**Japanese Poetry**

Japanese poetry largely concerns itself with flowers and forest and wild life and the changes visible (of はだ) through the seasons (季節).

Poetry, if it is the kind that everyone knows and treasures (宝篋), reveals (内なる心 of a people better even than their philosophy に於ても).

From the following examples it is evident that the Japanese love of nature (自然の愛) is deep indeed.

“The morning glory twined holds my well-roped
And I must borrow water.

The thought of is a housewife going early one morning to draw water from her well (井戸) and finding that the morning glory (紫陽花) has wound (探検) itself round the rope in the night. Rather than break it she refrains from using it for her water.

The same poet describes a willow tree in the snow (日本の雪の花) is an image of gentleness.

“The arms may not span the willow, but its have done once the tree.

Implied (内なる心) that for all its strength its beauty is lost none of its gentleness.

’Tis in Japan’s Rubín Buehler, a poet who called Isaac, having had a very sad youth, was a champion of the weak and downtrodden.

Little orphaned sparrow, come to me and play?

Later, the sparrow flies and none knows.

Even in flogging struggle is not beneath Isaac’s notice. Naturally, he takes sides—the lean and hungry (弱者) or the fat and comfortable.

“The lean sparrow, you mustn’t lose;

He writes—though “Stick it, skinny.”

**Nurse’s Song**

by William Blake

When the voices of children are heard on the moon,
And laughing is heard on the hill,
My heart is at rest within my breast,
And everything else is still.

“So come home, my children, the sun may be gone;
And the dew of night arise;
Come, come, leave off play, and let us away,
Till the morning appears in the skies.”

“No, no, let us play, for it is yet day,
And we cannot go to sleep;
Beside, there are the little birds fly,
And the hills are all covered with snow.”

“Well, well, go and play till the light fades away,
And then go home to bed.”

“The little ones leaped and shouted and laughed,
And all the hills echoed.”

**THINK AND GROW**

CHAN: Yesterday I was looking at a girl standing in the wind, and I threw a flower to her.

WONG: Oh, very lucky!

CHAN: Dear! she threw it with the flower-pot. (Lin Ling (Ching Kwong School))

TRACHER: (Seeing Jack talking) Stand up, Jack. Make a sentence with “for rather.”

JACK: I beg you, or rather, I implore you, to let me sit down.

TRACHER: All right, you can sit down. (Y. K. Kwok (Queen’s College))

**A Visit to a Circus**

Last night my uncle and I went to see the Japanese circus.

Having sat down, we saw the master of the ring come out with five horses as white as snow.

They galloped according to the best of the music, and did every trick their master commanded them to do. When the master cracked the whip, they began to stand up on their hind legs.

The most exciting program was the riding of a motor-cycle on the walls of a sphere. It was indeed a grand sight!

Now a dawn came out and did many funny things that made the spectators split their sides. After that, a monkey came out riding a bicycle. Another monkey jumped on its shoulders; they both cycled round the arena.

There were dances by Japanese ladies and other gymnastic exercises, too.

The last item was very thrilling.

A young lady and several men swayed to and fro in the trapeze. They did many dangerous tricks and turned somersaults. At last every player jumped down in turn and the net placed a few feet above the ground.

When it was over, we went home with a light heart.

Winna (Sacred Heart School)