



巴敷釜



巴達輪



巴頭一



巴四



巴達



巴頭二



巴等子



巴輪金三



巴對

Japanese Household Crests

the bow, arrow, axe or else the eagle, falcon, etc. The sixth group was known as "Religion". It embraced Shintoism, Buddhism, Christianity and the teachings of Confucius. The followers of Shintoism used the sacred deer, the dove and so on as house crest, the followers of Buddhism used all sorts of small objects belonging to the temple or to Buddha and also stars and constellations and the swastika. The followers of Christianity usually chose the sacred cross. The followers of the teachings of Confucius took celestial and terrestrial signs.

Towards the end of the 16th century the strict tradition of the rules of crests began to be lost. The household crest became general and was used for simple decorative purposes on accessories of women's toilet and even for children's toys. Even actors and courtesans affected a household crest. The only thing forbidden was the use of the Emperor's crest (chrysanthemum) and the crest of the Shogun (Administrator of the realm).

In spite of all revivals and imitations of things European, one old tradition has remained in force to this day and that is, that the crest may always be found in a certain spot on Japanese ceremonial robes.

Trans. by E. T. Scheffauer.