Russian botanist Carl Johann (Ivanovich) Maximowicz came to Japan as an experienced and known scientist. He worked here more than three years (1860–1864) and brought significant botanical collections to St. Petersburg. He decided to write the critical “Japanese Flora” and wanted to gather all possible herbarium materials. In addition to his own herbarium he used other earlier materials already existing in St. Petersburg, as well as materials received from different collectors (Tschonoski, Siebold, American (Wright, Small), English (Wilford, Oldham), French (Savatier), Japanese and others). Scientific communication with European botanists, based on a common interest in the Japanese flora, helped him to receive valuable herbarium collections from them. In the 1880’s, he established scientific correspondence and started a dialogue with Japanese botanists, who sent him their herbarium materials for determination. Many Japanese botanists looked to him as their teacher and surely, we can say that Maximowicz is one of the founders of the Japanese school of plant systematic, thus greatly influencing the development of science in Japan. Thus, from 1860–1890 Maximowicz’s effort created the most valuable herbarium collection of plants from Japan, the so-called “Japanese Maximowicz’s herbarium collection”, which is kept in the Herbarium of the Komarov Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (LE) in St. Petersburg. The collection is original, unique and critical for modern systematics studies.

Key words: Carl Johann Maximowicz, herbarium collection, Japan, original material, type.

Carl Johann Maximowicz (1827–1891)

The classic of Russian botany of the 19th century, Academician Carl Johann Maximowicz (1827–1891) is known as the outstanding explorer and world-famous scientist in Eastern and Central Asian flora research including Russian Primorye and Primamurye, Manchuria, Japan, China, Korea, Mongolia and the Tibetan Plateau. His main achievement in the above-mentioned areas was research on the Japanese flora. He collected and identified many new plants while exploring Japan. Maximowicz, as the greatest systematist, gave us a vast heritage including scientific monographs and valuable botanical collections. There is the unique Japanese herbarium collection in the Komarov Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg, which could not exist without Maximowicz’s activity during his scientific life.
A. Grabovskaya-Borodina：ロシアの植物学者C. J. Maximowiczと日本：ロシア科学アカデミー・コマロフ植物研究所の日本植物コレクション

幕末の1860–1864年に来日したマキシモヴィッチ(C. J. Maximowicz)は、日本の植物相の再検討を目ざし、自らが採集した標本だけでなく、Sieboldなど先人研究者が集めた標本の収集にも努めた。こうしたマキシモヴィッチの収集品は、現在、ロシア科学アカデミー・コマロフ植物研究所標本室(LE)に保管され、世界的にも特色のあるユニークな歴史的コレクションとなっている。

マキシモヴィッチは1880年代に、日本の植物学者との交流を深め、彼らから送られてきた標本の同定を積極的に進めた。こうした活動を通じて、彼は日本の多くの植物学者の賞賛を得だけでなく、日本の植物学の発展にたいしても多大な貢献をはたした。

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