Finally, we note that this report is part of our effort to publish Siebold’s unfinished book on mineralogy. In his letter to Temminck, Siebold showed strong interest in publishing books on botany, zoology and mineralogy. While the books on botany and zoology were published as “Flora Japonica” and “Fauna Japonica,” respectively, the book on mineralogy does not exist. However, as explained in our last report, the discovery of the handwritten manuscript by Bürger, was assumed to be intended for the book on the mineralogy and geology of Japan (Tagai & Mikouchi, 2008). By examining its structure, together with their work in Japan, it was also assumed that Bürger prepared the manuscript for book publication at the request of Siebold. The manuscript, with our detailed interpretation of their views on mineralogy, was reproduced in the last report. Since a title for the intended book publication could not be found, we proposed the title ‘Lapidographia Japonica.’ Later, we realized that the title ‘Lapidographia Japonica’ would not suffice, since ‘lapido’ and ‘graphia’ have different origins in Roman and Greek, respectively (Ohba, priv. com). In the present report we would like to propose ‘De Mineralogia Japonica’ as the title according to the suggestion of Dr. L. Schröpfer (Frankfurt Univ., priv. com.).

This report is part of our attempt to publish Siebold’s unfinished ‘De Mineralogia Japonica.’

The contribution of J. J. Hoffmann to the mineral collection of Siebold

Johann Joseph Hoffmann was born in Würzburg, Germany, in 1805. Although Hoffmann later became a well-known Japanologist, it is said that he had been an opera singer in his younger days. While living in Antwerp at the age of 25, he met Siebold by chance. Hoffmann, in fact, did not become involved with Japanese studies until hired by Siebold to assist in arranging his collections. Several reasons can be imagined as to the cause of Siebold and Hoffmann working together. For instance, Siebold and Hoffman were from the same city, Würzburg. Hoffmann was both talented in languages and interested in the Orient. After moving to Leiden where Siebold’s specimens were labeled and studied, Hoffmann learned Japanese and contributed greatly to the publication of Siebold's "Nippon, Archiv für Beschreibung von Japan und dessen Neben- und Schutzländen Jezo mit südlichen Kurilen, Sachlin, Korea und Liuki-Inseln." This book is one of the three major books by Siebold, together with "Flora Japonica" and "Fauna Japonica". Hoffmann, who later became the first professor of Japanese at Leiden University, was a leader in Japanese studies for all of Europe. He was assigned to form the base of Japanology in Europe. Hoffmann later published "Japanische
Sprakkleer” (“Japanese Grammar”) in 1867 and "Japanische Studien" (“Japanese Studies”) in 1878, which have been highly referenced.

Hoffmann's contribution was not limited to Japanology. The foremost finding in Hoffmann’s list of the mineral collection was revealed by analyzing two documents. Photo 1, from the archive of the Leiden University branch of the National Herbarium of the Netherlands (formerly the Rijksherbarium), shows Hoffmann’s letter to Julius Hermann Schultes (1820-1887), who was an assistant of Carl Ludwig Blume at the Rijksherbarium from 1843 to 1852. The letter includes explanations of the Japanese and Chinese names of a linden tree and a horse chestnut.

Another document reveals that Hoffmann took part in arranging Siebold’s mineral specimens. The document is a part of the Siebold-related collections, called Siboldiana, which was housed in the Japan-Institut Berlin (the Berlin Japanese Institute) before the Second World War. The Siboldiana are now stored in Sektion Geschichte Japans, Fakultät für Ostasienwissenschaften, Ruhr-Universität Bochum (the Department of Japanese History of the Faculty of East Asian Studies at Ruhr University in Bochum).

In 1919, the Japan-Institut Berlin loaned some valuable documents of Siboldiana to Japan to promote the Siebold research. The documents were photographed and the resulting photographic plates stored in the Toyo Bunko (the Oriental Library) in Tokyo. Obtaining a paper version of the copied documents, we discovered a list of mineral specimens, which was described as document 1.144.005 in Acta Siboldiana III (1999), with description of "Geologische und morphorogische Abhandlungen und Notizen: Auflistung von Mineralessammlungen, unter anderem im Reichsmuseum" (geological and morphological treatises and notices: list of mineralogical collections, with the others in the Royal Museum). An example of the list is shown in Photo 2.

Through a comparison among the handwriting in the list with that of Hoffmann's letter (Photo 1), an observed common feature of handwriting, especially in Japanese, indicates that the mineral list was written by Hoffmann, and as such his contribution to the Siebold mineral collection was verified.
Anlage: 4


51. Schmelze von Phlogopit; bedeckt; Kriete von Kominari (in der Hal von Kamakura.)
52. Phlogopit, weiß, mit Pyrochlore-Glieder.
53. Plagioklase aus der Landschaft Anan (auf Schacht) jüngere 2 = 4 cm³.
54. Mundbrock; durch Hohlung abgeschiedene Stücke.
55. Augitische Lamellen; Blättchen aus dem Moos der Fels (Ras-Sanga.)
56. 2 cm². 2 cm². 2 cm².
57. Bildschmuck.
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