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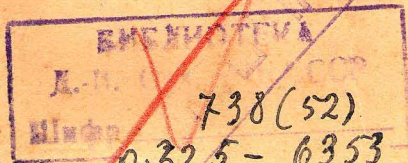
JAPAN,



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AND

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LONDON :

HENRY SOTHERAN & CO.,

36, PICCADILLY ; 136, STRAND ; 77 & 78, QUEEN STREET, CITY.

MANCHESTER : 49, CROSS STREET.

MDCCCLXXXI.

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LIVERPOOL:
PRINTED BY D. MARPLES & CO., LIMITED.

410710497
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KERAMIC ART OF JAPAN

PREFACE.

THERE is probably no subject more interesting to the student of art, nor one which it is more difficult to describe in adequate terms, than that which embraces the art-works and art-thoughts of the Japanese. We have therefore to crave the indulgence of our readers for all the shortcomings in the present attempt to lay before them a brief outline of Japanese art generally, and a sketch of the Ceramic art of Japan in particular.

It is unnecessary for us to say anything more with reference to our Introductory Essay, than to solicit the indulgence of our readers; the subject is one which might be enlarged upon to almost any extent, for materials of interest are so numerous as to be embarrassing, but the limit and chief aim of our Work required that it should be condensed into the smallest space consistent with utility.

In writing the chapters devoted to the consideration of the Japanese Ceramic manufactures, and in carrying out a work not hitherto attempted, namely, the classification of Japanese pottery, great difficulties