

dissolved into its fundamental elements. An analysis, undertaken in MAE, of different varieties of this ornament from its simplest to its most complicated forms, makes it evident for me, that it is based on two simple elements, namely the bent zigzag or wavy line and the ring spiral (tab. II, fig. A, B, C).

The forms derived from them are as follows: S-shaped spiral (tab. II, fig. D); two intertwined wavy lines (tab. II, fig. E); a pair of spirals as if

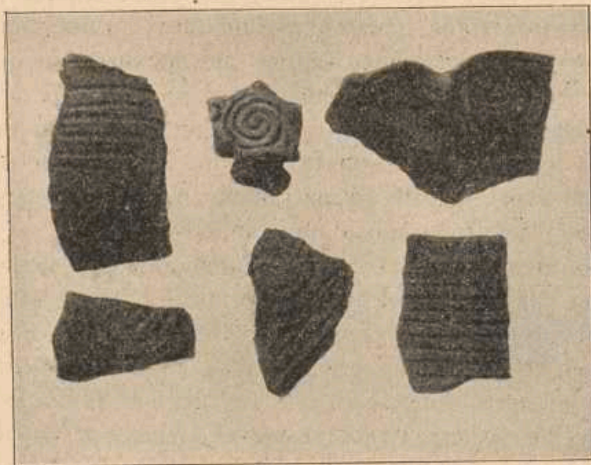


Fig. 4. Archaeological ornamented pot fragments. From Japan, between Yokohama and Tokyo, near the lake Omori.

sprung out of each other and with their ends running in opposite directions (tab. II, fig. F); a pair of spirals with their backs turned upon each other (tab.



Fig. 5. A head of clay (face and back) found in Japan.

II, fig. G) and then in their further course joining their backs together (tab. II, fig. H) and finally a pair of double antipodal spirals (tab. II, fig. J). Fig. I of tab. II represents an element similar to that shown in fig. G, only straightened.

In the process of evolution the various combinations of all these motifs have brought about those complex conventional forms of ornament, which are represented so clearly in the ceremonial garments. Two ancient Ainu gowns