

* * From the Editor * *

With this issue of Sino-Japanese Studies, we complete our seventh year of publication. There is certainly much to be proud of, but there is far more work to be done. At the March 1995 meeting of the Sino-Japanese Studies Group in Washington, DC, a considerable difference of opinion was voiced over the appearance of the journal. Some wanted it upgraded so that it would have a more sophisticated appearance and might attract more contributions; others liked it in its present form, appealing to a wide array of potential contributions (articles, reviews, works in progress, announcements, and the like). I would appreciate hearing from those of you who have opinions on this matter or who have heard opinions voiced by others. We have had a recent dearth of publishable materials for the journal, and I would strongly encourage readers to consider contributing an essay or review to Sino-Japanese Studies.

In this issue we feature the eleventh and final installment of my translation of Masuda Wataru's major work, Seigaku tōzen to Chūgoku jijō. Five years ago I began publishing this translation in SJS. This installment deals with a number of texts concerning Satsuma domain and China, Koxinga's battles with the Manchus, and the itinerant Ming court's efforts to resist the invaders. It also shows the great influence "reportage" on Koxinga had on the literary world of late-seventeenth and early-eighteenth century Japan.

The essay by Fuma Susumu (translated by Peter Perdue) on foundling homes and protection societies in late-Ming China may not, strictly speaking, be a work in the field of Sino-Japanese studies, but we have been very successful to this point by not adhering overly closely to strictures. Fuma is one of the great stars in the rising new constellation of Japanese Sinology, and in fact there is a comparison drawn at the end of the essay with Tokugawa-period Japan.

In addition, we have Daqing Yang's report on a conference that took place last year at Keiō University on Northeast China and a review of a new work in the field of Sino-Japanese studies from Hangzhou University.