



Warriors of Old Japan and Other Stories by Yei Theodora Ozaki : (full image Illustrated)

Yei Theodora Ozaki

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PREFACE

The kind reception given to "The Japanese Fairy Book" has encouraged me to venture on a second volume of stories from Japan. I have invented none of these stories. They are taken from many different sources, and in clothing them with an English dress my work has been that of adapter rather than translator. In picturesqueness of conception Japanese stories yield the palm to none. And they are rich in quaint expressions and dainty conceits. But they are apt to be written in a style almost too bald. This defect the professional story-teller remedies by colouring his story as he tells it. In the same way I have tried to brighten the rather bare structure of a story, where it seemed to need such treatment; with touches of local colour in order to give emphasis to the narrative, and at the same time make the story more attractive to the foreign reader. Whether I have succeeded or not, the reader must judge for himself. I shall be satisfied if in some small measure I have been able to do for Japanese folk-lore what Andrew Lang has done for folk-lore in general, and if the tales in their English dress are found to retain the essential features of Japanese stories. Miss Fusa Okamoto and Mr. Taketaro Matsuda, my brother, Nobumori Ozaki, and one or two friends have given me help in translation.

For the introductory note I am indebted to Mr. J.H. Gubbins, C.M.G., of the British Embassy, Tokyo. Most of the illustrations have been drawn by Mr. Shusui Okakura, of the Peers' College, to whose painstaking and patient collaboration grateful acknowledgment is due. A few of the pictures were drawn by Mr. Tsutsui, of the "Jiji Shimbun," and some of the historical pictures by Mr. Kokuho Utagawa and Mr. Tosen Toda.

Yei Theodora Ozaki.

CONTENTS

Hachiro Tametomo, the Archer

Gen Sanmi Yorimasa, the Knight

The Story of Yoshitsune

The Story of Benkei

The Goblin of Oyeyama

Kidomaru the Robber, Raiko the Brave, and the Goblin Spider

The Story of the Pots of Plum, Cherry, and Pine

Shiragiku, or White Chrysanthemum

The Princess of the Bowl

ILLUSTRATIONS

RUSHED UPON THE MONSTER AND QUICKLY DESPATCHED HIM

TAMETOMO BEGAN TO RISE IN THE AIR

YORIMASA COULD NOT TELL WHICH WAS THE LADY AYAME

COULD OVERCOME TEN OR TWENTY SMALL TENGU IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE

THE PHANTOM HOST DREW NEARER TO THE BOAT

DIED STANDING WITH HIS FACE TO THE ENEMY

THE HEAD FLEW UP INTO THE AIR

THEY ENTERED THE CAVE AND FOUND A MONSTER SPIDER

SHIRAGIKU WAS ABOUT TO DASH DOWN INTO THE RIVER

SAISHO AND THE BOWL-WEARER WERE AT LAST MARRIED

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