

**BETHNAL GREEN BRANCH
MUSEUM. CATALOGUE OF A
COLLECTION
OF ORIENTAL PORCELAIN AND
POTTERY LENT FOR EXHIBITION**

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Bethnal Green Branch Museum. Catalogue of a Collection of Oriental Porcelain and Pottery
Lent for Exhibition by A. W. Franks

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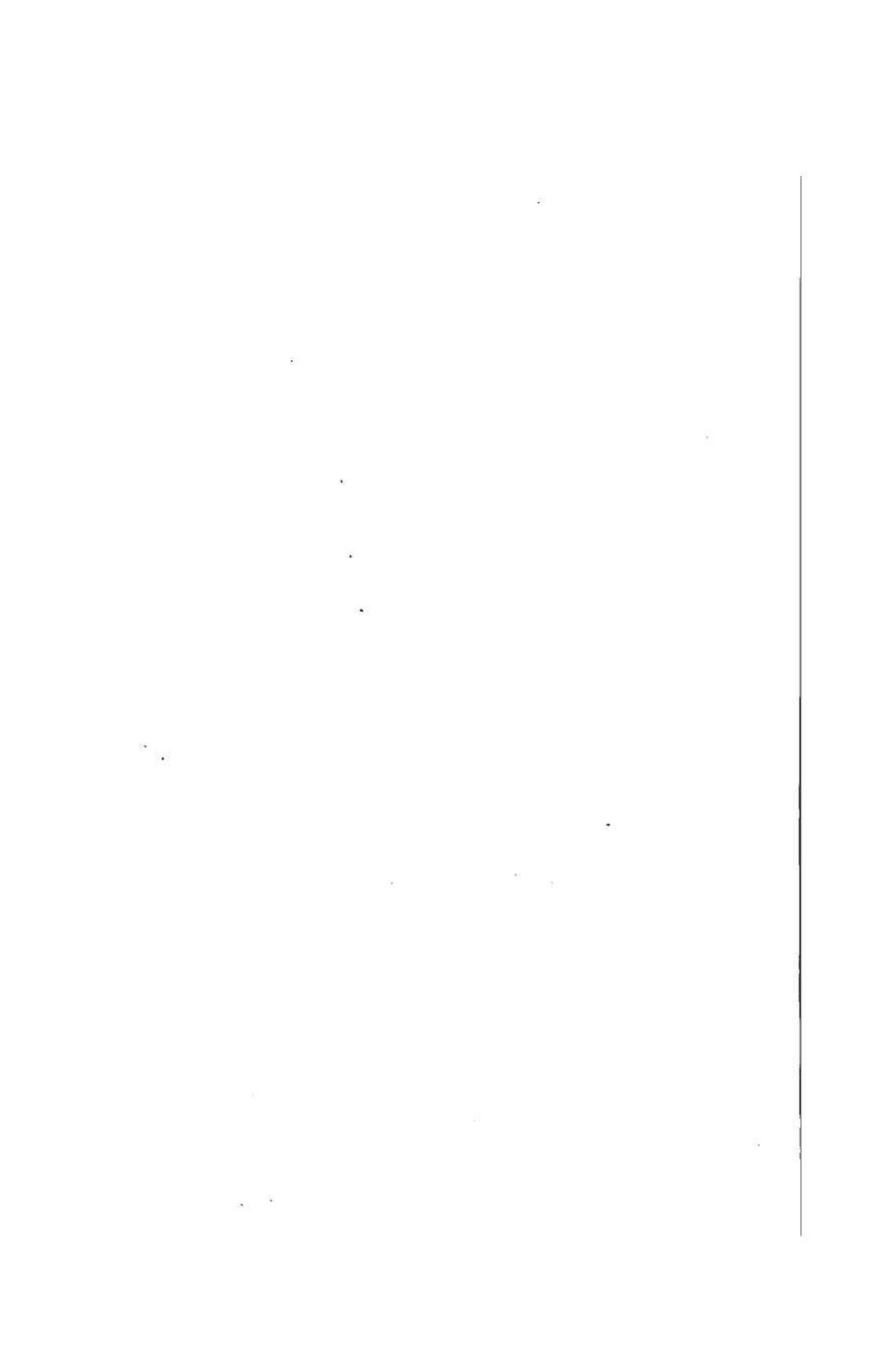
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A. W. FRANKS

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ORIENTAL PORCELAIN AND POTTERY.

A. W. FRANKS, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A.



SCIENCE AND ART DEPARTMENT
OF THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON EDUCATION,
SOUTH KENSINGTON.

BETHNAL GREEN BRANCH MUSEUM.

CATALOGUE

OF A

COLLECTION OF ORIENTAL PORCELAIN
AND POTTERY

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BY

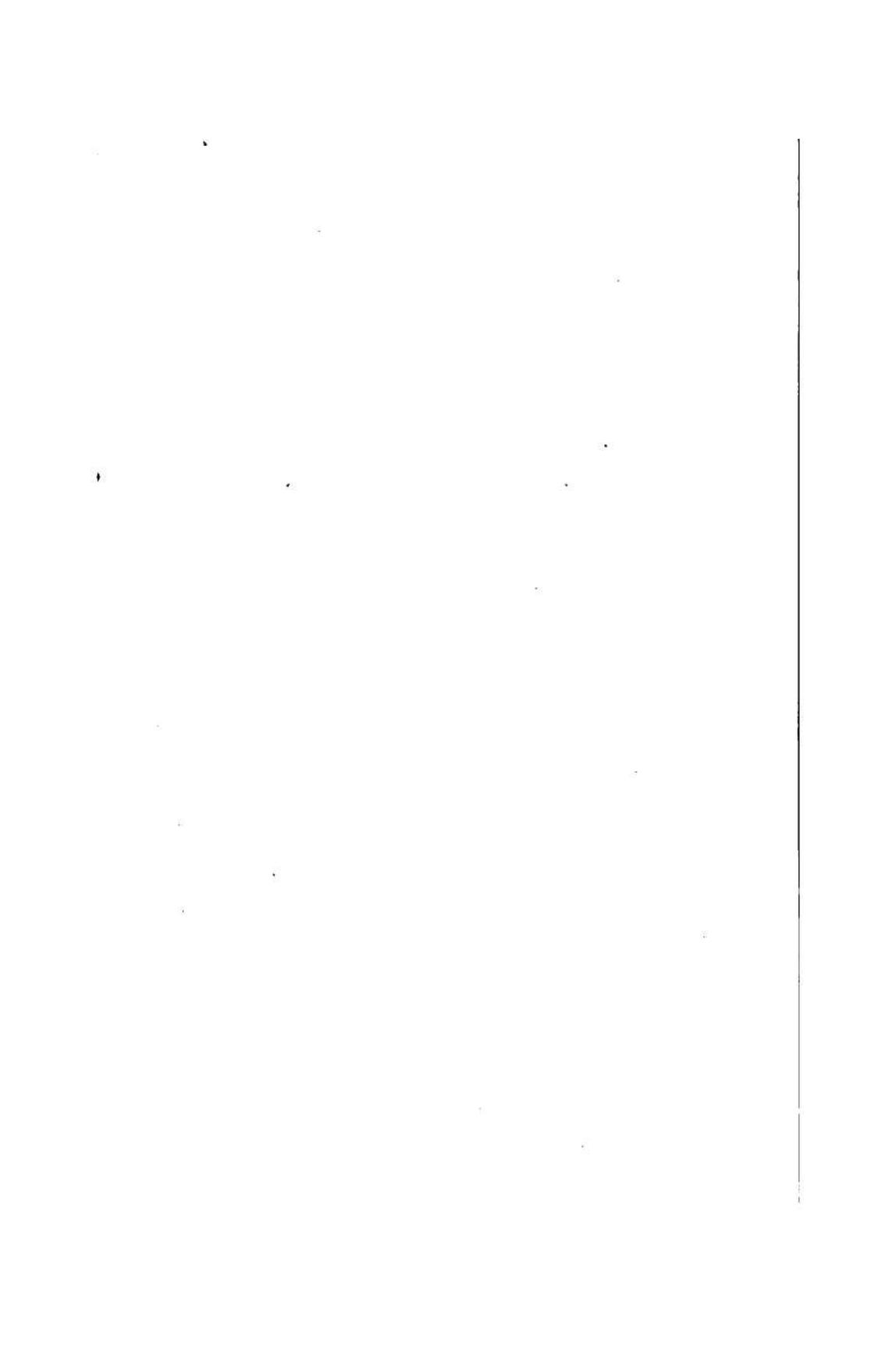
A. W. FRANKS, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A.



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1876.





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PREFACE.

THE collection now exhibited to the public has been gradually brought together in a somewhat desultory manner during a period of several years.

Many other collections contain larger and finer specimens than are here to be found, such for instance as the brilliant series formed by Mr. Alfred Morrison or Mr. Louis Huth; but it is probable that none of them illustrate so fully the different varieties of porcelain which have been produced in the manufactories of China and Japan. For it will be seen that this collection has not been limited to choice or ancient specimens, but that even common and modern examples have been included when they illustrate the subject. It is probably, moreover, the first time that any attempt has been made to exhibit Oriental porcelain divided into classes, and to distinguish the respective productions of China and Japan. This it has been by no means easy to do, and it will be for others to judge how far the attempt has succeeded. Further experience may lead hereafter to a more perfect classification.

As the marks given in the plates have in nearly every case been copied from specimens in the collection, they will probably be found more accurate than those which have hitherto appeared, derived as the latter have been from different and sometimes untrustworthy sources.

It may be well to give a brief account of what has been already published on the subject in order to obviate the necessity of frequent reference. The earliest description we have of the processes connected with the manufacture of Oriental porcelain is to be found in the valuable letters from a Jesuit Missionary, Père d'Entrecolles, written in 1712 and 1722, and published in "*Lettres édifiantes et curieuses.*" The most scientific work that has appeared on the nature of porcelain and its chemistry is the "*Traité des Arts Céramiques,*" by A. Brongniart, 1844. The only work which affords any native evidence on the history of Chinese porcelain, and the various places at which it has been manufactured, is the "*Histoire de la fabrication de la Porcelaine chinoise,*" translated from the Chinese by M. Stanislas Julien (Paris, 1856), which will be referred to hereafter as "*The History of King-te-chin.*" In Marryat's