

THE EDUCATION OF A CROWN PRINCE IN CHINA
IN THE TWELFTH CENTURY.

The treaty of Shimonoseki, which brought to a close the Sino-Japanese Conflict of 1894-95 stipulated that four new names should be added to the list of Chinese ports opened to foreign trade, two on the upper waters of the river Yangtze, and two on the lower. The two latter were the ancient and famous cities Suchow and Hangchow, the present capitals of the Kiangsu and Chehkiang provinces respectively.

Foreigners being extraterritorialised in China, it was long ago recognised that, in order to avoid clashes between the native and foreign jurisdictions, it was necessary to delimit in the neighbourhood of each port when it was opened to foreign trade a special area for the exclusive use of foreign traders, in which they could build residences and commercial establishments and live under the aegis of their own laws. This procedure would, of course, have to be followed in the case of Suchow and Hangchow; but the situation of these cities on the Grand Canal - an inland waterway - presented new and serious difficulties. Admirably as the Grand Canal had served its purpose as a means of communication through the centuries which had

elapsed since the date of its construction it was quite unsuited to navigation by the deep-draught foreign vessels which were the feeders of other open ports. Traffic, therefore, would have to follow the same lines as it had followed in the past. In other words Shanghai would continue to be the entrepot of the commerce of these ports, and merchandise would continue to be carried, both inwards and outwards, by Chinese junks - not, however, plying singly as hitherto, but probably in chains of four or five junks towed by a powerful steam-launch. It therefore became necessary to draw up special regulations defining the routes to be followed and fixing speed-limits in order to prevent damage being caused by the wash of the launch to the banks of the Canal and of the waterways connecting it with the river Whangpu on which Shanghai is situated.

To deal with these matters the Chinese and Japanese Governments appointed nominees to a Joint Commission; and I, as Commissioner of Chinese Customs at Shanghai, was one of the members appointed by China. The Joint Commission decided to deal first with Suchow, and to that city we proceeded in December 1895.

In the early sixties of the last century the Taiping rebels swarming in their thousands down the Yangtsze and along the Grand Canal had overrun the entire provinces of

Kiangsu and Chehkiang and practically destroyed both Suchow and Hangchow. At the date of our visit, however, all trace of this vandalism had disappeared. The city had been entirely rebuilt, and busy suburbs had grown up along the canal banks near the city gates. The most suitable sites for a foreign settlement were in consequence no longer available, and any unoccupied land between the gates had already considerably appreciated in value owing to rumours of the coming establishment of foreign firms. Frequent hitches in the negotiations consequently occurred and the matters in dispute had to be referred for decision to the Nanking Viceroy, who was not only Governor General of the Two Kiang Provinces but ex officio Imperial Superintendent of Foreign Trade at all open ports on, or to the south of, the Yangtsze river.

On one of these occasions when the Joint Commission again met after an adjournment, the Chinese members had to express their regret that they had not yet received the expected reply from Nanking, but as in their report to the Viceroy they had requested that his Excellency's reply might reach them before the plenary meeting fixed for that afternoon, they felt confident that it might arrive at any moment. The Japanese therefore agreed to wait a while. But as time passed with no sign of the expected despatch, I suggested

that while waiting we might visit the Wen-miao (the Temple to Literature, more generally known to foreigners as "the Temple to Confucius") which was situated near by, and inspect the charts engraved on stone during the Sung dynasty which were preserved there. The Chinese at first insisted that there were no such charts in the temple; but on my replying that they certainly had been there down to a quite recent date, as I had myself an English work (Col. Yule's Marco Polo, second edition, 1875) which contained a reproduction on a small scale from a rubbing of one of them, the map of Suchow, they consented to send an attendant to interview the custodian of the temple on the subject. He speedily returned and reported that the charts were there. We accordingly adjourned to the temple. There in reply to questions, the custodian stated that originally there had apparently been four charts, but so long as he had been in charge there had been three only, and these he willingly showed us. As his statement tallied with that made to Col. Yule by Mr. A. Wylie, the missionary who had supplied him with the rubbing above referred to, we accepted his statement without question and concluded that one had been destroyed by the Taiping rebels when they sacked the city thirty years before.

The Chinese officials very kindly had rubbings taken for ^{me} ~~one~~ of these three maps.

It was not till twenty years later that I learnt from M. Edouard de Chavannes, the eminent French sinologue, that the missing fourth chart had been found. He had seen in the Japanese Geographical Review for 1911 an article by Dr. Ogawa, professor in the Kyoto University, on "Chinese Cartography prior to relations between the Far East and Europe", in which the Map of China (No. 1. in this series) was reproduced, but on a scale so small as to render it almost useless. He then wrote to a friend in Japan requesting his good offices in obtaining for him the loan of the original. His friend sent him in reply rubbings of all four stones, which, he wrote, had been brought to Japan by M. Tomioka, who had recently returned from a mission to China, and which the latter had much pleasure in presenting to M. de Chavannes. The letter added that the writer understood that the missing chart had been discovered in 1908 by an Italian traveller, Signor G. Vacca. I then wrote to Mr. T. Castle, the Commissioner of Chinese Customs at Suchow, on the subject, and he kindly obtained for me two complete sets of all four charts. They are the finest rubbings I have ever seen; beside them those made for me by the Chinese officials at Suchow cut but a sorry figure in

comparison.

The discovery of this fourth chart was of the first importance, for on it is a note, which not only supplies the *raison-d'être* for the drafting of the original charts, but enables the date of the drafting and that of the engraving to be fixed with almost absolute accuracy. The note runs:-

"These four charts were drawn by Mr. Hwang of Kien-shan while he was superintending the studies of the Prince of Kia, for presentation to the latter. I, Wang Chih-Yuan, found them in the official residence of the Provincial Judge of Shu (the present Szechuan) and had them copied and engraved in order to perpetuate their transmission.

"Written by Wang Chih-yuan of Eastern Kia^x in *Eastern* the second month of winter of the cyclical year Ting-wei of the Shun-yu period." (i.e. 1247)

From the History of the Sung Dynasty (chap. 26) we learn that the Emperor whose Miao-hao or Title-in-history was Ning-*tsung* was born in 1168 and in 1189 was named

^x There is some doubt as to the meaning of these words. No city named Tung-kia has been traced. It has been suggested that the writer was possibly a native of Kia-hsing-fu in Chehkiang province, and so named his birth-place to distinguish it from Kia-ting-fu, the Prince's fief in the west; but this seems far-fetched.

Prince of Kia, his fief being probably the present prefectural district of Kia-ting in the province then known as Shu and now as Szechuan. (This explains why these charts were found in the official residence of the Provincial Judge of Shu.) He ascended the throne in 1195 on the death of his father, the Emperor Kwang-tsung.

The charts were therefore drawn some time between the years 1189 and 1195 and were engraved on the slabs now in the Wen-miao in Suchow in the year 1247. They were drawn up by the Preceptor of the Crown Prince to form the basis of the instruction he proposed to give his pupil in order to fit him to occupy worthily the throne which was seriously menaced by the invasion of Mongol hordes who had already occupied a large part of the north-eastern portion of the Empire and were steadily pushing their way southwards, and, as he hoped, enable him to drive the invaders back and recover the territory that had been lost.

This instruction he divided into four sections, each based on one of the charts.^x

^x The dimensions of the Charts are:-

Map of China	71 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches	by	39 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
Table of Sovereigns	71	" "	36 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Chart of Heavens	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	" "	39 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Plan of Suchow	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	" "	55 " without
counting the title which is separate in the rubbing, but should surmount the plan.			

the years 1189 and 1195 and were engraved on the slabs now in the Wen-miao in Suchow in the year 1247. They were drawn up by the Preceptor of the Crown Prince to form the basis of the instruction he proposed to give his pupil in order to fit him to occupy worthily the throne which was seriously menaced by the invasion of Mongol hordes who had already occupied a large part of the north-eastern portion of the Empire and were steadily pushing their way southwards, and, as he hoped, enable him to drive the invaders back and recover the territory that had been lost.

This instruction he divided into four sections, each based on one of the charts.^x

^x The dimensions of the Charts are:-

Map of China	71 $\frac{1}{2}$	inches	by	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	inches.
Table of Sovereigns	71	"	"	36 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Chart of Heavens	73 $\frac{1}{2}$	"	"	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Plan of Suchow	80 $\frac{1}{2}$	"	"	55	" without counting the title which is separate in the rubbing, but should surmount the plan.

With regard to the MAP OF CHINA it may be noted that

- 1° the Title is Ti-li-t'ui, i.e. "Geographical Chart," the first character being now written 地
 2° Characters within an oval cartouche give the names of Rivers and Waterways.

"	"	a rectangular cartouche	"	"	Districts	州
"	"	"	"	"	Prefectures	府
"	"	"	"	"	Military Stations	軍
"	"	"	"	"	Mountains	山
"	"	"	"	"	Passes	關
"	"	"	"	"	Forests	林

- (i) A contemporary map of China - to stimulate his ambition by showing the greatness of the inheritance that would be his; but it showed also how great was the task before him by indicating the territories already lost.
- (ii) A tabular statement of all the rulers of China from the dawn of history - to show the great antiquity of the Empire. It comprises 125 rulers and covers a period of over 3500 years, with comments directing attention to the order or disorder in the conduct of the world, and to the union or absence of union in the government of the Sovereign.
- (iii) A chart of the heavens - to expound the cosmic theories accepted by the philosophers of the Sung period and the influence exerted by the heavenly bodies on the lives and destiny of men; how the upright ruler is rewarded by years of peace and prosperity, and the vicious is first warned of the error of his ways by portents in the sky, by eclipses or comets, and if they fail to bring about a change of conduct, how he will be overwhelmed by floods or pestilence; and finally as an encouragement not to give way to despair because his armed forces appear to be inadequate to cope with the enemy, instances are quoted from history to show that if a monarch rules with clemency and justice, the people will of their own accord flock to his standard and fight for him; and
- (iv) A plan of the City of Suchow, to impress upon his pupil the magnificence of the capital.^x

^x Two points may be noted in connection with this Chart. First, when I received the second set of rubbings, I noticed on the margin of this one a note which was not on the stone at the time of my visit to the temple. It reads:- "In the eighth moon in the autumn of the cyclical year Ting-sze (1917) the graving (of this chart) was deepened under the supervision of Yeh Teh-chiun and Chu Hsi-liang, both citizens of this prefecture." Second; on the rubbing which he gave to Col. Yule, Mr. Wylie had given names to certain of the buildings. Unfortunately, however, these names indicated the uses to which those buildings were put, not during the Sung period but at the date of his visit and are therefore misleading.

This plan of instruction was grandly conceived and worked out with much care and great erudition. It failed, however, of its purpose. The Emperor Ning-tsung died in 1225, and by 1280 Kublai was seated on the throne of China as founder of the Yuan dynasty.

Agnes E. Hissley
