

# THREE-STRINGED MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

The body is shallow and oval, both sides being covered with snake-skin. In the larger specimen, the wooden portion is inlaid with pieces of ivory. The end of the arm is decorated with ivory carvings representing a bat, symbol of happiness, and the character "longevity" (*shou*) in ornamental form of script. The other specimen is plain. The strings are played upon with the finger, or by means of a plectrum. This is the favorite instrument of the street ballad-singers.

PEKING, CHINA

PRESENTED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA AT THE PANAMA PACIFIC  
INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION, SAN FRANCISCO, 1915

33850-851