A Study of J. M. D. MEIKLEJOHN’S

A New Geography on the Comparative Method

One Aspect of the History of Geography in the Meiji Period

Shokyu MINAMOTO*

In the revised fifth edition of his work *Chirigaku kogi (Lectures on geography)*, 1892, SHIGA Shigetaka (1863–1927), a geographer and enlightenment thinker in the Meiji (1868–1912) and Taisho (1912–1926) periods, mentions a British geographer and a work authored by him. Using the bibliographical approach, I was able to identify the British scholar as J.M.D. MEIKLEJOHN (1830–1902) and the title of his book as *A new geography on the comparative method with maps and diagrams* (1889). MEIKLEJOHN, once a famous geographer, has faded into obscurity in geographical study in Britain today. († Although varying dates are given for MEIKLEJOHN’s birth, I rely on a letter, dated 29/3/84, from Mr. Robert N. SMART, Keeper of the Muniments, University Muniments, University Library, St. Andrews, Scotland, stating that MEIKLEJOHN was born in 1830).

SHIGA was attracted by the comparative method MEIKLEJOHN employed in his book and sought to apply it to the study of geographical phenomena in Japan. Through further examinations, I also discovered that the section on regional geography in MEIKLEJOHN’s book was translated and published in Japan as *Shinsen banhohu chiri (A new world geography)*, 1893, by YAMAKAMI Manjiro (1868–1946) and HAMADA Shunzaburo (1870–1946?). *Shinsen banhoku chiri* was widely read as a secondary school textbook, and went through more than ten printings. The authors published another joint work, *Shinsen Nihon chiri (A new Japanese geography)*, 1893, in which they adopted MEIKLEJOHN’s comparative method, and this, too, enjoyed a considerable readership. MAKIGUCHI Tsunesaburo (1871–1944) mentions in his *Jinsei chirigaku (The geography of human life)*, 1903, that MEIKLEJOHN’s book was one of the references used in the preparation of that important geographical work.

This study analyzes the process through which MEIKLEJOHN’s *A new geography on the comparative method* became known among Japanese geographers and how its content was disseminated in Japan through their writings long before geography became established as an academic discipline in this country.

(Note: Japanese names are given in accordance with Japanese practice, family name preceding given name.)

I. Introduction

One of the most often-raised problems in the study of the history of modern geography in Japan is the original sources of works on geography published in Japan, i.e., what foreign works the authors relied on in writing and study in the field. For books published in the Showa period (1926–), it is possible to learn what sources the author used by asking him or the other members of the study group to which he belongs. For books published in the Meiji period, however, matters are different; if no mention of original texts or source materials was made in either prefaces or texts, it remains a matter of conjecture whether such-and-such a book was based on, or an outright translation of, a Western work on geography. Historical study of these works stops there, without further inquiry into their roots.

This situation prompted me to adopt the bibliographical approach in examining how the work of the British geographer was introduced in Japan through several Japanese publications in the field prior to the establish-
In this way I have sought to offer some basic insights into the influence of British geographical thought in Japan.

II. Meiklejohn and Shiga’s Chirigaku kogi

In the study of Shiga Shigetaka’s geographical thought, one of his most important works is Chirigaku kogi (Lectures on geography), 1889 (Figure 1), which was written to acquaint Japanese with Western geographical ideas. I have published an introductory study of this work (Minamoto, 1984) elsewhere; here I will only touch on it briefly in connection with the theme of this essay. A brief outline of the bibliographical data concerning Chirigaku kogi, for reference in this study, is as follows:

1st ed. (publ. Aug. 1, 1889. 88 pp.)
2nd ed. (Jan. 20, 1890.)*
3rd ed. (Apr. 7, 1890.)*
4th ed. (June 10, 1890.)*
Rev. 5th ed. (Oct. 1, 1892. 120 pp.) (Figure 2).
Enl. 6th ed. (June 28, 1894, 150 pp.)
Enl. 11th ed. (Nov. 20, 1901. 154 pp.)
Rev. and enl. 14th ed. (Apr. 20, 1907. 187 pp.)

(* Copies not located. Publication dates cited from colophon of the fifth edition.)

Three years after its initial publication in 1889, 5,000 copies had been printed;3) this work was one of Shiga’s three best sellers, the other two being Nan’yō jiji (Affairs of the southern seas) (1887) and Nihon fukeiron (Japanese landscapes) (1894). The second, third, and fourth editions could not be located for immediate examination, so I made a comparative study of the first and fifth editions. As shown by the increase in length, by about thirty pages, the fifth edition was enlarged in content. It included a new section: Chirigaku no kenkyū ni hissu naru sono ta no yoken (Other conditions necessary for the study of geography) (Shiga, 1892. pp. 92–112).3) This section includes a passage, translated into English as follows:

Dr. Meiklejohn [written in phonetic characters as Meikurujon], professor at the University of St. Andrews, Great Britain and fellow of the Royal Geographical Societies of London and Edinburgh, recently published a book A new comparative geography [this is a literal translation of the title as given by Shiga in Japanese, Hikakuteki shin chirigaku].

Figure 1. The title page of Chirigaku koki, 1st ed.
(Private collection of Minamoto Shokyu)

Figure 2. The title page of Chirigaku kogi, Rev. 5th ed.
(Collection of the National Diet Library)
This work states that the study and teaching of geography must rely on the comparative method, and this approach has been used throughout the book. I agree with Meiklejohn’s emphasis on this method for certain areas of geography, but in this work he uses it from the beginning to the end. This work offers many useful ideas. (Shiga, 1892. pp. 92–93).

In the section following that quoted above, Shiga gives examples of Meiklejohn’s comparative method followed by examples of his own application of the method to geographical phenomena in Japan. As will be shown in Part IV below, these examples represent a significant aspect of Shiga’s study of geography. Intrigued by this mention of “Meikuru-jon” and his book, and by their apparently profound influence on Shiga’s geography, I undertook some investigation, discovering that the British geographer mentioned was John Miller Dow Meiklejohn and the original book, A new geography on the comparative method with maps and diagrams (Figure 3). As it happens, the first edition of this work and that of Shiga’s Chirigaku kogi appeared in the same year, 1889. Within three years of the publication of Meiklejohn’s book, Shiga translated part of it and introduced the comparative method in the revised edition of his own work.

III. A New Geography

Before explaining how Meiklejohn’s A new geography was introduced to Japan, let me give a brief outline of who Meiklejohn was and what the book was about. It is probably safe to say that no study has thus far been done in the field of research on the history of Japanese geography dealing with this British geography and his works. Referring to the Dictionary of national biography (hereafter referred to as DNB; Lee, 1912), we find that he is described as a “writer of school books,” and active not only in geography but many other fields. Part of the DNB entry reads as follows:

In 1876 Dr. Bell’s trustees instituted a chair of the theory, history, and practice of education in St. Andrews University, and Meiklejohn was appointed as the first professor. In his new capacity Meiklejohn from the outset exerted much influence on educational ideas at a time when the national system of education was undergoing complete reconstruction. (Lee, 1912, p. 601).

So Meiklejohn was a prominent educator as well. A further note about him, obtained from a review article quoted for advertisement in a copy of A new geography (Meiklejohn, 1890, fourth page of advertisements at the end of the book), says in part: “What Mr. J. R. Green did for English history Professor Meiklejohn has done for geography.” (from The English Teacher). This review, from an education journal, then, equates Meiklejohn with John Richard Green (1837–83), a leading historian of the time who also had a profound knowledge of geography. The title page of the book states: “Professor of the Theory, History, and Practice of Education in the University
of St. Andrews, Fellow of the Royal Geographical Societies of London and Edinburgh, Fellow of the Imperial Institute, Etc." (MEIKLEJOHN, 1902, title page). These notes would lead us to believe that he was highly regarded in academic circles, and a leading figure in the world of geography—especially in the teaching of geography—in Britain at that time.

However, I have so far been unable to locate any article or book in the field of geography in Britain today, not to mention Japan, that makes mention of MEIKLEJOHN. Historian J.R. GREEN, on the other hand, is referred to in many studies on the history of geography as a man who made important contributions to the field. No mention is made of MEIKLEJOHN.5)

Let me briefly mention a book that may be the precursor of A new geography. The DNB contains the lines: "His [MEIKLEJOHN's] numerous geographical manuals adapted to modern use the work of James CORNWELL [q.v. Suppl. II]" (LEE, 1912, p. 601). James CORNWELL (1812–1902) was a well-known "writer of school books," who published a large number of textbooks in several fields including geography, grammar, and arithmetic. His School geography (1st ed., 1847) was a very popular work, which ran into ninety editions. In an attempt to corroborate the relation between CORNWELL and MEIKLEJOHN as described in the DNB, I read School geography (32nd ed., 1862). I searched for a concept similar to the comparative method that characterized the MEIKLEJOHN geography, but to no avail. My study of this and other details that might confirm a relation between CORNWELL and MEIKLEJOHN in this and other works is still going on, and I will report on my finding when it becomes complete.

The bibliographical data concerning publication of A new geography is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Edition</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>1889, 1</td>
<td>492 pp. (examined)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>1890, lii</td>
<td>504 pp., 16 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54th</td>
<td>1928, liv</td>
<td>534 pp.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As we can see, the publication of this book continued for about forty years. With the 27th edition (1902), a total of 150,000 copies had been printed (MEIKLEJOHN, 1902, title page). The contents of the book, as listed in the third edition, are as follows (subheadings omitted):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astronomical Geography</td>
<td>xii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematical Geography</td>
<td>xvi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Geography</td>
<td>xxi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Geography</td>
<td>xlvii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe in General</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The New World</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polynesia</td>
<td>464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tables</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The British Empire:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>its Colonies, etc.</td>
<td>469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters and Postcards</td>
<td>473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraphs in Miles</td>
<td>474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railways</td>
<td>475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imports and Exports</td>
<td>476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufactures</td>
<td>477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron, Production,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumption</td>
<td>478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income of Nations</td>
<td>478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distances of Great Cities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from London</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map-Drawing</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocabulary</td>
<td>487</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the list shows, in the Introduction MEIKLEJOHN divided geography into four divisions: astronomical geography, mathematical geography, physical geography, and political geography. He devoted 467 pages of text to discussion of Europe, Asia, Africa, and the New World (North America, South America, and Oceania), in that order, making the book a textbook on world regional geography.

Focussing on the special features of each region—continents or countries—the book is an example of "static regional geography." In order to provide an understanding of regional characteristics, the author first described the natural and human/social elements of each continent. He also discussed in detail the
natural elements of each country, such as location, configuration, minerals, climate, distribution and ecology of flora and fauna, followed when necessary by a selective discussion of human and social elements including inhabitants, population, industry, transportation, social conditions and religion. The book also touched on the commercial geography of each country and continent (MEIKLEJOHN, 1890; preface, p. vi). With the sixteenth edition (1896), a separate chapter on commercial geography (about 70 pages) was added, and the words “and an outline of commercial geography,” were added to the book title. The text included many maps and tables, which, along with the statistical data at the end of the book, must have been very useful to students of geography. The chapter on map-drawing contained good advice for students. It appeared to this author that the inclusion of the various conveniences for the study of geography were part of the author’s attempt to break away from the existing approach of merely listing geographical phenomena.

Now let us look at the “comparative method” MEIKLEJOHN advocated.

He states:

The Comparative Method has been employed throughout; and the unknown constantly referred to and compared with that which is known. The memory has been assisted, wherever it was possible, by grouping, by connection, and by association; and I have done what I could to inform the subject through and through with thinking.

(MEIKLEJOHN, 1890, pref. v.)

Let us now examine what kind of people read this book. The readers can be categorized into three groups. One consists of secondary school students and pupil teachers and students of training colleges, as stated in the following passages:

But my strongest hope is that the study, or even the mere reading of this book will made Geography a favourite study, and induce students to pursue the subject after they leave school, while it will enable them to survey with interest and to interpret with exactness the phenomena of politics and commerce, of history and travel... The book contains all that is necessary for the Examinations of Pupil Teachers and Students in Training Colleges (MEIKLEJOHN, 1890, pref. vi).

A second group is made up of candidates for “public examinations” conducted in Britain in the latter half of the nineteenth century, as indicated not only by the preface (“and also for Candidates for the Oxford and Cambridge Local Examinations” [pref. vi]), but also by a letter from a reader quoted on the fourth page of the advertisements at the end of the 1890 edition, which reads, “Your Geography is excellent and I shall certainly recommend it to Civil Service Candidates” A third group was school teachers, as suggested by the words, “It appears to me to be admirably suited for teachers and scholars...—James Ogilvie, Esq., M.A., Principal, The Church of Scotland Training College, Aberdeen,” given on the same advertisement page. We may conclude that the book enjoyed a wide readership for many years.

IV. A New Geography in Japan

1. SHIGA Shigetaka

SHIGA was among the geographers who introduced MEIKLEJOHN’s comparative method for the first time in Japan. In this Chirigakukogi (following discussion refers to SHIGA, 1892, rev. 5th ed.), he includes, as an example of MEIKLEJOHN’s comparative method, a word-for-word translation, including a number of mistranslation, of “Asia and Europe: A Comparison” and “Asia and Europe: A Contrast,” two section from A new geography (see pp. 219–220 of MEIKLEJOHN, 1892, and pp. 93–95 of SHIGA, 1892).

The translation was followed by an application of the comparative method to geographical phenomena in Japan: “A Comparison of the Sea of Japan Coast and the Pacific Coast” (pp. 95–98) and “Advantages and Disadvantages of Rivers in Japan” (pp. 98–99). The former section represents an important writing in SHIGA’s geography. It was latter cited (with revisions) in several other of his works, showing he found MEIKLEJOHN’s comparative method an effective tool in approaching the study of geography.

These works include:
1) *Nihon fukeiron* (Japanese landscapes; 1st ed., 1894, 219 pp.). Citation is on pp. 3-6. This work was published through the 15th ed. (1905), and was later reprinted in paperback.

2) *Chirigaku* (Geography; copyright by the Tokyo Semmon Gakko, n.d., 174 pp.). Citation is on pp. 44-45.

3) *Chiri kowa* (Popular lectures on geography; 1906, 317 pp.). Citation on pp. 22-24.

Shiga thus introduced and disseminated Meiklejohn's comparative method through his writings in Japanese among specialists in geography, interested amateurs, and students who then began to apply the method themselves. In this way Shiga exercised the method fully in expressing his ideas on geography for the Japanese readership at a time when geography as an academic field of study had not yet to be established.

2. YAMAKAMI Manjiro and HAMADA Shunzaburo

Quite by accident, I learned that YAMAKAMI Manjiro and HAMADA Shunzaburo, too, played an important role in introducing Meiklejohn's *A new geography* to Japanese readers. In MAKIGUCHI Tsunesaburo's *Jinsei chirigaku* 5 (The geography of human life, Vol. 5; 1980, Seikyo Bunko), which I shall discuss later, I came across the passage [translated here]: "Around the time, YAMAKAMI Manjiro and HAMADA Shunzaburo published *Bankoku chiri* (World geography), which was a summary of the famous MEIKLEJOHN comparative geography..." (MAKIGUCHI, 1980, p. 258). Anxious to corroborate this, I examined the advertisement pages following the colophon of several of YAMAKAMI's books, and found there was a book called *Shisen bankoku chiri* (*A new world geography*), 1893, "edited" by YAMAKAMI and HAMADA (Figure 4). I got this book (its title page says the book is "jointly written"—not jointly translated—by YAMAKAMI and HAMADA). Upon examining it, I found no mention in its preface or in the text to suggest that it was based on Meiklejohn's work. Nevertheless, it was obviously a translation of selected portions from *A new geography*. The work referred to by MAKIGUCHI was clearly this one.

Later, in *Shinsen Nihon chiri* (*A new Japan...*)
inese geography) by Yamakami and Hamada (Figure 5), a companion volume to the above-mentioned Shinsen bankoku chiri, both of which will be discussed below, I encountered the following passage [translated here]:

Bankoku chishi (should read, Shinsen bankoku chiri) was derived chiefly from the famous Professor Meiklejohn's A new comparative geography. From it we selected portions as needed for Japanese readers and rearranged them in editing the book. We received a great deal of assistance in the translation from Maehashi Takayoshi, for which we are very grateful (Yamakami and Hamada, 1893a, Prefatory Remarks, p. 3).

This confirmed my own findings.

The first edition of Shinsen bankoku chin was published on April 14, 1893 (Part One, 230 pp., Part Two, 118 pp., with unpaginated maps). It was published in one volume (348 pp.). Further editions included the second revised edition (October 30, 1893; 336 pp.); the tenth revised edition (January 3, 1897; 318 pp.); and eleventh revised edition (April 15, 1897; 318 pp.). As far as I have been able to ascertain, this book was repeatedly printed through eleven editions four years after its first publication. Subsequent printings were certainly made, and the book, along with Shinsen Nihon chin, was presumably widely read by secondary school students.

The contents, briefly, were as follows:

Part I

Chapter One
Asia in General separate countries

Chapter Two
Europe in General separate countries

Part II

Chapter Three
Africa in General separate countries

Chapter Four
The New World
North America in General separate countries
South America in General separate countries

Chapter Five
Oceania in General separate countries

(Yamakami and Hamada, 1893b)

As the table of contents shows, the book was basically a translation of Meiklejohn's A new geography, although the order of treatment was changed, in deference to Japanese readers, to begin with Asia, followed by Europe, Africa, North and South America, in that order. Shinsen bankoku chiri omitted the introduction, tables, and the section on map-drawing in the original. Most of the supplementary materials concerned Britain and were of little direct importance to the Japanese situation, but rather than adapting them for the Japanese edition, the translators simply cut them out. Thus the book is a translation of only the portions dealing with regional geography (albeit with some mistranslation and incorrect figures). A close examination of the book shows that the order of introducing each country and method of subdividing them were similar to Meiklejohn's book, except for some parts of Asia (for example, the section on the Malay or East Indian Archipelago was not translated). Most of the "Notes" appended to the text on regional geography were omitted, indicating that Yamakami and Hamada were indifferent to one of the main purposes of the original book. Meiklejohn had written: "I have tried to sketch the outline (the large print) in a few clear and firm strokes, while the learner may select for himself those facts given in the notes which may appear to him most interesting" (Meiklejohn, 1890, pref. vi). The portions of Meiklejohn's work left out in Shinsen bankoku chiri were precisely those intended by the author to make his book better than existing textbooks that merely listed the elements of geography and to make the subject easier to learn. By omitting this material, it would seem, the Japanese version sacrificed much of the educational effectiveness of the original.

Now let us look briefly at Shinsen Nihon chiri, a companion volume to the above work, also by Yamakami and Hamada. Its first edition appeared on April 14, 1893, coinciding with that of the first edition of Shinsen bankoku chiri. An advertisement page of the eleventh edition of the latter work states that the former was "authorized by the Ministry of Education" and "useful as a textbook or reference work for normal schools and middle schools." From the same advertisement it is known that by 1897, Shinsen Nihon chiri had been published...
gone through fourteen editions (*Shinsen ban-koku chiri*, 11th edition, ninth page of advertisements following colophon page). *Shinsen ban-koku chiri* was in the process of being authorized by the Ministry of Education at that point.

Meiklejohn’s comparative method was emphasized and applied in *Shinsen Nihon chiri*. The authors write: “In this book, the comparative method has been used whenever there is some matter involving a relation to other countries, and great care is taken in the selection, writing, and treatment, in order to clarify the relationship” (Yamakami and Hamada, 1893a Prefatory Remarks, p. 1).15

Through the publication of *Shinsen ban-koku chiri*, a large part of Meiklejohn’s *A new geography* was read by middle school students and specialists in geography, and Meiklejohn’s name was probably well-known among them. His comparative method was applied in *Shinsen Nihon chiri*, which made it different from existing texts on Japanese geography and gave it a wide readership, thus assisting the spread and growth of the comparative method in Japan.

3. Makiguchi Tsunesaburo

Another geographer who became interested in Meiklejohn’s *A new geography* was Makiguchi Tsunesaburo, founder of the Buddhist society Soka Gakkai. In his *Jinsei chirigaku* (*The geography of human life*), 1903, he touched upon the English work, translating the title as *Hikakuteki shin chirigaku* (*New comparative geography*) just as did Shiga Shigetaka. Shiga had gone over Makiguchi’s manuscript for *Jinsei chirigaku* and written the preface for its first publication. This was to become one of the most important works in the history of modern Japanese geography, and in recent years, as interest in the field of geography, and especially the history of geography in Japan, has increased, it has drawn renewed interest.16

The bibliographical data regarding its publication are as follows:

1st edition  
October 15, 1903. 995 pp., (maps not paginated. Published by Bunkaido and sold by Fuzanbo.)

3rd edition  
November 25, 1903. 995 pp., (maps not paginated.)

5th edition  
June 20, 1905. 995 pp., (maps not paginated.)

11th edition  
September 25, 1912 (not personally examined by this author)

Reprinted Editions

1) A reproduction of the revised and enlarged 8th edition (published October 18, 1908; 1,143 pp.) was published on November 18, 1976 by Daisan Bunmeisha. This included a separate volume, *Fukkoku jinsei chirigaku kaidai* (*Explanatory notes to the reproduction edition of The geography of human life*; 122 pp.).

2) *Jinsei chirigaku*, jo (*The geography of human life*, Part I; 606 pp., 1 portrait). This is the first volume of *Makiguchi Tsunesaburo zenshu* (*The complete works of Makiguchi Tsunesaburo*), published January 31, 1983 by Daisan Bunmeisha. The text is based on the first edition. Footnotes and supplementary notes (pp. 336–602), and notes on revision of and footnotes to *Jinsei chirigaku* by Saito Shoji (pp. 603–6) are also appended. As of December 1984, Part II has not yet been published.


This work was widely read soon after its publication, especially by teachers and students of middle schools, and candidates for the Ministry of Education examination (*bunken*)17) for licensing to teach geography in the middle school system. Reproduced in recent years, it is enjoying a wider readership today.

Makiguchi included *A new geography* in the list of references used in writing *Jinsei chirigaku*. With regard to his use of reference works, Makiguchi wrote:
Listing major reference works at the end of each section may seem to suggest that I am insufficiently informed on the subject, which would be an embarrassment, but I believe such references should be noted as a token of my debt to those—including my students—who both directly and indirectly, helped me in various ways in observing the environment (Makiguchi, 1903, explanatory notes, p. 6).

A new geography was listed in five sections (some passages translated and cited). My investigation has shown that with one exception, Makiguchi apparently checked the original when listing Meiklejohn’s book as a reference. Thus Makiguchi, like Shiga, Yamakami, and Hamada, contributed to the introduction of Meiklejohn’s writing and the spread of his ideas in Japan through his Jinsei chirigaku.

Acknowledgments

I should like to express my sincere thanks to Professor Hosoya Shinji of Chiba University of Commerce for going over the manuscript of this article. Its contents were reported in part at a meeting (held at the Kashikojima Research Center in March 1983) for the purpose of examining the theme, “The Structure of the Shifting Process of Paradigm in Geographical Thought” (Project number 57380020, Takeuchi Keiichi, Project Leader; Ministry of Education 1982 Scientific Research Grant, Category: General A). I received many useful suggestions on that occasion. The paper was also submitted at a meeting on “Epistemological Problems in Geographical Thought” (Project number 59380021, Nozawa Hidoki, Project Leader; Ministry of Education 1984 Scientific Research Grant, Category: General A).

(Received March 18, 1985)
(accepted July 15, 1985)

Notes

1) The academic geography here means the science of geography established Japanese institutions of higher education. Around 1887, the study of geography from the Western viewpoint began at the Imperial University of Japan (in Tokyo), but it was not until much later that geography began to be taught as a specialized course. In 1907, the department of historical science and geography was established in the College of Literature, Kyoto Imperial University, and in 1911 the department of geography was set up in the College of Science, Tokyo Imperial University. Thus the institutional establishment of geography as an academic discipline came rather late in Japan. The process by which geography became a part of Japanese academia deserves further study.

2) This information was found in a book review in The Japan Mail mentioning the fifth edition of Chirigaku kogi. This review was reproduced in the eleventh and other works of Shiga.

3) This section is Chapter 13, “Comparative Study” in Part V (pp. 125-32) in the eleventh edition of Chirigaku kogi. In the fourteenth edition, the same title became Chapter 16, Part V (pp. 159-66).

4) Green was a famous historian, also widely recognized as a geographer. Freeman (1980) named his The making of England (1882, 1 vol.; 1897, 2 vols.) among the “four remarkable books” of the 1880s.

5) For example, Baker, (1963), Freeman (1971), and Freeman (1980) make reference to Green, but no mention of Meiklejohn.

6) The third edition is the oldest I have been able to locate in Japan. It is in the collection of the National Diet Library. “16 pp.” in the bibliographical data means pagination of the advertisements appended at the back of the book. The cover includes the heading “Professor Meiklejohn’s Series.” The results of my survey concerning which edition of A new geography is owned by what universities in Japan, have been compiled in “Nikon no daigaku ni okeru J.M.D. Meiklejohn cho A new geography no shozo chosa” (A survey of A new geography by J.M.D. Meiklejohn in university libraries in Japan). This paper will appear in Toshokan Gakkaigan nenpo (Annals of the Japan Society of Library Science), (accepted in February 1985).

7) The 54th edition is the most recent edition I have located in Japan. It is in the collection of Gunma University Library. Its full title reads: A new geography on the comparative method with coloured maps and diagrams and an outline of commercial geography. The title page also includes the note, “Thoroughly revised to include all post-war territorial changes.” This revision, incorporating the territorial changes resulting from the first world war was made after the author’s death in 1902.

8) A classic in commercial geography, Handbook of commercial geography, was published by G.G. Chisholm, (1850–1930) in 1889, the same year the first edition of A new geography appeared. I am continuing my study of the relationship
between *A new geography* and the emergence of commercial geography in the late Victorian Age (latter half of the nineteenth century) and hope to publish a report of my findings shortly.

9) See note 10 below. This examination, which belonged to the category of “public examinations,” began to be conducted in the latter half of nineteenth century England together with “civil service examinations.” The public examination system was a prominent feature in the history of nineteenth century education in Britain. Let me outline the significance of the system, chiefly relying on the work of J. Roach (1971).

In Britain up to the eighteenth century, employment in administrative offices of the civil service was sought through connections with a person of influence in the government. There were no qualifying examinations. In other words, civil service employment was determined by “sponsored mobility.” Nevertheless, it was recognized in the early Victorian era how harmful it was not to hire talented persons simply because they had no highly placed connections, and demand began to grow for open competition to these posts (a concept derived from the Oxford and Cambridge honours examinations). This movement began in the fields of education and administration around 1850. In education, the Oxford Local Examination was set up in 1857 and the Cambridge Local Examination in 1858. Both were based on open competition, and a certificate was issued to those who passed the test which was valid throughout the country. In both cases the first examinations were held in 1858.

For about forty years thereafter, the state-supported local examinations system was the only system applicable to secondary school education. One of the subjects of the local examinations was geography, and *A new geography* was an important reference for those preparing for the exams. Roach explains what the examinations were like, describing the early years of the Oxford Local Examination:

The examination of 1858 was held at eleven centres—Oxford, Bath, Bedford, Birmingham, London, Cheltenham, Exeter, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Southampton. Of the 750 junior candidates 280 obtained certificates, of the 401 senior 150 were successful. The balance of subjects taken is interesting because it gives a useful guide to the studies of the schools examined. Among the seniors, as might have been expected, a large number took history (357) and geography (228) [Roach (1971), p. 94; notes omitted].

The Oxford and Cambridge local examinations were the precursors of the General School Certificate set up in 1917.

10) In the area of administration, the “Northcote-Trevelyan Report of 1853” was compiled and submitted in response to the growing demand for adoption of open competition for employment in the public service. Based on this report, a bill was drawn up to introduce open competition in employment of civil servants at a meeting of the Privy Council in June, 1870 at the initiative of Prime Minister William E. Gladstone (1809–1898) and later passed. Roach describes the proposed examination system as follows:

With these exceptions the remaining posts which were open to competition were organized into two schemes of examination. Scheme I corresponded to the examination for the Indian Civil Service. The age limits were from eighteen to twenty-four and it was planned to appoint highly educated candidates. The mark scheme was in fact very similar to the Indian Civil Service scheme worked out by Macaulay’s committee, though more weight was given to mathematics and to natural sciences, and both political economy and jurisprudence were included. Scheme II covered the entry of clerks at a lower level. The age limits were from sixteen to twenty, and the examination covered handwriting, orthography, arithmetics, copying MSS, indexing or docketing, digesting returns into summaries, English composition, geography, English history and book-keeping [Roach (1971) p. 211; notes omitted].

11) Part of a list comparing the Japan Sea and Pacific seaboards given by Shiga is as follows (in translation):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sea of Japan coast</th>
<th>Pacific coast</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) very steep, many precipices</td>
<td>(1) Gentle slope, few precipices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) few indentations, so short</td>
<td>(2) many indentations, so very long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) few indentations, and thus few bays or active ports</td>
<td>(3) many indentations, with many bays and active ports</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Shiga, 1892, pp. 95–96)

12) Yamakami Manjiro graduated from the department of geology, College of Science, Tokyo Imperial University in July 1892. From October 18, 1893 until October 31, 1896 he worked at
the Geological Survey Bureau in the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce. During this period he wrote the following papers (reports):

1. "Nihon sekkaiseki ippan" (Limestone in Japan: An outline), Chikchitsu Yoko, No. 1, April 30, 1895, pp. 83-140.

2. Oki chishitsu zufuku oyobi Oki zufuku chishitsu setsumeiso (The geological sheet-map and explanatory text of Oki Island), 1896. 1 map, 31 pp.

3. Oita chishitsu zufuku oyobi Oita zufuku chishitsu setsumeisho (The geological sheet-map and explanatory text of Oita), 1896. 1 map, 81 pp.

4. Sambe yama chishitsu zufuku oyobi Sambe yama chishitsu setsumeiso (The geological sheet-map and explanatory text of Sambe yama), 1897. 1 map, 140 pp.

5. Marugame chishitsu zufuku oyobi Marugame chishitsu zufuku oyobi Marugame chishitsu setsumeiso (The geological sheet-map and explanatory text of Marugame), 1899. 1 map, 64 pp.

(Note: All of the above are copyrighted by the Geological Survey Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce.)

The first volume of Chikchitsu Yoko, No.1 (1895), in which the first paper listed above appeared, also contained a paper by a German advisor hired by the Japanese government named Max Fesso (1845-1917). The fact that Yamakami's report was included with authoritative writings such as this suggests that his work was respected at the time. Yamakami has been described so often as a writer of school books that his academic achievements and writings such as those listed above have been all but forgotten. Due attention deserves to be given to these studies as well, seeking his proper place in the history of Japanese geography through an understanding of his geographical thought.

Reports of my own studies of Yamakami Manjiro and Hamada Shunzaburo will be forthcoming in the near future.

13. The results of a study of Maehashi Takayoshi (1863-?) undertaken by this author will be published shortly.

14. There are two types of order in which regions were treated in school textbooks on world geography during the Meiji period (1868-1912). One is the order found in this Yamakami and Hamada book. It is also that used by Uchida Masao (1842-76) in Yochi shiryaku (An outline of world geography). The other, used in Fukuzawa Yukichi (1834-1901)'s Sekai kunizuku-
(1925)—for preparing for the geography examination included MAKIGUCHI’s Jinsei chirigaku.

References


Nakagawa, K. (1967): “Meiji-ki no chishi gakushu ni okeru chiiki kubun to gakushu junjo” (Geographical divisions and order of study in regional geography study during the Meiji period). In Shakaiha Kyōiku Kenkyū (The Journal of Social Studies). No. 25, 18–26.


いる比較法に注目し、これを日本の地理事象へ適用している。また、山上大次郎（1868～1946）・濱田俊三郎（1870？～1946？）は、『新撰荒園地理』（1893）を著述したが、その内容は A new geography…の地誌の部分の翻訳であった。『新撰荒園地理』は、中等学校用参考書として十数版を重ね多数の読者を得た。山上・濱田の二人は、Meiklejohn の比較法を応用して『新撰日本地理』（1893）を刊行し、本書も多数の人々に読まれた。さらに、牧口常三郎（1871～1944）は、『人生地理学』（1903）の中で A new geography…を著述の際に利用した参考文献として記載している。

このように日本人地理学者たちの著作を通じて、わが国にアカデミック地理学が確立する以前に、A new geography…が流布していく過程を分析した。