THE CHINA REVIEW.

THE MANCHUS IN CHINA.

I.—HOW THE MANCHUS FIRST SAW THEIR WAY TO CONQUER CHINA.

In the year A.D. 1627 the Manchu chieftain, afterwards known as the Emperor T'ai-tsung, succeeded to power. An embassy of congratulation was sent by the Chinese Ming Emperor, and the Manchu sent assurances that he had no designs on China, a policy, he said, which had already proved disastrous to the Kitans, Nuchêns, and Mongols; but he proposed the River Liao as a boundary, and terms of equality as to annual presents. As to forms of address between the Manchu chief and all but the Emperor, as much respect was to be shewn the Manchu chief as the Manchu chief shewed to the Chinese Emperor. During the Manchu expedition to Corea, the Chinese endeavoured to recover lost ground, but after the victorious return from Corea the Manchus drove back the Chinese from the frontier town of Kin-chow 錦州. They offered in 1628 to exchange their title 'Emperor' for that of 'Khan,' and to accept a seal from the Mings instead of using an Imperial seal of their own; but, as these negotiations came to nothing, a grand movement against China was made in 1629. One hundred thousand Manchu and Mongol troops marched as far as Ts'ing 青城 city, in the Karachin territory, and before long appeared before the walls of Peking, coming by way of the Hi-fêng 喜峰口 Pass. The Chinese still declined to treat, and the Manchus had to content themselves with garrisoning Yung-p'ing, Lwan-chou, and other towns to the north. From there they were driven in 1630, and finally had to retreat in hot haste to Moukden. The Manchus now perceived that they were no match for the Chinese without artillery, and in 1631 they succeeded in casting some large 'red barbarian' guns, served by Chinese prisoners, with which they kept the Chinese at bay. Owing to a famine in Shen Si, and a rising in Shan Si, the Chinese government now found itself unable to pay the troops employed or to spare more troops for the Manchu war. Disputes arose between the Chinese and the Mongol Prince of Shun-i about the 順義王 subsidy which the Chinese were in the habit of paying, but in 1632, when the Manchus conquered the Ch'ahars and advanced to Kwei-hwa, the governor of Shan Si was prevailed upon to make a treaty with them, and to give them rank above the Mongols, on condition of the Manchu recognizing China as his superior. In 1634 the Manchus were greatly strengthened by the defection of three Ming generals, 尚可喜, 耿仲明 and 孔有德 (Mayers' *Manual*, Nos. 204, 589), and it

was resolved to leave the Coreans and Ch'ahars for the present, and to organize a grand attack upon China in four columns, on a line between the Peking passes and Shan-si. To divert the Chinese attention, expeditions were sent against the Ch'ahars in the west and Kin-chou in the east. The ancient seal of China was in 1636 recovered from the Ch'ahars, and, to celebrate this event, the Manchus adopted the dynastic style of 'Ta Ts'ing,' or the 'Great Pure' dynasty, which exists to this day. The Emperor, who was now 48 years of age, changed his reigning style, and was proclaimed 'Merciful and Holy Emperor' 寬溫仁聖皇帝. His father was posthumously called the 'Military Emperor,' and four predecessors received titles. The three Chinese renegades and the Mongol princes were all ennobled; but it appears that the King of Corea was after all faithful to the Mings, and declined to join in proclaiming the Manchu. That autumn the Manchus entered the Chinese plains by way of Tu-shih K'ou and the Nam K'ou Pass, captured Ch'ang-p'ing Chou, and a dozen other cities, beleaguered Peking, and got as far as Paoting Fu, capturing great numbers of prisoners and cattle, and completely paralysing the Ming generals. In 1637 the Manchu Emperor subdued Corea, as has been related in detail in the chapter on Corea. In 1638 he personally conducted an expedition against the Khalkhas, and two of his lieutenants met at T'ung-chou, having entered by way of the Ts'iang-tsz Ling and the Ts'ing-shan Pass, 牆子嶺;青山關, whilst the Viceroy of Liao was on a drunken spree. From Choh Chou the Manchus marched in eight columns, one following the Transport Canal, one the Hills, and six between. The Chinese were only able to bring 20,000 men against them; but, owing to the dissension and want of co-operation of the enemy, the Manchus were able to defeat them easily. City after city fell into their hands: they marched into Shan Tung, took its capital besides fifty other cities, 460,000 prisoners, and over Tls. 1,000,000 in silver. In 1639 the Manchu army returned to Tientsin, and had some difficulty in crossing the swollen Canal there; but, as the Chinese could not muster up courage to attack them, they succeeded in getting safely over with all their plunder. Amongst their prisoners at Moukden was an Imperial Chinese Prince, 德王, whom the Manchu Emperor vainly endeavoured to persuade to negotiate with the Chinese Emperor by letter for peace. The leader of the above described successful raid into China was Dorgun, 多爾袞, Prince of Jui. The Manchu Emperor facilitated his task by keeping the Chinese engaged around Kin Chou, and after his return continued to harass the Chinese in that neighbourhood.

The Manchu Emperor now perceived that his raids into China would not profit him much, unless he could get the Shan-hai Pass into his hands and hold the four cities outside of it. In 1642, therefore, a determined attack was made on Kin Chou, and an equally determined effort to relieve the city was made by the Viceroy and Governor of Ki-Liao and Liao Tung, who managed to concentrate at Ning-yüan 130,000 men and 40,000 horses, with provisions for one year. Hearing of their advance upon Kiu Chou, the Manchu Emperor hastened to the rescue and after a number of battles, in which his superior strategy completely defeated the Ming combinations, drove them back with a loss of 53,780 men, against ten Manchus wounded. The booty in camels, horses, arms, &c., captured, was enormous. Returning to the attack next spring, Sung-shan 松山 was captured by aid of Chinese treachery, and after a long siege Kin Chou at last submitted. The two remaining towns of Hing Shan and T'ah Shan 杏山, 塔山 were taken without much difficulty. The Ming Emperor, terrified, now sued for peace, but as he only sent propositions in the shape of instructions to his Minister of War, they were not entertained.

Two subordinate officials of the War Office, accompanied by a priest, were then sent to Moukden, but the Emperor and his Minister of War were the only persons who knew of it. As soon as it leaked out that peace was being made with the Manchus, the Censors, who were as valorous on paper then as they are now, made such a fuss that the negotiations had to be broken off. Even before the internal outbreaks, the Chinese had only been on the defensive; but, since the rebellions in Shen Si and Shan Si, they had not been able even to defend themselves; yet the moderate Manchu was only too anxious for peace. In the autumn of 1643, another successful raid was made by way of the Kiai Shan 界山 and the Goose Pass, 鴈門, the two columns meeting at Ki Chou, and advancing as far as Yen Chou in Shan Tung. Eighty-eight cities were taken, 369,000 prisoners, 550,000 head of cattle and sheep, besides enormous quantities of valuables. In the spring of 1644, the Manchus recruited themselves at Kü Chou, 莒州, whilst the Chinese commanders shut themselves up at T'ung Chou, and contented themselves with reporting imaginary victories to the Emperor. The Manchus estimate that the annual cost to the Mings from 1620 up to the year 1628 for the defence of Liao Tung exceeded Tls. 6,600,000. During the reign of Ch'ung-cheng, 1628-1644, Tls. 10,000,000 more were spent every year. The Empire was eaten up by rebellions; and yet the Chinese were as obstinately disinclined to peace as the Manchus were anxious for it. In the autumn of 1644, the Manchu Emperor T'ai-tsung died, and all power was concentrated in the hands of his successor Shih-tsu, or Shun-chih, the first real Manchu Emperor of China, who actually occupied the Chinese throne.

The result of all this was to convince the Manchus that the possession of the Shan-hai Kwan was their only security. As long as the Ming were able to threaten their communications from this point, all the raids by way of Nan K'ou and the Hi-fêng Pass could lead to no permanent results. It was only when Wu San-kwei invited the Manchus to assist in quelling the local insurrections, and threw open the Shan-hai Pass to them, that the Manchus got their firm footing; and how this was done is matter for a special paper.

II. CONQUEST OF CHINA BY THE MANCHUS.

The first important act of the Emperor Shun-chih, after his accession, was to order Prince Jui to take the strip of territory between the Shan-hai Pass and the two Ling Rivers, 凌河, which the rebellions in China had forced the Ming power to abandon. Wu San-kwei, with 500,000 soldiers and inhabitants, failed to reach Peking before that capital had fallen into rebel hands. The rebels attacking Wu, Wu sought assistance from the Manchus against the rebel Li Tsz-ch'êng, 李自成, shaved his head and swore fidelity before Prince Jui. Wu's troops were ordered to wear a white cloth across the shoulder as a distinguishing mark, and early in the summer of 1645 was fought the great battle which practically gave China to the Manchus. Wu San-kwei and his Chinese formed the right flank and the Manchus were to come up afterwards. The rebel Li, with the Heir to the Ming throne in his power, occupied a position running north and south from the mountains to the sea, and his force of 230,000 men doubled that of the combined forces of the Manchus and Wu San-kwei. After hard fighting with the Chinese, the rebels got alarmed at the sight of the Manchus, and broke in disorder, tens of thousands being cut to pieces. The Manchu Prince without delay issued a general order commanding all the people and soldiers within the Shan-hai Pass to shave the head. Meanwhile Wu San-kwei with 20,000 cavalry went in pursuit of Li Tsz-ch'eng. Li tried to come to terms with Wu; but, failing, wreaked his vengeance by murdering Wu's family and all the Ming Princes he could get hold of, setting fire to

the Peking palaces, and retreating west with cart-loads of plunder. Shortly after this Prince Jui entered Peking and sent notice of his victory to Moukden, Corea, and the Mongols. The Ming Prince Fuh, 福王, established his Court at Nanking, and all the country north of the Yang-tsze was in a state of anarchy. It was decided to occupy only the places of strategical importance in Chih Li, Shan Tung, and Ho Nan, and to advance southwards and westwards in the autumn. Late in the autumn of 1645, the Manchu Emperor, coming from Moukden, established himself and his household gods in Peking; proclaimed an amnesty, abolished odious taxes, and ordered his civilian officers to wear the Ming costume for the present. Shan Tung was soon conquered and filled with new officials. Prince Yü 豫, and K'ung Yu-teh 孔有德, marched by way of Ho Nan upon the T'ung Kwan Pass 潼關; and Prince Ying 英 with Wu San-kwei and Shang K'o-hi, took the northern route, crossing the Hwang Ho on rafts. The result was that Li Tsz-ch'eng was obliged to abandon the Pass and fall back upon Si-an Fu, upon the palaces of which place he wreaked his vengeance, as at Peking, flying on the approach of the Manchu power by the Wu Pass 武關 into Hu Kwang province.

Prince Yü was now directed to subdue Kiang Nan. The rebels still numbered 400,000, and gave out that they were going to take Nanking, but the Manchus pursued them and defeated them in several battles. The storming of Yang-chou may be singled out for special mention among the very numerous similar and therefore uninteresting encounters. Chinkiang was taken after a difficult passage across the Yang-tsz on rafts, and the Manchus camped outside the walls of Nanking. Prince Fuh, with his retinue of eunuchs and palace people, fled to Wuhu, and the Ming generalissimo Ma Shih-ying 馬士英 hastily made the best of his way to Hang-chow. The Manchus entered Nanking quietly ten days later, and took every precaution to ingratiate themselves with the people. The Ming general 史可法, who had perished bravely at the defence of Yang-chow, had a special temple constructed in his honour, and eight Manchus were executed for plundering. Prince Fuh surrendered to the force detached to follow him to Wuhu, and thus Kiang Nan was conquered. Prince Ying's 英 force occupied Kewkiang, Wuch'ang, King-chou, and thus completed the conquest of Hu Pei. Hang-chow, Sung-kiang, &c., next submitted, and Prince Yü returned north in the autumn with his prisoner Prince Fuh, after appointing in the Emperor's name 373 officials from amongst those who had surrendered. The Emperor now ordained that all within the seas should shave the head and change the dress. Garrisons of Manchus were placed in eight important cities, and Hung Ch'êng-t'ao 洪承疇 was charged with the duty of reducing the South. Meanwhile the Ming Prince T'ang 唐 set up as Emperor at Foochow, with Koxinga's father as one of his henchmen, and the Ming Prince Lu 魯 set up as Regent at Shao-hing. Each of these Princes represented an army, known as the Fu Kien and Chê Tung armies, respectively. In addition there were bodies constituting what was called the armies of the Upper and Lower Yang-tsz, all more or less under the orders of the two Ming Princes. Besides the above there was the Kiang Si army consisting in part of 'cave dwellers, 峒蠻,' by which is probably meant the Miao-tsz.

The Manchu armies, including those surrendered Chinese who had shaved their heads, now numbered over 100,000, of whom half were at Nanking under Hung Ch'êng-t'ao, and half under a Manchu duke at Hang-chow. Soochow was the next to fall, and the inhabitants had to choose between death and the queue. A great fight also took place at Shanghai, 春申浦, where the Ming fleet was burnt in the river. Sung-kiang was invested and fell.

A great deal more fighting took place in Kiang Su and Chê Kiang; but meanwhile a part of the Manchu army returned north, ravaging as it went, with the captive Ming Prince Lu 潞 in their train. Several towns were captured by the aid of Chinese treachery, but the Manchus and the Chinese commanders under them seem to have done as much as they could to prevent indiscriminate massacre and plunder. By degrees An Hwei and Kiang Si were subdued, and the Manchu Prince at Hangchow turned his attention to Hu Kwang.

In the early spring of 1647, Prince Suh and Wu San-kwei were ordered to attack Chang Hien-tsung; the Sz Ch'wan monster, and the Manchu D[illegible]e Pot'o 博託 was ordered to march on South Chê Kiang and Fu Kien. Prince Suh invested Si-an, received the surrender of Prince T'ang's Viceroy who seems to have taken his orders from Foochow, and marched into Sz Ch'wan with half his army, leaving the other half to clear south Shen Si of rebels. Chang Hien-tsung was defeated and slain at Si-ch'ung, 西充, and Sz Ch'uan was roughly reduced to submission. The popular story that Chang Hien-tsung entirely depopulated Sz Ch'uan must therefore be a gross exaggeration. Meanwhile the Chinese in Fu Kien and Chê Kiang were divided in council, and Prince Lu fled from Shao-hing to T'ai-chou. The great cities of Chê Kiang were captured one after the other, the Chinese (Ming) commanders slain, and the Manchus marched against Prince T'ang and Koxinga's father in Fu Kien. The Ming Governor-General of Hu Kwang 何騰蛟 now made a strong demonstration with 100,000 men, including the remains of the army of Li Tsz-ch'êng, now dead, whose exact end is shrouded in mystery. Ho T'êng-kiao of the Hu Kwang army, and Yang T'ing-lin 楊廷麟 of the Kiang Si army, each invited Prince T'ang to take refuge with them. Prince T'ang was only too anxious to get away from Koxinga's 鄭芝龍 father, but this wily diplomat would not let him go. Finally he was captured by the Manchus whilst endeavouring to effect his escape, and Koxinga's father surrendered. Discouraged at this news, the Kiang Si army broke up, and the remaining Ming princelets, who set up at Canton, were captured to the number of a score or more. The Manchus now made preparations to subdue Koxinga of Formosa and the Ming Prince Lu who had escaped from Shao-hing across the seas.

III. COMPLETION OF THE MANCHU CONQUEST OF CHINA.

In the late autumn of 1647, after the conquest of Fu Kien, the Manchus sent two armies by way of Kiang Si and Fu Kien to take Canton. The Ming Viceroys of the Two Kwang and the Hu Kwang Provinces set up the Ming Prince Kwai 桂 as Regent at Shao-k'ing Fu, when he shortly afterwards assumed the Imperial title, with the style Yung-lih 永曆. He reigned for over ten years in the west. After the conquest of Kwang Tung by the Manchu-Chinese general Li Ch'êng-tung, 李成棟, Prince Kwei fled to Kwei-lin in Kwang Si. Next year Kwei-lin and other cities fell before the same conqueror, and Ting K'wei-ch'u, 丁魁楚, Viceroy of the Kwang, left Prince Kwei to his fate and surrendered. This cowardly policy gained him nothing, for the victorious general slew him, whilst Prince Kwei threw himself for protection into the arms of Ho T'êng-kiao, Viceroy of Hu Kwang. Army after army was raised by different patriots in Kwang Tung province, and a great deal of fighting took place before the Two Kwang were quite conquered. The three Chinese generals who first submitted to the rising Manchu power under T'ai-tsung, namely Shang K'o-hi, K'ung Yu-tê, and Kêng Chung-ming, were now ordered to advance on Canton by way of Hu Nan. A gallant defence was fruitlessly offered by the Viceroy Ho, but Prince Kwei was obliged to flee once more into Kwang Si, followed by the brave Viceroy. In 1649 the conquest of

Hu Nan was completed. No sooner was this the case, than Kiang Si and Kwang Tung declared once more for the Mings under Generals Kin Sheng-hwan 金聲桓 and Li Ch'êng-tung who allowed their hair to grow and resumed the Ming costume. They put themselves in communication with the Viceroy Ho, and marched into Hu Nan, even threatening Nanking.

Meanwhile the Manchu Prince Suh in Sz Ch'wan had thoroughly completed the conquest of the eastern and southern portions during the year 1648, and had returned north in 1649, leaving Li Kwoh-ying 李國英 as Governor at Pao-ning Fu. Wu San-kwei was left in charge of South Shen Si; but as soon as the southern rebellion took place, and others of the great officers declared for Prince Kwei, he marched north. Koxinga in Fu Kien joined in the rebellion, which now covered Shan Si, Shen Si, and all the Manchu Empire except Chê Kiang. The Manchus seem to have met these revolts with calm and statesman-like forethought. Khorokui, 和洛輝, who had distinguished himself already in the conquest of China, was ordered to proceed from Nanking to Kew-kiang; and to coöperate with generals Shang and Kêng with a view to quelling the rebellion in Kiang Si and Kwang Tung. K'ung Yu-tê, under two other Manchu Princes, was entrusted with the duty of suppressing the risings in Hu Nan and Kwang Si. Prince Polo 博洛 and Wu San-kwei had Shan Si and Shen Si assigned to them, and Hung Ch'êng-t'ao remained as Commander-in-Chief at Nanking in order to keep the coasts in order. This was all in 1650, and after a good deal of fighting Kin and Li both perished, and Kiang Si was restored to the Manchus. Shan Si and Shen Si similarly collapsed before the victorious arms of the Princes Jui and Ying, Polo, and Nik'an. Wu San-kwei was now ordered to undertake the re-conquest of Sz Ch'uan, and Shang K'o-hi with Kêng Tsing-chung 耿精忠 to undertake that of Kwang Tung. Orders were given that all Ming princelets wandering about the provinces should be sent to Peking, and comfortably pensioned there, so as to prevent their names being used as pegs on which to hang further rebellious schemes. Meanwhile the Manchu Prince Chêng 鄭 had completed the re-conquest of Hu Nan and Kwang Si in 1650-1, and had returned with his army to Peking. K'ung Yu-tê found nothing but bare walls at Kwei-lin, and the gallant Viceroy Ho T'êng-kiao was executed at Siang-t'an in Hu Nan. The siege of Canton was a more formidable affair. Redoubts were thickly thrown out all round the city, which was further fortified with stockades and triple tidal ditches. The heat and damp killed off great numbers of Manchus, and rendered the bows almost useless. There was serious thought of retreat, but fortunately dissensions broke out in the Chinese camps, and this encouraged Shang K'o-hi to a successful assault on the city, the wall of which seems to have been breached by the Manchus at the same place as by the English 200 years later. After this he reconquered the southern parts of the province, where he was ordered to remain as Military Viceroy. K'ung Yu-tê held the same position in Kwang Si. Wu San-kwei completed the subjugation of Sz Ch'uan in 1652, and Prince Kwei, finding his provinces disappearing one after the other, had to take refuge amongst the Shan tribes of Kwang Si. No sooner were these consecutive victories reported, than another rebellion broke out in Sz Ch'uan under the leadership of Sun K'o-wang 孫可望 and Li Ting-kwoh, 李定國, former lieutenants of Chang Hien-tsung. During the year 1653 all but the north of Sz Ch'uan fell into their hands. K'ung Yu-tê about this time perished in the defence of Kwei-lin, which thus fell a second time from the Manchu grasp. The Ming general Peh Wên-süan 白文選 wrested Ch'ên-chou in Hu Nan from the Manchus, with the assistance of 50,000 Lolos 獞猓 (probably Shans) and a number of elephants.

In 1654 the Manchu Prince Nik'an 尼堪 was sent at the head of a great expedition

against Hu Nan and Kwang Tung, and Hung Ch'êng-t'ao was given plenipotentiary powers over Hu Kwang, Yün-kwei, and the Two Kwang provinces. He transferred his head-quarters from Nanking to Ch'ang-sha Fu. After victories in Hu Nan, Nik'an fell in battle, and was succeeded by the Manchu duke T'unchi, 屯濟, who had some severe fighting with Sun K'o-wan and Li Ting-kwoh in Hu Nan. Shang K'o-hi seized this opportunity to prepare a fleet for the reconquest of Kwang Si by two of his lieutenants. Most of these fights seem to have been between Manchu-Chinese and Ming Chinese, for it was only after Li Ting-kwoh had again succeeded in wresting away parts of Kwang Tung, that the Selon Manchu garrison from Nanking was sent for. After the third conquest of Kwang Tung, the Viceroy Shang transferred his head-quarters to Wu Chou. In 1656 severe fighting took place in Hu Peh. During the next two years the Ming Prince Kwei was a puppet in the hands of Sun K'o-wang and Liu Wên-sin 劉文秀 alternately, whose jealousies brought them to blows. This civil strife ended in the defeat of Sun, who surrendered to Hung Ch'êng-t'ao, and was created a prince of the Manchu Empire on his subsequent arrival in Peking. This was towards the end of 1658. The defenders of the Ming interest were now confined to Yün-kwei and the southern and eastern portions of Sz Ch'uan. On the recommendation of Hung Ch'êng-t'ao and Wu San-kwei a supreme effort was now made. Three armies were to effect a junction in Kwei Chou. One was to advance through Hu Nan under Hung Ch'êng-t'ao; one through Shen-si and Sz Ch'uan under Wu San-kwei; and one through Kwang Si, under Sien Kwoh-an, 線國安. With each Chinese leader was associated a Manchu duke or general. The first army reached Kwei-yang in May. Wu San-kwei, after severe fighting near and at Chungking, destroyed the armies of East Sz Ch'uan, and settled down at Tsun-i Fu in August. Prince Toni, 鰲尼 (son of Prince Yü who had died in Shan Si in 1650), was now appointed Generalissimo of the three armies, and summoned their three *Commanders* to a conference at P'ing-yüeh 平越 Fu in October. Hung Ch'êng-t'ao was ordered to remain at the base of operations, Kwei-yang, whilst Prince Toni marched into Yün Nan in three columns, of 50,000 men each, with fourteen days rations. The three army corps entered the city of Yün Nan late in the winter of 1660, i.e. early in the year, and Hung Ch'êng-t'ao joined them soon after. Prince Kwei, meanwhile, had fled west to Yung-ch'ang, and thence to T'êng-yüeh, under the protection of Li Ting-kwoh. The pursuing Manchus were nearly betrayed into a series of ingenious ambushes laid for them between the Upper Yang-tsze 瀾滄 and the Upper Salwen 潞 or Mei-kong Rivers, but the treachery of a Chinese renegate warned them in time to score a victory. The Manchus marched as far as the extreme end of the frontier of China,—to a point 120 *li* west of T'êng-yüeh, or Moulmein. Hung went on sick leave to Peking, and Wu San-kwei was left in charge of Yün Nan. Prince Toni marched the greater part of his army back, leaving about 30,000 Manchus and Chinese with a number of European guns in Yün Nan. Prince Kwei had meanwhile fled into Burmah, whilst Li Ting-kwoh and Peh Wên-süan had taken refuge with the Mangken and Mupang 孟根木邦 tribes. Wu San-kwei pestered the Manchu Emperor, who was perfectly content to let things remain, to permit him to pursue the fugitive Prince. Accordingly a Manchu, named Aisinga 愛星阿, was sent to coöperate with him. The total of Manchu, Chinese, captive, and local or savage forces amounted to 75,000 men, or 100,000 counting the cooks and coolies. The army marched in two divisions, and met at Mupang. There they heard that Peh Wên-süan was preparing to make a stand at the Sipak 錫簿 River. Under the guidance of prisoners, the Man-

chus marched as far as the Lan-kau River 蘭鳩, where they captured Prince Kwei, his mother, wife, and family. Peh Wên-süan shortly afterwards surrendered, with his whole army. The Manchu troops now returned, and Chang Yung 張勇 was left with 10,000 men at P'u-êrh Fu, to watch Li Ting-kwoh's movements, but the latter died soon afterwards. Meanwhile East Sz Ch'uan had been cleared of rebel armies. Thus perished, in Kiang Si, Sz Ch'wan, and Burmah respectively, the rebel armies first raised and commanded by Tso Liang-yuh, 左良玉 *Li Tsz-ch'êng*, and Chang Hien-tsung. The extraordinary nature of the conquest of China by a handful of Tartars is only paralleled in the history of the world by the conquest of Europe by a handful of Romans and that of India by a handful of Englishmen. Wei Yüan, the truthful author of the *Rise of the Manchu Empire*, points out that this conquest was effected by two forces, the 'guards' 禁旅 and the 'garrison 駐防.' In the first category were the Eight Manchu Banners of 60,000 men, with 100,000 Mongols and Banner Chinese. All these [? last] were of the Tung-hai and Hurun tribes; none north of the Amur or east of Ninguta; and no Chinese except those without the Shan-hai Pass. These 160,000 men could of course never all be spared for distant service at once. The second category consisted of irregular supernumeraries and new drafts from the Liao districts, hunters and cultivators in time of peace, and warriors when required. Hence the Manchus after their first start had always from 100,000 to 130,000 men available for expeditions. Their plan of fighting was to advance in a body on the plains, and in goose-file in fastnesses. With their spears and shields they formed an impassable wall; throwing forward their light cavalry, they came with irresistible force upon the exposed flank. The Selons were distinguished for their dash, the real Manchus for their calmness and staying powers. The various Princes who assisted in conquering the Empire are the ancestors of the so-called 'iron-capped' Princes of the present day, not of the Imperial blood. Such are the Princes Jui, Li, Chêng, Yü, Suh, and K'in.

E. H. Parker.

ANNAMESE AND CHINESE.

In discussing the relation to Chinese of Corean and Japanese, it is well to recollect that Annamese is pushing her claims to be heard, and it seems pretty evident that, with a few modifications, her predicament is very much the same as that of Corean and Japanese. We have here again the basis of an inferior tongue, drawing for nutriment upon Chinese in order to eke out native poverty, and then an edifice of mixed language constructed upon the partially obscured base.

A number of Japanese savants have lately been agitating for the introduction of the *Romaji* or romanisation system, in order to free their language from the chaos into which an injudicious use of the Chinese character has plunged *it*; and now we find that a petition has been presented to the Colonial Council of Saigon by certain Annamese notables with a view to obtaining, if possible, the suppression of the *Quoc* * *ngu*, an unsatisfactory term intended to

* An argument in favour of their suppression is the fact that the resources of ordinary printing fonts are totally inadequate to represent the various diacritical marks which disfigure the two words *quoc ngu* as written by the missionaries.