426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Jan 14 1897
W.

Dear Sir

In answer to your letter and in confirmation of my telegram I write to say that the Buddha etc is exactly as it was received from Dr Hart's house; a slight fracture of the glass shade at one corner, and no real prayer papers that I could see in it, altho' the latter are mere sinecures inasmuch as the so-called prayer papers are merely leaves of printed matter sold by the priests for a few halfpence and

very often are not the real Buddhist
teachings at all.

Trusting that General
Litt Rivers if not quite himself
again, is still very much
better.

Yours faithfully
John Sparks

General A A Pitt Rivers LONDON, Jan 14 1897

John Sparks
PROPRIETOR

JAPANESE

15, Duke Street,

FINE

ART

DEPOT.

MANCHESTER SQUARE.

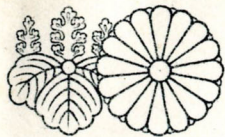
one fine old Japanese Buddha.
from the Hart collection Lot 536a.
To cost of packing etc.

20

1

£ 21

B426



JAPANESE FINE ART DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Jan 15 1897
W.

Dear Sir

I am in receipt of your letter and though very sorry have of course nothing else to say but that I will take the Buddha back. As I said before, the price left no profit and I bought it at public auction so that it could not be solely my valuation, and of course the circumstances of purchase must at all times be taken into consideration when naming a price, as it is often possible to buy a work of art

1877

JAPANESE FINE ART DEPOT



15, Duke Street, Manchester, England

Bonnoy, Jan 15 1877

London

I am in receipt of

Your letter and though very sorry for the loss of your picture, I am glad to hear that it is safe. I have taken the picture back to you before the price has fallen and I bought it at a price which is not far from the original price. I am sure you will be satisfied with the result. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours,
John Sparks

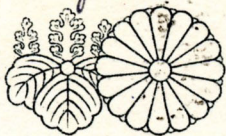
at a tenth of its value, and then again to have to pay more than its value if you want it

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

Ans'd.
July 7/97.

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, June 30 1897
W.

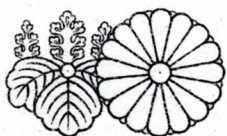
Sir,

I have received from Japan
one of the most wonderful pieces
of Bron work in the world
It is an articulated life sized
snake about 5 feet 6 inches long
made by Mischin Munéyori,
Early 18th century. It is in
perfect condition and Professor
Church who saw it today said
it was one of the very finest
things he had ever seen.
Would you like me to send it
down to you to look at.
The price is £125.

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Oct 15 1898
W.

Sir,

In a shipment received from Japan today, I have two small collections of the oldest known arrow heads, beads, rings, ~~brooches~~ etc that have been found at various times when excavating.

I am given a guarantee of their perfect authenticity and genuineness and therefore sell them on that basis or to be returned + a forfeit paid if proved to be to the contrary.

Would you like me to send them down on approval

Yours respectfully

Ans'd.
Nov. 8/98. B426



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 5 1898
W.

Sir,

I desire to thank you for your cheque receipt for which I enclose.

I have ventured upon taking the liberty of sending down for your inspection the sets of every old arrow heads, charms, rings etc if you care to look at them.

If not I would ask you to be kind to return them, entirely of course at my risk & expense.

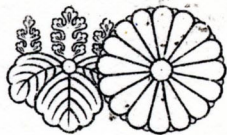
I have also received a very fine old Bronze Goddess Gwanon which you might honour me by calling to see when next you are in town

Yours respectfully

John Sparks

Things returned
by rail, Nov. 10/98.

(B426)



JAPANESE · FINE · ART · DEPÔT,

15, Duke Street, Manchester Square,

LONDON, Nov 9 1898
W.

Sir,

In response to your query
I beg to say the price of the amulets
etc sent are £15 the one set in a
single box (black) and £50 the other
but I cannot quite see how I am
to separate them still if it is
possible for me to do anything
I can to please you I will be
only too glad to do it

Yours respectfully

John Sparks