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海鹽周玲蓀編繪

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Amateur Artists' Association Series

SCENERY OF NANKING

Book I. Oil Painting

By

CHOW LING-SUNG

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秦 淮 河

秦淮河相傳秦時所鑿。在夫子廟前。
「文德」「利涉」諸橋跨其上。利涉橋東有
「桃葉渡」。隔渡爲「烏衣巷」。王謝之故
居也。桃葉者。王獻之婢。桃葉渡者。婢
之渡處也。再東曰「釣魚巷」。女閭聚焉。
河之兩岸。建築繁盛。茶樓酒肆。甚形
發達。每當盛夏。買艇招涼。兩岸歌聲
喧闐。北出「大中橋」。垂楊輕拂。亭台滿
望。繁華中兼饒清趣矣。有「通俗教育
館」在焉。館本「韜園」故址。清蔡和甫侍
郎所築。前臨清溪。後枕鐘阜。風景極
佳。其東爲「省立公共體育場」。大可數
百畝。省立學校聯合運動會場。即在
於是。再北至復成橋。橋堍爲南京地
方公會。建築陳設。均極優美。

Chin-wei Canal (秦淮河)

In front of the Confucius Temple lies the Chin wei Canal, which name was originated from the Shun Dynasty. Two artistic bridges were built across the canal: namely, Wen Teh (文德橋) and Lee Shih (利涉橋). At a little distance farther eastward from the Lee Shih Bridge one finds Tao-yih-do (桃葉渡), over which the Woo-ye Lane (烏衣巷), or the old residence of Messrs. Wong and Hsie, is located. Tao-yih means the name of a young maid and Tao-yih-do means the place where the young maid waded across the water. And still farther eastward we find Deao-ye Lane (釣魚巷), a place for vanity pleasure seekers.

On both sides of the canal, the activities are heaving, the scene is enchanting. There are the tea shops for wanderers to go in and the displays for fools to gaze at. In summer time people go boating in the canal, along the banks of which the roofs of houses are built curving upwards at the corners in a great variety of styles. The towers, the pavilions, the pagodas intermingled with the willows, the blossoming trees and the flower boats make the whole view simply a picturesque confusion.

From this point on the Ta-chung Bridge (大中橋) is reached. In its neighbourhood is located the Public Education Exhibition Hall (通俗教育館). Its buildings were once the residence of a mandarin duke. There are the Purple Mountain at its back and the flowing stream in its front. The scene here is so beautiful that only the best artist can do justice to its reality. Few steps eastward from this hall lies the Public Playground comprising an area of several hundred acres so large and so extensive that it is even enough for all the provincial schools to hold their athletic meets at one time. Foh-chen Bridge (復成橋) is just located a little farther westward. By the bridge stands the Citizens' Club House (南京地方公會), complete in equipage and perfect in design.



燕子磯

由神策門東北行十餘里。抵觀音門。更北行不一里。卽至燕子磯。磯頭突出江上。形似飛燕。故曰燕子磯。磯上多石洞。極奇詭。磴道盤曲而上。丹崖翠壁。凌江欲飛。絕頂有亭。係清代乾隆帝南巡到此所建。登磯頭俯覽江流。洪濤駭浪。勢極凶惡。誠險也。惟登此磯頭。必須謹慎。

The Swallow Cliff (燕子磯)

The Swallow Cliff is located less than one li on the north side of Guan Ying Men (觀音門), which is about ten li northeastward off Shen Tseh Men (神策門). The Cliff that has taken root on the brink of the Yangtze River is swallow-shaped with its head hung projecting out over the water from the top of a rocky and precipitous hill. It is called a swallow cliff because it looks like a swallow on wings. There is a trail coiling abruptly upwards to the top. The cliff with its grotesque holes and fantastic forms of projections around makes the whole perspective so charming and enchanting that even Ch'ien Lung Emperor of the Ching dynasty, after his visit, could not leave the place unchronicled and uncrowned, and so he placed a memorial tower on its summit. There on the top are seen the violent waves of the Yangtze River rolling eastwards, cruel and merciless, howling and swelling. But visitors should be very careful in making landings at such a place.



雨 花 台

雨花台俗名聚寶山。在聚寶門外。梁武帝時雲光法師講經此處。見雨花異彩。因以名臺。遠揖江峯。近俯城堞。煙霏霧靄。萬景畢納。每當夕陽銜山。巒容樹態。金碧晃漾。尤爲佳勝。其地有石子岡。產五色寶石。來遊者無不購之攜歸。以爲紀念。岡側有方孝孺墓在焉。山雖不甚高。而形勢險要。爲兵家必爭之地。光復時民軍與官軍劇戰於此。至今猶有遺跡。

Yu Hua Tai (雨花台)

Yu Hua Tai is commonly named Treasure Hill (聚寶山), being outside the Gate of Treasure. Once in the Liang dynasty a reverend monk named Ying Guang (雲光) preached there. He spoke so well, as tradition has it, that flowers fell from heaven; hence its name. The hill lies near the city wall and is remotely connected with the Purple Mountain. When foggy and misty, it at once affords a very good view for the tourists. The scene is especially beautiful at sunset when the rocks and trees with their various characteristics are reflected in the setting rays. A part of the hill is called Pebble Hill where our coloured pebbles are produced. Almost every tourist buys some pebbles as a sort of souvenir. Nearby is the tomb of a wise man named Fang Hsiau Ru (方孝孺). The hill, though not very steep, is renowned for its military importance. During the Revolution, a fierce battle was fought there between the Manchus and the Revolutionists. To-day one can still trace the memorable site.



明 孝 陵

明孝陵在鐘山之陽。距朝陽門約四五里。陵前有翁仲象衛之屬。羅列環拱。依然無恙。惟陵地寥闊。日漸荒涼。撫今追昔。良可慨也。入門。有清代御碑甚多。北行至饗殿。中供明太祖遺像。更北穿隧。道登祭壇。遙瞻西南。盡爲撲地閭閻。壇後土石成山。松柏錯雜。即太祖埋骨處也。

The Ming Tomb (明孝陵)

The Ming Tomb lies south of the Purple Mountain, about two miles away from the Chou Yang Gate (朝陽門). In front of the tomb are numerous stone figures; some are in the shape of humans, while others are in the form of animals. They are lined up by the roadside and, though weather-beaten, still retain their majestic dignity. The tomb, being spacious in circumference, is gradually becoming desolate. Thereupon the tourists can hardly suppress a sigh over the transience of time. Inside the gate of the cemetery, are numerous epitaphs and monuments bearing the calligraphy of great emperors. Farther on there is the Sacrificial Hall where the portrait of Emperor Tai Tsu (太祖), the founder of the Ming dynasty, is worshipped. Still northward, by way of a tunnel, the visitor ascends the Altar where he may command a bird's-eye view of the city. He can see innumerable habitations in the southwest. Behind the Altar is a hill with pines and cedars. There the royal coffin of Tai Tsu was buried.



莫 愁 湖

出水西門西行里許。卽抵莫愁湖。相傳古有盧氏莫愁女居此。因名。西眺石城。北望鐘阜。荷風蘆雪。攪勝四時。傍有華嚴菴。菴內懸盧女莫愁及中山王遺像。覩其豐采。肅然起敬。旁有樓。名曰勝棋。相傳爲太祖與中山王賭棋處。太祖棋敗。遂以莫愁湖贈中山。故今管理湖產者。尙爲徐姓。湖水澄澈。清可見底。每當夏季荷花盛開。來此納涼品茗者。座爲之滿。寺內有莫愁湖碑帖楹聯彙刊出售。勝棋樓西。有粵軍烈士墓在焉。

The Mu Ch'ou Lake (莫愁湖)

About half a mile from the Shui Si Gate (水西門) is the Mu Ch'ou Lake (莫愁湖). It was named after a maid called Mou Ch'ou, who is said to have lived there long ago. Far in the north is the Purple Mountain and near the east side is the city wall. The scene changes with the season. The lotus plants in the lake and the rustling reeds along the banks never fail to entertain the tourists. Immediately by the water-side is the Hua Yien Monastery (華嚴菴), where the portrait of Mu Ch'ou and that of the Prince of Chung Shan (中山王) may be seen. The tourist generally honour these historical figures and walk past them in respect. Nearby stands a two-storied building by the name of "Winning at Chess" (勝棋樓). It is said that once Emperor Tai Tsu (太祖) was playing at chess with the Prince of Chung Shan. The former was defeated in the game and, as a reward, he gave this lake to the latter. So even to-day, the lake is still in the possession of the Prince of Chung Shan and his descendants who are known as the Hsu clan. The water in the lake is clear from top to bottom. In summer when the lotus plants are in full bloom, the place is crowded with people taking tea or enjoying the evening breeze. Fine handwriting and other printed articles relating about this historical place are on sale in the monastery. East of the monastery lies the tombs of the Canton patriots who fought and died in the Revolution of 1911.

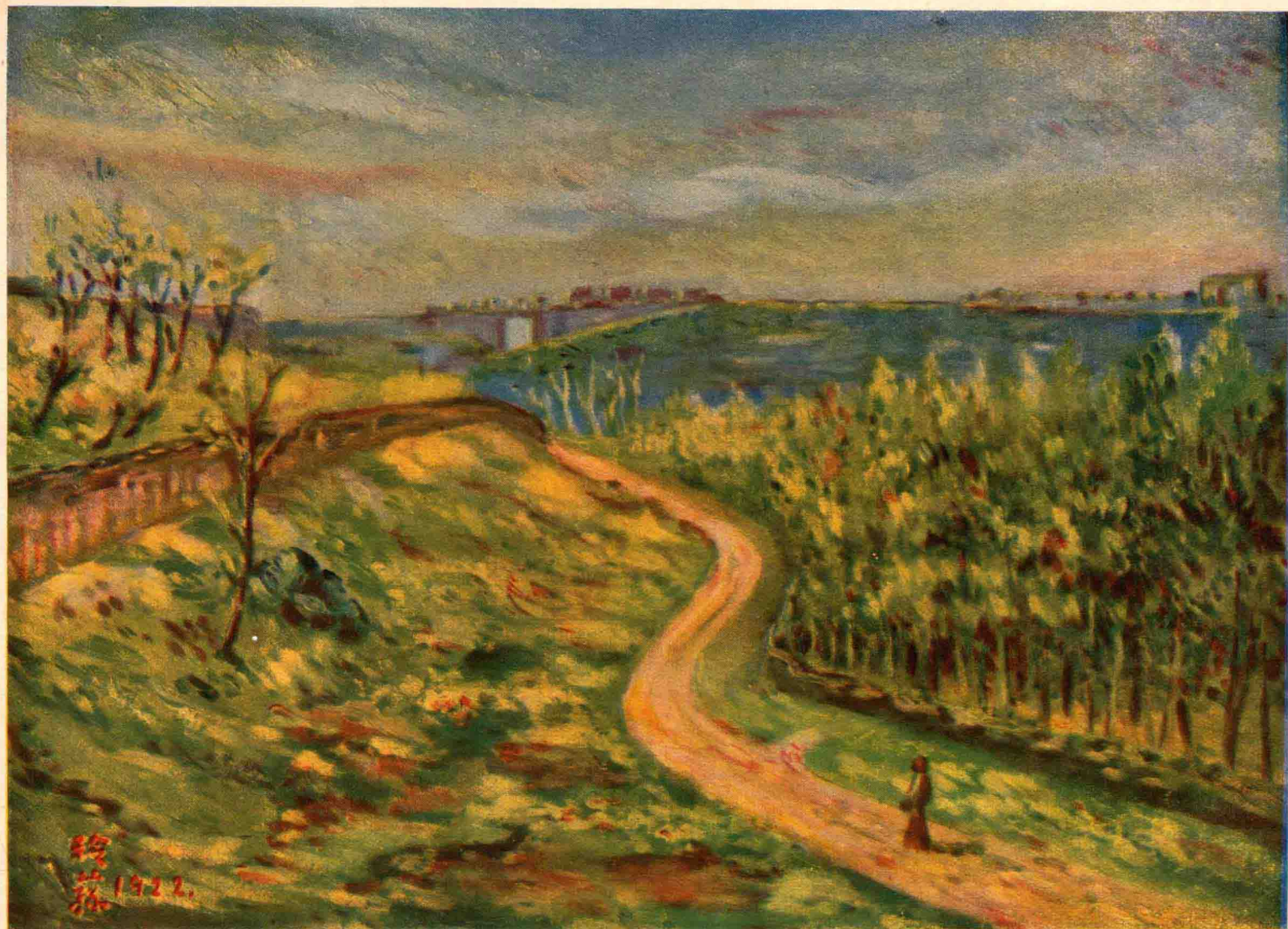


台 城

城在雞鳴寺之北。古名苑城。本吳後苑城也。晉成帝咸和七年。作新宮。遂爲宮城。其後梁陳之宮皆在此。改名台城。史載梁武帝餓死台城。卽此地也。

Tai Chen, or the City of the Palace (台城)

The City, north of the "Cock Crowing Temple," formerly known as the Imperial City, was where the ruler of Wu had his residence. In the seventh year of the reign of Hsien Wo Emperor Chen of the Tsun dynasty built his new palace here, and later in the days of Liang and Chen their palaces were also here. Since then it has been called Tai Chen, or the City of the Palace. This is the very spot where, according to history, Emperor Wu of the Liang dynasty died of hunger.



玄 武 湖

玄武湖週四十里。在豐潤門外。係晉元帝時所鑿。初名北湖。至劉宋元嘉時。講武於此。因改名元武湖。中有五洲。曰「老」「新」「長」「菱」「志」。明代置庫於洲上。以貯天下圖書。今則農人居此。大都以漁樵爲業。老洲上有湖神廟。曾公滌生所建也。風亭水榭。勢極幽遐。邑人恆觴咏於此。旁有陶公亭。爲清季江督端方所建。辛亥光復後。改爲六君子祠。(戊戌倡變政者)現東南大學教育科。借此設立昆明小學。以教育該地平民子弟。誠善舉也。

The Yuen Wu Lake (玄武湖)

The Yuen Wu Lake, forty li around, being situated outside the Fung Zeng Gate (豐潤門) was excavated in the time of Emperor Yuen of the Tsun dynasty. It was formerly known as the North Lake, but later in the reign of Yuen Chia of the Sung dynasty soldiers were here drilled, and it was named Yuen Wu. In the lake there are five islands called "Lao," "Sing," "Chang," "Ling," and "Tse." In the Ming dynasty a national library, in which were kept all the books of the Empire was built on one of these islands. Now the islands are occupied by country people who make their living by fishing and wood-cutting. There is a temple sacred to the god of the lake, built by Tsen Kuo Fan (曾國藩). Admiring the beauty of the place, city residents resort thither, drinking wine and writing poems. Beside it there is also "Tao Kung Pavilion," erected by Viceroy Tuan Fang (端方) of the late Ching dynasty. Since the Revolution of 1911, it has been dedicated to the memory of the "six heroes," the political reformers of (戊戌) 1897. At present a primary school, called the Kuen Ming Primary School, is situated here for the education of the poor under the auspices of the Educational Department of the National Southeastern University, Nanking.



雞 鳴 寺

雞鳴山在北極閣之旁。上有寺。寺以山名曰雞鳴。寺本梁同泰寺故址。寺內大殿開窗二十餘。空氣甚流通。光線亦佳。茗資任遊客量給。無實例也。內有豁蒙樓。登樓遙矚。鐘山清涼。如龍蟠虎踞。俯視元武湖。一碧萬頃。鷗鳧游泳。漁艇往來。風景極佳。

Chi Ming Shih (雞鳴寺)

Close by Peh Jih Koh, lies the Chi Ming Hill, on the top of which is a famous temple. The main hall is light and airy, with more than twenty windows opening on all sides. Visitors often take tea there, giving whatever tips they like. Facing north, they can see the Purple Mountain and the Ching Liang Hill (清涼山) crouching like dragons and tigers. They can also take notice of the Back Lake just outside the city wall with some little fishing-boats sailing up and down. The sight is indeed excellent.

