

Making sense of the Chinese Special Collections: a community perspective



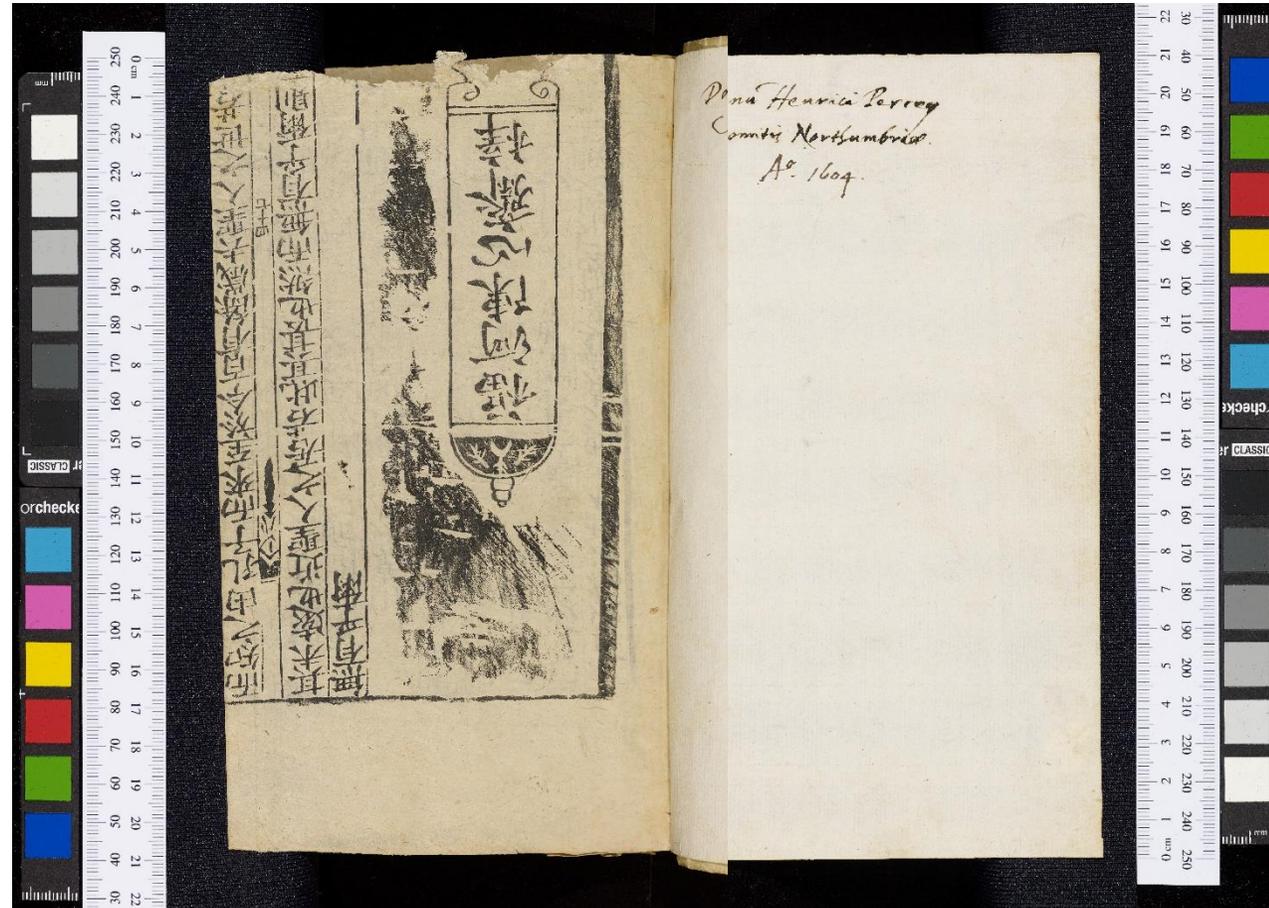
Mamtimyn Sunuodula
Bodleian Library, University of Oxford

What is the story?:
From China to Oxford:
four hundred years at Bodleian

1602: in the beginning ...



1604: ... was the Word (四書)



Themes

- Geography, navigation, and global connections
- Health and medicines
- Human's and human connections
- Literature, entertainment and arts

1687: Human to human connection 中國人和牛津大學圖書館長



Human to human contact

Thomas Hyde:

- My Chinese Michael Shin Fo-cung, (for that was his name) was bred a **Scholar** in all learning of their country, **read all their books readily**, and was of great **honesty and sincerity**, and fit to be **relied upon in everything**: for indeed he was a **very knowing and excellent man**, very **studious and laborious** in all things, and could speak Latin, whereby I conversed with him very freely and easily.

沈福宗：

- I received your honour's letter and the adjoined characters, of which the explication of is che 車 chariot, ma 馬 horse. If time will allow it, I shall visit, so that I might profit from the company of such a distinguished man, **whose library is the fountain of enduring teaching**, and who uniquely has this enormous merit, that he **treats his library as the public and common possession of all scholars.**

探羅在大定府屬有黑白
 兩種黑者為大姓漢時
 有濟火者從武侯破孟
 獲有功封羅國王即安
 氏遠祖也掌其土分置
 部制之長曰頭目其等有
 九最貴者曰更蓋不名不拜
 賜銀銀鳩杖凡大事悉取決
 焉次則幕魁以至黑者皆有
 識守文字類蒙古者男以
 青布上龍髮而束於額若牛角
 狀衣短衣大袖紫藍襪性最
 專一王即酷虐不赦二解造軍甲
 刻必鑲鎗勁管畜良馬好射
 獵羽擊刺殺其兵為諸蠻魁

探羅 一



女官 二

女官即探羅正妻稱之曰耐德編髮為髻用青帛
 蒙之多戴銀燕花貼額耳垂大環拖長裙三十六
 幅非耐德所生不得繼立如嗣子幼不能主事耐
 德為女官代理王務



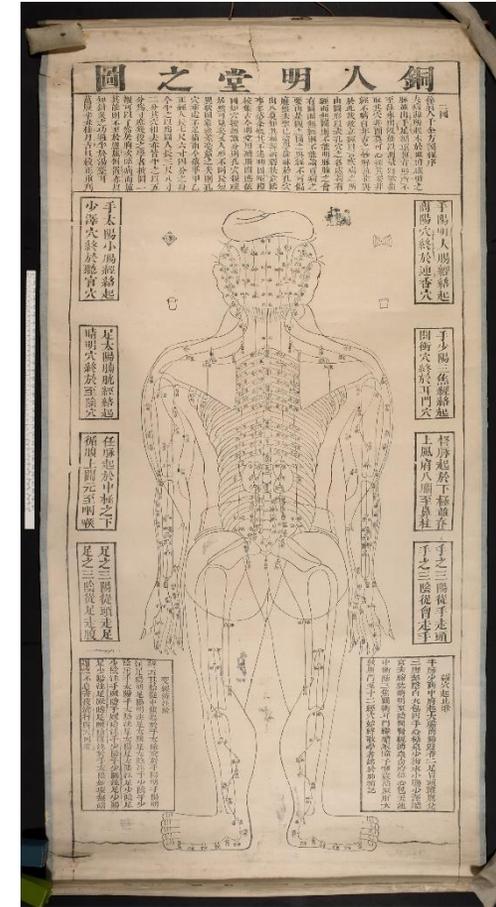
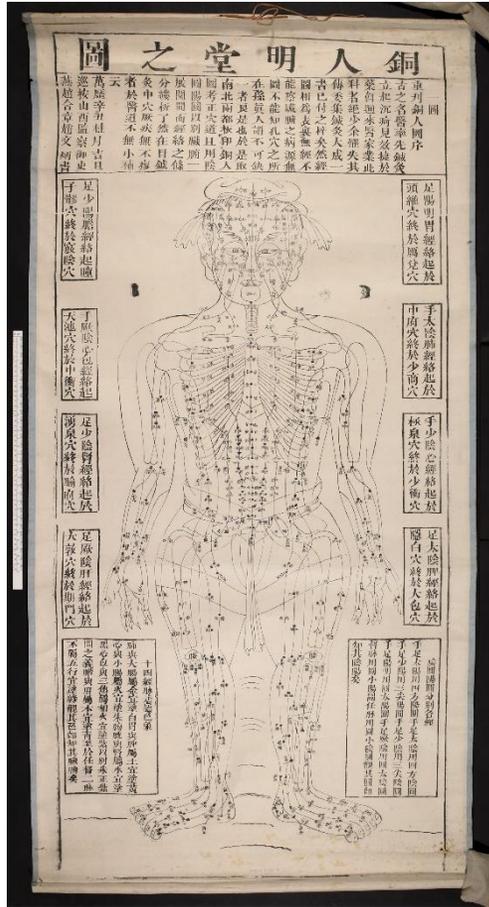
1659: Mr. Selden's Map of China



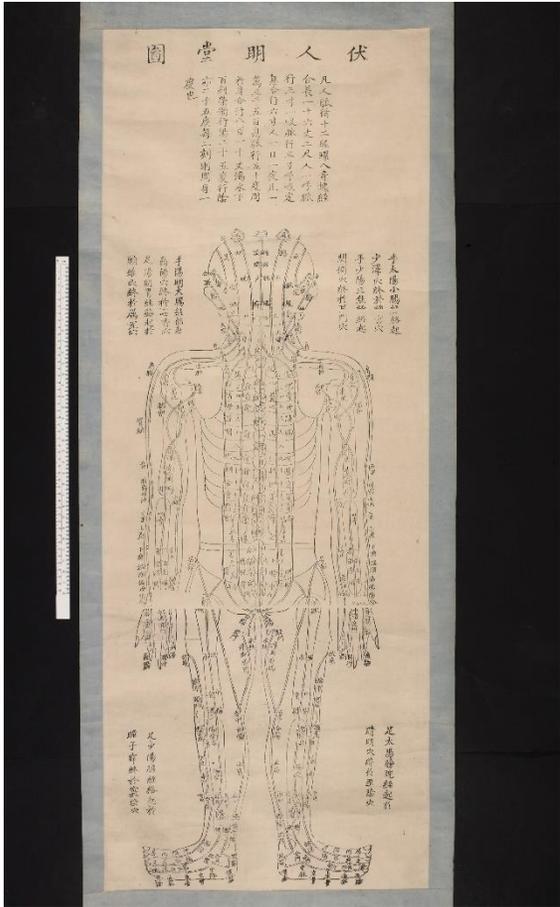
1674: Mr White's terrestrial and celestial maps



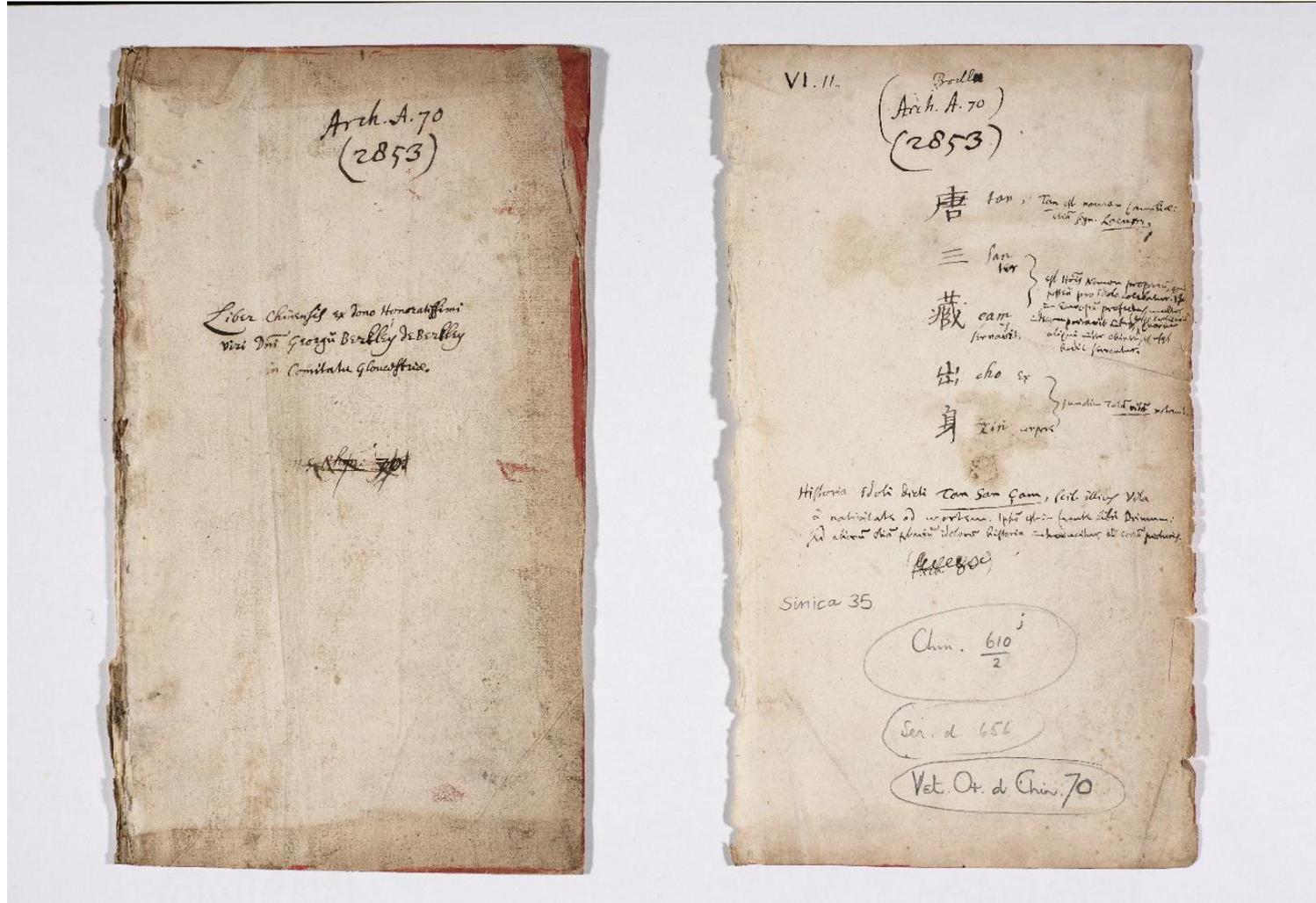
Acupuncture charts (front and back)



Another example of acupuncture charts



西游記 (16世紀末-17世紀初刊本)



新鐫三藏出身全傳卷之一



書林彭氏錄
圖像秋月刻

天地



輪迴

齊雲 陽至
天水 趙毓真校
芝潭 朱蒼嶺梓

詩

混沌未分天地亂
自從盤古破鴻濛
闢開從茲清濁辨
覆載群生仰至仁
發明萬物皆成善
欲知造化會元功
須看三藏釋尼傳

○猴王得仙賜姓

蓋聞一元之氣有陰陽之氣有輪迴且以子
丑寅卯辰巳午未申酉戌亥之十二時以論天地
大數若到戌會之終天地昏朦再交亥會之終天
地黑暗故曰混沌直至亥末子初逐漸開明天始
有根正當子會輕清上騰有日月星辰之四象故
天開于子又至子終近丑逐漸堅實地始寢結正
當丑會重濁下凝有水火金木土之五行故地關
于當丑會終寅會初天氣下降地氣上升天地交
合群物皆生玉帝垂賜恩慈曰下方之物乃天地
精華所生不足為異那猴在山中但宿石崖朝遊

朝遊



Art



Engaging and making sense: Dragon Boat Festival 端午節



你叫什麼名字？



Revealing the secrets: 'Show and Tell'



Monkey Kings magic tour of Bodleian 孫悟空大鬧天宮 (Radcliffe Camera)



What is the Monkey King like?



How do I draw that?



Hard work



Nearly as good as the teacher



Community feedback

- “My child enjoyed the drawing workshop the most - Dr He was fantastic with children. The badge making was fun too. I was thrilled to view the old Chinese publications. The Curator's detailed explanation made the session more enjoyable and memorable.”
- “It was so amazing to hear a type of song from an ancient Chinese period. It was so thrilled that I saw all the ancient collections about acupuncture, herbs, educational books. They are treasure and so important.”

Future plans

- Online exhibition of object (Exhibit software)
- Regular engagement with the community
- Schools visits and learning programme