Viewpoint of the Shanghai News (from 1890 to 1891), a Japanese Newspaper Published in the Late Qing Period, on the Relationship between Japan and China (I)

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This paper will take a close look at the Shanghai News, which was first published in 1890 in Shanghai, in reference to the history of media. The background of the launch and unique features of its layout will be introduced, followed by the paper's view on Japan-China relations manifested in its editorial columns. The bilateral relationship will be discussed in terms of the following four aspects: 1. The launch of the newspaper, a typographical printing house and publication registration with the Japanese Consulate General in Shanghai; 2. The Shanghai News and the issue of Japanese mistresses of Western men; 3. The paper's view on Japan's promoting and leading Sino-Japanese trade; and 4. Theory on Chinese merchants by the Shanghai News. Moreover, the significance of the paper's information network in understanding the relationship between Shanghai and Japan at the end of the Qing Period will be examined based on readers' comments and introductory articles regarding Chinese cities and towns.

Japanese newspapers published in Shanghai survived into the Taisho and Showa periods. Even though they provide valuable insight into the early modern and modern history of the two countries, they have not been fully investigated. The author will further study and discuss the history of such papers in the Meiji, Taisho and Showa periods.