

Between
a Snowy and **the Edo**
Village *Bunjin Salon*

For Network Studies Workshop,
June 2011, Sophia University

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Murdoch University, Perth

Suzuki Bokushi 鈴木牧之(1770-1842)

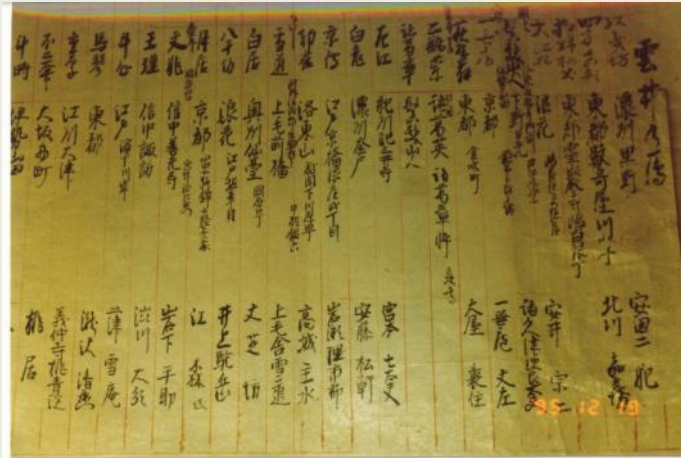


- Born and lived in Shiozawa, a rural post town (population: 811 in 1755), Echigo Province
- A member of the rural elite
- A pawnbroker and landlord (45 → 100 koku)
- An amateur *haikai* poet, painter and writer
- **Built great correspondence networks with urban and provincial literati**
- **Author (with Santō Kyōzan) of *Hokuetsu seppu* (*Snow Country Tales*) published in Edo (Part I, 1837 and Part II, 1842)**

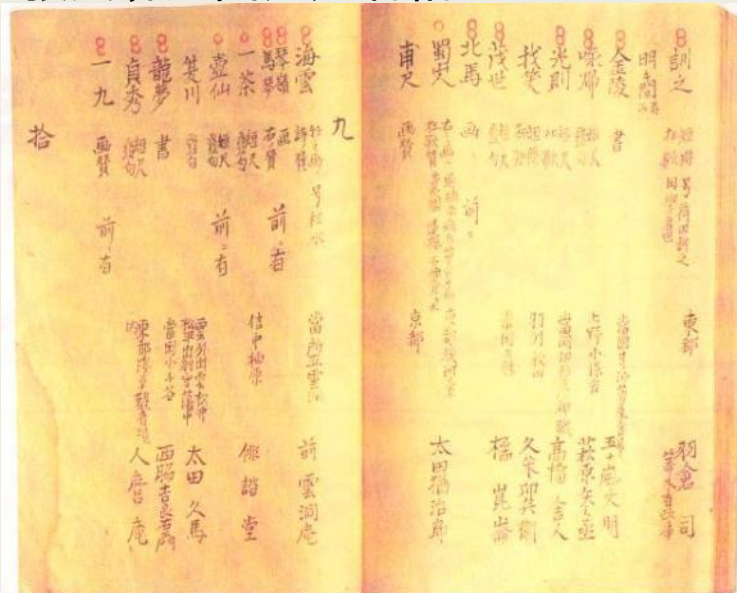


Bokushi's address books

Kumoi no kari, 1802 –
雲圀乃雁



Harimaze byōbu kuni tokoro seimei chō, 1822
張交屏風国処姓名帖



The byōbu of collage produced in Autumn of 1822

Bokushi of the Shūgetsuan

●● are given to those with whom I met face to face.

● are given to those with whom I corresponded by letters.

No marks are given to those whom I have not yet directly contacted.

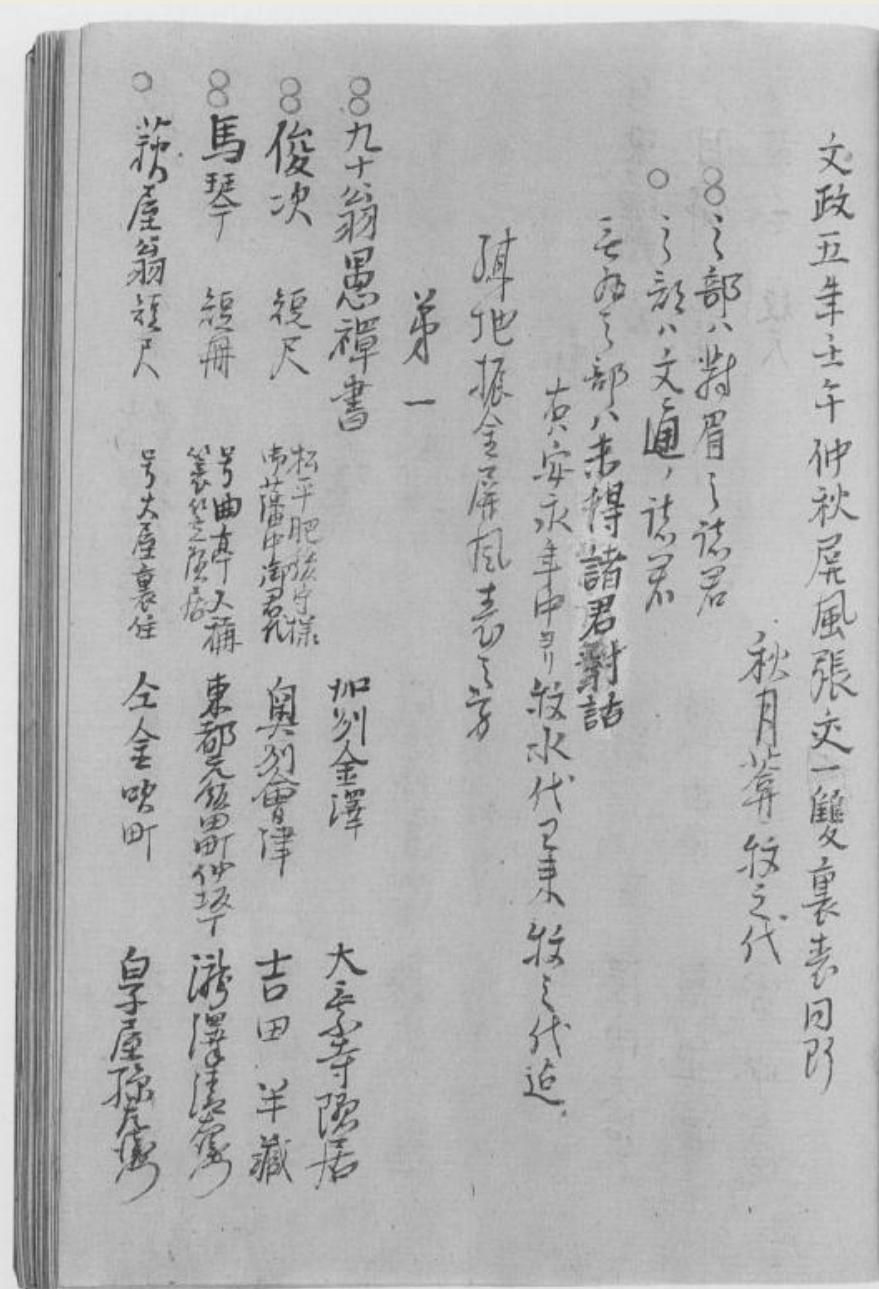
On the first panel

●● Guzen, the 90 years old / calligraphy / Kanazawa, Kaga / Retired head priest of the Daijōji temple

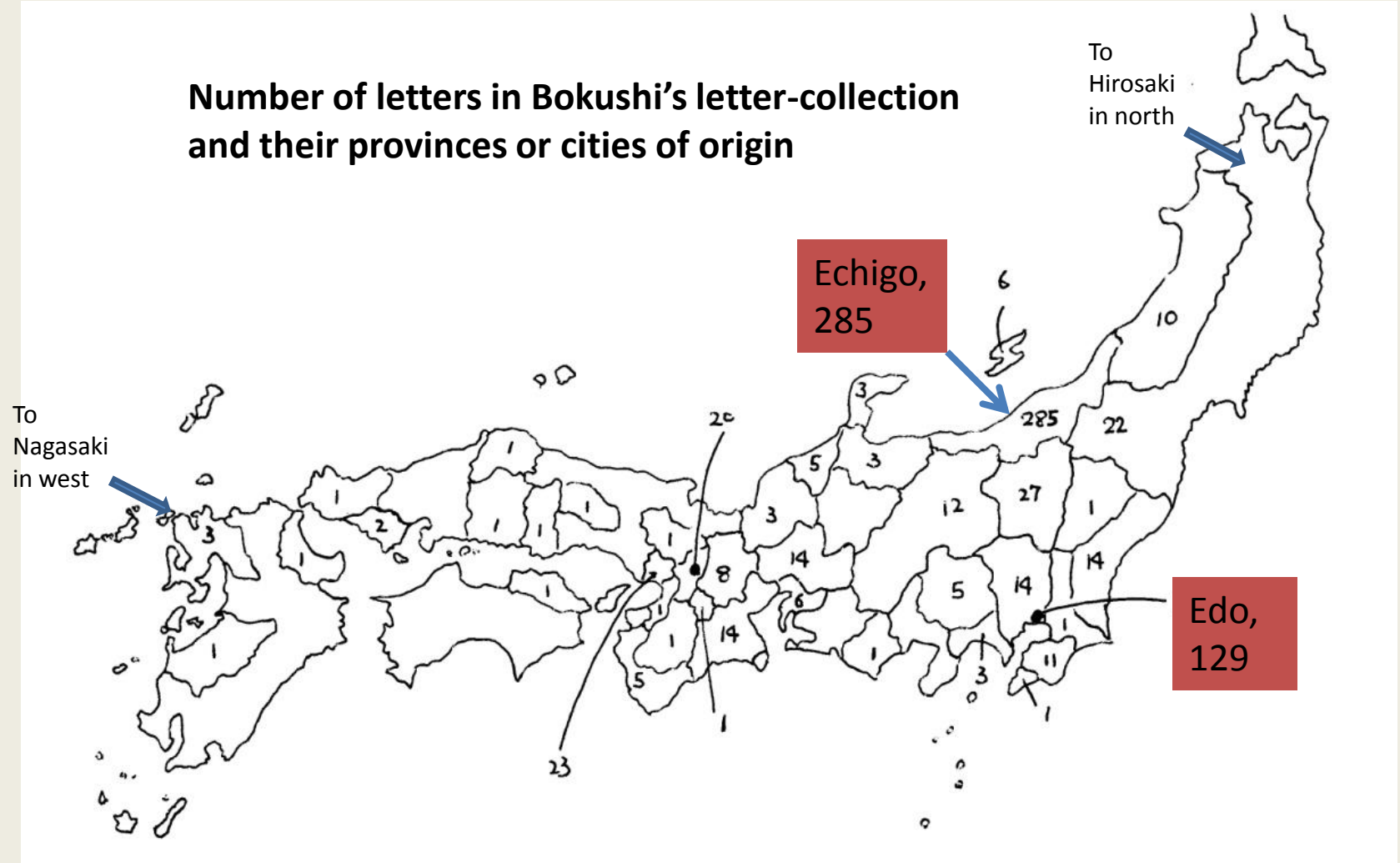
●● Shunji / poem card / Aizu han District Magistrate / Aizu, Mutsu / Yoshida Hanzō

●● Bakin / poem card / a.k.a. Kyokutei or Saryū / Nakazaka shita, Moto lida chō, Edo / Takizawa Seiemon

● Haginoya Ō / poem card / a.k.a. Ōya no Urazumi / Kanabuki-chō, Edo / Shirakoya Magozaemon



Bokushi's communication network – geographical spread



Bokushi and Literati in Edo

○○対顔 *taigan* – meeting face to face

Name (speciality) – occasion of meeting

Kanō Baishō 狩野梅笑 (painting) – Baishō's trip to **Echigo**, 1783

Sawada Tōkō 沢田東江 (calligraphy) – Bokushi's trip to **Edo**, 1788

Shunjūan Kidō 春秋庵基堂 (haikai) – Kidō's trip to **Echigo**, 1810

Suzuki Fuyō 鈴木芙蓉 (painting) – Fuyō's trip to **Echigo**, 1812

Jippensha Ikku 十辺舎一九 (prose) – Ikku's trip to **Echigo**, 1818

Takizawa Bakin 滝沢馬琴 (prose) – Bokushi's trip to **Edo**, 1819

Kameda Bōsai 亀田鵬斎 (calligraphy) – Bokushi's trip to **Edo**, 1819

Suzuki Michihiko 鈴木道彦 (haikai) – Bokushi's trip to **Edo**, 1819

Ōta Nanpo 大田南畝 (poetry) – Bokushi's trip to **Edo**, 1819

Tani Bunchō 谷文晁 (painting) – Bokushi's trip to **Edo**, 1819

Teisai Hokuba 蹄斎北馬 (painting) – Hokuba's trip to **Echigo**, 1820

Santō Kyōzan 山東京山 (prose) – Kyōzan's trip to **Echigo**, 1836

Bokushi and Literati in Edo

○文通 *buntsu* – letter exchange

Name (speciality)(no. of letters collected in 'Kumoi no kari')

Ichikawa Danjūrō V 市川団十郎(5世)(kabuki)(5)

Ishikawa Masamochi 石川雅望 (kyōka) (4)

Santō Kyōden 山東京伝 (prose)(3)

Ōya no Urazumi 大屋裏住 (kyōka) (2)

Chidorian Toshun 千鳥庵杜春 (haikai) (2)

Ōnishi Chinnen 大西椿年 (painting) (2)

Katsushika Hokusai 葛飾北斎 (ukiyo-e) (1)

Natsume Seibi 夏目成美 (haikai) (1)

Setchuan Kanrai 雪中庵完来 (haikai) (1)

Ichikawa Danjūrō VII 団十郎(7世)(kabuki) (1)

Utagawa Toyokuni 歌川豊国 (ukiyo-e) (1)

Hanaōgi 花扇 (courtesan) (1)

Shikatsube no Magao 鹿都部真顔
(kyōka) (1)

Ichikawa Beian 市河米庵
(kanshi) (1)

Hasegawa Settan 長谷川雪旦
(painting) (1)

Kikuchi Gozan 菊池五山
(kanshi) (1)

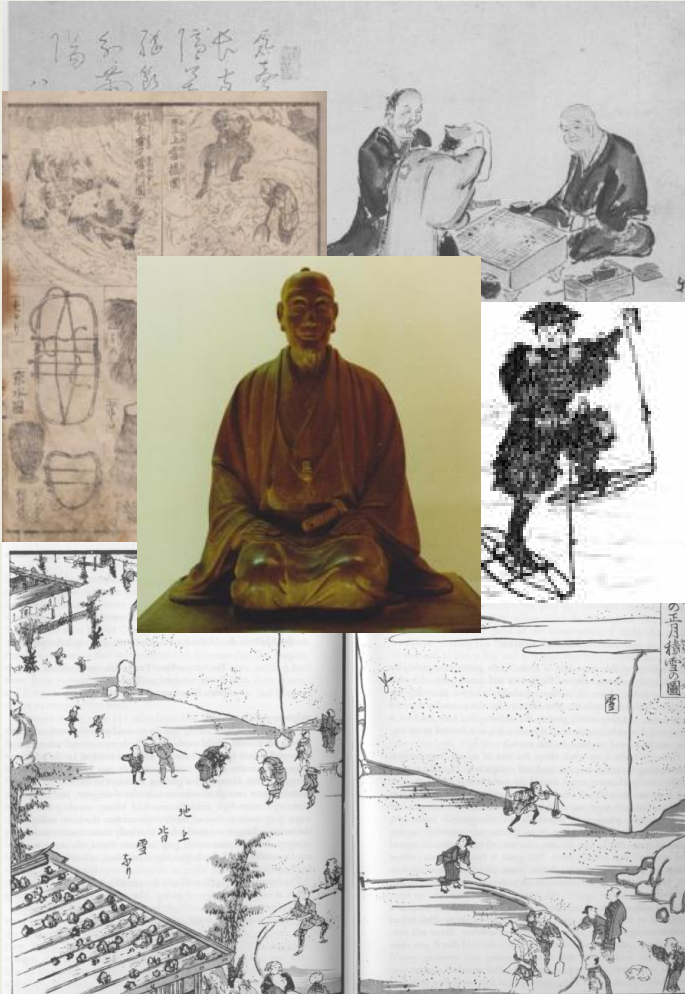
Ōtsuki Bankei 大槻磐溪
(rangaku) (1)

Kita Busei 喜多武清
(painting) (1)

Ōta Kinjō 大田錦城
(Confucianism) (?)

Iwai Hanshirō V 岩井半四郎
(kabuki) (?)

Crossing the boundary?



Hanaōgi of the Ōgiya, Yoshiwara,
by Utamaro

Kyōden in his own kibyōshi



Danjūrō V,
by Shunei

Literacy training

Bokushi's education

Aged 8 – 13 (1777-82)

Basic education for reading and writing (手習い) at Daiunji (大運寺)

Textbooks: 今川古状、四書、古文、唐詩選

Daiunji



Aged 16 - ? (1785 - ?)

Learning Chinese poetry from a priest at the Untōan (雲洞庵) temple, a local intellectual centre led by the head priest Kaiun 海雲 (1738-1827), an Edo-educated intellectual.

Untōan

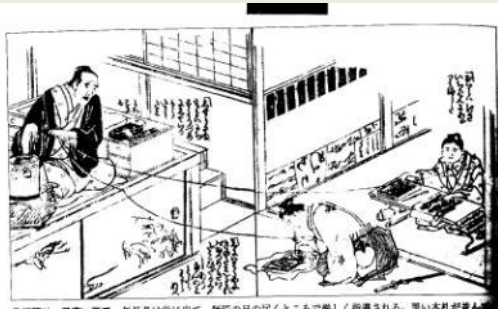
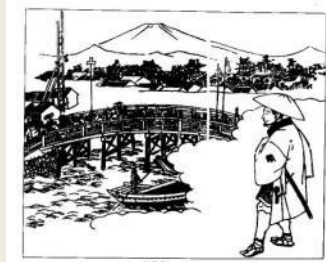


To Edo, from Edo

Aged 19 (1788)

First trip to Edo

- Selling local products of textile (*Echigo chijimi*)
- Sightseeing
- Writing a haikai travelogue
- Reading books
- **Learning calligraphy at Sawada Tōkō's school**



Aged 50 (1819)

Second trip to Edo

- **Visiting Bakin and other famous literati and artists**
- Receiving ear treatment
- Visiting relatives
- Sightseeing
- Writing a haikai travelogue



Bakin

Meeting literati and artists travelling from Edo to Echigo:

1783 – Kanō Baishō
1810 – Shunjūan Kidō
1812 – Suzuki Fuyō
1818 – Jippensha Ikku

1820 – Teisai Hokuba
1826 – Jippensha Ikku
1830 – Ōtsuki Bankei
1836 – Santō Kyōzan

Bokushi's Meetings with Edo *bunjin*

Met in Edo

1788 - Sawada Tōkō 沢田東江 (calligraphy)

1819 - Takizawa Bakin 滝沢馬琴 (prose)

1819 - Kameda Bōsai 亀田鵬斎 (calligraphy)

1819 - Suzuki Michihiko 鈴木道彦 (haikai)

1819 - Ōta Nanpo 大田南畝 (poetry)

1819 - Tani Bunchō 谷文晁 (painting)

1819 - Jippensha Ikku 十辺舎一九 (prose)

Nanpo's and Bosai's calligraphy works on byōbu



Met in Echigo

1783 - Kanō Baishō 狩野梅笑 (painting)

1810 - Shunjūan Kidō 春秋庵基堂 (haikai)

1812 - Suzuki Fuyō 鈴木芙蓉 (painting)

1818 & 1826 - Jippensha Ikku 十辺舎一九 (prose)

1820 - Teisai Hokuba 蹄斎北馬 (painting)

1830 - Ōtsuki Bankei 大槻磐溪 (medicine)

1836 - Santō Kyōzan 山東京山 (prose)

Bear hunter

Bokushi



Ikku

Kokkei tabigarasu, pub. 1820

Communication over a distance

Haikai networks

e.g. Contest organized by Bokushi in 1800

- Judges: 10 haikai masters in Edo, Kyoto, Osaka, etc.
- Entry: 4,102 verses from Echigo, Musashi, Kōzuke, Shinano, Mutsu, Ise provinces and city of Edo, etc.

Holograph (筆蹟) collection boom

‘I have now collected letters and cards from around 600 people, including dignitaries and distinguished priests’ – Bokushi’s letter, 1836

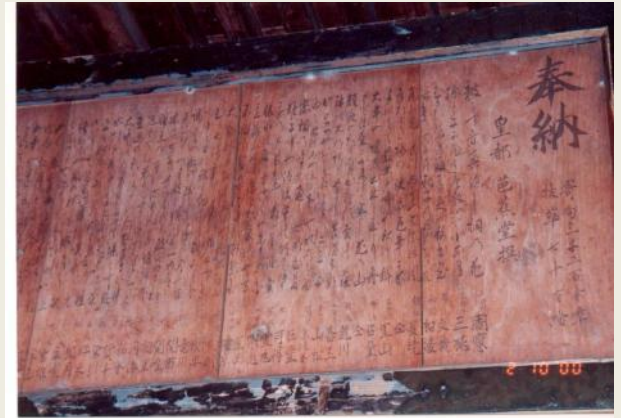
Directories of scholars and artists

e.g. 『江戸当時諸家人名録』(*Who's who in Edo*)
pub. 1815, rev. 1820

Mail system

e.g. 15.4 days on average from the date of Bokushi’s writing to the date of delivery to Kyōzan (18 letters, 1829-1834)

A haigaku, 1835 – Haikai contest honour board



「諸国筆鑑」Bokushi’s holograph collection



Trends in literature

- Focus on “inaka 田舎” as a subject

e.g. Shinra Banshō (aka. Morishima Churyō), *Inaka shibai* 『田舎芝居』, pub. 1787; Ikku, *Tokaidōchū hizakurige* 『東海道中膝栗毛』, pub. 1802-14, *Zoku hizakurige* 『続膝栗毛』, pub. 1810-22

- Shift from urban witty tales to spectacle narratives:
from sharebon 洒落本/kibyōshi 黄表紙 to gōkan 合巻/yomihon 読本

e.g. Kyōden, *Chūshin suikoden* 『忠臣水滸伝』, pub. 1799; Bakin, *Nansō Satomi hakkenden* 『南総里見八犬伝』, pub. 1814-42

- Popular writers' ambition to do scholarly work: kōshō
zuihitsu 考証随筆

e.g. Kyōden, *Kottōshū* 『骨董集』, pub. 1815; Bakin, *Gendō hōgen* 『玄同放言』, pub. 1818

Bokushi's relationships with Edo *bunjin*

義ヲ以交るを上とす。言を以まじはるをその次トス。食を以交るを又その次トス。財利を以交るを下とす。君とわれハ言を以交るもの歟。

The supreme is the relationship bound by “integrity”; the next type is one connected by “the word”; then comes one built on “meals”; the worst is one motivated by “money”. You and I are those connected by “the word”, aren't we? – letter from Bakin to Bokushi, dated 1818/5/17

鈴木牧之は越後塩澤の豪家にて野生四十余年来の旧識に候。元来俗人ながら俳諧を好み画も出来候。第一名聞を好む癖あり。

Suzuki Bokushi is a rich man in Shiozawa, Echigo. He has been in contact with me for more than forty years. He is a commoner but likes writing haikai and also good at drawing. He is a fame seeker, though. – letter from Bakin to Tonomura Jōsai in Matsusaka, 1837/4/22

鳥無き里ノ蝙蝠 “a bat in a village without birds”

In Bokushi's ‘final testimony’「遺書」, 1839