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Japanese Homes and Their Surroundings; With Illustrations by the Author (Paperback)

By Edward Sylvester Morse

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Excerpt: .upon which rest crosswise thin planks of wood with their edges overlapping. One sees this form of ceiling everywhere, from north to south, in inns, private dwellings, and shops. This form is as universal in Japan as is the ordinary white plaster-ceiling with us. In many other forms of ceiling, however, wood of the most tortuous grain is preferred. In the little houses made for the tea-parties the ceiling is often of some rustic design, --either a layer of rush resting on bamboo rafters, or thin, wide strips of wood braided or matted like basket-work. Sometimes the ceiling instead of being flat is arching; that is, the sides run up like a roof, and meet above in a flat panel, or the ceiling may be made up of panels either square or angular. A very elaborate and beautiful ceiling is seen in fig. 127...



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