THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY
OF THE
CHUNG-WANG
TRANSLATED
FROM
THE CHINESE
BY
W. T. LEE.
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CHAPTER I.

The Chung-wang, upon being called on for his defence, wrote the following: — Before entering into the details of my own career, I will make a few preliminary remarks relative to the antecedents of the Tien-wang. The Hung family consisted of three brothers; the two elder (Hung-jên-fa, and Hung-jên-ta) were by the father's first wife, and the Tien-wang (Hung-siu-tseuen) was by the father's second wife. The elder and second brothers were employed in agricultural pursuits, whilst Hung-siu-tseuen was given to study, and while at school, formed an intimate acquaintance with Fung-yun-san, who was of the same turn of mind as himself. It happened one day in the year 1847 that the Tien-wang suddenly became sick. For seven days he was in a trance, and when at the end of that time, he again became conscious, he was much given to peculiar or insane conversation. He discoursed little on general affairs, but commenced exhorting people to reverence Shangti and to regenerate themselves. His doctrine was that a man serving Shangti would be free from all calamity or misfortune, whilst snakes and tigers would devour all disbelievers. Those who served could not serve other gods, and those who did serve other

 guilty of sin.
“Mankind” he said “after once serving Shangti would not venture to worship any other god.” The people of the world being in general afraid of death, who was not afraid of the consequences of not following him when he alluded to snakes and tigers devouring men?

The Tien-wang was a native of Hua-sien in the Canton province, and from that place through Kuangsi, and other places extending several thousand li, his followers were sprinkled like stars. The Tien-wang was constantly concealed amongst the hills, carrying on his work of reformation, and out of ten families he either made converts of three or five or even eight of them. Students and those of good sense would not follow him, but only the agricultural labourers and those in distress were willing to join him, and of these latter there was an immense number. The preconceived design of ultimately establishing a government was known only to the Tung-wang (Eastern king), Yang-siu-ch’ing; the Hsi-wang (Western king), Hsiao-ch’ao-kuei; the Nan-wang (Southern king), Fung-yun-shan; the Pei-wang (Northern king), Wei-ch’ang-hui; the Yi-wang, Shih-ta-k’ai, and the spiritual Minister of State, Ch’in-jih-ch’ang. None but the above six were aware of it. The only object the remainder of the people had in following the Tien-wang was for the sake of obtaining a subsistence. The Eastern king (Yang-siu-ch’ing) lived on the Ping-qi hills in the neighbourhood of Kuei-p’ing (hsien), and depended for his existence on the sale of firewood and charcoal. He had no knowledge of military tactics until after he had worshipped Shangti, when unexpectedly heaven wrought a great change in him. He enjoyed above all others the confidence of the Tien-wang, and had the general management of affairs entrusted to him. His orders were strict and proper, and his rewards and punishments administered impartially.

The Hsi-wang (Hsiao-ch’ao-kuei) was a native of Loo-loo-tung in the district of Wu-hsuan, and likewise engaged in farming and hill-side planting. He married the young sister of the Tien-wang and was hence all-important to the cause. He was a brave and courageous man, and one of the best fighting men. The Nan-wang (Fung-yun-shan) was of a literary turn of mind and possessed of very good ability. He was the originator of the project for setting up a government, and was the prime mover in the affair. The Pei-wang (Wei-ch’ang-hui) was a native of Chin-tien in Kuei-p’ing, and was a graduate by purchase. He was engaged in publ
business, and was generally acquainted with Yamun routine. The Yi-wang (Shih-ta-k'ai) was a native of Pai-sha, likewise in the Kuei-p'ing district. He was a student of good family and was well up in both civil and military matters.

The Minister of State, Ch'ın-jih-ch'ang, was also a native of Pai-sha in the same district, and an ordinary labourer by trade. He was without talent or ability, but possessed of faithfulness and honesty which recommended him to the confidence of the Tien-wang. The six men above mentioned were the promoters of the reformation. I heard nothing about there being a Tien-wang at this time, but only learnt of there being a Mr. Hung about, who was generally known at all the villages. For some few years after the promulgation of the new doctrine, no apparent movement was made. In the 27th and 28th years of Tao-kuang, however, when the banditti were ravaging the surrounding places and the volunteer movement was set on foot, the worshippers formed themselves into a body which was distinct from the volunteers. Each party pursued its own course and endeavoured to surpass the other, which finally led to a great disturbance, and the augmentation of the number of worshippers.

In the 6th month of the 30th year of Tao-kuang, the villages of Chin-t'ien, Hua-chow, Loo-ch'uan, Po-po, and Pai-sha rose at the same time. The Tien-wang was at this time, unknown to any one, concealed in the house of one Hoo-yi-kuang. The Tung, Pei, and Yi-wang were then at the Chin-t'ien village, adjoining Teng-sien. The insurrection took place about 25 miles distance from my home, but the intermediate road between my home and the scene of action consisted of one succession of almost impenetrable hills. I learnt at this time of the rising in Chin-t'ien and that the Tung-wang had dispatched an escort to Hua-chow to fetch the Tien-wang to Chin-t'ien. As soon as the Tien-wang arrived at that place, three banditti chieftains, Ta-t'ou-yang, Ta-li-yu and Lo-ta-kang came and joined him. Ta-t'ou-yang, however, seeing that the worshippers were not very formidable, and being impressed with the idea that they would be unable to carry out any great work, deserted to the Imperialist forces under General Hsiang-yung (Hing-wing). After the Tien-wang arrived at Chin-t'ien he moved his camp to Wu-hsuan, Tung-san, and San-li, for the purpose of increasing his numbers. He then went to Hsiang-chow, and having collected some more followers here, he finally returned to
Chin-t'ien, where he prolonged his stay for several months. He was here hemmed in on all sides by the Imperialists, but managed, through a pass in the hills, to reach Szu-wang and Szu-hui, where he found General Hsia-yung had pitched ten camps. These being destroyed by the Tung and the Hsi-wang, he was able to escape, and by a land and water journey he contrived eventually to reach Yung-an-chow.

I was still at home at this time when I learnt that the troops would pass near my home on their way to Yung-an-chow. The great distress of our home was the sole cause of my leaving it. Our family led a very precarious existence, having to subsist in the best way we could. From the age of 8 to 10 I was engaged in study, but at that period I was obliged to assist my father and mother in working for our daily sustenance. It was not until I had attained the age of 26 that I heard of Hung-sien-sheng projecting a new doctrine. But to return to the period of the Tien-wang's march to Yung-an. When he had reached Ta-huang-seu, he disposed his forces into naval and military and advanced upon Yung-an by two routes. The land force that passed through Ta-li was under the command of the Western and Northern kings and Lo-ta-kang, and the river force under the Eastern and Southern kings. The Northern and Western kings during the five days they were at Ta-li, consumed the whole of the provisions of the place, as well as the people's clothes, and repeated this practice at every village they met. The Hsi-wang, who was residing at a village near our house, issued an order to the effect that those worshipping Shangti need not be afraid and run away, and when about to move the camp, his orders were that the worshippers were to burn their houses on their departure: The villagers were ignorant as to the distance they would have to go, and when they had gone beyond 30 miles they found they were unable to turn back, being pursued in the rear by Imperialist troops. We went on direct to Yung-an, carried the place and took up a position there. A few months succeeding this it was invested by Sai-shang-a, Wu-lan-t'ai and Hing-wing, and communication completely cut off.

A narrow outlet was discovered at Ku-su-ch'ung, a place then in possession of the Imperialists. Lo-ta-kang assaulted and carried this place, and by this means we obtained some ten piculs (or more than 1,000 lbs.) of gunpowder. Had we not had this supply we should have been unable to force our way through the passage.
While in Yung-an we had not a single ounce of powder.

Ch'in-jih-ch'ang was Commandant of Yung-an, the Imperialists were in charge of Chang-ching-siu. After the siege was raised we moved on to Hsien-lui, where we were pursued by General Wu and 2,000 of our people, some of them women, were cut up. Under the pressing state of circumstances we made a desperate attack, the succeeding day, upon Wu's divisions and killed four or five thousand men. General Wu himself was wounded and died subsequently at Loo-t'ang-seu. After our victory, the Eastern king issued orders not to move by way of Chao-p'ing and P'ing-lo, but by the narrow road through Niu-chiao-ku, and proceed from thence to Kuei-lin to besiege that city. After a fruitless attack of a month on this place, we withdrew, and, crossing the stream near the Elephant-nose hills, advanced upon Ch'uan-chow by way of Hsing-an. We captured this place, and after its capture the Southern king was killed in battle. We now had in contemplation a descent upon Tao-chow,—attacked and captured Yung-ming and Chiang-hua, and obtained an acquisition of 20,000 men to our numbers. We were pursued by a few thousand men under Hsing-wing and Chang-kuo-liang, and moved our quarters to Ch'en-chow, where we obtained a further increase of 20,000 or 30,000 men to our force. The Western king with Li-k'ai-fang and Lin-fung-siang then attacked Ch'ang-sha, at which time I was still an ordinary soldier, not having been yet elevated to any position. When the Western king attacked Ch'ang-sha, the Tien-wang and the Eastern king were still at Ch'en-chow, but as soon as they learnt of the death of the Western king, who was shot in one of the attacks on the city, they at once came on to Ch'ang-sha and made a vigorous attack upon the place. Though several breaches were made from mines sprung under the walls, still our troops were unable to get in. On the outside we were besieged by a force under Hsiang and Chang who were at Sha-chow, immediately opposite Ch'ang-sha. We attacked and killed several thousands of this force and again assaulted the city, but, as before, without success. The Heavenly troops had provisions, but were without oil and salt, and hence were unable to accomplish their work. The Tien-wang at this time inaugurated his government seal (outside the south gate) and was styled a "Wan sui" (Immortal one). His wife bore the title of Queen. The East, South and other kings were created before this ceremony took place.
THE AUTOGRAFIC DEPOSITION OF CHUNG-WANG.

Being unable to enter Ch'ang-sha we concluded to move our
force, and intended to enter Ch'ang-te* by the Tung-ting lake, and
finally make our home in Hoonan. On our arrival at Yi-yang we
captured several thousand boats, and, altering our original course,
moved down the river with the stream, ultimately reaching Yo-
chow† by the Tung-ting lake. We here parted our land and water
forces and descended into Hoopeh. Our capture of Yo-chow put
us in possession of Wu-san-kuei's war materiel, which we trans-
ferred to our boats, then on their way to Hoopeh. In one assault
we took Han-yang and Hankow, and then laid siege to Wu-ch'ang,
which we captured by undermining the walls.

The Eastern king had at this time the supreme direction of the
army, and Li-k'ai-fang and Lo-ta-kang the control of the soldiers
themselves.

The attack on Wu-ch'ang lasted 20 days before it was success-
ful. After we had taken the city we did not garrison it, but left
immediately for Yang-lo. We stormed Huang-chow,‡ obtained
possession of Chan-shui, Chan-chow and Kiu-kian, and by combined
naval and military movement attacked and carried the Ngan-hui
capital. Ngan-king, however, was not held, but the troops went
on straight to Kiangnan and invested Nanking on every side. Af-
ter seven days the E-feng gate was blown up and an entrance
effected through the breach. Upwards of 1,000 boats laden with
supplies fell into our hands. The Tien-wang and the Tung-wang
now conceived the idea of garrisoning the place and proceeding to
Honan with the intention of settling in that place. An old Hoo-
nan sailor with a loud voice entreated the Tung-wang not to go to
Honan;§ he said "the rivers are small in Honan and if besieged
there you will be unable to obtain any rescue; now that you have
got Kiangnan, the command of the Great River and a number of
boats, what necessity is there for a move to Honan; Nanking
should be the Imperial home, and as the city is lofty, the moat
deep and the people wealthy, why not establish your capital here,
why think of going to Honan?" He further said, "Honan, al-
though somewhat central and sufficiently secure against danger, is
really nothing equal to Kiangnan; let me request the Tung-wang
to consider the matter over."

* Lat. 29. 1°N., Long. 111. 27°E.
† Lat. 29. 24°N., Long. 112. 54°E.
‡ Lat. 30. 26°N., Long. 114. 49°E.
§ In the Chinese text it is Honan but it may be a misprint for Hoonan.
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The Tung-wang reflected on the words of the sailor, and finally determined not to go.

As soon as the person of the Tien-wang was moved into Nan-king, the city was consecrated, [that is, it received its present designation of Heavenly capital.] A regular army was now formed, and a military system introduced. The Tung-wang was entrusted with the duties of Minister of State. Everything was set in order and invested with strictness. Laws were enacted for maintaining peace among the people. A distinction was made between male and female, each had his or her proper sphere of duty allotted out, and a hundred things were put in practice. Those of a military turn were enrolled in the army and those unwilling to join were allowed to return home. Those making their exit from the city were allowed to carry away anything in their hands, but were not allowed to make use of bamboos or poles for transporting their effects. Males were disallowed to converse with females, and mothers were not allowed to hold communication with their sons. The measures were extremely strict and proper and the popular feeling exhibited great satisfaction. A stringent order was enacted for giving peace to the people, it was that no officer or soldier, who should enter a person’s house when the work of restoring order [after the capture of any place] was in progress, should be spared.

The laws and statutes were so strict that in 1853, operations were carried on with great success, and the public mind was generally contented. The Tung-wang’s orders were so severe that the military and people were all afraid.

The majesty or rather vanity of the Tung-wang was gaining ground. Being at the head of the dynasty he felt himself in an independent position, and was heedless of the jealousy he was creating around. Wei-ch‘ang-hui, Shiht-ta-k’ai and Chi’in-jih-ch‘ang, being the promoters of the rebellion, were enraged at the Tung-wang’s behaviour in arrogating to himself such majesty, and though openly civil bore inward malice against him. The Pei-wang was likewise galled at the Tung-wang and subsequently assassinated him. The original agreement between the Pei and the Yi-wang was that the Tung-wang alone should be killed, as he was the one that was much confided in by the Tien-wang and his power was too much on the increase. He wanted the Tien-wang to make him a “Wan-sui” and on account of his wielding the power single-handed, he finally compelled the Tien-wang to proceed in person
to his palace and perform the ceremony there. The Pei-wang and Yi-wang were moved at this and determined secretly to exterminate the Tung-wang as well as his three brothers, but no more. The Pei-wang, however, slew the whole of the Tung-wang’s relations and followers, both civil and military, male and female. As soon as the Yi-wang learnt of this slaughter, he was much annoyed, and in company with Tseng-chin-chien and Chang-jui-mu, marched at once to the capital with the intention of endeavouring to spare life. He was however, surprised to find the Pei-wang bent on murdering him, so he scaled the wall near the South gate, and made his way to Nganking with the determination to have revenge when he could. The Pei-wang then killed the whole of the Yi-wang’s family. When the Yi-wang moved with the Hung-shan troops to the rescue of Ning-kuo, the Pei-wang had then arrived at the zenith of his cruelty; he was killing indiscriminately good and bad, civil and military, females as well as males, and small and great. The whole popular voice was raised against him, and as he was becoming too intolerable to be borne any longer, he was last assassinated,—when the people became a little settled. The head of the Northern King was subsequently sent to Ning-kuo for the inspection of the Yi-wang, who recognised it as being the head of no other than his enemy.

The Yi-wang then returned to the capital and without a dissentient voice was elected a member of the government. The King, however, was not delighted and wholly employed the Ngan-wang Hung-jen-fa his eldest brother, and the Fu-wang, Hung-
Kings and the Yi-wang, their progress, and the disturbances and murder that took place between them. I will now explain the whole particulars of my own career, and the operations that were carried on yearly, deceiving not and concealing nothing.

CHAPTER II.

I was born at Hsin-wang, a small village in T'ieng-sien in the Kuangsi province. My father's name was Li-shih-kao and my mother's maiden name Loo. From Kuangsi to Nanking I was in the ranks and had no influence whatever in the administration of the government affairs. After the capture of Nanking I became an assistant to Hoo-yi-kuang, Secretary of State. The Tung-wang, however, having issued a general order to select an officer of military merit to take command of the new levies, I was recommended for the appointment, and was put in charge of the battalion outside the T'ai-p'ing gate. In the 8th month of the same year (1853) I received promotion, and took charge of the Kao-ch'iao (lofty bridge) outside the E-feng gate. In the 10th month, I accompanied the Yi-wang to Nganhui in order to restore quiet there. My position at this time was low, as I was only a messenger or aide-de-camp. After the capture of Loochow by Hoo-yi-kuang, I was ordered to that place to restore order there, and received further promotion in this year (1854).

The E-wang having left on account of his disagreement with the Ngan and Foo-wang, the Eastern and Northern kings being dead, and Ch'in-jih-ch'ang having likewise suffered in the dispute between them; there was no one at home to carry on the government. No. 18, Chih-hui, Ch'Ien-yu-ch'eng,* No. 20, Chih-hui, Li-siu-ch'eng†, the Tsan-tien-an Meng-te-en, the Shih-t'een-foo Li-shih-hsien ‡ were then selected to aid the government. I had the fortune at this time to win over Chang-lo-sing and Kung-te-shu with their followers, and in a decree from the Tien-wang, was nominated to the rank of Ti-kuan-fu-ch'eng-siang (temporal under-secretary of state), and given charge of the garrison of Tung-ch'eng, with directions to hold Ngan-hui against all opposition. The dispute between

* Afterwards the Ying-wang.
† The Chung-wang.
‡ The Chung-wang's cousin.
the Yi and the Ngau and Foo princes having caused the E-wang to march far away from the capital, the popular spirit was generally troubled.

When Loo-chow was captured by the Imperialist General Ho (ch'un) the whole of the garrison was killed. General Ho then moved down the river with Chang-kuo-liang, and laid siege to Chinkiang. Part of his army under Chin-ting-san was detached for the siege of Tung-ch'êng. It had drawn a cordon of intrenched camps to the number of 100, from Loo-chow as far as Wu-wei,* and had completely invested the place.

Being at this time in Tung-ch'êng I exerted myself to the utmost to hold it in order to preserve Nganhui, it being the key to that province. Li-chao-show, who was a colleague of mine and in the same camp, wrote to Chang-lo-sing and Kung-té-shu, two friends of his who were then rising in San-ho-chien, to come over and render assistance. A most satisfactory reply was received, in which they evinced their readiness to join us. Seeing, however, that the aspect of affairs was threatening, I sent a messenger to ask for succour from Ch'en-yu-ch'êng who had taken over the E-wang's command when that person left, and who was then at Ning-kao.† I had in my early youth formed an acquaintance with Ch'en, our homes being close together, and our friendship had ripened since the capture of Nanking. My request was complied with, and though the siege of Ning-kuo was still going on, an army, was detached for the relief of Tung-ch'êng. The troops crossed the river and halted at Tsung-yang‡. I then went personally, equipped as lightly as possible, to that place and drew out a plan of the operations to be carried on, and discussed them well with Ch'en-yu-ch'êng. The Imperialist troops, under the impression that we should meet them in the front, prepared themselves well on all sides, but we determined on resorting to a strategic movement, and as soon as we had sent out a body of Ch'i-ping (skirmishers?) I myself returned to Tung-ch'êng and carefully, pursued my measures of defence. The movement of Ch'en-yu-ch'êng having been successful, a large body of our soldiers moved from Tsung-yang right on to Wu-wei-chow, which they took. Then went on to Tung-t'ou-chên and Yuen-ts'ao, and, forming a junction with
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Ch'en-shih-chang's troops, destroyed the camps at Tang-t'ow, skirited the Huang-lo stream, stormed Tung-kuan, and took Ch'ao-sien, in both of which places they left garrisons. Ch'en-yu-ch'eng with cavalry as well as infantry advanced upon Loo-chiang which was once more taken. Having left some men to garrison this place, he at once proceeded with an army to Pei-ho (stream), attacked Ta-kuan and drew a line of circumvallation round the beleaguered force at Tung-ch'eng, thus cutting off the Imperialist supplies. On one side of Tung-ch'eng were high hills (mountains) and on the other a level plain. The Imperialist supplies being cut off, Ch'en-yu-ch'eng drew his lines closer round their rear, whilst I at the head of my army issued out of the city and attacked them in front. The result was their utter defeat and our pursuit of them by three different routes. We stormed Shoo-ch'eng, came into possession of Lu-an and were joined by several tens of thousands of the people. We then crossed to San-ho-chien and invited Chang-lo-sing to join us, and to our great surprise he dispatched Ku-te-shu to meet us. We then decided to assault Ho-ch'iu,* and after we had carried it, we handed it over to the care of Chang-lo-sing. Ch'en-yu-ch'eng then stormed Ch'eng-yang-kuan† and attacked Shou-chow,‡ but being repulsed here, he withdrew his troops to Huang-mei and Soo-sung. He engaged General Tseng's army and that of Li-hsii-pin, and after the failure at Sung-tzu-p'ai, had several indecisive battles with Imperial troops. The capital was deficient in officers and outside had no generals save Ch'en-yu-ch'eng and myself. The government decided that we should be retained outside the capital for the purpose of carrying on the conquest. My cousin Li-shih-hsien being an athletic and brave youth, was selected to take a secondary command. Meng-te-en, a great favourite of the Tien-wang, and one who had not been outside the capital, was eventually made General-in-Chief, and invested with control both inside and outside the capital. Both myself and Ch'en-yu-ch'eng were to be guided by him in our operations. Ever since the E-wang left the capital and the Northern king was murdered, the feeling of the people had undergone a great change. The governmental affairs were in disorder, each man was pursuing his own course, and there was no union be-

* Lat. 32.23 N., Long. 116.13 E.
† Lat. 32.23 N., Long. 116.29 E.
tween them. The Sovereign had become reserved, and the affair between the Eastern, Northern and Yi wangs had so alarmed him that he was distrustful of his ministers, and had confidence only in his own family and relations. There was a unanimous desire at this time to separate, but fears were entertained that they would only be decapitated, as they had learnt that the Imperialists spared no Kuangsi men that fell into their hands, so instead of dispersing they united more closely together. Had the Imperialist dynasty been willing to spare Kuangsi men, a break-up would have taken place long ago.

Upon its being represented to the Tien-wang that the spirit of desertion was prevalent amongst the people, he issued a gracious decree, which had the effect of instilling fresh vigour into the army. For several years after, this martial spirit prevailed entirely, owing to this one burst of enthusiasm. Ch'ên-yu-ch'êng was now stationed at T'ai-hoo and Chien-shan, whilst I was maintaining hold of Loo-ngan* and Ho-shan. In company with Ch'ên-yu-ch'êng I then proceeded to Ngan-hui. Our object was to discuss the present troubles and to endeavour to devise some means to put a stop to them. Ch'ên-yu-ch'êng was promoted to the post of General, still retaining his former title, while I was made a Lieutenant-General and had power to move troops in any direction I required. Being now in a high position, I could not forbear remonstrating against the state of affairs and the way the Tien-wang was having dust thrown in his eyes. I prayed our Chief in my memorial, to select men of worth to assist him, to pass a law for the relief of the people, to promulgate strict laws, and to renovate the internal administration. I advised him to treat the people with great attention and still employ the Yi-wang in preference to the Ngan and the Foo princes. My remonstrance resulted in the issue of a decree depriving me of my rank. However, I wrote a second memorial and gave therein a general view of matters, beside discussing largely upon the movement. My memorial happening to pass through the hands of one of the ministers, he was so struck with its clearness and pointedness that he presented it himself, and I was re-installed in my previous position.

Chinkiang was besieged at this time by General Ho-ch'ûn, and external communication cut off. The city inside was without supplies, and outside without succour. The Yi-wang being

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* Lat 31.49 N., Long. 116.31 E.
a great way off, the only available troops were my own and those of Ch'ên-yu-ch'êng. I was therefore ordered to Chinkiang and taking with me the whole of the army from Loo-an, marched in that direction, and rescued the troops, though the place fell.

CHAPTER III.

Ho-ch'un and Chang-kuo-liang then advanced upon Che-jung where Chow-sheng-fu was in charge. After a few months attack upon the place it was taken, and Nanking invested by the same troops a second time. Here we will leave this subject for the present and relate the particulars of the first investment of Nanking under General Heang-yung. The siege to which I refer was undertaken by Heang-yung and Chang-kuo-liang with several thousand Manchoos, and about 30,000 Chinese troops. They advanced by Hsiao-ling-wei and took up a position at Chu-hung and Wu-fen outside the South and East gates, and extended their lines as far as the Seven old men's bridge. While Heang-yung was investing Nanking, Chinkiang was being likewise besieged by a Manchou General named Heih* who had encamped at Chin-hua-shan, and in the neighbourhood of Tan-tu and Chin-shan. In concert with Ch'ên-yu-ch'êng and others I immediately proceeded to relieve Chin-kiang, but when we reached Tang-tou we met with Chang-kuo-liang and fought several indecisive battles with his troops. General Chi then detached some regiments to reinforce him, and we brought our best men forward to meet them. We fought a great battle, at Tang-tou, and neither side could effect its purpose. We wanted to rescue the garrison and could not, and Chi and Chang wanted to defeat me but were equally unable to do so. We then held a council of war, and it was decided that Ch'ên-yu-ch'êng should proceed down the river to Chin-kiang in a small boat. This he did, and, notwithstanding the strictness of the blockade kept up by the Imperialist gunboats, he made his way, in spite of every danger, into the city.

The agreement was that he and Wu-ju-hsiao, the Commandant of Chinkiang, should make an attack from the city, while I was to make an attack from the outside at the same time. We discovered afterwards that there was a small creek leading from the river to
Tang-t'ou, and that the Imperialists had taken up somewhat of an impregnable position. We therefore moved our position to the T'ang-shui hill, but we were immediately followed by the Imperialists, who took up a position on the side of the hill to prevent our ingress. We were not doomed to be defeated this time, for Ch'ên-yü-ch'êng and Wu-ju-hsiao fought their way out of the city. I was watching the fight from the summit of a hill, and in the night I led in person some 3000 veterans, and crossing the creek by Tang-wu took possession of and repaired the deserted camps of the Imperialists. On the following morning at daylight Ch'ên-shih-chang and the two other commanders at the T'ang-shui hills, engaged the army of Generals Chi and Chang, whilst I, unknown to them, crossed over by Tang-t'ou with the object of getting into their rear. It was only in the afternoon that they became aware of my intention to intercept their retreat. The distance from T'ang-t'ou to the T'ang-shui hills is about 6 miles. When Wu-ju-hsiao and Ch'ên-yü-ch'êng joined us, we were all excessively delighted, and gave way to clamorous rejoicings. We fought on the following day with Generals Chi and Chang, and defeated them, capturing besides sixteen of their stockades. On the same day we moved to Chinkiang, and took up our position at Chin-shan,* and Chin-chiling at the foot of the Chiu-lua hills, facing the forces of General Chi. General Chi had taken every measure of precaution to prevent any surprise on his head quarters, and had fortified himself on all sides. That night we crossed the river from Golden Island to Kua-chow, and at daybreak attacked and carried the Imperialist earthworks there and at Hung-ch'iao (red bridge.) The camps at P'oo-choo-wan and San-ch'a-ho to the number of 120, were entirely deserted by the Imperialists when they learnt of our success. We therefore followed up our advantage, stormed Yang-chow and transferred all the supplies obtained in that neighbourhood to Chin-kiang. The commandants of Tang-t'ou and Cha-ho as well as of T'ang-shui then left for Chinkiang and crossed over to Yang-chow. Chow-shêng-k'un was the only one left in charge of General Chang's old camps, and he was left for the purpose of covering the retreat. When T'u-ch'iao and Yang-chow had been taken, and everything was settled, I was desirous of returning to the capital with my troops. In the meantime Chow-shêng-k'un had been defeated by Chi and Chang-kuo-liang, his stockades taken and

* Golden Island.
strengthened by the Imperialists and my return to the capital hence obstructed. I had no hope of success at this time, as all my troops were at Yang-chow and E-ching. I then made an attempt to return to Nanking by way of Loo-ho and Pu-kou* but as soon as Chang-kuo-liang became aware of this movement, he immediately proceeded to Loo-ho† and took up a position there, thus once again frustrating my plans. Our only plan now under the circumstances was to make one great effort and sell our lives as dearly as possible. We then crossed the river, and before Chang-kuo-liang had returned from Loo-ho, attacked Kao-tzu and drove General Chi, who came by way of Chiu-hua-shan in the hope of rescuing the place, into the Kao-tzu hills where he committed suicide by shooting himself. On the death of their chief the Imperialists were thrown into great disorder, and when we became aware of what had happened, we shifted our position to Chiu-hua-shan, and on the following morning drew up our columns at the foot of the hill, but the Imperialists having no leader retired without fighting, and left in possession of seventy or eighty stockades. Chan-kuo-liang, as soon as he learnt of the loss of Chi’s camps, hastened at once from Loo-ho, but he was too late to rescue them. He then took up a position at Tan-t’u and I moved forward with my victorious columns to attack him, being supported by Wu-ju-hsi’ao with his cavalry and infantry. We first defeated Chang-kuo-liang’s cavalry and then our infantry advanced. Chang’s army was severely beaten, and on the following morning we commenced our march for the capital.

The Imperialists at Tàng-t’ou, seeing that the camps at Chiu-hua hill had been deserted, likewise fled and left us a clear path direct to the capital. The Eastern King then told me to storm General Heang-yung’s works, adding that this must be accomplished before I should be allowed to enter the city. He made my victorious army stop in the neighbourhood of Yen-tzu-chi and imposed an impossibility on them. So much dissatisfaction was prevalent amongst the soldiers that Ch’en-yu-chéng and myself determined to proceed to the capital and have an interview with the Eastern King. When we arrived there we stated our unwillingness to attack Heang-yung’s position, giving our reason that it had been held for some time, was of great strength and that it would

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* A walled city immediately opposite Nanking.
† Lat. 32.20N. Long. 118.60 E.
be impossible to assault it with the chance of any speedy success. The Eastern King became greatly enraged and told us that the penalty of disobedience to orders was death.

We did not therefore venture to say any more, but immediately hastened away to plan our operations. On the following day I opened the campaign by moving my position from Yen-tsueh-chi to the T'ao-fang gate and placing four camps there. The Yao-hua gate was then held by one of Heang-yung's generals. The morning after, Chang-kuo-liang returned to Hsiao-ling-wei from Tan-tiu and induced his army to engage mine. The result of which was he was defeated and fell back upon Hsiao-ling-wei. I then shifted my position, and closely besieged the Yao-hua gate. Chang-kuo-liang again attacked us with Manchew cavalry and infantry, but by the assistance of the Yi-wang he was defeated.

On the same day an unsuccessful attempt was made to rescue the Yao-hua-mên. We pursued the retreating Imperialists on all sides, and following up our advantage took more than 20 stockades at Hsiao-ling-wei, after which Heang-yung and Chang-kuo-liang retired of their own accord, unpursued by us. Orders were received from the Eastern King directing Ch'ên-ya-ch'êng and myself to collect all the arms that were in Heang-yung and Chang-kuo-liang's camps, and send them to the city. We had instructions also to pursue our victory by capturing Chu-jung and then marching on Tan-yang.

Heang and Chang reached Tan-yang six or seven days before we did, but we engaged them and finally drove them into the city. Here they maintained an obstinate defence, but did not venture outside. The Imperialists were all well disciplined and in good condition, so that my attacks were fruitless. My ill success caused the enemy to become courageous, and a vigorous sally was made upon my troops outside the South Gate by Chang-kuo-liang. We had a severe battle, but neither side obtained any definite advantage.

General Heang-yung, finding himself closely besieged in Tan-yang and with the weight of the loss of Hsiao-ling-wei preying on his mind, committed suicide by strangling himself. Chang-kuo-liang being much devoted to Heang-yung, as if the latter were his father, when he heard of what had taken place, attacked us with increased boldness, captured seven of our camps outside the South Gate of Tan-yang, killed six or seven hundred of our men, inclu-
ding the chief, Chow-te-sien, and scattered the remainder. The loss of Chow-tê-hsien, who was a man of courage, coupled with the failure to get into Tan-yang, caused the troops to become alarmed, and show every intention to desert. Being really at a loss as to what to do, we withdrew our forces to Chin-t'an which we attacked, but again were unsuccessful. We fought with Chang-kuo-liang for twenty consecutive days without any result. Li-chao-show was at this time in the field attacking cities, but likewise with ill success. It occurred just at this time that the Eastern King was assassinated, an event that was surely ordained by heaven. Had General Heang-yung not been defeated, but still held on to Hsiao-ling-wei, he might have availed himself of the disturbances in the capital, and captured it, as it could not possibly have held out at that time. But it so happened that Heang-yung was defeated before the trouble at home, a conclusive evidence of the inscrutable ways of providence, which man is not permitted to fathom. The insurrection in the city commenced in the sixth year. The Tung-wang was first murdered, then the Pei-wang, and after that the Yi-wang forced by the Ngan and Foo Princes to flee from the city.

A dispatch arriving from the Commander of the forces at San-ho to say that the place was closely beleaguered, I was ordered to proceed with a force of cavalry and infantry to its relief, but before I had reached Wu-wei-chow, the San-ho troops had been defeated and Loo-chiang had fallen. As soon as Chang-kuo-liang's troops had recovered from their defeat they attacked and captured Chujung and at once moved on to Chinkiang and laid siege to that place. When they had captured it, they went on to Nanking which they invested. This occurred in the 8th year (1858). It was a period of great difficulty, the Yi-wang had taken all the troops away with him. Yang-foo-ch'ing was at Fo-kien, Wei-chih-tsun had taken refuge in Lin-chuan, Lin-shao-chang had been degraded and dismissed for losses sustained at Hsiang-t' an*. Lin-ch'i-ying was shut in at Kiukiang, Huang-ven-chin was at Hookow, likewise besieged. Chang-ch'ao-chiao and Ch'en-tê-ts'ai were alone at Nganhui without troops. Ch'en-yü-ch'eng though prosperous was still in a minor position. He was then near the Little Orphan in the neighbourhood of Hua-yang-chên. The capital was in a great state of ferment, and the only ministers were Meng-tê-ên and

* Lat. 27.52 N. Long. 112.42 E.
Li-ch'un-fa, both men without ability, and who were, moreover, kept in hand by the Ngan and Foo Princes. When Ho and Chang invested Nanking, the city was fortunately well supplied with necessaries, nay, indeed, there was even an overplus of everything. Although the garrison was not numerous, still there was no dearth of food, and each man was ready to make an obstinate defence. Chang-kuo-liang's men were natives of Kuangsi and excellent troops, still they were not equal to General Tséng's men. Kuang troops are unquestionably hardy but are not united in spirit. There were several thousand Manchoo cavalry that assisted in the siege, but they not being so formidable as Hooman troops, no apprehensions were felt during this siege of 1858 and 1859. Ho and Chang were drawing their supplies from Fo-kien, Kuang-tung, Soochow, Hang-chow and Kiangsi. We only possessed Nganking, Wu-wei-chow, Ch'ao-sien, Wu-lu and the strong positions of the East and West Pillars, with Hochow for our commissariat station, and the communication with the capital through Kiang-poo and Pû-k'ou only partially interrupted.

Although General Tê (sing-a) had destroyed [the works on the] western P'oo, yet the road above Ho-chow was still intact. Meantime, Nanking was being closely invested by the three generals, Ho-ch'ün, Chang-kuo-liang and Tê, but, being amply supplied in everything, was maintaining an obstinate resistance. Its preservation was, moreover, owing to the steps taken. My cousin was selected for the post of my previous command, and took up a strong position at Huang-chih and Wan-chih. I was entrusted with the general direction of affairs and at this period enjoyed the confidence of the Chief. The military orders were exceedingly strict, and none dare disobey them, on the contrary, all readily submitted to any proposal of mine. The North and East gates were already invested, and the South gate was on the point of being so. This state of affairs being unsatisfactory, and there being no general outside who could be ordered to come to our relief, we were obliged to hold a council of war, when I expressed a wish to leave the city and return with troops to its rescue. All were in tears at this proposal, and entreated me not to go, the Tien-wang likewise was averse to my leaving. A few days after this I beat the gong and drum at the palace gate to announce that I had something to communicate. I was compelled to resort to this course from the desperate state of affairs that was more than ap-
parent. Having beaten the gong, the Chief mounted his throne, and I, in as complete a manner as possible, represented the state of affairs to him, and told him that the dynasty ought not (then) to come to an end, as the conquest was still incomplete. He became alive to the force of my words, and acceded to my request, so, on the following day, I handed over the affairs to the charge of Mêng-te-ên, afterwards the Tsan-wang, Lin-shao-chang, afterwards the Chang-wang, (who had been previously summoned home and put in a prominent position) and Li-chûn-fa, and requested the Tien-wang to prevent any interference in the government from his two brothers. When I had arranged everything satisfactorily I took my leave of the Chief, and departing by the South gate, in 24 hours reached Wu-hu, when I had a consultation with my cousin Li-shih-sien, and we came to the conclusion that one should work his way on the South bank and the other on the North bank of the river.

The bravery of the Imperialists seemed to be increasing, and we were apparently surrounded on every side. Our men were getting dispirited, and there was no outlet for escape. This being the first time I had undertaken such a heavy responsibility, coupled with my unacquaintance with affairs, led me to proceed with great recklessness, but this course eventually turned out for good, for my careless proceedings succeeded, and my stupid movements proved correct and the means of preserving the kingdom up to the present time. When Wei-chih-tsun and Chên-yû-chêng entered Koo-shih and Shang-chêng, the Tien-wang was going to punish the former person, but I interposed and obtained promotion for him, and he joined the forces of Chên-yû-chêng. Chên-yû-chêng then endeavored to make a raid into Tê-an in order to obtain reinforcements of men and horses, but he was unexpectedly hindered by Providence from effecting his object. Being defeated near Lo-tien and Ma-chêng he was obliged to return and take up a stand at the Chieu-shan (hills) on the T'ai-hoo (lake). The period to which I am now referring was the 6th month of the 8th year (1858).

Chên-yû-chêng was a long way off, Li-shih-sien was holding a place on the south shore, and I was left in a hopeless condition at Wu-hu. I had then under me 5,000 good men. With these

* Lat. 31.18. Long. 113.38 E.
† Lat. 30.53. Long. 115.22 E.
I crossed the river, part of them going direct over from Wu-hu and the other part crossing from the East to the West pillar, the place of rendezvous being the Han hill. The only officers I had were Ch’èn-k’un-shu, Hsiao-chao-shêng, Wu-t’ing-ts’ai and Ch’ên-ping-wên. We had no sooner assembled at the Han hills than Ho-chow fell, and twenty Imperialist stockades were thrown up there. We had no other plan than to storm Chao-kuan and make our way to Ho-chow. We first assaulted the Imperialists at Ho-lin-poo [an out station] and finally destroyed the twenty stockades at Ho-chow, General Tê, though coming with all speed to the relief, was just too late. I then proceeded with my men to attack Ch’üen-chiao, Ch’u-chow, Lai-nga-n and other places, my object being to cut in two the strength of General Tê. Though I partially accomplished this I had no troops I could use, and only got as far as Lai-nga-n. Shêng-pao then attacked me with his cavalry, gained several victories and finally compelled me to retire (from Lai-nga-n) on Ch’u-chow. This place I handed over to Li-chao-show, one of my officers, who had always received the greatest kindness from me. An amount of displeasure was caused by this apparent unfairness, and my officers were very dissatisfied. Li-chao-show’s troops were a disorderly lot, they were constantly troubling the people and plundering any city that was taken; and when this could not be effected they vented their rage on the people themselves. Li-chao-show was in the habit of chastising the commanders of the places round, until he was ashamed to meet me and finally sent in his submission to the Imperialists. The fact is that I never censured him even half a word, when under me, either for committing ravages or falling out with my other officers, nor

* Commonly known as Li-ch’ang-show and afterwards as Li-shih-chung. He was Lieutenant General and had his head-quarters at Ch’u-chow. He seemed to be a very sharp man when I saw him, had immense influence and power and was generally feared. He is one among the very few who has managed to play his cards well, that is, who has rebelled and managed to desert to the Imperialists at the right time.—[Ta.]

† The Chung-wang is pretty correct in what he says here, for Li-ch’ang-show’s men were a disorderly lot of the worst class.—[Ta.]

‡ Li-ch’ang-show ruled with absolute power, and executed people for the least offence. I was told at Ch’u-chow that his cook was summarily decapitated one day for a slight defect in his cooking.—[Ta.]
did I reprove him for giving up Ch'ü-chow, but, on the contrary, by deceiving the Tien-wang, I got his wife out of Nanking and sent her to him.

CHAPTER IV.

I will now resume with the period when, alone and without plans, I had to undertake the relief of the capital. I am now speaking of the 8th year. As soon as Ch'ü-chow was given over to Lichao-show, I returned (myself) to Ch'üan-chiao, but had no available troops at hand. The thought that my sovereign and mother were then shut in at Nanking caused me bitter tears day and night. Although Chang-lo-sing was on our side still he was only agreeable to listen to promotion and not to active service when wanted. The only officers I had were Ch'en-kun-shu, Wu-ting-ts'ai, Hoia-chao-shen, T'ao-shao-kuang,* Loo-shun-te, and with these I determined to brave death in order to save the capital. I then moved a force of barely 5,000 men to sweep away the Imperialists from Chiang-p'u and P'u-k'ou, and to open communication with Nanking in order to pacify the minds of the people inside the city. The men were drilled daily at Ch'uen-chiao and brought into an efficient state, after which we proceeded from Ch'üan to Ta-li village, where we took up a position, intending to make our way to the two P'oo by way of Ch'iao-lin, but we were unexpectedly attacked by General Te at the above villages, and by three or four thousand cavalry under Sheng-pao, these latter, however, being comparatively raw, we managed to defeat them. The following day, however, our troops were defeated, and all our works, both old and new, taken, besides which we suffered a loss of a thousand men. Our defeated forces retreated to T'ang-ch'uan, whilst I, with a few followers, again returned to Ch'üan-chiao. Here I was in deep distress, with tears ever flowing, and without a ray of hope dawning on me.

I then wrote to the Commanders of the different places, calling on them to hold a council of war on an appointed day at Tsungyang in Nganhui. They responded to my call, and we all met at that place in the 9th month of the 8th year. Ch'en-yu-ch'eng being defeated at this time at Lo-tien and Ma-ch'eng, returned without agreement and thus was present at the council. We each took an oath that we would support each other in the conflict before

* Afterwards the Mo-wang, who, it will be remembered, was assassinated at Soochow immediately preceding the delivery up of the place.
us. Ch'en-yü-ch'êng's troops then crossed the Chien hill to Shu-ch'êng, stormed Loo-chow, and by way of Tien-p'u attacked Liang-yuan and Ting-yuan, the latter place was taken by Wu-ju-hsiao and another. Ch'en-yü-ch'êng himself, from Chieh-p'ai, advanced upon Ch'êu-chow, whilst I returned to Ch'uen-chiao from Tsung-yang, in order to muster my men, having done which I joined him at Ch'êu-chow. General Tê, who was then at P'u-k'ou, dispatched a body of troops by way of Siao-tien to Wu-yi, these having as a support the cavalry under Shing-pao. A great battle was fought at Wu-yi in which Shing-pao and Tê-sing-a were defeated, and in the pursuit three or four thousand men of the latter General were cut up. On the day following we pursued our way to Siao-tien, where we fell in with Chang-kuo-liang, who had come from Kiang-nan with a force of veteran soldiers, in order to rescue that place. We were again victorious, and availing ourselves of our advantage followed the retreating columns to P'u-k'ou. Ch'en-yü-ch'êng then attacked General Tê-sing-a in front while I assaulted his rear. His columns were thrown into confusion, and more than 10,000 of his men were killed at P'u-k'ou. Being at this time but the distance of the breadth of the river from the capital, we were enabled to open communication with it. This was the first movement towards the rescue of the Tien-wang. After this, Ch'en-yü-ch'êng proceeded to attack Lu-ho, whilst I advanced upon Yang-chow. In none of these places were there any troops, so that they were captured without a blow. Yang-chow was the only place that contained a garrison, and this retired without fighting. The Prefect of Yang-chow was captured but would not own allegiance, we therefore furnished him with 350 taels to pay his travelling expenses and sent him to the temple of the Fairy Genii (Hséen-nû-miao). In consequence of the limited number of my force I was unable to occupy Yang-chow. No sooner had Ch'en-yü-ch'êng taken Lu-ho than intelligence arrived of the danger that Ngan-hui was in, the same news conveying the information that the positions at Huang-mei, Su-sung, Tai-hoo, Chien-shan, Shih-p'ai, Tung-ch'êng, and Shu-ch'êng had been carried by Li-su-pin. Not less than five dispatches arrived in one day, all detailing the dangerous state of affairs. Being undesirous to remain below, Ch'en-yü-ch'êng then withdrew his troops and moved up the river to the relief of Ngan-hui. He memorialized the Tien-wang to allow me to proceed with him, and obtained consent. He, however, went on ahead with his
men, and I followed at a distance, proceeding direct to Ch'ao-sien and entering that place. Wu-t'ing-kuei was at that time closely besieged by Li-su-pin at San-ho. Ch'ên-yü-ch'êng then advanced from Ch'ao-sien to P'ai-shih hill and Chin-niu enclosing Li-su-pin's rear and cutting off his line of retreat, besides intercepting any succour he might expect from Shu-ch'êng.†

Aware of the position that Ch'ên-yü-ch'êng's troops had taken up at Chin-niu, Li-su-pin made a reconnaissance in force nearly up to Ch'ên's camp, at 2 o'clock in the morning, intending to wait till daylight before opening the attack. His officers advised him to go on at 3 or 4 o'clock, but he was afraid of the strength opposed to him, objected to any interference in his plans, and hence the battle did not take place at the hour proposed. Had Li not acted upon the advice of his officers and made the attack as suggested, Ch'ên would have been defeated to a certainty. At day break Ch'ên-yü-ch'êng's trenches were stormed and carried, and his troops pursued over Chin-niu. Daylight having but just appeared and the ravine being very wide, I could only hear human voices, but could not tell in which direction they were moving. Ch'ên was still in the rear of Li, but the latter being under the impression that Ch'ên was on ahead still, continued his pursuit, meanwhile Ch'ên assaulted and cut up Li's rear. As soon as Li became aware of this he faced about, but his men were thrown into confusion and more than a thousand of them fell.

Now when the Tien-wang signified his consent to my accompanying Ch'ên-yü-ch'êng, I was appointed to the command of the 2nd army corps, and directed to station myself at the White Stone Hill, distant about 8 miles from Chin-niu. On the morning alluded to, I was bivouacked about 3½ miles off; when, hearing incessant cannonading in the direction of Chin-niu, I concluded that the battle had commenced, and moved forward at the head of my column towards San-ho. An engagement was going on between Ch'ên's and Li's forces when I arrived on the scene.

No sooner had Ch'ên perceived me than he received a fresh impulse, and breaking through Li's centre defeated him and compelled him to retreat into his entrenchment. The Imperialists were thus left without a chance of rescue, San-ho was distant about 18 or 20

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* Lat. 31.41 N., Long. 117.46 E.
† Lat. 31.30 N., Long. 117.18 E.
miles from Lu-chow, and both that and Shoo-ch'êng were in our hands, and under the command of Wo-ju-hsiao. Under the terrible state of circumstances, without any hope or prospect of succour, Li-su-pin then committed suicide, and immediately after this, his troops for the most part entered Ch'en's army, and a few of them joined me. They turned out to be Hoonan men, and before they had got very far, killed several of Ch'en's own men in an unguarded moment; which led to orders being issued to exterminate them, and their final disappearance by desertion. After the engagement at San-ho, Ch'en and myself took different routes. He, with his head-quarters at Shoo-ch'êng, proceeded through the Ta-kuan (pass) whilst I went on to Loo-chiang and Chieh-ho-szu. At Lu-t'ing-yi we again met and planned our operations for an attack upon T'ung city, which was at this time in charge of an officer under Li's command. His recent battles with Li had given Chên a thorough acquaintance with the locality, which I lacked from not having been present at them. It was agreed that I should advance upon Tou-p'ê by the K'ung city route, and that Chên should proceed direct to T'ung-chêng by the same route. The losses sustained at San-ho had somewhat damped the ardour of the Imperialists at T'ung city, and thus they were again defeated. On the same day that the defeat occurred, the city was entered by escalade, but night had already set in before I reached the scene. The Imperialists retreated during the night, with great loss, and we occupied the city, resting our troops after this for three days. The battle at San-ho and the one at T'ung city served, as a matter of course, to raise the siege of Nganking, and to open communication with Puk'êw, and this again relieved the heavenly capital for the second time, reckoning the siege of Heang-yung as the first time. The victories gained by Chên's troops made them regardless of all caution and induced them to make an imprudent march from Shih-p'ai [stone arch] to Soo-sung, where they were met by cavalry and infantry under a Hoopèh general, dispersed and obliged to return. Chên had previous to this ordered Li-szu-fu, one of his officers, to march from Ch'ing-t's'ao-kn to the Huang-ni passage and gain the road above Shih-p'ai, in order to cooperate in a combined attack upon Soo-sung. Li-szu-fu had no sooner reached Huang-ni passage than he was attacked by cavalry, lost a whole battalion and had no

1 Lu-chow, Lat. 31.57 N. Long. 117.15 E.
† T'ung. Lat. 31.7 N. Long. 116.56 E.
strength to go any further. He was unaware of the defeat of Chén-yu-chéng, and hence both contributed to the failure of the expedition. Chén, however, was not disheartened, but only the more determined to mature plans for the capture of Soo-sung, as possession of that place secured the safety of Nganking. It was just about this time that I entered Tai-hu through Chien-shan, the Imperialists retiring as I advanced and leaving both places in my hands. After his defeat at Soo-sung, Chén returned to T'ai-hu and we there had a consultation together. His proposal was to throw out our columns as far as the Urh-lang creek, but I was totally averse to this measure and unwilling to agree to it, until many words and solicitations on his part induced me to give way, and we acted as he suggested. When we reached the creek above mentioned we were met by the forces under Pao-ch'ao and Te-lung-a, one part of them having come from Urh-lang-ho and the other from Soo-sung. Chéng-yu-chéng was at once defeated, the whole of his works taken by Pao, and he himself driven to take refuge on a hill. I was the only one whose camps had not been taken, but I was besieged until the evening, when, To and Pao withdrawing their troops, I fought my way out and returned to Tai-hu where I found Chén-yu-chéng. Chén then repaired to Nganking, leaving his troops to garrison Tai-hu. My men returned to Ch'ao-sien and Huang-shan and operations were suspended while we ushered in the new year. (1859).

In the first month of this (ninth) year, Hsüeh-chih-yuan, the commandant left in charge of Chiang-p'ü, went over to the Imperialists, and handed the place over to them at the same time.

Li-chao-show, who was at Ch'ü-chow, had established a series of intrenched camps from that place to Wu-yi, Siao-tien, Chiang-p'ü and P'ü-k'ow, thus threatening Nanking for the third time. Being still at Huang-shan I was unable to afford any succour, but as soon as I learnt of the change at Kiang-p'ü, I repaired without delay to P'ü-k'ow, which I found deserted inside, but with Li-chao-show's stockades outside the city. I was obliged to place one of my officers in charge of P'ü-k'ow, in order to keep open communication with the capital. We were fortunately in possession at this time of Lu-ho, T'ien-ch'ang, Ho-chow, Ch'ao-sien and Wu-wei.

Subsequent to this, Chang-kuo-liang crossed the river at the head of a large army, and again invested the two P'ü, and although communication was partially maintained with Nanking, still the most important route was closed. The pressing state of affairs u-
duced me to urge Ch'ên-yu-ch'êng to come down to my relief, and he arrived by way of Lu-chow and Liang-yuan. Lu-ho was besieged by a large army under one of Chang-kuo-liang's generals, a Kuang-si man named Choo. Being unsuccessful in our first attack upon his troops, we withdrew to Yang-chow, with the feigned purpose of besieging that place. General Chu had then upwards of 40 intrenched camps outside the east gate of Lu-ho, and our object was to make a feint on Yang-chow, so as to draw off part of his force, and then suddenly wheel round and cut them off.

Our plan was complete, for Choo detached part of his force to the relief of Yang-chow, and our reserve division suddenly interposed and prevented its return.

After this Chang-kuo-liang detached a reinforcement of men to their assistance, but in one fight at Ling-tzu-k'ow we routed them, and under cover of the night Choo raised the siege of Lu-ho, after suffering severe loss. We then pushed on with our victorious columns to P'u-k'ou, where we stormed the entrenchments of the Imperialist general Chow, and for five or six days engaged Chang-kuo-liang and Chang-yu-liang. Chow, seeing the want of spirit amongst his soldiers, knew that it was impossible to hold out, and therefore retired to the edge of the river, being unable to retire any further. We were now enabled to open communication with the city, and thus for the fourth time we had in part succeeded in succouring it.

After the capture of P'u-k'ou and Loo-ngan, intelligence was received of the movements of Hoo-pch troops in the neighbourhood of Huang-mei and Soo-sung, and that Ngan-hui was in danger. Ch'ên-yu-ch'êng was therefore ordered to the rescue, and I left alone to hold P'u-k'ou. The capture of the two P'u not having been carried out completely, increasing signs of a change began to betray themselves. I occupied P'u-k'ou for a long time under difficult circumstances. I had no rations to issue to the men, and the chances of success outside seemed slight. The troops of Ho-ch'un and Chang-kuo-liang were all in fine condition, and I had none that I could bring forward to cope with them. In addition to this we had no gunpowder, and at home there was no good man at the head of the government. The Tien-wang preserved his air of unconcern for all outward matters, and as usual relied throughout upon heaven. He did not think of enquiring about military affairs or governmental matters, and I was left to get out of my dilemma at P'u-k'ou in the best way I could. To make matters
worse, suspicions were entertained that I intended joining the Imperialists, and my brother and wife detained in the city as hostages, in addition to which my men were forbidden to enter the city (Nanking), I was then in correspondence with Li-chao-show, and the Tien-wang when he heard of this became apprehensive, and to secure my fidelity and guard against my change, conferred on me the title of the Faithful Prince. I myself was really ignorant as to the cause of the honour being conferred on me. I suffered much oppression and unpleasantness at this time, but being a Kuangse man and distant 300 miles from home, I saw no channel open for escape. My men being men from Canton, and from the same province as myself, were in a similar predicament, and so we were obliged to put up with our troubles. Now that my career is drawing to a close, I can but express a hope that ere long the people will enjoy peace, and that I may be excused for uttering apparently idle words. I will now resume with my narrative from the time that I was in difficulty at P‘u-k‘ou.

CHAPTER V.

Chiang-poo was now closely beleaguered. The whole of the road above was occupied by Chang-kuo-liang’s forces, and the aspect was so generally threatening as to induce me to return to the capital and memorialise the Chief.* This I did, but I obtained no satisfaction whatever. I asked the Chief from what quarter he could expect to obtain help if I were retained at Hoo-k’ow. I went over the names of the different ministers and gave him every information where they were and what they could do. Chen-yu-ch‘eng was at Chien-t’ai, Huang-mei or Su-sung fighting with the Hoo-peh troops, and could not leave his position. Wei-chih-tsun had given in allegiance to the Imperialists. Liu-kuan-fang, Lai-wen-hung and Ku-lung-sien were useless.

Yang-fu-ch‘ing was somewhere in the neighbourhood of Tung-liu and was being assailed by General Tseng’s troops. The left division under Li-shih-sien was in the neighbourhood of Nan-ling and Wan-chih.

* It is to be understood that where this word occurs with a capital letter and the particle ‘the’ before it, it represents the Tien-wang and is used instead of the word Sovereign.
Although Nanking was at this time closely besieged by Ho-ch’uun and Chang-kuo-liang, and the city but scantily supplied with provisions, the Tien-wang would not consent to my leaving in order to procure succour outside. The emergency of the time led me to use rather strong language, and I received a rebuff in consequence. The Chief neither issued orders nor did he trouble himself at all about military matters, but as before trusted in providence for everything, and this was about all he did. I had, therefore, no alternative left but to represent matters once more, and urge the absolute necessity of my quitting the city to obtain external aid. The Tien-wang seeing that he could not stop me, finally consented to my leaving, and as soon as I had handed over my command at Pu-k’ou to Huang-tzu-lung and Ch’en-tsan-ming, I proceeded direct to Wu-hu. Before four days had elapsed, the stockades outside Pu-k’ou had all been carried by Chang’s troops and Chiu-fu-chow* had likewise fallen. Nanking was now closer besieged than ever,—and this its fifth siege was being carried out by Ho-chun and Chang-kuo-liang. The place was as secure as if an iron band had encircled it, but fate had decreed that it should not fall that time. The breath of the heavenly dynasty was not yet extinguished, on the contrary a new impulse as it were diffused itself through the people’s minds. I issued circular dispatches to the commanders of the different stations, and found them all ready and willing to acknowledge me as general, and from this time the labour and responsibility of relieving Nanking devolved wholly upon me, and I had to meet all difficulties with a good will and determination. At the present day every one is acquainted with the name of the Chung-wang, Li-siu-ch’eng. A great deal of money was distributed by me among military officers irrespective of the force to which they belonged, and I also in a great measure relieved the people in distress; it is on this account that the people both within and without the capital acknowledge me, and not because I had any talent to recommend me or because I was more favoured by the Tien-wang than any other, for the Chief’s right hand man was the young Hsi-wang, Hsiao-yeu-ho, then came the eldest brother, then the second brother, then the Tien-wang’s two fathers-in-law, Ch’ung and Huang, then the Ying-wang, and lastly came Siu-ch’eng, who took

* Fort on North bank of the river, just above Pu-k’ou, and nearly opposite to Nanking—now destroyed.
THE FAITHFUL KING.

over the Ying-wang's affairs after the death of that chief. The siege of Nanking was now progressing, and events assuming a more threatening appearance daily.

On the 2nd of the 1st moon of the 10th year (1860), I issued out of Wu-hu at the head of my troops and marched to Nan-ling, crossed over to the Ch'ing-tou head land, and then over to Shuitung by the high bridge at Ning-kuo. The Imperialists had taken every precaution to prevent my attacking that place, but much to their surprise, I passed on direct to Kuang-tê-chow, which I reached in 48 hours. I attacked and carried this place and handed it over to Ch'ên-k'un-slu and Ch'ên-ping-wén. With T'an-shao-kuang* and two others I then pressed onwards to Szu-an, where we were met by Chang-kuo-liang's troops. These we engaged and defeated and then took the place. Subsequent to this we were joined by the forces under Li-shih-hsien, and made a combined attack upon Hoo-chow. This place not requiring many men to attack or garrison it, I left the affair to be carried out by my cousin, and proceeded at once to Miao-si, thence to Wu-k'ang, and in 24 hours reached Hang-chow, having then only six or seven thousand men with me. The five gates of Hangchow were speedily invested, and before four days we gained an entrance through the Ch'ing-po gate. The capture of the city was not effected by the strength of man, but accomplished by a divine dispensation, as 1250 men only were present at the attack. It was not my intention originally to attack Hang-chow, but seeing that Ho-ch'un and Chang-kuo-liang were besieging my Chief and my mother in Nanking, and knowing that the two generals derived their supplies from Hangchow, Soochow, Kiangsi, Fokien, and Kuangtê, I made this extraordinary move with a view of drawing off part of their beleaguerling force, and then intended by a surprise to compel them to raise the siege. We had several battles with the Manchuo garrison after we had entered Hang-chow, and were a long time before we were victorious. Soon after this Chang-oku-liang did (as I surmised he would) detach part of his army under Chang-yu-liang to save the city. On their arrival at the Wu-lin gate, we gained the information from them that they were part of the Kiangnan forces, and thus we knew that our plan had succeeded admirably. On the morning after their arrival, I made a great display of flags on the city walls in order to induce them to retire

* Afterwards the Mo-wang elsewhere referred to.
Strange to say and for 24 hours I was enabled to leave the city, meanwhile the enemy made no attempt to enter the city,—meanwhile the heavenly dynasty succeeded; now that these successes have been accomplished stratagem has commenced to the present time this man* has likewise owing to our sovereign's ill luck, and the increasing prosperity of the Imperialist government in this completion, for the present I will leave the details of the evacuation of the capital, and the subsequent defeat of the capital itself. After the fall of the capital to Lin-nan, from the capital and Ho-ch'un; after which I will enter into the events by Hsiao-kuang, deterred them from quitting that place immediately, besides 100 miles from Nanking, while Hangchow is at least 200 or 300 miles, and by the indirect route over 310 miles, so that Chang-yu-liang was too late to afford any assistance.

Our relief of the capital at the period to which I am now referring was mainly owing to providential aid, as without providence, we should not have been able to accomplish such an important end. Yang-fu-ch'ing had already been called upon to co-operate in the rescue of the capital, and had repaired to Ch'en-p'ing. Liu-kuan-fang, Lai-wên-hung and Koo-lung-sien had likewise been summoned and were at the same place. The meeting happened as opportunely as it did on a previous occasion, when a similar one was held at Szu-ming hill. Our council of war terminated, we each took our respective routes. Yang-fu-ch'ing proceeded to the attack of Kao-yuan and Tung-pa, Li-shih-sien was detached for the capture of Li-yang, and Liu-kuan-fang likewise went in the same direction. Success met us everywhere. Foo-ch'ing took Li-shui and the Choo-ling pass. The Shih-wang

* I imagine the Chung-wang here refers to the Tien-wang, as he qualifies the sentence by a succeeding *likewise*. He may perchance mean Hung-jen-ta the Tien-wang's brother.
(Li-shih-sien), assaulted and carried Chu-jung. I came across the Ch'ih-sha hills, without making any conquests on the route, and went straight to Hsiung-huang. Here I met Ho-ch'un's and Chang-kuo-liang's forces strongly intrenched in ten camps, but my cousin fortunately coming up, we made a combined attack on them, and after a great battle defeated them and entered Hsiung-huang without further molestation. The next morning I approached by the T'ou hill, and the Foo-wang through Mo-ling-kuan advanced towards the South gate.

The Ying-wang had some time previous to this withdrawn his troops from Chien-t'ai to Chiang-yu, and met us without any agreement. Knowing that my troops were on the South shore he crossed over from the West Pillar, and by way of Kiang-ning (chên) reached T'ou-kuan. All our troops having arrived, the next thing was to commence operations. I took up my position at the back of Chin-shan, near the Yao-fang gate. Chênn-k'ung-shu approached by the Kao-ch'iao gate and the Shih-wang by the Hung-hill. The Foo-wang took up a position at the Yü-hua-t'ai. The Ying-wang came by the P'an and the Shan bridges, Ho-chun's and Chang-kuo-liang's troops were so shut in that the front was unable to succour the rear and the rear the front. Chang-yu-liang, who had taken a fine body of troops with him to Hang-chow, had not returned, and was therefore cut off. The Imperialist supplies from Soochow, Hang-chow, Fokien, Kuangtê and Kiangse were obstructed, and hence they were hard up for provisions in the camp. Our forces being numerous at this time we were enabled with one blow to relieve Nanking—this for the sixth time. Although the siege was raised and the camps of Hochun and Chang-kuo-liang destroyed, the Imperialists did not suffer much loss but withdrew the whole of their force to Tan-yang and Chinkiang. Only 3,000 or 5,000 of their men were killed, but numbers deserted to Soochow and Chang-chow, and on the route plundered and robbed the people to such an extent that they were much incensed against them. Our influence at this period was rapidly advancing, and with such brilliant successes smiling on us who could have foreshadowed the forlorn condition that we should come to at the present day?

The sixth relief of Nanking was in no way owing to any exertion on the part of the T'ien-wang, but really to the devotedness of his faithful ministers. During the whole time that I was a com-
mander I never enjoyed a moment’s comfort, worry and continual vexation; and although the mentality of the ministers, such a grand result of the Tien-wang was more adverse than ever to any measures. He repented entirely in heaven’s dispensations, and said heaven could do everything and man nothing, and so he did not want to listen to any one.

The strength of our forces was constantly increasing, I was hemmed in and as I daily became more and more difficultly daily presented itself, with no encouraging signs issued admitting the fight, nor was there any order, nor was there any audience, nor were there any signs of great peace. Our success at the capital being accomplished we now ceased operations for three days. The Tien-wang then issued a severe decree directing me to proceed with my command and take possession of Chang-chow and Soochow, allowing me a month in which to carry this out and report success to him. My life at this time being specially at his behest I could not do otherwise than obey, and accordingly I mustered my columns and arranged them in order for another campaign. My first movement was in the direction of Tan-yang, where Chang-kuo-liang was in command. On the day after I reached this place I opened the campaign by an attack upon the south gate, and then defeated Chang-kuo-liang, he himself being afterwards drowned in the creek and 10,000 of his men cut up.

I dispatched people in different directions to find his corpse, and when it had been recovered I had it put in a coffin and interred at the foot of the Pagoda. Though Chang-kuo-liang and myself were at enmity, each of us fighting for our own sovereign, still when he died I bore him no malice, and hence my care in giving his remains a decent sepulture.

As soon as we had obtained Tan-yang, we went on to Ch’ang-chow whether the defeated army of Chang-kuo-liang had gone
after the Tan-yang affair. Troops from Soochow had likewise
collected there, and Chang-yu-liang had returned from Hang-chow
to Ch'ang-chow and fortified himself with more than forty intrenched
 camps. On the day following our arrival we engaged
Chang's forces, defeated them and completely destroyed their
 camps. The imperialists then gave up the contest and after a few
desultory attacks upon the city it finally surrendered. We did
not kill the people when we entered, but it cannot be concealed
that many committed suicide from very fear. The city having been
brought into a settled state our troops for two days,
after which we proceeded to Wu-si, where Chang-yu-
liang had taken up his position. When passing the Viceroy, had,
ere this, left the place with his family, for some unknown destination.
When our forces reached Wu-si we found that Chang-yu-liang
had already prepared himself for us, having taken up a strong
position at all the four gates. Liu (an officer of what rank I am not
aware) came from Yi-sung to support Chang-yu-liang. His army
came by the Tai-hu lake and just after it had arrived a great battle
was fought with Chang's troops, in which, after 24 hours hard
fighting, they were defeated when I was on the point of giving
way myself. Such a result naturally inspired my men with cour-
age, and with my officers I then gained the West gate from the
Hui-ch'uan hill, and here I again defeated Chang's troops and
finally captured Wu-si. Operations were now suspended for two
days to admit of arrangements being made for the care of the peo-
ple. To digress a little—after the failure of Ho-ch'un and Chang-
kuo-liang at Nanking, the two generals took different routes.
Chang, it will be remembered stationed himself at Tan-yang to
secure the safety of Soochow and Hang-chow, whilst Ho-ch'un a-
 lone had gone on to Soochow. On his way thither, and when he
had arrived at Hsü-shih-kuan, he learnt of the sad fate of Chang-
kuo-liang and this so preyed on him that he committed suicide by
strangling himself.

The day after we captured Wu-si we commenced our move to
Soochow. We had no sooner reached the Ch'ang gate and had
thought of investing the city than we were met by the whole of the
people in the Ch'ang gate street, who came out to welcome us.
The shops were all covered with placards, the tenor of which was
that the people were unanimously in favor of the complete exter-
mination of Chang's and Ho's troops, in consequence of their hat-
It was after this garrisoned by the retreating forces from Nanking and Ch'ang-chow, and Chang-yu-liang was the only general in the city, the other generals of his corps had lost their prestige since their failures at Nanking and Tan-yang and were afraid to engage us. In addition to all this the Imperialists had to contend with the people who were much against them. Li-wên-ping, Hso-sin-yi and Chow-wu (Canton men) now gave up the city to us and sent in their allegiance. The terrible state of affairs caused Chang-yu-liang to make his exit from the Pan gate with his troops, and to retire upon Hang-chow. At this city they refused to open the gates to him, which made him very angry, and he was compelled to encamp outside the Wu-lin gate, where his soldiers repeated their depredations amongst the people. As soon as Li-wên-ping had given up Soo-chow, I marched in at the head of my men restraining on my entrance from committing slaughter. In the city we found several civil and military officers, some amongst whom were Manchows. None of them received any injury, and when they were anxious to return home and were without travelling expenses, funds were provided them and boats in which they might take their departure.

We did our best to get the Soo-chow people to return, but they were implacable and would not listen to us. They were in the habit of committing depredations day and night near the city, and to such an extent that my officers wanted to exterminate them, but to this proposed measure I would on no account accede. I issued proclamations all round, but this step failing to have the desired effect, I next proceeded in person, with a few boats accompanying me, to the villages, where I found myself hemmed in with armed men, which somewhat lowered the countenances of my followers both civil and military. I was ready to part with my life to give them comfort, and though their spears and weapons were pointed at me in a threatening manner, I flinched not, but calmly reasoned with them, which had the desired result and all of them sheathed
ple of the districts, far and near, then acknowledged allegiance, which induced the people of Soo-chow and Hang-chow to do likewise.

When Chang-yu-liang's troops retreated to Hang-chow we went in pursuit of them, and on our way entered Kia-shing, where we rested for a short time while restoring the place to order. Chang-yu-liang then provisioned his men, and, after drawing up his columns, advanced upon Kia-shing, the west and south gates of which city he invested with intrenched camps to the number of forty. A breach was made in the walls and an assault made, but it was fortunately repulsed by the commanders in the city, who were equal to their work, or the place would have fallen.

When the news of Kia-shing being in danger reached Soo-chow, we were much surprised to hear that foreign devils in the pay of Governor Hsuch were attacking Tsing-poo. The place, however, was in charge of an able commander, Chow-wên-chia, or might have fared badly. The news being very unfavorable from Tsing-poo, induced me to march to that place in the middle of the 6th month, and in two days after my departure from Soo-chow I arrived there.

I then drew up my men for an attack and was met by the foreign devils whom we engaged from 7 o'clock till noon, when the army of the devils was severely defeated and six or seven hundred of them killed. We captured 2,000 stand of arms, 10 large guns (cannon) and more than 100 foreign guns, together with several hundreds of their boats, and compelled them to raise the siege of Tsing-poo.

We now went on straight to Sung-kiang, stormed it and then bent our steps towards Shanghai, having been induced to come to that place by some barbarians (Yi) residing there. We were attracted moreover, by some Imperialists who were in communication with us, and thus we had additional encouragement for making our venture. Our troops bivouacked at Chow-chia-hui, about six miles from Shanghai. Three miles from Shanghai were four Imperialist stockades, against which two of my officers advanced on the following morning as soon as it was light, and carried them, the Imperialists deserting as soon as they saw our men approaching.

When everything had been prepared for a march into the city and arrangements made for my reception, when I had reached ther the atmosphere became darkened, the wind rose and thunder reverberated in the heavens. The ground was rendered so slipper
from the immense quantity of rain, that neither man nor horse could obtain a firm footing, and so the march into Shanghai was unaccomplished and the foreign devils who came out to meet me had the satisfaction of returning without me.

Governor Hsach then engaged one or two thousand devils to guard the city, and decapitated the whole of the Imperialists who were in correspondence with me. The affair having proved unsuccessful, we then moved to the church of the red heads (Roman Catholic Chapel?) at Chow-chia-hui, and remained there a few days, when hearing that Kia-shing was in danger, we were obliged to move our forces home, which we did by way of Sung-kiang and Tsing-poo, and from there we advanced upon Kia-shan and Ping-hu, both of which places we captured in one blow, and this success raised the siege of Kia-shing.

I mounted the city walls during the day, to see how battle was going on and to watch the movements of the Imperialists, and on the next morning I commenced a battle which lasted five days. One portion of the army I despatched to Shih-men (Stone-gate) to intercept the passage of Chang-yu-liang from Che-kiang.

Surrounded by water on every side there was no other approach save that by Shih-men, and with troops in possession of this place, we not only intercepted any relief but cut off the retreat of the troops then beleaguering Kia-shing, which caused them, when their retreat was threatened, to give in their allegiance and join us, thus leaving us only Chang-yu-liang with whom to contend, and he, seeing the state of affairs, then retired upon Hang-chow, and Kia-shing was consequently free from all danger. I now returned with my victorious columns to Soo-chow and suspended operations for an interval. The people in and about the city were all put into proper order and the necessities of the distressed relieved by a distribution of provisions. No less than 100,000 strings of cash ($100,000) were advanced to people outside the gates who were without money to carry on their business, daily rations were issued to the Soo-chow distressed, the taxes in kind reduced, and the land taxes were left optional on the part of the people to pay or not, without their being troubled in any way for them; hence the Soo-chow people were united in their praises of me. After my return from Kia-shing, which occurred in the middle of the 8th month, I received an unpleasant decree from the Tien-wang, directing we...
proceed as quickly as possible northwards and sweep the north of Imperialists.

I was at a loss how to proceed as I had just received communications from 40 persons in Sui-chow, Yin-ing and other places, who were desirous of uniting with us. I therefore communicated the matter in a memorial and stated my willingness to act in obedience to the decree when I had received these men with their followers, several tens of thousands of men. The Chief was averse to the delay, but as I was determined to do what I wanted, I handed the command of Soo-chow over to Ch'eu-k'un-shu, and, after arranging everything satisfactorily I started with my troops for the capital, and having arrived there I explained the object of my visit and said I had no desire to sweep north. The Tien-wang was exceedingly angry, and his rebuke was such that I could not put up with it. I was thoroughly nonplussed at this time and became indifferent as to whether the Tien-wang was willing or not. Having responded to those who were desirous of joining us, it was only my duty to go and meet them; so, making the reception of friends a prior consideration, and obedience to the Chief's orders a secondary matter, I marched with my men towards Kiang-se and Hoo-peh. When at Nanking I held a levee of the civil and military officers at my palace, and there impressed upon them the necessity of purchasing an immense quantity of rice, and not retaining money in their hands, as that was an article which would be of no service in the event of a protracted siege. "Soo-chow" I said "being now our own, there is no fear of a siege from below, but if besieged from above the siege is sure to be a formidable one. The previous siege (the sixth) was by Chang-kuo-liang and Ho-chun's forces, but the seventh will be undertaken by General Tsêng and is sure to be carried on with vigour. With an able commander at the head of the army, and the (Hoonan) men being inured to hardships, and in addition having been always victorious without one defeat, they are sure to conduct any siege with characteristic energy. As long as Ngan-hui is secure, no anxiety need be felt, but if that city gives way then it will be impossible to protect the capital: let each of you use your exertions to furnish the place with provisions." Upon my repeating my proposal to the Chief, he addressed me thus. "Are you afraid of Death? I, the truly-appointed Lord, can, without the aid of troops, command great peace to spread its sway over the whole region." What could I say to this? I was
unable to reply. All I could do was to breathe a sigh; therefore instructed Mèng-té-cén and Lin-shao-chian to hold on Chiang-tung-mun and the Yü-hua-tai, as one of the utmost importance, and told them also to see, as 400 days would probably elapse after my departure, they would hear from me again. They listened intently to the purchasing provisions, but Hung's issue following effect, "Those desire of buying rice in my pass, and before they leave the capital must be allowed to buy any." Even after the rice was brought to the capital, it was subjected to such a heavy tax, that only a few could afford to bring any. The destruction of our army was attributable to disaster brought down by Hung. In this matter I will not enter. To resume, however, narrative,—I continued my journey through Tai-p'ing Fan-ch'ang, and from Shih-k'ang arrived at Huo-sien and engaged general Pao-ch'iao, and gained the victory on the second day, but on the second day my troops were reduced to a loss; I therefore altered my course and proceeded instead of Huo-sien to Hui-chow. I then went on to finally from Wu-yuan to Ch'ang-shan, to spend the beginning of the 11th year (1861) we proceeded to Ch'ang-shan to Yu-shan and reached Chien-ch'ang by way of Hoo-k'ow. We took up a position close to this city, and held it for 20 days without success, when a reinforced of Li-chin-yang. Against them I hurled my columns in numbers they would not fight but came to understand with us.

Our ill success at Chien-ch'ang led me to withdraw from that place and proceed to Foo-chow [in the Kiang From there I made a circuit to Yihuang, and thence to Sin-kan, encamping somewhere in the neighborhood of latter places. My intention was to cross the (Kiang, unfortunately, in addition to the water being very high of the opposite shore was covered with militia or volunteer extended their lines from Feng-ch'eng to Chiang-an, an itself were numerous Imperialist gunboats. I had
which to cross, and I could not very well retreat from my position. After staying at Sin-kan several days, the water, greatly to our surprise, retired, leaving us a dry bottom, and thus I was enabled to cross with my men to Chi-ngan, from which place I went direct to Ju-i-chow. I had no intention of remaining at this place but the people insisted upon my doing so, and I therefore distributed my men over the different cities for the purpose of quieting the people. I likewise kept some men in Yi-ning, Wu-ning, and in many of the cities in Ho-o-pek, for the purpose of keeping the people in order, and at the same time I made arrangements for the reception of those who had previously agreed to come over to us the number of whom amounted to probably about 300,000 men. In the 6th month, Pao's troops arrived at Ju-i-chow from Chi-l chow, and governor Hoo of Ho-o-pek also arrived and was encamped at Chiu-niu and Pao-ngan, about six or ten miles off. The new levied battalions having never seen any service in the field, I was afraid to venture a combat with Pao's men. My brother Li-shih-sien was at this time on his way from Hui-chow to Lo-p'ing. At Ching-te he encountered T'so-tsung-t'ang's troops and defeated them, but at Lo-p'ing he met with a severe check, and lost over 10,000 men. Meanwhile Huang-wen-chin, Hoo-ting-wen, an Li-yuan-chi had come through Tung-liu and Chien-te, and were in the neighbourhood of Juo-chow, where they met one of the Viceroy's generals, and were unable to join Li-shih-sien. Liu-kuan-fang and others were in the rear and coming by Yang-chan-lien when at Chi'mun they met the Viceroy, (who was encamped there,) and were defeated. Huang's forces had been so cut up that they were unable to render any assistance. After his defeat at Lo-p'ing, Li-shih-sien had fallen back upon Ch'ang-shan. At this period I was either at Chiu-niu or Pao-ngan, getting my men into proper order. I was afraid to venture a battle with either Pao's or Ho'o's forces, for the reason that my men were raw (raw), and then again because I had received news from Li-shih-sien urging me to return as soon as possible. In consequence of the danger of the Ngan-hui capital and the Ying-wang being unable to rescue it, Huang-wen-chin was ordered to return and endeavour to cooperate in its relief. Liu-kuan-fang having been defeated by the Viceroy's troops, we then withdrew the whole of our force from the different cities in Ho-o-pek and went down to the support of Li-shih-sien. One division of our force proceeded vi
Ning-chow, a second via Wu-ning, and third by Tê-ngan, the whole of them repairing to Jui-chow in order to concentrate their strength at that place. The people of Ngan-yi, Feng-sin, Sin-chang and the places round about there, were behaving very badly at this time, being constantly in the habit of plundering our commissariat supplies, both from above and below. When passing near these places a short time after, I had twenty of the principal offenders arrested, tried them and had them executed. This affair being settled we retired and the whole of the troops at Jui-chow and other places were likewise withdrawn. Previous to this, Li-chin-yang who had taken up a position with ten squadrons of Imperialists at Ying-kang-liang, was met by some of our forces under Tan-shao-kuang, and defeated, the officers being taken prisoners and the troops scattered. When Li-chin-yang was brought before me I noticed that he was a bold officer, and one that had won great fame and hence I could not allow him to be executed. I asked him if we was willing to join me, to which he replied, that being a prisoner, he was no longer master of his own wishes. Discovering from his words that he had no real desire to come with us, I treated him with every respect, and instead of confining him, allowed him his full liberty, and after a few days offered him 60 taels to defray his travelling expenses, but this he refused and took his departure for Kiangse. I subsequently learnt, and that with much regret, that he had been executed. The fact is that Li-chin-yang did not willingly join us, but having been captured he had no alternative but to remain with us as long as it suited us to detain him. From Jui-chow we went on to Lin-chiang, and from there crossed over to Chang-shoo, when just as the main body had crossed over. Li-k'ai-yun and Li-k'ai-shun were observed coming down from Chang-shu on that side. Thinking that my brother Li-shih-sien was still at Lo-p'ing, being unaware of his retreat to Ch'ang-shan, I therefore went down the river on that bank. A raft in the river afforded us the means of transit, and my object was to repair to Kiangse and concentrate my forces there. On the way down, our forces suddenly came upon the Imperialists under Pao-ch'ao, which were strongly intrenched at Feng-ch'êng. I was entirely ignorant of the fact of the Viceroy having placed these troops there, and they were only accidentally discovered by my two relations Li-k'ai-yun and Li-k'ai-shun, who happened to mount an intervening hill which had hitherto screened them from
view. As soon as they were observed, and seen to be in great force, our troops gradually retired; fortunately in time, for Pao had perceived them and immediately commenced pursuit. Coming to a small creek which had been previously bridged over by us, but the bridge of which had been destroyed by the people, our forces were without the means of crossing. The pursuers being just in the rear, the only alternative left was to wade [probably swim] over, which was done, but time hardly admitted of the whole crossing before Pao arrived, and cut off several hundreds of our men. We therefore returned to Chang-shu, and as we had three or four days start of Pao, he being unable to cross the river, on account of the wind prevailing at the time, we were enabled to push on for Fu-chau and Hsu-wan: on my arrival at which places I learnt that Li-shih-sien had fallen back upon Ch'ang-shan. Having rested for three days I then went on to Ho-k'ow, where I met T'ung-yung-hai with a reinforcement of 200,000 men from Kuang-se, and with this increase to my force I commenced my march for the Che-kiang province. On the route to this province Chin-hua, T'ang-chi, Yen-chow and other cities were taken. I then agreed that we should take two different routes to Che-kiang. I therefore ordered Li-shih-sien to attack Wen-chow, T'ai-chow, Ch'oo-chow and Ningpo, and I likewise detached a force to Shao-hing and other places. Each place was given up as we advanced, and the officers of the cities joined us. At Poo-chiang, however, Chang-yu-liang had taken up a position with the intention of opposing us, but after a few days he was defeated and the Shih-wang captured the place, and at once moved on to Ningpo. It was just in the 9th month that our forces entered Che-kiang. From Foo-yang they proceeded to Yu-hang, having carried which they went on to Yen-ling-p'oo and bivouacked at Koo-t'ang, a little more than a mile from the city. The prefectural and district cities in Che-kiang were first taken and properly garrisoned before any other step was taken. The Ti-wang, Lien-yeh-k'un, was at Yen-chow. Li-shang-yang, a relation, was in charge of Lung-yeu. Ch'au-ch'un was still in the possession of the Imperialists. Chow-lien-te, one of Li-shih-sien's officers, was in charge of Chin-hua. Lan-chi and T'ang-chi were garrisoned by Canton troops.

Li-shih-sien, having taken Ching-hua, Wên-chow, Ch'u-chow and T'ai-chow, then proceeded to Ningpo, which place was eventually taken by the Tai-wang, Huang-ch'eng-chung, and the Shou-
the autographic deposition of chung-wang,

wang, fan-ju-chiao, two of li-shih-sien's generals. the facts relating to the capture of Ningpo may be summed up as follows:—

The foreign devils in Ningpo invited our men to come to that place, and when the troops had arrived within three miles of the city, the chief devil came out to the Tai-wang's camp and requested the Tai-wang to allow five days grace for the removal of the things from the foreign hongs. the troops wanted to enter at once, but the Tai-wang would not allow them to do so. he ultimately consented to a delay of three days, and agreed to encamp outside during that interval. the provisions for our force were meanwhile supplied by the foreign devils and natives from surrounding places. on the fourth morning the troops moved into the city, and the Tai-wang then was taken to Hai-mun (ting), and the Chin-hai district by the foreign devils, who, moreover, rendered him assistance with boats. both of those places were garrisoned, and the remainder of the troops who had gone out to effect their conquest then returned to Ningpo. upon this subject i might enlarge to any extent, but have not space to do so here. Shao-hing and Siao-shan were taken by the Lai-wang, Lu-shun-te, but both places were delivered up by the officers in charge of them. the former place has a very high wall, and a very deep moat, and moreover is surrounded by water and approached by a very narrow road, which would have rendered our possession next to impossible had it not been given up. at this period the Che-kiang capital was the only place not in our hands. Wu-king, Te-ch'ing were garrisoned by our men, Hsiao-feng, Huang-te and the other districts, such as Kao-tun and Tung-pa, were in our hands. Li-yan, Ch'ang-chow, Soo-chow, Kia-sing and Shih-men were also ours. Hoo-chow, although in the hands of Chao-ching-sien, was hopelessly cut off from all succour. the road from Hwang-chow to Hai-ning (chow) and Hai-yen (sien) was occupied by imperialist troops, but no sooner did our men reach Hai-ning than the gener-
cept him, and this I did, effectually cutting off all chance of succour. Provisions being scarce inside the city, great dearth eventually prevailed, and this brought with it a good deal of mutiny amongst the people, but still they were so much attached to the Hang-chow Governor, Wang-yu-ling, that they maintained an obstinate resistance. Several notifications were issued by me and sent into the city, addressed to the Manchoos and Chinese, telling them that those who wished to join were at liberty to do so, and that those not possessed of that desire were at liberty to please themselves, that it was a matter of no grave importance whether they joined or not. I was likewise willing to release the Tartar General, Jui-ch'ang, and during the seven days at Hang-chow took the opportunity of memorialising the Tien-wang to know if pardon might be granted to Manchoos and if they might be allowed to return to their country. As 20 days elapsed before a reply could be received I had forced an entrance into the city before it arrived, but had not taken the Tartar city.

I purposely awaited the Tien-wang's pleasure, and meanwhile, pending the arrival of that, I announced to general Jui-ch'ang that he might leave the city with the whole of his men. He would not, however, repose any confidence in me and convinced as much doubt, even after I had communicated the Tien-wang's decision to him. He even went so far as to open fire on my men and killed more than a thousand of them. We forced a passage after this, into the inner city, and captured a great many men, many of the defenders committing suicide. General Jui-ch'ang, and the captain General being killed, I sent officers to drag for their bodies in the creek, and had them buried when they were found. In my notice which I sent into the city after the Tien-wang's approval had been given to spare the lives of Man-choo men, I addressed the Man-choos thus—"You have received the commands of your sovereign to hold Hang-chow; and I the commands of mine to come and take possession of it. Each side can adopt no other course than that of supporting its respective sovereign, but to meet the difficulty in as fair a way as possible, and with a view of preventing the loss of life to male and female, great and small, I am willing to provide boats and allow you to take your wealth away with you, and am, moreover, ready to furnish you with funds, if necessary, and safe escort as far as Chin-kiang."

When Man-choo men were captured, orders were immediately
given by me not to kill them, and that any one privately murdering a Man-choo should pay the penalty of his imprudence with his life. All who were willing to join the army were accepted, and those undesirous of doing so were allowed to return to their country. Some Man-choo officers of greater courage than the rest actually came to my palace at one time, and held a discussion with me upon the propriety of my providing funds to enable them to return home; those of meeker courage gradually deserted when opportunity offered. Many remained with the army and lived on terms of intimacy with the military officers for a length of time, and numbers were furnished with funds to meet expenses by our officers, and then allowed to leave. These are no fictitious words of mine. The people of Hang-chow know all about these matters, and the Man-choos themselves are surely able to testify to the correctness of my words. To return, however, to my subject, the siege of Hang-chow. Engagements were daily going on at this time between our troops and those of Wang-yu-ling. The city was reduced to such a state that the garrison was prostrated by famine and unable to fight. Wang-yu-ling was in a hopeless condition and had no one to whom he could look for succour, save Chang-yu-liang, and he was unable to effect any good. Wang-yu-ling then concluded to write a letter to the Chung-wang, and request him to spare the lives of the people in the city. The writer whom he consulted upon the matter asked him the style of address he proposed to adopt in his letter, adding that if he used any derogatory expression it would only result in greater harm; and that, on the other hand, a too conciliatory tone would incur the displeasure of the emperor. The words of the writer failed to elicit any reply. Wang-yu-ling merely beat upon his breast, and, heaving a sigh, said, "There is no occasion to write, Hang-chow cannot possibly hold out." He then said that he would take his seat on his official chair, and await the coming of the Chung-wang, that he might first see what style of man he was—and then expire. The writer in response said, "When this man enters the city he is certain not to let you die."

Shortly after this we made a grand assault upon the city, then beleaguered on all sides, and effected an entrance. I then went direct to the residence of Wang-yu-ling to try and find that person, but I searched on all sides without success, until finally, I went into the back garden and there the object of our search was found.
suspended. I gave orders at once to have him taken down, but life was already extinct. He was then conveyed to the hall, and after there being recognised by some of his own soldiers, his remains were encoffined with all his paraphernalia of office, and directions given to his men to keep watch over them. On the day following this occurrence I summoned all the deceased officer's soldiers before me and there proclaimed to them that any willing to join us might do so, and that those who were unwilling to do so might suit themselves. The body guard or personal followers of Wang-yu-ling were composed entirely of Fokien men, and the remainder of the Imperialist soldiers were either Hoo-nan or Hoo-peh men. The whole of them were spared and they were allowed to take away with them, without any molestation, their gold, silver, and personal property.

Five hundred men out of Wang-yu-ling's own followers were told off to escort his remains to his native place, and for the funeral cortège 15 boats were provided, a pass granted, and 3,000 tael contributed. Wang-yu-ling and myself had each our part to perform on behalf of our respective sovereigns. We were each bound to carry out our work faithfully. It was to show my appreciation of his fidelity that I did what I did. It pained me to see one so brave and yet so faithful thus consigned to the grave, and this led me to honour his remains in this way. Though Wang-yu-ling when alive fought against me to support his sovereign, still in death I bore him no enmity, and my treatment of him was dictated by the feelings of the heart.

In the city (of Hang-chow) were also Mi-sing-ch'ao and Lin-fu-siang, and besides these Lin-chih, Financial Commissioner, who had arrived at the city, but had not yet relieved his predecessor in office, Lin-fu-siang. These men were all captured, but not one of them killed; on the contrary they were treated courteously. The two former used to come into my study, and many a night when stillness reigned around have we had conversation together upon general topics or affairs in general. I managed to obtain Lin-fu-siang's son and had him given to him, and I likewise recovered Mi-sing-ch'ao's ponies and handed them over to him, and he afterwards made them a present to one of my officers, Wang-ngan-chun. Lin-chih, being a Man-choo man, was afraid of being killed, and on the second night decamped, without being pursued.

* This is a fact and acknowledged to be correct by a Chinese official.
About ten days afterwards Lin and Mi said that they did not wish to remain with us any longer, but wanted to leave. A boat was prepared for each and on the eve of their departure for Shanghai 300 taels were offered to each, but they would not consent to receive this amount, and finally departed with 100 taels each. When I came to take their leave of me their words were "In this world we cannot be friends with you, but in the world to come you shall not be forgotten. You (the Chung-wang) are a man of eminence, and it is only to be regretted that you have not a good sovereign," and with these words on their lips they took their departure.

The 12th month of the 11th year (1561) having now far advanced, rain and snow fell in such quantities as to throw serious impediment in the way of advancing; in addition to this the creeel at Soo-chow and Hang-chow being small and shallow, the water had all frozen and rendered the passage of boats a difficult matter. After remaining at Soo-chow for ten days I took my departure. Having made all the required arrangements at Hang-chow, enrolled those willing to join us and disposed of those unwilling to do so, my attention was next taken up with putting the people into proper order, and interring the remains of those who had suffered from starvation. I had 10,000 coffins prepared at a cost of 20,000 strings of cash (say $20,000) and had 10,000 piculs of rice and 200,000 strings of cash brought from Kia-shing to relieve the wants of the starving people. Money was advanced to the people without any interest being required in return, but the capital was returned within six months. The rice being issued for the maintenance of life was not expected to be returned. In two months I had put everything into proper working order at Hang-chow. The 11th year was now drawing to a close when I reached Soo-chow, and I there passed the new year.

CHAPTER VI.

Hang-chow had but just been taken when news reached us of the fall of Nanking. Tseng-kuo-chien had so reduced the garrison of the city that he had starved the soldiers to death. The troops in the city were some of the Ying-wang's command, and General Tseng, who was beleaguering the city, had entrenched him
self strongly outside and rendered his works almost impregnable by defending them with high breastworks and deep fosses. The Ying-wang approached the place but was unable to afford any succour. General Tséng at one time withdrew some of his camps to the Stone Horse lake, in order to give the garrison some space by which they might retire. The Ying-wang, instead of availing himself of this opportunity, conveyed into the city the whole of the rice and provisions he could obtain at Shih-p'ai and the surrounding places and this measure led General Tséng (Chiu) to resume his former position and maintain a more vigorous siege. The extreme danger of the situation, that the two commanders Yeh-yun-lai and Cha were left at T'ien-ch'ang and Loo-ho for the protection of the city, led the Ying-wang to move three of my battalions into the city to assist in defending it. The Ying-wang, with Liu-ch'iang-lin, then contrived to gain the Chi-sien pass; intending to make another effort to save Nganking. The Chung-wang (Lin-shao-chang), the Hoo-wang (Yang-fu-ch'ing), the Tu-wang (Huang-wen-chin), and the Hu-wang (Wu-ju-siao) had assembled at T'ung-chêng and written to the Ying-wang at Chi-sien-kuan to say that they had been commanded by the Tien-wang to co-operate in the rescue of the Ngan-hui capital. At the period of which I am now speaking, I was at Hsing-kuo-chow.* When I learnt the difficulty the Ying-wang was in, I knew at once that the preservation of Ngan-king was a simple impossibility.

The Ying-wang having given over charge of Chi-sien-kuan to Liu-ch'iang-lin, went on to T'ung-chêng, directing an officer of mine to follow him and protect his rear. Much to the surprise of all, this manoeuvre had been anticipated by the Imperialists at Ch'ung-p'oo and other places; and a party of Te-hung-a's troops which had lain in ambush to receive them, suddenly issued out and cut off more than 1,000 of them, driving Huang-chin-ai and the rest to take refuge in the water at Tien-ching. The victims that fell turned out to be my own men. As soon as evening arrived, Huang-chin-ai at the head of a few hundred men fought his way out of the water; and the desperation and determination with which this was effected, induced General To's troops to allow them room to retreat upon Y'ung-chêng.

The Ying-wang then returned to the capital and prayed the

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* Lat. 20°32' N., Long. 115°6' E.
Chief to send him succour. Meanwhile Pao's troops had reached Chi-sien-kuan and laid siege to the place, having as yet been unable to get in. They threw up formidable earthworks all round, and made daily assaults upon the place. There was a great dearth of provisions inside the camps at Chi-sien-kuan and likewise a scarcity of gun-powder and shot. Night and day, Pao's men attacked the place, until the garrison, reduced to a state of hopeless distress, finally gave way, and Liu-ch'iang, Lin and Li-su-fu as well as the whole of the defenders perished. The Ying-wang was at a loss what to do, and, with the Hu-wang and the Tu-wang, again sought to obtain succour from the capital. General Tseng was now maintaining a close siege. He had made several attempts to storm the city but they had all signally failed. Meantime he took possession of the Ling lake and cut a channel through, so as to admit of his gunboats playing their part in the siege. It was even difficult at this time to convey a letter secretly so strictly was the siege maintained. The Ying-wang (Ch'en-yu-ch'eng), the Hu-wang (Yang-su-ch'ing) and the Tu-wang (Huang-wen-chin) were, at this critical period, outside the city, and prevented from entering by General Tseng. Reduced to a terrible state, the impending crisis at length came and the city was taken; the whole of the garrison suffering and the river being strewn with bodies. Not one of the defenders was left. A sigh of lamentation escapes one to think of these distressing circumstances.

As soon as Ngan-k'ing fell, the Ying-wang withdrew his troops through Shi-p'ai, and he also ordered the soldiers at Huang-mei to retire on Yeh-chie-ho (pleasant stream). His object was to reach T'eng-an or I'siang-yang, and there augment his force; but to his surprise the men would not consent to move. The officers had no control over the men at such a time as this, and all they could do was to lead them from Lan-gan to Loo-chow, whither the Ying-wang, seeing no other course open to him, followed them. It was a case of a Rowland for an Oliver, and this state of affairs, coupled with sundry rebukes from the Tien-wang, and deprivation of his rank, gave the Ying-wang much anxiety and trouble of mind, and his only wish was to hold Loo-chow for the rest of his days, and thus exemplify his zeal and loyalty to his country. He was disappointed however in his wishes, for shortly after, To-lang-
a besieged the city and reduced it to such distress that the troops became mutinous, and finally the place was lost. The Ying-wang had to fly to Show-ch‘un, where he was afterwards treacherously betrayed into the hands of the Imperialists by Miao-pe-lin, and suffered death. After this event his command devolved wholly upon me, but the state of affairs not permitting his men to cross to Nanking, I ordered Chên-tê-ts‘ai to Soo-chow, and directed him to go up the river and collect as many men and horses as he could and come at the end of two years to save the capital. A long time has elapsed since then and he has not returned, and notwithstanding an occasional letter, increasing difficulties have thrown themselves in the way of keeping up communication; and thus another drawback has impeded the rescue of Nanking at the present day. Having said thus much I will now continue with my narrative from the capture of places in Che-kiang in 1861 to the return to Soo-chow in 1862.

CHAPTER VII.

When I quitted Soo-chow for Kiang-se and Hoo-pch for the purpose of receiving the allegiance of certain people willing to join us (as elsewhere narrated), I handed over charge of affairs at Soo-chow, Che-kiang and Kia-shing to Chên-kun-shu, and on my return in 1862 I found the people had been dispersed and the houses destroyed. Some of the well-disposed peasants came to me with overwhelming grief to complain of the hardships they had endured. Chên-kun-shu, too much ashamed of himself to meet me, left Soo-chow by a different route to the one by which I was coming and went on to Chang-chow, which place he seized and by purchase obtained the rank of Hoo-wang, the Protecting Prince. He had thrown the people of Soo-chow into such a state of disorder that he was afraid I should take vengeance on him, and so purchased his title as a measure of setting me at defiance. The capture of the Che-kiang capital increased my influence, and the Ying-wang as well as I Hwang-wén-chin being under my command, the Tien-wang was jealous of my strength, and impelled by malicious ministers, who sought to reduce my power, he was made to believe that I meditated treachery. Having 1,000,000 men un-
der me it naturally tended to imbue the Chief with suspicions and make him jealous of me.

The Soo-chow people were in such a state of distress from Ch‘ên-kun-chu’s treatment that I had to issue rations to them and advance money to certain shopkeepers who were unable to carry on their trade; and I had further to order them to re-commence their agricultural pursuits. The people speedily enjoyed peace, and returned to their occupations; and when prosperity shed its lustre upon them they wanted to return the money, but I was in no hurry to receive it, and allowed them to return it when they liked. I subsequently reduced the taxes as well as the barrier dues in order to alleviate the necessities of the people.

Nanking seemed to be undergoing a change at this time and to be showing signs of daily trouble.

Several memorials were sent to the Chief from me, but he would not listen to them, and the more I memorialised the greater rage was he in; here again he was influenced by some of his mischievous satellites. Although my memorials failed in their object, and only caused displeasure and wrath in the minds of the ministers, I still continued them, but only to meet with still greater opposition and to have my rank reduced as well as my influence secretly taken away. Great dissatisfaction was prevalent amongst my officers at this time and the state of affairs rendered them unwilling to fight.

T‘ung-yung-hai, who was under me and hitherto staunch to me, was deluded into deserting me by the Tien-wang’s brother who wanted to have him attached to his command.

Four months after my return to Soo-chow in 1862, Li-hung-chang, who arrived at Shanghai and succeeded Hsüeh-huan as Provincial Governor, procured some foreign devils to meet our troops in the field. Having a good Custom House at Shanghai, the receipts of which furnished him with ample finances, he was in a position to obtain devil soldiers to operate against me, and hence sent them to Ka-ding, Tsing-poo, Tai-ts‘ang and K‘un-shan (Quinsan). Their strength being somewhat formidable I could see no other plan open but that of selecting about 10,000 well disciplined and able bodied men and marching against them in person. The onslaught of the devils upon a city was very fierce, and they usually accomplished their work in 10 or 12 hours. Their guns were exceedingly powerful and every one of their shots took effect.

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*Literally—One hundred sent forth, one hundred struck.
They would first open fire along their lines and then under cover of this would make a bold dash for the city.

Ka-ding and Tsing-poo being more than 33 miles from Soo-chow I was unable to rescue either of the cities. The devils (after this success) then went on to Tai-tsang and with the assistance of the Imperialist army they forced an entrance. The gates of the city were then taken possession of by the devils and the Imperialists soldiers prevented from looting, though the devils themselves did not scruple to take away whatever men and women they liked, the Imperialists not daring to say anything to them. The devils told the soldiers that any random assertions made would bring summary vengeance on the offender whether he was a high or low official. The Tien-wang was unwilling to employ devils for this very reason [that they would be too overbearing and only seek to gratify themselves.]

Fancy, having 1,000 devils keeping in subjection my 10,000 men! Who could put up with such a thing?

The devils reached Tai-tsang and so did I. The Imperialist force which had come from Shanghai, Tsing-poo, Ka-ding and Pao-shan consisted of about 10,000 men occupying 100 entrenched camps outside the city, and these were supported by three or four thousand devil troops.

The cities which had been already taken were garrisoned by the devils.

On my arrival at Tai-ts'ang our forces engaged in battle and fought an indecisive engagement from 7 in the morning till noon, neither side being able to claim a victory and both sides losing about 1,000 men.

On the following morning we had a second struggle at the East Gate for about three hours, from 7 till 10, when we forced the devils' centre, killed several hundreds of them and pursued the remainder, many of whom were ultimately drowned. We then carried 30 Imperialist stockades, and the fruits of our victory were several cannon and several stand of arms.

The next day we continued our pursuit of their rear and then invested the city of Ka-ding, the devils being unable to get out.

Reinforcements of devils from Shanghai, who had been brought up from Canton for the purpose, then came to the rescue of Ka-ding. These we fought for three consecutive days, the victory hanging in an even scale and two or three thousand on each side.*

* Union in the cause of law and order displayed.
being killed or wounded. I now sent orders to the T'ing-wang, Ch'én-ping-wén, to bring 10,000 men to my assistance, and as soon as these arrived I again engaged the devils, cut off the greater part of them and re-took Ka-ling; and as soon as I had garrisoned it I left immediately for Tsing-poo, securing the devils tightly within its walls. Foreign devils from Sung-kwang then came to the relief of Tsing-poo and they brought with them a steamer to assist them in their operations. Four guns which had been got into position beforehand were opened on the steamer as soon as she appeared, and the first shot taking effect the boat was speedily on fire; all attempts to save it meeting with failure. The devils fell back, and several hundreds of them were drowned in the panic that ensued. The road being nothing but water, walking was rendered very difficult and a false step was likely to endanger life—they therefore lost many from this cause. 

Tsing-poo being taken I followed up my success by taking 10 Imperialist stockades near the city, and these, with what I took on my way to Sung-kiang, made up above 130 in all.

I also took all the camps outside Sung-kiang, the city itself, which was garrisoned by the devils, remaining intact. The day following reinforcements of devils arrived in boats for the succour of the city, and brought with them war material and more than ten guns. Against these I advanced and again obtained a victory, defeating the devils and taking possession of their guns and ammunition. They were afraid to assail me any more, and I was therefore able to complete the investment of Sung-kiang, nay, I was on the point of gaining the desired success when news was received that General Tséng had taken Wu-hu, Ch'a-o-sien, Wu-wei, Yun-ts'ao and the East and West Pillars. As the bamboo when once split, splits easily all the way down, T'ai-p'ing and Ho-chow had likewise fallen. These successes had been followed up and General Tséng was now investing the capital. The Tien-wang sent three messengers in one day to urge me to return, and such was the tenor of his decrees that I was obliged to withdraw the whole of my force from Sung-kiang and turn my face once more towards Soo-chow. I then deliberated with my officers upon a scheme I had in view for the relief of Nanking, and which I proposed to carry into effect. Knowing that Tséng's strength rested mainly in his gunboats, against which I could bring no naval force to bear, and knowing, moreover, that his troops had always been
victorious and that their strength was somewhat formidable, I had
hence no inclination to engage them. My idea was to pour sup-
plies into Nanking, as well as all the ammunition and wealth pre-
curable from surrounding cities, and wait for two years when I
could then come to its rescue; as I felt confident that the bele-
guering force would in time lose their prestige (or spirit for fight-
ing) and I should then be able to cope with them. Just as I had
matured all my plans and proceeded to carry them into effect,
another mandate from the Tien-wang arrived, and in it were the
words, “Three decrees have called upon you to hasten and save
the capital, why do you not send troops, what are your intentions
or designs? You have been honoured with a high position, and
do you not know my laws? If you do not obey this decree the
law must inevitably take effect upon you.”

With such reproachful language as this poured out on me I was
obliged to obey, and accordingly I prepared myself for a move
forward to Nanking, giving over Hang-chow and Soo-chow to the
charge of certain of my officers. I handed over my mother and
family to the chief in token of fidelity and to manifest my simple
yet faithful heart.

After the receipt of the decree above alluded to, which I could
not release myself from obeying, I then completed my arrange-
ments for setting out and determined the day that I would take
my departure. The Chief was so hostile and abusive that I lost
all care for worldly matters, my only desire was to see my mother
who was over 60 years of age and who had nourished me from
childhood upward, and hence I put up with vexations to attain
this end. The state of affairs led me to see that there was no
chance of our cause holding out. The Tien-wang would not
rectify or improve the government; and all I could do was to con-
tinue to the end the same loyalty that I had shewn thus far. The
Tien-wang sent one of his own relations to Soo-chow with a mes-
sage to me that I was faithless and was meditating treachery of
some sort. In the 8th month I quitted Soo-chow for Li-yang and
and from there moved on to Tung-pa, proceeding thence direct to
Li-shui and through the Mu-ling pass to Yu-hua-tai, where Gener-
al Tséng had thrown up a series of intrenched camps, all of them
defended with deep trenches and strong bastions, and with draw-
bridges running throughout the whole of them, so that their united
strength could be concentrated on any one point if necessary.
Forty days were taken up in attacking this position, and even at the end of that time I gained no success; for coupled with the impregnability of the position itself, the discipline of Tsêng's force was so excellent and effective that my assaults were all repelled, and thus no chance of success was left me. In addition to these obstacles we had to contend with another enemy and that was cold, the 10th moon having already set in and we had brought no winter clothes with us to meet the emergency. We were very short of provisions, and this again was a serious drawback. In consequence of my failing to take General Tsêng's position, the Chief censured me severely and deprived me of my nobility. He also ordered me to appear before him and receive rebuke from his own lips, and he then told me to advance with my force northwards. I was obliged to comply with his fiat, and in spite of the snow, I crossed the river. After I had crossed I opened the communication through the Two Po and likewise through the road above Ho-chow, in which direction I bent my steps. The people in the surrounding places were suffering much from depredations committed amongst them, and my first care was to direct my officers to purchase some rice and grain to relieve their wants.

When we had reached Shih-chien mart we came up on a large force of Imperialists, occupying more than ten intrenched positions. We at once drew up ready for battle and tried to induce the Imperialists to come out, but they preferred to hold firm within their works and eventually tire us out. Several days were spent in fruitless attacks, and every effort to induce them to accept an engagement failed. Pestilence prevailed amongst our men, and in one night perhaps the whole of the inmates of a dwelling would have succumbed ere daylight appeared. This state of affairs, joined with the impossibility of getting into the Imperialist camps, and with the knowledge that reinforcements of the enemy were on their way, caused me to retire with my men in the direction of Lu-chiang, and from there I pressed on to Shoo-ch'êng and Lungan-chow. At Lu-chiang we had a fight with the enemy, which resulted in their discomfiture, and our pursuit of them nearly up to the city.

The next day our troops moved on to Lungan, but here there was great scarcity of provisions, owing in the first place to the devastations caused by Miao-p'ei-lin, and then in the second to its not being harvest time; the Imperialists also suffered greatly as
well as oursel

The object ts'ai, but the
and I was obli
this period General
of the Yu-hua-t'ai, and P'ao-ch'ai managed to capture Ch'ao-sien, and
to drive our troops in great confusion upon Ho-chow. The loss of
Yu-hua-t'ai threw Nanking into great trouble and trepidation, and
the T'ien-wang sent me orders to return as soon as possible. My
march homeward, which I speedily commenced, was not unattended
with difficulties, for the river being very high at the time the roads
were inundated, and consequently much retarded. Ho-chow soon fell,
and we were in serious disorder. We however obtained and we
crossed the river, left our baggage small and such ponies
manifested an unwillingness to enter the boats. Chiu-fu-
chow was covered with water as the garrison had no place to
stand on, besides this they had no fuel for cooking their rice, and
many hence died from sheer starvation.

Meantime Yang-yo-p'ing and P'eng-yu-lin attacked and carried
the forts below Nanking, and with the fall of these Chiu-fu-chow
was rendered useless, and consequently deserted, most of the troops
who had not crossed the river being either killed or starved to
death. After my return General Tseng carried our remaining
stockades at the Yu-hui-t'ai, and rendered them so impregnable, as
to defeat any possibility of effecting their recapture. Our troops,
minus rations and having no spot whereon to plant themselves,
dispersed to Soo-chow and Hang-chow, and altogether I lost
100,000 men. Thus the nation was endangered by this loss attri-
butable to me alone.

The disasters at Soo-chow and Chang-chow were occasioned by
the mischief of the foreign devils in the pay of Li Fu-t'ai, who had
engaged them to take my cities. The sight of money made the
devils reckless of their lives, and Li Fu-t'ai, knowing that I was not
in the city of Soo-chow, availed himself of my absence to attack
it. Had I not been compelled to come to the heavenly capital and
to cross over the river, he (Li) would have found it impossible to
take the city. I really had no desire to come to the capital, and
my words to the Tien-wang, when there, were, “The capital cannot
be held. General Tseng has securely besieged the place, the city
is deficient in daily necessaries, and outside there is no prospect of any rescue, let them have the city and retire elsewhere." The Tien-wang was in great wrath and severely reproved me, I was obliged therefore to kneel before him and again enter into matters, continuing my advice with "If you will not assent to my proposal, the lives of the whole city will be endangered; General Tseng, in the capture of your Yu-lua-t'ai, has made himself master of the road outside the South Gate; in the capture of your Chiang-tung bridge he has stopped all ingress or egress by the West gate, and again the capture of Chri-weng bridge has enabled him to entrench himself strongly outside the East gate, and by occupying all the lower available points, he has cut off the supply of provisions. The minds of the people in the city are far from being tranquil, added to which the civilians are numerous, the old people, the small and the women are numerous, and the provisions consumed are excessive, whilst the funds are totally inadequate to meet the demand. If you do not adopt the measure I propose, complete extermination will assuredly take place." At the end of this the Tien-wang, again poured out the vials of his indignation on me. Addressing me he said "I have received the commands of Shang-ti and Jesus to come down upon the earth and rule the empire. I am the sole Lord of ten thousand nations, and what should I fear? You are not asked for your opinion upon anything, and the government does not require your supervision. You can please yourself as to whether you leave the capital, or whether you wish to remain. The empire, hills and streams, I hold with an iron grasp, and if you do not support me there are those that will. You say 'there are no soldiers.' My heavenly troops are more numerous than the water *(could contain.*) What fear have I of the demon Tseng? If you are afraid of death then you will die. The state matters do not concern you, but are in the hands of the Valiant King my second brother, and if, when the young Western King issues any orders, any one disobeys, such one is sure to be executed." As soon as he had finished his opprobrious speech I said to him."Let me pray the Tien-wang to kill me now, in order that I may escape injury at some future day. Not half a moment's leisure have I
THE FAITHFUL KING.

1\textsuperscript{st} ed during my period of service, and now because I bring to notice the real state of affairs you revile me in this way. I am ready to yield up my life in your presence, as a free tribute and as an earnest of my zeal and loyalty in your cause.”

After I had said all this, the Chief was as reluctant as ever we heed to my words, and, scarce restraining my tears, I quit the palace gate.

The various ministers came and besought me, and the n-wang, inwardly conscious of having given me a court dress the following day in order to quell the tumult. I remained at the imperial palace, and in the evening of the 14th (1864) proposed to leave the place. The Chief was afraid the popular mind was by no means settled, and ministers in great grief begged that I might be retained in the

The brethren and sisters hearing that I was about to leave me with tears in their eyes and entreated me not to go. With a view of meeting the general wish, I consented not to leave. The calamities that have fallen on us to-day may all be attributed to Tien-wang not taking my advice, but being so perversive, and never I had anything to suggest, answering me that, “heaven settle everything without any occasion on your part to speculate or predict. You go and obey my dictum, reach Chi-en-te forces and sweep the north shore, and let me know when have done this,” and such like. The memorials I sent home was not reach the Chief, but were usually detained by some of the licentious people around him, who endeavoured to hide all difficulties, and who, jealous of my influence, did everything they could to reduce my force, and by continuing in their unfair proceedings contributed in no small way to the final loss of Soo-chow, g-chow and sundry other places.

hin-hua and Lung-yu in Che-kiang were taken by the Gover-

(now Viceroy] Tsao-tsung-ting. Ningpo, which we had been known, invited to take by the devils, was afterwards attacked by devils, whose minds had been lured on to do so by Imperialists. The formidable nature of the foreign devils’ guns inevitably hitting their mark, enabled them to make a breach in the s, and our troops being unable to maintain their stand retreated to Yen-hang. After the devils had received their reward for success at Ningpo, they went on to Shao-hing, receiving a going for their services. On the whole not a little money.
found its way into their pockets, or, perchance, they would not have taken our cities.

The troops at Chin-hua, Lung-yu, Yen-chow, Wen-chow and Tai-chow successively retired upon Fu-yang, which Tso Fu-tai attacked with a large force for several months without success, when the aid of devil soldiers was again invoked to operate by water. The place was bombarded by the devils, who had several engagements with us, but, being repulsed throughout, they brought up reinforcements to their assistance, and Tso Fu-tai likewise increased his men, and this city ultimately fell. The devils having received their reward in hard cash for the capture of Fu-yang then returned to Ningpo. The defeated forces at Shao-hing and Siao-shan retired to Yu-hang where they entrenched themselves and threw up works. They were attacked incessantly by Governor Tso, and daily fights took place. Our object was to keep a firm hold on Yu-hang, as affording a guarantee for the safety and security of Hang-chow. Governor Tso, with a naval and military force, then proceeded to Hang-chow. One flank of his army resting on Yu-hang and the other on Chiu-lung (nine dragon) Hill, and extending its lines as far as the Thunder Peak Pagoda on the West Lake outside the Heng-shan gate, and connecting itself with the Yu-hang force. The whole of the army occupied 80 stockades, but as the number of hills and the quantity of water in the immediate vicinity rendered one camp equal to 10 elsewhere, the 80 camps were able to cover or command an area of nearly 30 miles. Our heavenly troops had but ten or more redoubts from the West lake to Yu-hang, and were mainly dependent on the surrounding water for their strength. The Che-kiang capital was under the Tsing-wang, Ch'ien-ping-wen, and Yu-hang was in charge of Wang-hai-yang. That Che-kiang remained firm for so many months was owing to the aqueous state of the country around.

Some time after the occurrences mentioned, the Soo-chow troops took the devils with them, and attacked Cha-p'ao, Ping-hu and Kiu-shan. These three cities, as well as Soo-chow, Tai-tsing, Ku-shan (Quin-san) and Wu-kiang (Wo-kong), were taken by Li Fu-tai. The loss of Yu-hua-tai threw the city into great commotion, and the Chief would not allow me to go to Soo-chow or Hang-chow, even though I memorialised him three or four times.
and the Tien-wang shewed still greater disinclination to let me depart, though Soo-chow and Hang-chow were in great danger. Despatches daily arrived from these places recounting the danger, and once more did I attempt to devise means for getting away. Ultimately the Chief and his councillors agreed to my leaving, provided I would first contribute 100,000 taels to the commissariat fund. This of course I consented to do, and sold the trinkets and jewellery of my family to meet the required demand. The Tien-wang allowed me 40 days in which to return, and announced to me at the time, "If the amount required is not forthcoming, or if you fail to return within the prescribed period, the law must take its due course."

The critical state of affairs made me willing to consent to the arrangement, and I was enabled to get clear of the city and then mature my plans. Before I left, the Kao-ch'ing gate was taken by General Fu-wang, and the defeat there caused the Fu-wang, Yang-fu-ch'ing, to fly to Tung-pa, and the Shih-wang, Li-shih-sien, to fall back on Li-yang. I was now at Soo-chow, and engaged in daily indecisive combats with the foreign devils, each side being unable to attain its aim. I then led my men through the Ch'ang-mên [great west gate] to Ma-t'ang-ch'iao, in the endeavour to execute some stratagem outside for the temporary protection of the city, while I could carry out the contemplated plan, of my own, of repairing to the capital and advising the Tien-wang to relinquish Nan-king for some other retreat.

The commandant of Soo-chow, the Mo (o) wang (T'ao-shao-kuang) was one of my favorite officers, and to him I entrusted the charge of Soo-chow when I quitted that place. The Na-wang (Ku-yung-k'uan), the K'ang-wang (Wang-an-ch'in), the Ning-wang (Chow-wên-chia) and the two heavenly generals, Chang-ta-chow and Wang-hua-pan, also under my command, were in Soo-chow. Ku-yung-k'uan entered the army at an early age, and was instructed by me in military tactics even up to the time when he was created a prince, and with T'ao-shao-kuang formed my two best, i.e. left and right hand, men. I had entertained suspicions for a long time of the fidelity of these men—referring to the Na-wang, &c.—and though I knew that they had designs of surrendering to the Imperialists, I did not punish them, but when I had leisure I told them plainly that the Chief was being blinded by those around him as to the real sense of danger, and that they
being men of the Two Hoo, could suit themselves, but that there was no occasion to have any disputes or treachery amongst ourselves. "The present time," I said, "is one that will not admit of my detaining you, if you have conceived any plans of your own. I am a chief of our nation, of notoriety, and no one can secure me against harm if I surrender." Each one in response said "The Chung-wang can make his mind easy on this point, we would not think of abusing his confidence. We have accompanied him from youth to this time, how is it possible that we should have any intention? Had we had any other plans in view we should not have shared such privations with the Chung-wang these last few years." These men being my inferiors were afraid of speaking openly, but their actions told me well enough that they had their own intentions; hence I called their attention plainly to the state of affairs, and did not care to take any rigorous measures against them. I felt confident for a long time that death was drawing nigh, and would soon beckon me away, for being a Kuang-si man there was no outlet of escape left for me. The officers mentioned, and under my charge, had seen a good deal of service, and it was entirely owing to their strength and courage that I obtained my renown; they were therefore very dear to me. I had no idea that they had entertained feelings of enmity against the Mo (o) wang for some time past, but it is evident they had, and to add to their treachery they actually assassinated him. But three days had not elapsed after their surrender of Soo-chow before they were killed by Li Fu-tai, a measure which has since then deterred other chie's, who would have surrendered, from doing so.

When Soo-chow fell I was at Ma-t'ang-Ch'iao, and no sooner had the news reached me than I repaired at once to Chang-chow and then encamped at Tan-yang. Wu-si then fell and our men were thrown into serious disorder, but I still held on to Tan-yang. My brother Li-shih-sien, who was at this time occupying Li-yang, advised me to relinquish any scheme I had and go and see him. He was unwilling that I should go to the capital, and when I said that I must go there he even proposed to send out troops to intercept me. The dilemma that our cause was in, and the anxiety that I felt for mother, who was in the city and with whom I could not bear to part, led me to seize the opportunity of a night journey to return, attended only by a few followers. This event occurred
in the 11th month, 13th year (Dec. 1863). On the day after I arrived I had an audience in the palace, but, as the whole of the city petitioned against my leaving, I was unable to get away again. We had now in our possession Tan-yang, Chang-chow, Chin-tan, Li-yang and Yi-sing in the Soo-chow province. This year Chang-chow was taken by Li Fuitai, and the whole of the garrison put to the sword. The loss of this place rendered the evacuation of Tan-yang a matter of necessity. The Che-kiang city and Kia-sing fell in succession, and Tan-yang, Kung-an and Kuang-te were the only places in our possession. The nobles of Che-kiang, Tan-yang, Chin-tan, Yi-sing, and Kung-an were left without any place to which they could retreat. I was shut up in the capital, and the general and princes, having no available scheme to meet the emergency, then fled to Kiang-se. The chief of those who took that route was my cousin Li-shih-sien, and the troops were all those that originally formed my command.

The names of those that left for Kiang-si and are now there are—Li-shih-sien, Liu-ch'ao-ch'un, Wang-hai-yang, Chén-ting-wen, Loo-shun-tê, Chu-sing-lung, Li-k'ai-shun, T'ân-ying-chih, Chén-ch'êng-ch'i, and Li-yung-fa.

CHAPTER VIII.

This matter, however, we will leave for that more interesting one, the defective state of the government and the cause of its extinction. From the period that the nation may be said to have been virtually defunct, that is, that its days were sealed, the Tien-wang would on no account listen to any advice or remonstrance. At an audience I had with him, I brought all the state matters in perspective before him, and after I had done so, he became jealous and suspicious of me and entrusted affairs entirely into the hands of his brother Hung-jen-ta, to whom likewise he gave control of all the important gates and passes. Nothing was handed over to my management.

Had I been allowed to take charge of the government it would not have degenerated in the way it has done. My presence at the capital was out of consideration for my mother, having an inward consciousness of the critical aspect all round, and that changes for
The Chief gave himself no concern about either the nation or the people, but buried in the recesses of his palace he never left the palace gate. When one proceeded to memorialise him upon internal affairs and to make suggestions pertinent to the preservation of the kingdom, he would invariably greet you with assertions about heaven and earth—subjects totally irrelevant to the main argument or point in view. He not only refrained from taking any active part in the government but he did not even engage any one to look after matters, hence each man carried on his own work, and things went on the same as usual. Most of the officers of my command were outside, and merely their families in the city, each household containing 8 or 10 persons. Knowing that I was in the city these collected themselves together, and rallied round me in a company numbering more than 1,000 people.

On my return to the capital in the 11th month of the 13th year (1863) the various followers that I brought with me were assigned to posts of importance in the city where danger was likely to threaten. The wealthy people alone in Nan-king had food to eat, the destitute and distressed males and females all came round me and prayed me to succour them. Utterly at a loss what to do, I complained to the Tien-wang of this difficulty and entreated him to issue a decree with suggestions to meet it, to the end that tranquillity might be somewhat restored to the public mind. The decree was that they should eat "sweet dew" in order to support themselves, upon which I asked "How can they subsist on sweet dew?" The Tien-wang then said, "Let them take of the things which the earth brings forth,"—this, it appears, was what he called "sweet dew." In concert with others I then represented that such was not a fit article for food, upon which the Tien-wang observed, "Bring some here and after preparing it I will partake of some first." No one, however, complying with this he gathered several herbs from his own palace garden and having made them up into a ball, he sent the ball outside with orders to the people to prepare their food in like manner. The Tien-wang had been inwardly conscious for some time past of an impending crisis that was near at hand, and of the insecurity of the capital, but, being of an elevated mind, he did not care to review the past or speculate on the future, and after he had entered Nan-king, and esta-
blished his reigning title, he considered it infra dig. to show no
failing, numbness or signs of apprehension—he reposed solely
heaven, and was very scrupulous as to putting confidence in me.
Three or four years antecedent to the present crisis orders were
issued for each household to collect ten piculs of "sweet dew," as
deliver it into the treasury.

Some obeyed, and contributed their quantum, and some did no
The Tien-wang for many days ate this stuff in his palace, and
my Chief could do so there was no reason why I should not do
the same. The destitute and starving males and females were
constantly clinging round me to relieve them, and praying me to
succour them—a request which I had not the means to meet. In
the 5th and 8th months of the 13th year, when I had money and
rice, I was able to contribute to their relief, and at that time had
a list of seventy or eighty thousand poor people to whom we
distributed 20 dollars and (or) 2 piculs of rice. Those who were
able to go to Pao-yen to receive their rice had it delivered to them
and those who had not strength to do so had 20 dollars given them
to engage in some small trade, and support themselves on their
daily earnings. In the 12th month of last year (Jan. 1864) I was
obliged to discontinue the distributions, as I was in distress my
self and had neither funds nor rice. Soo-chow and Hang-chow
had left us, and the capital was so closely beleaguered that it was
impossible for it to hold out long. The Tien-wang was unwilling
to retire from the city and nothing could be done.

At the time when the people of Tan-yang, San-ch'a-ho and the
surrounding neighbourhood had been desolated by Ch'en-k'un-shah
and Hung-ch'on-yuan, I possessed funds, and not only made sundry
distributions amongst the people, but sent some officers round to
soothe and console them. My affectionate treatment of the people
induced suspicions in the minds of the Tien-wang's brethren and
another Hung, that I meditated something or other, and the
sweat out that my "fidelity" had become converted into "treachery.
The idea of suspecting me in this way, instead of taking my
zealous services into favourable consideration, accusing me of his
bouring treachery! Having ever shown the possession of an iron
courage and a devoted heart, I cannot conceive why the Tien-
wang should have put confidence in the report of his malicious
ministers that I entertained feelings of dishonesty. My disgust
and disappointment are such that I shut myself up in the capit-
and determined, with the load of sorrow and oppression on me, to accompany the Chief to the grave.

With troops to the number of 100,000 men under my command, and ready at all times to do my wish, why did I suffer such indignities? When I reached the capital, the whole city was beaming with delight, and when it was known that I was going to depart, all the people gave way to tears. When I was in the city Hung-jen-ta] did not dare to harass or oppress the people nor even to treat the soldiers badly. Such times that I was not there he would search the people’s houses, and take away any rice he might find without any one daring to offer opposition. This practice would be carried on daily and men and women were in consequence unable to enjoy any peace. Last year the Tien-wang altered the state laws, and wanted the whole of the Ministers of State, and Generals, &c., to be careful to use in all their proclamations and official documents the words “Heavenly Father,” “Heavenly Brother,” and “Heavenly King,” and gave out at the same time any one guilty of disobedience would be liable to be drawn asunder by five horses.

The army was henceforth to be called the “Heavenly army,” the people the “Heavenly people,” the nation “Heavenly nation,” the camp “Heavenly camp,” and the Tien-wang’s own troops “Royal troops.”

Everyone save myself and Li-shih-sien agreed to this. Li-shih-sien even up to the present time has not carried out the instructions of the Tien-wang, and by incurring displeasure on this account, has been deprived of his rank, and has not yet had it restored to him.

The Tien-wang designated his nation, the kingdom of the “Heavenly Father,” “Heavenly Brother,” and the “Heavenly King,” and when he reproved any one, his reproof was always composed of strange and mysterious language. We being his ministers did not venture to oppose or contradict him, but allowed him to suit himself as to calling his dynasty “Heavenly dynasty,” his troops “Heavenly troops,” and so on. The soldiers were all considered his own “soldiers,” and we were forbidden to mention them as “our soldiers.” If any one happened to say “my soldiers,” or “my troops,” the Tien-wang would immediately say, “You are meditating treachery and want to subvert my kingdom.” The prospect of being drawn asunder by five horses was quite enough to deter
The Tien-wang committed a great error when he changed the titles of the Wangs. After the murder of the Eastern and Northern kings, the Tien-wang virtually ceased to create any more Princes, and the fact of his having altered his intentions and made so many Wangs at the present day, is entirely owing to the arrival of his brother Hung-jien-kang in the 9th year (1859). He was so exceedingly delighted to see his brother that, before a fortnight had passed by, he made him Generalissimo and accompanied this honour with a decree that all men should be under the new officer's control. Seeing, however, that the new Generalissimo was very incompetent, and had not a single suggestion to offer, he again thought over the matter to himself, and knowing that several of his fighting ministers, who had won much merit and done much to support the nation, discovered that he had made a great mistake in putting one of so little ability into a high position. Several months had shown himself of no value, whilst he had neglected to do anything for us. He first made Ch'en-yu-ch'eng the Ying-wang (Heroic King), and, as I had made strenuous exertion all along, he concluded not to forget me, and followed up this by making me a Wang.

I was in charge at P'iu-k'ow at this time, and Li-chao-show, with whom I had long been on terms of intimacy, when he heard that Ch'en had been made a Prince and that the same honour had not been extended to me, then sent me a despatch advising therein to tender allegiance to the Imperialists. Prior to the arrival of the dispatch, the Tien-wang, having been early led to imagine from rumour that I intended to leave, sent 6 or 7 of his "life guards" to P'iu-k'ow with two objects in view, one object, that of inspecting my entrenchments, and the other that of watching my movements to see whether they indicated a change or not. Li-chao-show, a bold sort of man, sent one of his own servants as the bearer of the dispatch to me; the servant in question having in days gone by formed one of my personal staff, and having followed Li-chao-show, when that person surrendered. On this man reaching the outlying picket he was seized by the guard and brought into the yamen, with the news that one of the enemy had been taken. The messenger said to those who arrested him: "There
is no occasion whatever for you to lay hands on me, I have come on a special mission to His Excellency Li." A letter which he had with him was then taken from him and handed to me to read.

The "life guards" alluded to above, were present at this time and when they returned home naturally gave out that a change in me was probable, and that if not made a Prince it was more than likely that it would occur. The suspicions were shared by my mother and household who were then at P'u-k'ow, and who prepared themselves for the event. The boats of Chung-kuan (the fort opposite P'u-k'ow) were sealed and my men were not allowed to cross to the city side. Seeing, however, after the lapse of some days, no apparent change taking place, the Tien-wang then designated me "The faithful and devoted of a myriad years," and wrote with his own hand on yellow satin the four characters "Myriad," "Ages," "Faithful," "Devoted," and sent me some silk and satin in addition. From this period dates my promotion to the rank of Chung-wang.

The cause of this honour was mainly owing to the letter of Li-chao-chow, and to guard against any change on my part. Subsequently to this the number of Wangs greatly increased, and those who had seen service for a long time were displeased at others who had but recently obtained merit being elevated to the dignity of Wang. The Tien-wang then distributed his Wangs indiscriminately, and upon representation gave his consent without reference as to who the party recommended might be. -The officers of the Board of Promotions enriched themselves privately, and those persons with funds and glad to obtain such honour went to the Board and were forthwith recommended. The lazy and useless were all made princes, and the officers outside, who were exerting themselves daily, were much displeased and refused to fight. Those of ability and talent were thrown aside, the Tien-wang preferring to form the pillars of his dynasty with the indolent and useless.

The Chief lost his reckoning sadly in making so many princes, but his word having once gone forth, giving honours, was as difficult to recall as an arrow that has once left the bow. Having no means of meeting the difficulty he called all the Wangs afterwards Liih-wangs, and these being excessively numerous he next resorted to the plan of modifying the character, and as a distinguishing mark told them to add three dots to the top of the
This enraged a great many and occasioned much trouble and numerous desertions.

In former days the Tien-wang's councillors advised the selection of valuable men, and myself and Chén-yú-chéng were belove by the Chief and new names given to us. The Ying-wang's nam was originally Ch'én-p’i-chéng, but the Tien-wang on account of zeal and loyalty, changed it into Chén-yu-chéng. My name, which was at one time Yi-wén, was changed by the Tien-wang after I was made a prince into Li-siu-chéng. At one time the Tien-wang used to select men for his service, but of late everything has got into such confusion that he discontinued to do so. When General Tséng was closely beleaguering the city and external communication cut off, the people in great distress came to my gate and prayed me to save their lives. I did not know what to do. The national treasury was empty and I had no share or concern in political matters. I issued out all the rice that I had stored up for my own use, but this not being fairly and equitably distributed by my men, I was obliged to take all the trinkets and wellery of my mother and household and sell them for the benefit of the people. This led to the exhaustion of my funds. The contributions I made were, however, inadequate to meet increased emergencies, and I therefore represented to the Tien-wang these matters and advised him to allow the people to leave the city; but this he would not consent to do, and rebuked me with, "Do you, without considering the nation's dignity, let any of my brothers and sisters out of the city? Let each one prepare a lot of "sweet herbs" (dew) and support himself with this food. You are not wanted to say anything." I was unable to meet this language with any suggestion, so I left the palace gate, the Chief was furious and I myself by no means pleased. The people were in a starving condition and continuing their supplications to me I saw no other course open but that of issuing secret orders to the poor to quit the city. I had previously heard that General Tséng had established a relief fund—Provident Society—outside, and this was just the thing that I wanted, and agreed well with arrangements. From last year up to the present time 3,000 4,000 people have left the city. Many of these were robbed of Hung's Canton-men of their money and valuables, but as soon I heard of this I made a personal investigation of the matter, executed several of the offenders, and thus suppressed the practi-
rectify or improve the state. Thieves and robbers sprung up in the city, the nights were disturbed with incessant cannonading inside the city, and murders and pillages of whole families took place. These were fatal omens and indications of coming destruction.

In the 11th month of last year, when General Tséng blew up part of the wall near the south gate, the troops in the city had then sufficient food, and, with the creek intervening, were able to repel the imperialist assault. But after this changes took place and the city became harassed more and more every day. Great fear and alarm were prevalent in the city, and there was no one on whom reliance could be placed for the safe keeping of the city or fortifications. In the event of any dispatch from the enemy being picked up and opened without the fact being reported to the Tien-wang, the offender, with the whole of his family, was sure to be executed. When General Tséng drew his lines closer round the city, a severe mandate was issued by the Tien-wang to the effect that any one holding treacherous correspondence with the enemy, and any one failing to report the fact, when conscious that such correspondence was going on, should be treated as an accessory and dealt with in the same manner as the offender, that is, be either pounded to pieces or be flayed alive. Who was not afraid of death in this form? Every one must have been. Shortly after this the Sung-wang, Chén-té-fung, who was in league with the Imperialist division under Siao-fa-szu outside east gate, and Chu-tao-ying, who was also in correspondence with some of General Tséng's men, were discovered and arrested by the eldest brother of the Tien-wang and put into confinement. Chén-té-fung being an intimate acquaintance of mine, and his mother, over 70 years of age, having solicited my interference on behalf of her son, I expended about 1,800 taels to ransom his life. Not long after this a relation of mine, Sung-yung-ch'i, entered the quarters of General Tséng, and had a consultation with one of his official retainers upon the matter of advising me to surrender. The retainer said that he had a brother, a crystal buttoned officer, who would be surety for me, Sung-yung-ch'i said that he had not seen the retainer's brother and could not venture to speak with any certainty.
He had heard that he was at T'ai-chow but could not guarantee the truth of this. When Sung-yung-ch'i came to see me he told me all about the matter, and that he had merely held conversation with the retainer, and could not vouch for the latter's honesty. We had a long discussion together on the same night, and on the following morning Sung, being too fond of drink, went to the house of a friend, when he became overpowered with wine, and divulged the whole of our conversation. Chên-tê-fung, half confident and half doubting, wrote to me about it and asked whether what he had heard was correct or not.

It happened that the day on which his dispatch arrived, the Poo-wang, Mo-shih-kuei, the Chang-wang and several other notables, were at my palace having a conference with me, and as the transmission of dispatches at that time of extreme vigilance was regarded with suspicion, this dispatch naturally aroused them, and Mo-shih-kuei having broken open the cover they all eagerly perused its contents. The Poo-wang then asked me whether the contents were correct or not, adding that he, being a member of the Board of Punishments, had a right to demand the surrender of Sung-yung-ch'i, and that if he were not forthcoming he would have to mention the matter to the Tien-wang, in which case I should get into trouble.

A guard was placed all round my palace on the look-out, and Sung-yung-ch'i, coming in the evening to consult with me at length upon the matter, was arrested, and Kuo-loo-szu, one of his friends, was taken with him. The affair occasioned great trouble and would no doubt have resulted in the destruction of my entire family had I not early won the affections of the military and people. The minister and others being rather jealous of me were opposed to condemning me. Sung-yung-ch'i was locked up and was on the point of being executed, but by bribing Mo-shih-kuei the Tien-wang's consent was obtained to an alleviation of the punishment. The feeling of being a relation of Sung prompted me to interpose for him, and I could not bear to see him die. This affair, which I have stated nearly consummated the extinction of my family, led the Wangs and others to keep a constant supervision over my actions. Spies were kept on the look-out and precautions taken to prevent any change. It was either at the end of the 4th month, or probably at the commencement of the 5th, when I was in charge of the east gate, that General Ts'eng-syung
several mines all round. This caused the Tien-wang much anxiety and trouble of mind, and eventually so preyed upon him that on the 30th June he poisoned himself. This event led Tséng to press the city still more, and no hope was left of its being able to hold out.

After the death of the Tien-wang, his eldest son Hung-fu-t'ien ascended the throne, in order to quiet the public mind. General Tséng had excavated mines in such numbers of places from the East to the South gate, that it was impossible to guard every one of them. In addition to this, two breaches were made in the Shén-tsé gate which considerably increased the difficulty. The new Sovereign was but a youth, unacquainted with state matters, and with no intellectual genius sufficient to cope with difficulties. The city was each day more closely beleaguered, and this state of affairs went on till the 8th July, when it became evident to us that some demonstration must be made, as the city was then on the point of falling. Under cover of the night we made a sortie from the city, and attacked Tséng's position, but without success. It was plain to me that the city could not be held, and hence our men were kept under arms all night, ready for any emergency, and in the morning as soon as it was light they returned to their quarters. General Tséng having however observed the men in the city dispersing, from his eminence on Tzu-chin hill, then fired his mine, and his troops stormed the city from the Tzu-chin and Dragon's neck hills.

They entered the city on all sides and our men were unable to check them. The garrisons of Chung-kuan and our other forts outside, when they saw the city was lost, either surrendered, ran away or were killed.

When the city fell all came around me with tears in their eyes. After my defeat at the Tai-ping gate I returned to the Palace gate, where the Young King, together with the other two sons of the Tien-wang, came to me and asked me what was to be done. I was at this time in a great dilemma and really at a loss how to proceed, and was obliged to discard attention to all save the Young King. To him I gave my war-horse (pony) as he was without one, and rode myself a weak and useless animal. We rode straight to my mother's house in order that I might first bid adieu to its tenant and my other relations. They were all weighed down with grief at my departure, but I was obliged to leave them, and
pursuing my way with my companion to Ch'ing-liang Hill we there endeavoured to conceal ourselves. We had at this period a few thousand men who had followed us for the purpose of forming our body guard. Though the Tien-wang's days had been fulfilled, the nation injured through others baffling and deceiving him, and the state lost, still, as I had received his favours, I could not do otherwise than evince my faithfulness by endeavouring to save his son. During the night we endeavoured to make a sortie from the North Gate, but Tseng's men were so strong in position that this was found to be impracticable. Our followers were in serious trouble and all of them in tears. We did not know what to do, we thought of the Shui-si gate and the little South Gate, but both these were held by Tseng's men. We were obliged to think of some alternative as affairs were getting too critical, so we deter-
mined to brave death in our last attempt to get out, and at one in the morning I sallied out with the Young Lord, followed by a few hundreds of our guards, forced my way out of the city. The camps that we passed were found to be in most formidable array, and all of them defended by high parapets and deep fosses.

As soon as we had left the city, guns were fired from the works on all sides and incessant shouting took place.

Tseng's cavalry then came in pursuit of us, and I was parted from the Young Lord. As he had never ridden before, and had never been subject to alarm or fright it is more than probable that he was cut up. The pursuing cavalry would have cut him up on the road without being aware that he was the Young Lord. How could they tell who the youth was? After I had parted with the Young Lord my pony was unable to go, for in addition to its not being a war pony, it had already been used during a whole day's battle, and was weary.

We had neither food for ourselves nor for our ponies, and many of us separated at day light. My pony not being able to move, I then made a rush for the Huang Hill, intending to take temporary refuge there. Having nothing to eat I was quite famished and unable to proceed. My war-horse (pony) I had given to the Young Lord, and up to the present time am in ignorance as to whether the youth is alive or dead. Had I retained my own pony I should undoubtedly have got away. I took refuge in a ruined temple on the Huang hill, but the people at the foot of the hill knowing that Nan-king had fallen, and that there was sure to be
some one lurking there, were bent upon making gain and eventually sealed my fate. On my person I had a quantity of valuables wrapped up in a piece of erose, and these in the hurry and confusion of the moment I hung up on a tree when I reached the temple, and meantime refreshed myself in the cool outside. To our surprise, however, some people discovered us, and their numbers increasing, two or three of us in our alarm ran away, and in the hurry I forgot to bring my things away with me. The people pursued us and asked if we had any money, adding that they did not want to take our lives. As soon as they had found out that I was the Chung-Wang they knelt down and gave way to tears. Seeing that they were desirous to save me I returned to the Huang Hill with the intention of rewarding them with some pearls and other valuables in order to show my appreciation of their feelings towards me, but unfortunately while one party of people were in pursuit of me, another body of people had gone to the temple and taken possession of my bundle of valuables, and when I returned of course I missed it. The people then advised me to shave my
the allegiance of those now in insurrection, on both banks of the river, as a return for generous treatment received, and to redeem my guilt of past days against the great Tsing Emperor. Were my Sovereign alive, I should be guilty of great faithlessness if I did this, but he having passed away and the nation being now no more I feel it reflects greatly on myself, that my men, to the number of several tens of thousands, should be allowed to harass and injure the people, and that I am unable to support the heavenly nation. If I have not as I say, and I again change, I can only appeal summarily according to the law, and, moreover, accomplish what I have guaranteed let me also be treated in the same way. If the Viceroy has no confidence in my ability to do what I say, let him still keep me in confinement, and let me write a letter from Ngan-hui, where I shall be conveniently situated for managing both banks of the river. I should be glad to know what the Viceroy's decision is.

FINIS.

The above, the handwriting of Li-siu-chêng, was written by him, during his confinement from the 30th July to the 8th of August, at the rate of about 7,000 characters daily. His errors have been rectified, his flattery of the Hoo-nan troops, his idle or nonsensical words and repetitions have been expunged. His ten propositions anent securing the allegiance of the rebels in Hoo-peh and Kiang-se as a ransom for his life, and his words announcing ten fatal causes which led to the defeat and death of the rebel Hung have also been obliterated, the remainder, although the language is at times inexplicit, and there are discrepancies in the occurrences of events, has been retained in its authentic state.

Signed.—Tsêng, Imperial Commissioner, Senior Guardian of the Heir Apparent, and under Secretary of State, Governor General of the Two Kiang and Hereditary Marquis of the first grade.
APPENDIX.

The following memorials were sent up by Tsêng-kuo-fan and others after the capture of Nan-king, and the Imperial Edicts were issued in consequence:—

MEMORIAL No 1.

Your servants Kuan-wên, a Minister of State and Governor General of the Two Hao, and Tsêng-kuo-fan, an Under Secretary of State and Governor General of the Two Kiang, on their knees memorialize to report the circumstances connected with the capture of Nan-king and the annihilation of the entire horde of rebels, and looking up, they implore the sacred glance thereon. They would humbly state, that general particulars of the attack on Nan-king were communicated in a memorial by the Che-kiang governor Tsêng-kuo-ch'ien, in conjunction with your servants on the 19th July, and that since then your servants have received a dispatch from Tsêng-kuo-ch'ien on the 22nd July, in which he says that the present assault on Nan-king entailed an unprecedented amount of hardship which has not been paralleled during the length of time that he has been in the army. After possession was taken of the T'ien-pao city, extreme vigilance was kept up by the rebels, and the important road to the Ti-pao city obstinately held. A hundred schemes were tried but no vulnerable point presented itself, until the 5th moon, 30th day (July 3rd), when Li-sieng-ho and others took possession of the Dragon's neck Hill, and they were enabled to command the city from the side of it, which virtually put victory into their hands.

From the 6th moon, 1st day (July 4th) the battalions took their turns in the attack, and many of them suffered. Li-chên-tien having ascertained that the city had sufficient rice and grain to enable it to hold out for some months, and seeing that 30 or more tumels had all failed, and that 50,000 men were fast losing their prestige, and, moreover, that a serious disaster would occur if early opportunity were not taken, volunteered to construct a mine with the aid of Siao-fu-szu in the thickest of the rebel fire. Siao-fu-szu and Huang-jun-ch'ang proposed to erect 10 or more earthworks about 200 feet from the wall, and sending out foraging parties in all directions to cut reeds, and pile them up, the interstices to be filled up with sand and mud. The ground on the left side being very high, the attack was carried on openly, but the ground on the
right being very low, the best method proved to be that of making secret attacks, that is, in undermining. This continued for a fortnight without the troops being able to enjoy a moment's cessation, and thus an incredible number of men were sacrificed or incapacitated for work. General Chén-wan-shéng, Wang-shao-yi and Kuo-péng-chéng, generally considered able-bodied men, fell victims within a few days, an event deeply to be regretted. At the 4th watch on the night of the 15th, when just as the mine was being charged with powder, and Tsèng-kuo-ch’ien and Li-chén-tien were deliberating at the mouth of it, upon their plan, the rebel Li-siu-chéng, with a few hundred of his myrmidons, made a sortie from the Tai-ping gate, and endeavoured to overcome the camps encircling the breach near the gate. Another body took the northern angle near the Ch’ao-yang gate, and disguised as Imperialist soldiers, carried fireballs in their hands for the purpose of setting fire to our fort and the reeds which were close to the wall. The soldiers having been fatigued with their labour, and it being in the middle of the night the attempt had very nearly proved successful, but Wu-wei-show checked the rebels on the left, and killed a great many of them, whilst P’eng-yu-chu cut off those on the right and made many captures, and fortunately protected the mouth of the mine. On the approach of daylight on the 16th, (July 19th), Tsèng-kuo-ch’ien drew up his columns in one spot and assigned to each division its proper post, and directed all to be ready for any surprise by the rebels. A desultory attack was then kept up on the Tai-ping gate, and in the neighbourhood of the Lung-po-tzu until noon, when Li-chén-tien having reported that the mine had been closed, and that the train had been laid, Tsèng-kuo-ch’ien then issued a notice promising boundless rewards in case of success and threatening death to any that retreated. Liu-lién-chièh and the other generals and officers sat down on the ground and voluntarily took an oath that they would die in defence of their country if necessary. Orders were then given to fire the mine, and with a noise like thunder it blew up, bringing down with it 200 feet of the wall, covering the air with smoke and dust, and scattering the bricks and stones in all directions. Wu-ming-liang and a few others were the first to enter through the breach, and they were followed by the soldiers, who poured in like ants which nothing could withstand.

The rebels on the wall to the left, then rained down fire at
rockets on our troops, destroying an immense number of them and
for the moment checking their advance. Pêng-yu-chu, however,
coming up cut some of them down and on this they rallied and
not one of them afterwards retreated. Wu-ming-liang and others
then led their men to the Lung-kuang hill to meet the rebels at
the Tai-ping gate, these they intercepted and drove back, mean-
time Li-siang-ho and Wang-shih-yi forced the curtain of the Tai-
ping gate, the rebels being well aware that the present mine was
unlike any of its predecessors and could not be defended. The
troops now divided themselves into columns and took four different
routes through the city. Wang-yuan-ho took the centre road lead-
ing to the so-called Tien-wang’s palace, Liu-lien-chieh took the
right hand, and proceeded to take charge of the Shên-tsê gate and
the places in its neighbourhood.

Meanwhile Chu-nan-kuei scaled the breach near the Shên-tsê
gate, and uniting with the other divisions they found themselves
strong enough to march direct to the Lien Hill, and take posses-
sion of the E-fêng gate. The division on the left centre road un-
der Pêng-yu-chu went on direct through the old foundations of the
city to the T’ung-chi gate, while Siao-fu-szu, on the left, seized the
Ch’ao-yang and Hung-wu gates, and annihilated the garrison on
the walls as well as in the guard-houses and look-outs. The re-
bels were taken in flank and rear and cut up in an incredibly short
space of time. Garrisons were left in charge of the gates, and
everything arranged in order.

The above is a detail of the success of the mine, and the effectual
way in which the work of destruction was carried on. When the
main body took possession of the Lung-kuang Hill, the rebel gar-
rison on the South-west part of the walls maintained their ground
unmoved, but when the seizure of the Ch’ao-yang gate took place
the rebels were thrown into confusion, and Lo-fung-yuan and
others at the head of their men then fought their way through the
old tunnel at the Chu-pao gate, whilst Li-chin-chow and Hu-sung-
chiang entered the curtain of the T’ung-chi gate by escalade.
Chên-shih with L-liang-hu meantime attacked the Han-si and
Shui-hsi gates, when suddenly, the so-called Chung-wang, Li-siu-
ch’eng, at the head of a body of desperadoes, endeavoured to force
his way out of the former gate, but he was brought up by a division
of Chu-nan-kuei and Liu-lien-chieh.
Chung-kuan and Lan-chiang roek, and followed up his success by attacking the whole of the rebel works on the bank of the river. He likewise assisted Ch'en-shih and I-liang-hu in the conquest of the Han-si and Shui-si gates, and in completely exterminating the garrisons. From this period the success was, it may be said, practically complete. Just as dusk was approaching Ch'en-shih despaired the rebel Chung's followers concealing themselves in the houses adjoining the South-west gate, and he at once gave orders to his men to be prepared to meet any sortie that might be made. Pêng-yu-chu took charge of the Chu-pao and T'ung-chi gates. Li-ch'en-tien and Li-siang-ho held the Tai-ping gate. As soon as the stars came out Huang-jun-ch'ang and others encamped their men in a circle on the Lung-kuang hill, in order to afford them a little rest. The above is a summary of the operations of the flotilla and land force on the South and West parts of the city, and the arrangements made to repulse any attempted sortie by the rebels.

Now when Chu-hung-chang was engaging the rebels on the north side of the so-called Tien-wang's palace, Shen-hung-pin and others took the left road, and rolling up their banners went at the double towards the east side of the so-called city, and then placed their men in ambush for the purpose of capturing or exterminating the chiefs. Chu-hung-chang's war-horse being wounded, the rebels then held on desperately to the stone bridge and our troops were prevented from crossing the moat, and it was some time before they gained the west of the so-called palace. It being now late and the troops wearied after their fight, they withdrew to Lung-kuang hill, but the ambuscade had proceeded too far to retire, the distance from the east side of the so-called city to the south gate being too great. At 1 A.M. the so-called Chung-wang having issued orders to fire the so-called Tien-wang's palace, and the other palaces in the city, they all burst out into flame simultaneously, the gunpowder smoke darted up in a cloud and the smoke and flame from the burning buildings filled the city. Yuan-ta-sheng perceiving a body of armed rebels to the number of 1,000 or more men issuing from the palace and making for the people's houses, he felt sure that they were headed by the rebel Hung, and at once led his men forward to cut them off. He succeeded in killing over 700 of them and captured two jade seals and one gold seal which the rebel Hung had been in the habit of
...dants hanged themselves in the front garden, whilst the number of rebels that were drowned (or died) in the city must exceed 2,000. The fire in the city was too great at this time to allow of any advance, and the rebels had blocked the principal thoroughfares with bonfires, so that our troops, being unable to find their way in the city at night, then withdrew to their proper position.

This completes the account of the operations on the night of the 16th, ending in the destruction of the Wang's palaces and the slaughter of a great number of the rebels. About 4 in the morning a body of 1,000 armed men, having on the Imperial garb and with Imperial standards, attempted a sortie through the breach at the Tai-ping gate, but the Kung-tzu and Siang brigades saluted them with grenades and fire-balls and killed a great many of them. 600 or 700 of them, however, forced a passage and made their escape in the direction of Shao-ling-wei and Ting-lin-chên. Wu-wei-show pursued them immediately with cavalry, and when Tseng-kuo-chien heard what had happened he detached an additional body of cavalry, 700 men, in pursuit, and at the same time sent dispatches with all haste to the garrisons of Li-shui, Tung-ja, and Chü-yung to issue out and cut them off.

On the 19th, about half past five in the evening, Wu-wei-show arrived, and reported that he had pursued the rebels to Shun-hua-chên (10 miles from Nan-king) where he captured the so-called Lieh-wang, Li-wan-t'ai, and with him he went on to Hoo-siu-chên (13 miles from Nan-king), when, seeing the fugitive rebels in front, he surrounded them with his cavalry and cut them off to a man. He finally pressed on as far as Li-yang, but the people here stating that no rebels had passed that way, he returned. Tseng-kuo-chien himself examined Li-wan-t'ai, and elicited from him the information that the so-called Chung-wang's brother, the Chu-wang, as well as the young Si-wang, young Nan-wang, availing themselves of the night, had taken to flight, but were cut up by the cavalry in pursuit at Hu-shiu bridge and not one of them left. Several of the rebels in the city, when examined, stated that the rebel Chief Hung-siu-secen really poisoned himself in June of the present year, when our troops were vigorously assaulting the place, and, moreover, that his remains were interred in his so-called palace; further, that his son Hung-fu-ting, who had succeeded to the soidicant tide, settled to a funeral pile when the city was taken and...
destroyed himself. As soon as the fire in the city is sufficiently subdued, search shall be made for Hung-siu-tseuen's corpse, and correct proof obtained as to the fate of that chief's son, such particulars as can be gleaned will be communicated in a memorial. As to the criminal styling himself the Chung-wang (Li-siu-ch'êng), he was wounded at the taking of Nan-king and concealed himself in a peasant's house away in the hills, until he was discovered and arrested by Siao-fu-szu, Wang-tz'u-s'ung, Hung-jên-ta being taken with him. On the 23rd July, T'seng-kuo-ch'ien personally examined both criminals, when each of them acknowledged his guilt without reserve. T'seng-kuo-ch'ien has written to ask whether they are to be sent to the capital or to be dealt with summarily at Nan-king. On the 17th and 18th, Tsêng-liang-tso with others searched through the city for any rebels they could find, and in three days killed over 100,000 men. The Chin-huai creek was filled with bodies. Half the so-called princes and generals were killed in battle and the other half either drowned themselves in the dykes and lakes or else burned themselves. The whole of them numbered about 3,000 men. The fire in the city raged for three days and nights, and on the 19th there were still some rebels lurking in garrets and keeping up a desultory fire on the troops. The above are the particulars of the destruction of the retreating rebels and the slaughter of the chiefs.

Officers have been appointed to extinguish the fire and bury the rebel corpses, and arrangements made for restoring quiet to the distressed; a hundred measures in fact have to be put into force. Tseng-kuo-ch'ien in his dispatch, remarks that it must cause any one grief to reflect that, during this siege of two years and upwards, no less than 10,000 men have fallen victims to sickness, and 8,000 or 9,000 have been killed in battle. He likewise says that this success is entirely attributable to the fortune and influence of the Emperor. Your servants find that the rebel Hung has now been in rebellion 15 years, and in possession of Nan-king 12 years, injuring people on all sides he had stirred up the wrath of both gods and men. The military prowess of this dynasty has far surpassed that of ancient times, and the historical pages are illuminated with accounts of the many difficulties that the dynasty has coped with. As for instance the rebellion in Szu-chuen and Hoo-nan during K'ea-hing's reign, which merely disturbed four provinces and destroyed about ten cities; and the rebellion of the three chiefs during
Kang-he’s reign, which confined its ravages to 12 provinces and about 300 cities. The present rebellion of the Canton rebels has caused devastation in 16 provinces and not less than 600 cities. Amongst their leaders were men of a most desperate class, such as Li-k’ai-fang who occupied Feng-kuang-t’ung, Lin-chi-yung who held Kiu-kiang, and Yeh-yan-lai who held Nan-king; these men all held on to the last without submitting. Again not one of the 10,000 rebels in Nan-king surrendered themselves when the city was taken, but in many cases destroyed themselves and passed away without repentance. Such a formidable band of rebels has been rarely known from ancient times to the present, and that they have been thus quickly exterminated we feel to be owing to our (late) illustrious Emperor’s eminent virtue, and to his extensive projects in having early formed a basis for the overthrow of the rebellion. Though frugal in the expenditure of his palace, he spared no expense for the organization of the army. Though he distributed honours with great care, he never hesitated to bestow unusual rewards for merit. Though his intellectual faculty and genius were deep and profound, he never hesitated to yield to the strategic measures of his generals. The empress dowager and emperor, in adhering to these three precedents, have followed out the same principles; and in addition to this have eradicated other depraved men [who endeavoured to usurp power] in a signal and summary manner.* In seeking out men of talent from all parts, they have been able to cut off the great pretender, and vast possessions have been acquired. Your servants, in their charge of the troops, have met with this auspicious period, and it is only a matter of painful regret to them that our late sire did not live to see the day that this great success has been attained. And now that human life has been involved in calamities for a long period past, the only thing that can be done is for your servants to continue to the end to show the same strenuous exertions that they have begun, and to sweep away the remnant of the rebels, that so they may relieve the direful necessities of the people, and somewhat alleviate the Emperor’s ever-present anxiety. Your servants, on another sheet of paper, have made out a list of those deserving encouragement and posthumous honours, and they would supplicate that favours be bestowed on them.

Your servant Kuo-fan, after finishing this memorial, will proceed.

* Alluding to Shu-shun and his party.
ation the advisability of sending Li-siu-chêng and Hung-jên-
the capital, or of retaining them at Nan-king.
the particulars of the capture of Nan-king and the annihilation
rebelks, he forwards in a respectful memorial in conjunction
your servants, Yang-yo-ping Governor General of Shan-se and
-su, P'eng-yu-lin Secretary of the Board of War, Li-hung-
governor of Kiang-su, and Tsêng-kuo-ch'ien Governor of
i-hang, at the rate of 600 Li (and more) a day, and prostrate
of the Sacred Glance and Instructions from the Empress
ager and the Emperor.
A respectful memorial.
ung-chih 3rd year, 6th moon, 23rd day, 26th July, 1864.

Memorial No. 2.

our servant Tsêng-kuo-fan, Imperial Commissioner and Gover-
general of the Two Kiang, on his knees memorialises to report-
tion he has taken with regard to the disposal of the two re-
caders Hung-siu-tsuen and Li-siu-chêng; and looking up he
the sacred glance may light thereon.
our servant would humbly state that on the 6th month, 23rd
(July 26), he reported all the circumstances relative to the
re of Nan-king, and to the probable fate of the so-called Tien-
g's son; and he, moreover, dwelt on the question as to whether
is advisable or not, to send Li-siu-chêng and Hung-jên-ta to
sonally acquainted with your servant, he could hardly recognise
them at first sight. Li-chên-tien, who had superintended the work,
suffered so much from the heat and constant exertion, that he
succumbed after the city was taken. Many officers were wounded
or sick and many died from both causes. Your servant's brother,
Tsêng-kuo-ch'ien, who had recovered from his previous attack of
sickness, was again attacked with a skin disease owing to his con-
tant exposure to damp, and other causes.

Your servant has been in the army for a long time and been
present at attacks on many cities, but he has rarely seen the time
that such suffering as the present has been endured. Your servant
held out to all, hopes of the Imperial benevolence, and used every
means he could to comfort them and to show his appreciation of
their well earned merits. He moreover constrained them to forget
their hardships and losses in the feeling of devotedness they had
shown.

The officers and soldiers, on account of the anger and wrath that
had grown up in them were unanimous in their desire to obtain the
corpse of the so-called Tien-wang, IIung-siu-tseuen, in order to
comfort themselves. It was not until the 27th of the 6th moon
(July 30th), that that rebel's remains were found. They were ex-
humed from the so-styled palace on that day and on the 28th were
brought to your servant's quarters. The body was inspected by
your servant, Kuo-ch'ien, and three officers who had filled posts in
the Autumn Court of the Board of Punishments. The various
civil and military officers were likewise allowed to see it.

The rebel's corpse had, in accordance with his false religion, not
been put into a coffin, but was enveloped in yellow satin embro-
dered with dragons, and even the bottoms of his trousers were em-
brdered in the same way. His head was bald, without hair, his
moustache remained but had become grey, and there was flesh on
the left thigh and right shoulder. As soon as the examination had
been concluded the head was severed and the remainder of the
body, after being cut up, was finally burnt.

One of the female slaves of the so-called palace, the daughter
of a native of Tao-chow named IUang, buried the rebel's remains
with her own hand. On your servant personally questioning
her, she stated that IIung-siu-tseuen for more than a year past had
given up seeing any of his ministers, and that on the 27th day of
the 4th moon, when the Imperial troops were harassing the city,
he poisoned himself. The event was concealed at first and no
funeral rites performed, but the rumour quickly spread itself
through the rebels in the city and to the Imperialists outside
the city, and ten days afterwards it was announced publicly. The so-
called Young Lord, IIung-fu-t'ien, then encircled himself with a
funeral pile intending to fire it when the city fell. The evidence
of the people generally corroborated this account. For several
days, search was made amongst the ashes and cinders of the so-
called palace but no trace whatever could be found to verify the
account given.

From the fact of the two jade seals having been taken in the
street while the fight was going on, it seems likely that IIung-fu-
t'ien got away from the palace. This surmise is supported by Li-siu-
ch'eng's evidence, which tends to show that he left the city in charge
of that person and parted from him shortly afterwards. But the
rebels that fled out of the city amounted to but a few hundred men
and these escaped on the night of the 17th, and were all cut off
by the pursuing cavalry.

On the 17th, the mouth of the mine was closed and the next
three days were employed in exterminating the remainder of the
rebels. IIung-fu-t'ien was but a simple stripling of 16, and
even allowing that he did not sacrifice himself he must have been
killed in the confusion of fighting—about this there can be but
little doubt. The two jade seals and the gold seal your servant
will at once send to the grand Secretary in charge of a special
officer, in order that they may be retained as relics. With refer-
ice to Li-siu-ch'eng, many of the soldiers who had once been with
the rebels, and the people dwelling near the city, were called to
look at him and all recognised him. When your servant reached
Nan-king on the 25th (July 28) he personally examined Li-siu-
ch'eng once and then appointed the Expectant Intendant of cir-
cuit P'an-chi-yun, the Expectant Prefect Li-hung-yi and the Ex-
pectant Sub-prefect Chow-yueh-siu to cross-question him a second
time and to direct him to write down his own defence. The evi-
dence of Li-siu-ch'eng consists of several tens of thousands of cha-
acters, and the details in it amount the rise and fall of the rebellion
and the operations carried on by himself, are clear and lucid.
Your servant further made inquiries about Li-shih-sien in Kiang-
se, Ma-yung-ho in Hu-p'eh, IIuang-wen-chin in Hoo-chow, and ob-
tained sundry particulars with reference to the rebels in different
parts. Li-siu-ch'êng states that the rebels in Hoo-chow and Kuang-tê will disperse of themselves without being attacked. The body of rebels under Ma-yung-ho had come from Shan-se and were ordered to the relief of Nan-king, but the River intervening between them and Nan-king no news had been heard of their whereabouts for a long time. Li-shih-sien, it appears, is the brother of Li-siu-ch'êng and had made a previous agreement with him that he would make a raid into Kiang-se just before the 8th month and plunder commissariat stores for the support of his men.

Li-siu-ch'êng endeavored to remonstrate with the Imperial army for singling out men of the two Kuang (more than others), for execution, and added that this proceeding merely tended to isolate the Canton rebels and to make them more desperate, and that thus it would be impossible to settle affairs.

His words are somewhat suggestive and deserve consideration. The civil and military officers requested that Li-siu-ch'êng should be sent to the capital, and even the foreigners Ko-têng (Gordon and Ya-t'ê-ma (Thomas-Adkins) who came to offer congratulations, expressed a hope that he would be sent to Pe-king.

Your servant would humbly state that the Heavenly power of the Sacred dynasty having [of itself] extinguished the contemptible pests, there is no occasion to regard any chief save the pretender himself, in the light of a prisoner of war, and that the rule affecting Ch'en-yu-ch'êng and Shih-ta-k'ai should also apply to the two criminals, Li-siu-ch'êng and Hung-jên-ta. Moreover, when a great chief is sent to Pe-king, it is always necessary to entice him with alluring words and vague promises that he will not suffer death. Now Li-siu-ch'êng is conscious that his pardon is an impossibility, and might on the road either starve himself to death or succeed in getting away. Thus he would escape a public execution and great misfortunes might arise in consequence.

Your servant therefore consulted the matter over with his brother Kuo-ch'ien and finding his views agree entirely with his own, ventured to inflict the extreme punishment of the law upon Li-siu-ch'êng on the 6th of the 7th month (Aug. 7th) and to send his head round to the various cities in order to gratify the public mind. The so-called Fu-wang, Hung-jên-ta, who was executed on the 4th (August 5th), was the brother of Hung-siu-tseuen, and with his elder brother Hung-jên-ta was most tyrannical and cruel, and was much despised by Li-siu-ch'êng as well as the other rebels.
Li-siu-ch'êng's evidence, though not altogether explicit, contains a fairly accurate account of matters and will be sent to the Grand Secretariat for future reference.

Your servant having disposed of the rebel chiefs, his next duty will be to see about the settlement of affairs.

For several years past it has been rumoured that the rebel Hung's wealth was as vast as the sea and that he had an abundance of every imaginable thing. And your servant in consequence had held frequent discussions with Tsêng-kuo-ch'ien as to sealing the rebel coffers when the city was taken; and if the wealth was great sending it to the Board of Revenue, and if, on the other hand, it was not much, retaining it for the purchase of army necessaries and for the relief of the distressed and destitute.

When the city was taken on the 19th July three days were occupied in killing the rebels, and there was no leisure to admit of attention being turned to anything else. The rebel palaces were heaps of ashes, and on the 23rd, when enquiries came to be made it turned out that no rebel treasury had been in existence. Li-siu-ch'êng, when questioned, said that although of late years a treasury styled the Sacred Treasury had existed, still it merely contained Hung-siu-tseuen's private money and was not used as a public treasury for the so-called capital. The officers and soldiers of the so-styled dynasty have had no salaries or rations issued to them for some time past, and the Wang-chang-siung and Wang-ts'û-siung (brothers of Hung-siu-tseuen) had instituted most cruel punishments and rigorous laws, and had moreover seized all the rice and money belonging to the people.

Soo-chow had more money left than Nan-king, but there was no public treasury in which to deposit it. The money obtained by Li-siu-ch'êng was entirely distributed by him amongst his followers who were much attached to him. Any other wealth that there was, was private, the public exchequer itself being very much distressed.

Your servant's brother Kuo-ch'ien was of opinion that there must have been money concealed in the rebel quarter and on the persons of rebels, and that each individual in the army should be made to give up what he had got, in order to meet the public debts. Your servant argued thence that, as the loot obtained by the braves and soldiers was not in the same ratio, some having possessed themselves of a good deal and some of very little, if each
were compelled to deliver up a certain amount the feeble would suffer punishment and nothing be obtained; and the strong would be mutinous and desert. In fine, that such a measure would not have for its result the acquirement of funds, but would injure the national dignity to no purpose, and would disappoint the military spirits.

Your servant therefore issued a notice to the effect that no interference would be made to the possession of money taken from a rebel's person, but that if any buried treasure were discovered in rebel quarters a report should be at once made to the proper authority and the amount handed over to the public fund,—that any failing to comply with this should be punished. This was done for the purpose of compassionating their poverty and with a view of commending their services, and, moreover, as lending in some measure to support the nation's dignity.

But to capture the great stronghold of the rebels and to find no wealth whatever, certainly surpasses your humble servant's calculations, and is a thing of rare occurrence.

Just now that the measures for establishing peace and for putting everything into proper order are being carried on, the demand for money is great, and your servant's army being too large he proposes to disband 30,000 or 40,000 men in order to admit of some retrenchment in the public expenditure; but he is without the means of meeting the pay due to those about to be disband, and he is equally at a loss to know where to procure funds for the support of those that it is necessary to retain.

Kiang-nung has suffered greater devastation than other places, and to think of soothing and compassionating the distressed people in its eight dependencies, is impossible, as there are no finances forthcoming with which to do it.

From the 5th month of last year, now, more than a year past, several hundreds of the government troops have been engaged in making tunnels under the walls in various directions, and the excavations at the base of the walls cover a space of about 6 1/2 miles, not reckoning the counter-mines made by the rebels themselves from the inside to the outside of the city. These all require repair as well as the barracks for the Man-ch'iu soldiers, but it will be really difficult to devise any scheme to meet these important items. This, however, forms one of the great concerns and business of the Peace Committee. The remainder of the matters embrace an
exceedingly large number of items, and as soon as one measure is carried out a new difficulty will arise; so that your servant's delight which he felt at the capture of Nan-king has been speedily turned into painful anxiety. The site of the so-called Tien-wang's palace is that formerly occupied by the Governor General's ya-mun, but not a tile of it remains. A house which is not quite destroyed has been selected, and is now in course of repairs for your servant's official residence. Meantime your servant will return to Ngan-king once more, in order to adjust the military affairs of the Upper Valley, and in the 8th or 9th month will return to Nan-king to see to the final arrangement of matters. Your servant, in a separate memorial, will ask for posthumous honours to be given to Li-ch'ên-tien. Meanwhile he forwards an account of how he has disposed of the rebel chiefs, Hung-siu-tseuen and Li-siu-ch'êng, as well as of the rough measures which have been taken to restore order; and prostrate, he implores the sacred glance and instructions of the Empress Dowager and Your Majesty. A respectful memorial.

Imperial Edict, No 1.

On the 6th moon, 29th day (August 1st), the Cabinet Council received the following decree:—

We have this day received an express at the rate of 600 li (and more) a day, accompanied with a red flag from Kuan-wên and Tséng-kwo-fan, announcing the recovery of Nanking, the death of the rebel chief, the complete extermination of the rebellious hordes, and the capture of Li-siu-ch'êng and Hung-jên-ta.

The perusal of the memorial has caused Us deep pleasure, and We feel that our joy will be eagerly shared in by the ministers and people. Since the rebel chief Hung-siu-tseuen first projected rebellion in the 30th year of Tao-kuang, he has passed through the Two Hoo, the Three Kiang (Kiang-soo, Kiang-se and Kiang-ning), and a separate body has even penetrated Chih-li, Shan-tung and other places. In fine, the rebel element has spread itself everywhere.

In the 3rd year of Hien-fung, Nan-king was seized, and Hung-siu-tseuen assumed unto himself his soi disant reigning title.

Words cannot convey any idea of the misery and desolation he
caused amongst the people: Suffice it to say that the measure of his iniquity was full, and the wrath of both gods and men was excited against him.

Our Sire his late Majesty, canonised as the Illustrious, was startled when he heard of the rebels, and in exceeding indignation determined to exterminate them. He appointed the Viceroy of Hú-quang, Kuan-wén, to be Imperial Commissioner, and gave him directions to act in conjunction with Hoo-lin-yi, Governor of Hu-peh, and clear away the rebels from that province. Hoo-lin-yi was to make Su-sung the base of his operations for the conquest of places eastward.

Tséng-kuo-fan was appointed Viceroy of the Two Kiang, and Imperial Commissioner, for the extinction of the rebels in Kiang, se and Ngan-hui. Each one was assigned his respective duties, and military successes increased daily.

In the 7th moon of the 11th year (1861), when our Imperial Father mounted the dragon to be a guest on high, half of the cities in Kiang-soo and Che-kiang had fallen. In his last decree and testament to Us he expressed his sincere regret that he had been unable to root out the rebel influence. On Our accession to the important charge laid upon Us, We could not do otherwise, in our tender age, than follow in the path of Our predecessors. We received the assistance of the two Empresses dowager, and, to meet the exigencies of the time, We were advised to elevate Tséng-kuo-fan to the office of Under Secretary of State, and give him entire control over the army in the four provinces. Since his appointment to this post, this high officer has fulfilled the duties imposed upon him, in exterminating the rebels from the upper valley; and directing Ping-yu-lin, Yang-yo-ping and Tséng-kuo-ch’ien to attack the cities and important points on the bank of the River. No less than 100,000 rebels were killed in these operations, and Nan-king was at length besieged and external succour cut off.

In the 6th moon, 16th day (July 19th), Tséng-kuo-ch’ien at the head of his troops captured the outer city of Nanking, killing several thousands of the rebels. Húng-siut-sœuen then led a body of desperadoes forward, and was determined to hold the inner city to the last. Greater vigilance than ever was kept up by the rebels after they had lost the Tien-pao city. On the 30th of the 5th month (July 3rd), however, Li-siang-ho with others seized the Dragon’s Neck hill, and on the next and following days, the differ-
cut brigades took
Wu-tsung-kuo then
began to mine the
wall, and Siao-fu-szu
proceeded to work on
it. Lih-ch'en-tien
was the first to
be expended, and the
remaining were the first to
be expended. P'eng-yu-chu and Siao-fu-szu coming up cut down some of those
who were giving way and thus again rallied them. Wu-ming-liang
meantime led his forces to the Lung-kuang hill to the left of the
Tai-ping gate, and attacked the rebel position there, causing the
rebels to fall back. Lih-shing-ho effected an entrance near the
Tai-ping gate, whilst Wang-yuan-ho went on to the so-called
Tien-wang's palace and attacked the north side of it. Liu-lien-
chih at the head of his men scaled the wall through the breach
near the Shen-ts'e gate, and uniting with the other forces then
pressed on to the Lien Hill and took possession of the E-fung and
Ch'ao-yang gates. Lo-fung-yuan gained the city through the old
breach to the west of the Chu-pao gate.

Li-chin-chow entered the city by escalade near the T'ung-chi
gate. While Ch'en-shih was making a desperate attack on the
Han-si and Shui-si gates, the so-called Chung-wang, Li-siu-ch'eng,
led a rabble of his desperadoes and made a frantic attempt to force
his way out of the former gate and run away, but he was stopped
by Ch'en-shih's main body and driven back to the Ch'ing-liang
hill. Huang-yi-sheng, who had seized Chung-kuan and the redoubts
at Lan-chiang-chi, as well as the other rebel works on the River,
finally co-operated with Ch'en-shih and Li-liang-hu in taking the
Hau-si and Shui-si gates. The conquest of the gates having been
completed, the city was virtually secured. About 12 at night, it
appears that the palaces of the so-called Tien-wang and the other
Wangs were simultaneously fired, and the whole atmosphere was
obscured by the smoke. The rebel Hung at the head of a thou-
sand or more of his ruffians, issued out from his so-called palace
and made for the south gate, where they took refuge in the houses
surrounding the gate. Vien-yu-sheng, however, pursued them and
cut off 700 of them, besides taking two jade seals and one gold seal which the rebel Hung had constantly used. At 3 or 4 in the morning a body of about a thousand rebels in the guise of Imperialist soldiers endeavoured to force their way out of the city by the breach at the Tai-ping gate, but they were met by the Kuan-tzu and Hsiang-ho battalions and were also pursued by some of Tseng-kuo-ch'ien's cavalry up to Shun-hua-ch'en, where the so-called Lieh-wang was taken and the pursuit maintained as far as Hsu-shoo-ch'en, where the remainder were entirely cut up. The examination of Li-wan-t'aei elicited from him that the so-called Ch'iu-wang (the Chung-wang's brother) the young Si-wang, the young Nan-wang, the Ting-wang, the Chung-wang, and the Chang-wang, under cover of the night, had forced their way out of the city, but had all been killed by the pursuing cavalry. The evidence of the rebels inside the city tended to show that the rebel Chief Hung-siu-ch'aoan poisoned himself in the 5th moon (June); that his remains were interred in his so-called palace, and that the young king, his son, who had succeeded to his soi disant title, burnt himself to death after the city was entered by the Imperial troops. The criminal Li-siu-ch'eng was wounded at the capture of the city and took refuge in a peasant's house amongst the hills, where he, with Wang-tzu-suing, was discovered by Siao-fu-szu and taken alive. The remainder of the rebels, were searched out on the 17th and 18th, and the whole of them, to the number of 100,000 men, were killed, including 3,000 so-called princes, chiefs and generals, not one of whom escaped. We feel that We are bounden for all this to the benign protection of heaven, and the good fortune transmitted to Us by Our ancestors. The two Empresses dowager in their unwearied assiduity to government have shown their ability to select men of worth and talent—officers and soldiers that have proved themselves ready to brave death in order to accomplish this great end which has now been attained, a success which has given comfort to the soul of Our illustrious Sire now in heaven, and which has enabled the ministers and people to realize their hopes and expectations.

When We reflect on the insignificance of Ourself, how could We have been sufficient to carry such out? We can but carry Our reflections back to Our predecessor who did not live long enough to see this work completed, but when We think of this the excess of Our grief is more than We are able to bear. Now that
the rebels, after a lapse of 15 years since their rising, and 12 since their possession of Nan-king, have been thus entirely annihilated, it behoves us to bestow suitable rewards on those officers who, in spite of wind and rain, and sharing in every difficulty, have carried out the work so effectually.

The Imperial Commissioner, Under Secretary of State, and Viceroy of the Two Kiang, Tsèng-kuo-fan, in the 4th year of P'een-fung, set on foot the volunteer movement in Hoo-nan and built several war boats. He obtained great successes in Hoo-nan and captured Wu-ch'ang and Han-yang, and cleared Kiang-se of rebels; and since his operations eastwards has passed through Su-sung, captured Chien-shan and Tai-hu, and occupied Ch'î-mun, from which place he effected the recovery of Ngan-king, making that place his base of operations for the conquest of the Lower Valley. He has fortunately so achieved his work as to cut up the original abettor of the mischief, and has on the whole shown his competence to select men suited to the exigencies of the time, and that he is possessed of great military tactics. We now, therefore, of our favor confer on Tsèng-kuo-fan the title of Senior Guardian of the Heir Apparent, and create him a Marquis of the first grade, which is to be hereditary, and we moreover reward him with a double-eyed peacock's feather.

The Governor of Che-kiang, Tsèng-kuo-ch'ien, entered the army from a graduate, and since that time has accompanied Tsèng-kuo-fan (his brother) throughout various conflicts, in which he has shown much zeal. In the 11th year of P'een-fung he organised a force in the Siang district and afterwards effected the capture of Ngan-king. In the 2nd year of Ts'ung-chih (1863) he achieved a succession of victories at Ch'ao-sien, Han-shan and Ho-chow, and with the co-operation of a naval flotilla he laid siege to Nan-king, and the rebel city at Yu-hua-t'ai. Although the rebels besieged his position he held on to it boldly, and eventually drove them back. In the first month of the present year, he recovered the forts on Chung-shan, and, having completed the investment of Nan-king, he then personally superintended the excavation of mines under the walls, and then with his men he exposed himself to arrows and missiles for a fortnight before he retired. He finally recovered the entire city, and extirpated the rebel chiefs; thus showing firm endurance of hardships and faithfulness exerted in the nation's cause. We are pleased, therefore, of our favour to
invest Tséng-kuo-ch’ien with the Junior Guardianship of the Heir Apparent, and create him Earl of the first grade. He is entitled also to the reward of a double-eyed peacock’s feather.

General Li-ch’één-tien who, in the midst of a heavy fire from the rebels, succeeded in undermining the walls, and who, vowing solemnly that he would die in the endeavour to annihilate the rebels, was the first to lead his men through the breach, and thus obtain the desired success, has surpassed all others in daring and intrepidity, and We are pleased to create him a Viscount of the first grade, and reward him with a yellow jacket, and a double-eyed feather.

Siao-fu-szu, who superintended the construction of the batteries, and who was the first to seize the gates, was the one who apprehended Li-siu-ch’êng and Hung-jên-ta, and has hence evinced no ordinary merit. We are pleased, in consideration of this, to create him a Baron of the first grade, and reward him with a double-eyed feather. Let the names of the generals of division, Chu-hung-chang, Wu-ming-liang, &c., be sent to the Grand Secretariat that they may be chosen for the first vacancies that occur, and let them be rewarded with a yellow jacket and the hereditary title of Yun-ch’êi-wei.

As to the two rebels Li-siu-ch’êng and Hung-jên-ta let Tséng-kuo-fan send them under confinement in charge of reliable officers to the capital, that they may await their trial and doom.

Let Hung-siu-tsuein’s body be searched for, and when found, let it be cut [raped] in pieces and the head sent round to the places which he has devastated in order to allay the wrath of the people. The remainder of the matters will be adjusted by the Board.

Respect this!

Imperial Edict, No. 2.

Kuan-wen and Tséng-kuo-fan having this day reported to Us the recovery of Nan-king, the complete annihilation of the rebels, and the death by suicide of the rebel chief, and having also announced the capture of Li-siu-ch’êng and Hung-jên-ta, We have issued Our decree granting patents of nobility to Tséng-kuo-fan and Tséng-kuo-ch’êien, and also to General Li-ch’één-tien in consideration of services performed. When We reflect that since the rising of the
rebellion the
tured their ch-
hold of Nan-
flag to anoun-
it is owing to the
confines of their ju-
strategic ability, it
some more special display of Our grace than usual,

Prince San-ko-lin-sin annihilated the rebels Lin-fung-siang and
Li-k'ai-fang, who penetrated Chih-li and Shan-tung; he quieted
Chih-li, Shan-tung, Ho-nan and completed the extermination of
Chang-lo-sing, Miao-p'ei-lin and other leaders, and he has of late
rendered service by encamping on the borders of Ho-nan and Ngan-
hui, and cutting off the rebels who were on their way to the relief
of Nan-king. The Prince, in his faithfulness, has not shrunk
from dangers, and wherever his banners have been placed their
influence has carried terror with them. We have on a previous
occasion conferred Our favour on San-ko-lin-sing, making him a
hereditary Prince of the blood, and we now further show Our
mark of appreciation by rewarding his son Pu-nien-no-mo-hu
with a Pei-lè. The Imperial Commissioner Secretary of State and
Governor General of the Two Hoo, Kuan-wên, has, in carrying
out his operations, pressed forward men of worth and yielded to
those of ability. He captured several places in Hoo-pëh and was
the means of order being restored there, and supplied funds for
operations eastward. Without making any distinction of bound-
daries he has truly evinced unerring faithfulness and conspicuous
talent, We are therefore pleased of Our favour to grant him the
title of Earl of the first grade, the same title to be hereditary, and
We give him the privilege of removing into the plain white ban-
er force, in lieu of the place his ancestors have held in the Nui-
wu-fu, and likewise reward him with a double-eyed peacock's
feather. The Kiang-soo Governor, Li-hung-chang, issued from
Shanghai at the head of his forces, captured Soo-chow and Ch'ang-
chow, and moreover ordered a force to take Ka-hing which is be-
yond the limits of his jurisdiction. He has assisted in the recent capture of Hoo-chow, and held on to Kao-shun and Li-shui, and thus prevented any succour to Nan-king, and likewise cut off the rebel retreat, thus showing an abundance of skill in strategy. We now therefore of Our grace give to him the noble rank of Earl of the first grade, and reward him moreover with a double-eyed feather. Yang-yo-ping, Governor General of Shan-se and Kan-soo, at the head of Tsêng-kuo-fu's naval force, started from Kiu-kiang, retook Tung-lin, Chien-te on his way down, and co-operated in the capture of Ngan-king. He moreover seized Chi-hchow, Wu-wei, Tung-ling and other important spots on the river, which enabled him to cut off the rebel supplies. He has throughout rendered most loyal and conspicuous services for the benefit of his country, and We are pleased to reward him with a hereditary title of Ch'ing-chu-tow-wei,* and make him a Junior Guardian of the Heir Apparent. The V. P. of the Board of War Peng-yu-lin some time since, obtained a good deal of merit at Kiang-se, Hoo-nan and other places, and co-operated with Yang-yo-ping in the capture of Loo-chiang, Wu-liu, &c., and the important points of the East and West pillars. He induced the surrender of Kao-shun and Li-shui, captured Tung-pa and restored tranquillity on the River, which evinces the possession of much courage and daring, and We are pleased to grant him the hereditary title of Baronet, and make him a Junior Guardian. Lo-ping-chang, Viceroy of Szu-chuen, when occupying the post of Governor of Hoo-nan, selected some valuable men and set on foot the organization of militia. He left no measure undone for the collection of supplies for the army, and after he was raised to the Viceroyalty of Szu-chuen, he was the means of completing the annihilation of Shi-ta-k'ai and other rebels, which is an indication of his ability to grasp with difficulties, and thus to become illustrious in the public welfare. We are therefore pleased to reward him with a hereditary baronetcy and likewise a double-eyed feather. Pao-ch'iao provisionally General of Che-kiang, was at first at Kiang-se and Hoo-nan, where he captured several places, besides restoring tranquillity on the River; he then carried his operations eastward, when he took Ning-kwo (fu), Shih-t'ai, Pai-ting, Ching-sien and the other places of strategic value. He afterwards took Kiang-p'oo, P'ing-k'ao and Chiu-fu.

* In the absence of a knowledge of the translation of this title, we may just as well substitute Baronet, in lieu of the original Chinese words.
chow, and in the present year he took Tung-pa, Chu-jung and Chin-t'an, and prevented the rebels at Nan-king, Soo-chow and Chʻang-chow from amalgamating their forces together. Such merit as this certainly is surprising, and We now therefore make him a baronet.

That the Generals and Commanders will make strenuous exertion to sweep out the remainder of the stinking brood and early restore peace to Our territories, and that they may all receive Our favours, is Our earnest desire.

Respect this!

IMPERIAL EDICT, No. 3.

In a previous decree We directed Tsʻeng-kuo-fan to cut the (great) rebel chief's body into pieces, and expose his head for public inspection; and We moreover ordered him to send the live rebel leaders Li-siu-chʻeng and Hung-lién-ta under confinement to the capital.

The memorial of Tsʻeng-kuo-fan now before Us, states that Hung-siu-tseuen's remains were exhumed from his quondam palace on the 6th month, 27th day (July 30th) and after being duly inspected by the Imperial Commissioner were destroyed with fire. Although the rebel in question escaped a public execution during his life time, he has nevertheless suffered the extreme punishment after death, which must be sufficient to instil pleasure into the public mind. Li-siu-chʻeng and the other criminal were recognized by the soldiers who had once been with the rebels, and by the people dwelling near the city; and the evidence of Li-siu-chʻeng containing details of the rise and progress of the rebellion, the Imperial Commissioner states is very clear and distinct.

We had at one time determined that Li-siu-chʻeng and Hung-lién-ta should be brought to the capital in order to expiate their crimes here, but there is no occasion to send such contemptible creeping* pests up here as if they were prisoners, and moreover as it is not improbable that the escort sent with them might create trouble at the post stations, and seriously embarrass my people

* Lit. jumping about the pillars or beams, like rats in a house, and regarded in the same contemptible light, notwithstanding the fact of their having more or less destroyed sixteen provinces:—[Tr.]
along the line of route, and again as both criminals have acknowledged their guilt, We desire that Tseng-kuo-fan will not send them to the capital, but will at once put them to a slow and ignominious death at Nan-king, and send their heads round to all the cities in order to display heaven’s retribution, and to warn all wicked triflers (henceforth.)

Respect this!

Imperial Edict, No. 4.

At the period when His Majesty the late Emperor came to the throne, it happened that the Canton rebels had risen in insurrection and spread devastation through many cities. The army was at once put in motion in order to carry out the dictates of heaven, but although many desperate rebels were extirpated, nevertheless their influence diffused itself around, and it was found impossible at once to put them down. Our Imperial Sire was filled with anguish and care day and night, and his thoughts were ever occupied with [contriving means for] the extermination of the thieves and the comfort of his people. In mournful anxiety he looked forward to [the announcement of] victory.

When in the 11th year of Hcen-fung, He sped upward on the dragon to be a guest on high. In his last decree and testament, He even then adverted to the state of disquiet still prevalent in the South East and that his people were being driven hither and thither and compelled to fly in all directions. The sainted anxiety was ever troubled.

On Our accession to the important charge laid upon Us, We cried unto heaven in bitter agony, and day by day did We watch for the annihilation of the great ringleader, that so the boundaries of the empire might be restored to peace and the yet unfulfilled will of our Imperial Sire be accomplished. The two Empresses dowager gave their disinterested attention to the numerous state matters, and instructed and nurtured Ourself. They were ever looking for victorious news, from night till morning [and from morning till night] in succession.

Kuan-wen and Tseng-kuo-fan having now on the 20th of this month (Aug. 1) announced a victory and the recovery of Nan-king, We feel grateful to Our departed Sire for the means left behind
liim, which have stimulated Us to complete this great work, and to celebrate (the fame) of Our ancestors. But in the midst of our joy and gratitude We are weighed down with excessive grief. We had purposed to proceed Ourselves to the sarcophagus of the departed Emperor and there pour out Our tribute of grief and affection over the departed remains, but the Empresses Dowager fearing that, as the Autumn crops are now in a flourishing state, and that the number of carriages &c., forming Our escort along the Imperial path, will be sure to tread down the people’s labour, and moreover that the repair and filling in of the road will seriously disturb the people, have directed Us to appoint the Prince of Shun, Yi-huan, to proceed to the Shrine of Glorious Happiness, the resting place of the coffin. and before the communion table in front of it, perform the necessary ceremonies on Our behalf, and respectfully announce the victorious news.

Respect this!

DEGREE No. 5.

It has been the custom of this dynasty to have sacrifices offered in the Spring and Autumn of each year, on the tomb of Our great ancestor of the Ming (Hung-wu), and moreover to make a point of deputing one of the Nan-king officials to repair any part that may have become damaged or out of repair. We had too established a keeper (or warden) as an additional measure of protection; Our object being to show Our extreme indulgence and regard for the previous dynasty.

In the 3rd year of Heen-fung, the rebels sneaked into Nan-king; and Heang-yung then reported to Us the destruction of the tabernacle at the tomb, but the prevalence of the rebellious spirit which has for some time past been of owl-like fierceness, has prevented the necessary attention being carried out.

We ponder over the ancestral temples of the previous dynasty with feelings of acute painfulness.

A red flag has now announced the recovery of the city of fame, and the settlement of affairs; but owing to the disorders of war, the face of the temple has been thrown down, and We shall be wanting in showing Our respect for a clean Sacrifice, and in evincing Our affection and care—if We do not restore it to its proper condition.

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We desire therefore that Tseng-kuo-ch’ien will proceed to the tomb of Our great ancestor and sacrifice there, and that Tseng-kuo-fan will inform Us in a memorial, of the repairs required and of the general appearance (of the tomb) and at the same time direct the local authorities to make out an estimate of the expenses of) repairs, and have the whole put in a sound condition, that so Our unbounded desire to show respect to the previous dynasty may be seconded.

Respect this!

DECREES NO. 6.

When the Canton rebel Hung-siu-tsuen had collected some followers together, he projected rebellion and having pushed his way through the Two Hoo, and the Three Kiang, he took up his position at Nan-king. He dispatched his myrmidons to disturb the places around, and frequently did they enter cities and poison the lives of the people. His guilt was overflowing, and both gods and men were very angry. Our dynasty at once put its army into motion in order to reassert its prerogative. Several cities were captured and many large bodies of rebels swept away, but notwithstanding this the rebels sprouted up all around, and their devouring flame extended itself in consequence.

After the capture of Ngan-king in the 8th moon of the 11th year of Hoen-fung, the supremacy of the government troops began to show itself, Nan-king was presently threatened, and the rebel strength reduced to a minimum. During the preceding and continuing to the present year, the cities in Kiang-soo and Che-kiang have been taken in succession, and the rebels finally isolated in Nan-king, but even then the ringleader Hung-siu-tsuen sought to make a desperate resistance with his followers. We are now glad to say that through the exertions of the officers and soldiers, possession has been taken of the strong city and the original conspirator been obtained. We can now look forward to the day when the remaining rebels will be swept away, and tranquillity reign around; when human life throughout the empire will enjoy the blessings of peace.

We feel deeply bounden to August Heaven’s love and protection, and to the condescending love of Our sainted ancestors to Us,
Appendix.

that this grand success has been obtained. And it is Our duty therefore to perform the necessary rites incidental to success, to evince Our gratitude and sincerity. We now desire that officers be sent to sacrifice at the Celestial Altar, the Terrestrial Altar, the Harvest Altar (altar of the five grains), and in Shing-king at the Three Tombs the Eastern Tomb, the Western Tomb, and the Chief Temple. We Ourselves will proceed, a day previously, to the Tai-miao, and burn incense and perform ceremony in the Central and Inner Halls, and We desire that those whom it concerns will advert in the prayer to be drawn up, to the joy We feel at the victorious news, and employ all reverence in its tenor. As to the necessary rites and ceremonies and the other forms required, let the several Courts whom it concerns refer to the established rules and memorialise Us thereon.

Respect this!

Decree No. 7.

Ten years and more have now elapsed since civil war broke out, and many ministers, in their devotedness to their country and in doing their utmost to extinguish the rebels, have either succumbed through too much toil before completing their work or have yielded up their lives when a crisis has taken place,* in both cases maintaining to the end their purity of character. Many acquired great eminence and served Our government unto the last. Nan-king has now been taken and the rebel chief destroyed.

Our thoughts are carried back with mingled feelings of pain and grief to those deceased officers who evinced their fidelity to their country, but who nevertheless did not live to complete their will, and it behoves Us to give additional honour to their names now that they are gone, in order to show how their well-earned merit while yet in life has been appreciated. We desire that the Vice Regent and the Grand Secretariat will draw up a list of officers now deceased who in days gone by have performed zealous services, and submit the same to Us that we may impart Our favour to them.

Respect this!

* Lit.—Who have committed suicide when a city has been taken or they have met with a defeat.
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Decree No. 8.

The victorious intelligence of the recapture or Nan-king having this day arrived, must afford universal pleasure. When We call to mind the time that the rebel power prevailed in several cities, We feel that the accomplishment of this great work has been entirely owing to the gods of the hills and streams who have given their efficacious assistance and guidance, and enabled the army to allay the trouble. It is only meet that We should offer up a pure sacrifice as a thanksgiving for the wonderful care and protection afforded. Let the Board of Rites ascertain which are the proper spirits entitled to have sacrifice offered to them, and memorialise Us thereon.

Respect this!

Imperial Edict, No. 9.

Nan-king having been taken and the ringleader of the rebels swept away, the event requires the display of acts of grace and other things which in their adjustment require due attention.

We desire that the Vice Regent and the Grand Secretariat will ascertain what Edicts of grace were issued in the reigns of Kea-king and Tao-kuang after the suppression of the three religious sects of rebels and the restoration of peace on the Mahometan frontier, and will refer the same to Us for Our perusal.

Respect this!

Imperial Edict, No. 10.

Kuan-wén and Tsêng-kuo-fan having announced to Us yesterday the news of the recovery of Nan-king, with the further intelligence that the ringleader had rendered up his head and that the entire body of rebels had been destroyed, (We feel that) the ministers and people over the whole land (sea) must experience deep pleasure. It has caused Us some reflection that the banner-men have had scarcely enough to subsist on (for some time past), and it has been Our wish to show some indulgence towards them, but owing to the unsettled state of affairs, which has entailed a large expenditure of money, We have been unable to do so. Now,
however, that victorious tidings have announced the settlement of affairs in Kiang-nan, it behoves Us to assist them with Our favours and allow them to taste of Our magnificence. We desire that the Board of Revenue will issue a month's extra pay and rations to the banner-men of the eight standards, that Our desire of compassion for the Man-choo army be evinced.

Respect this!

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Imperial Edict, No. 11.

A red flag having yesterday announced the capture of Nan-king We issued Our decree granting special favours to certain ministers who have earned merit, and We moreover directed 400 silver medals to be distributed to those deserving them, as a reward for their services. Our mind is engrossed with the thought that operations in Kiang-nan have now lasted more than ten years and that (some of) the soldiers in the army have ever been found foremost in the fight and with their arms ever at hand, ready to endure any amount of toil. That in the Kiang-ning (Nan-king) affair they have shown themselves willing to fight to the last, even in the midst of hot sultry weather, in order to achieve the work in hand, and whether in measures of defence or in reinforcing any required point, or in guarding any important pass, they have used their strength with unanimity. When We think of the hardships they have endured in the work of conquest We entertain feelings of pain for them, and it is Our duty t distribute favours amongst them and use Our endeavours to comfort them. It is Our desire therefore, that the military commanders, viceroys and governors in different parts will find out those who have really done their work well and distribute rewards amongst them, reserving those who have obtained any extraordinary merit and who are worthy of special marks of encouragement, for Our consideration, that the ever increasing desire of the crown to shower its effulgence copiously on the army, be set forth.

Respect this!

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Imperial Edict, No. 12.

The Prince of Kung has now held the regency for three years,
and during a period that affairs in the South East and other parts have been in a most critical state he has evinced masterly talent, in the way he has conducted the administration, both in employing men (of talent) to carry on military operations and in providing for the wants of the army, as well as in every other way.

The members of the General Secretariat (Wen-siang and others) have in their charge of the state machinery, shown joint unanimity in their support of the government. On the capture of Soo-chow and Hang-chow it was Our wish on several occasions to issue Our decree of grace, but the Prince and his colleagues thrice and again prayed to decline [receiving honours] and We could not bear to act contrary to their wishes.

Nan-king having been recaptured and the rebel leaders exterminated it was Our intention to issue Our decree bestowing favours in accordance with an established rule made in former times, but the Prince and the ministers again entreated Us not to do so.

Although their intentions are earnest and sincere, [We feel that] we cannot do otherwise than bestow some honours upon them, as We must mark Our appreciation of their services. On the Vice Regent the Prince Kung [Yi-sin] We bestow the 3rd grade of military merit and further grant to his son Tsai-cheng, who of Our grace was previously made a Hu-kuo-kung, the title of Pei-le,* to his son Tsai-ilsün the title of privileged Dukedom, and to his son Tsai-yung the title of unprivileged Dukedom. On Wen-siang, President of the Board of Works and a member of the Great Council, We confer the rank of Senior Guardian of the Heir Apparent, and give to his nephew Kai-chao the position of Yuan-wai-lang. The prevalence of war for now more than ten years past, causing constant reports to arrive at the Great Council; has increased the work therein to an irksome extent, and the underlings and writers have been at work early and late without fail, writing Our decrees. They deserve therefore some consideration and it is Our desire that the Regent and the statesmen of the Council will find out what rewards are necessary to each and submit the same to Us, awaiting Our pleasure.

Respect this!

* A rank granted to members of the Imperial family alone, on the suppression of any great insurrection.
Shên-pao-chên has announced to Us that the government troops in their pursuit of the defeated rebels have captured the young rebel Hung-fu-t'ien. When Nan-king was taken the rebels who were made prisoners asserted that the criminal (in question) had burnt himself to death, but [this was not the case as] Tso-tsung-t'ang subsequently learnt that he had really succeeded in getting away. Several decrees were issued by Us directing the various generals and military commanders to follow up the pursuit and surround him on every side. He was pursued and met with several defeats from the Imperial troops. From Kuang-tê in Ngan-hui he went to Hoo-chow, in Che-kwang, and his way back through Ning-kuo, Ch'ang-hua and Chi-ch'i in Ngan-hui, and eventually reached Kiang-se by Kuang-fung and Lu-chi.

The troops maintained the pursuit up to Kiang-ch'ang and Shih-chêng and although they cut off many rebel chiefs, the young rebel was still at large. Ifsi-pao-t'ien, however, having moved his battalions to Shih-chêng, dispatched an officer with a company of men to make search in all directions, and on the 9th moon 25th day (Oct. 25th) Colonel Chow-chia-liang succeeded in arresting young Hung in an unfrequented spot near Shih-chêng. Although the above rebel is the son of Hung-siu-tseuen he is merely a contemptible devil who has hitherto escaped punishment, and is not worth the trouble of being sent up to the capital. We desire that Shên-pao-chên will put Hung-fu-t'ien to a slow and ignominious death at the provincial city of Kiang-se, to the end that the public mind may be gratified. Shên-pao-chên since his appointment to the post of Kiang-se Governor, has shown himself equal to all contingencies, whether in measures aggressive or defensive. The Che-kiang and Ngan-hui rebels have made several raids into Kiang-se, but he has dispersed them all in different directions and has converted danger into tranquillity. He has captured Hung-fu-tien and annihilated many chiefs, and has on the whole acquired fame and renown, and We now, of Our favour, reward him with a Ch'ing-chu-tou-wei and the insignia of the first grade.

The provincial General in Chief of Che-kiang, Pao-ch'iao, who had made himself conspicuous in Hoo-nan, Hu-pêh and Ngan-hui, has on the present occasion carried victory in all his movements and has on the whole killed or dispersed no less than 100,000 rebels.
We conferred on him hereditary rank after the capture of Nanking and we now further reward him with the noble title of Viscount. On Hei-pao-t'ien, who has made most creditable exertions in his operations against the rebels, we confer the reward of Yün-ch'ê-i-wei and a yellow jacket.

Respect this!
ERRATA.

Page 10 line 36 For "Then went on to" read "They then went on"
" 12 " 5 " entertained that " "entertained by the"
" 13 " 5 " Che-jung " "Chû-jung"
" 13 " 17 " Heih " "Heih"
" 36 " 16 " to see how battle " "to see how the battl"
" 42 " 13 " then was taken " "was then taken"
" 47 " 27 " Tûn-ch'êng " "Tung-ch'êng"
" 47 " 38 " Yûng-ch'êng " Tûng-ch'êng
" 53 " 19 " chief " Chief
" 55 " 6 " P'ao-ch'ai " Pao-ch'ao
" 55 " 25 " Yu-hui-tai " Yu-hua-t'ai
" 61 " 9 " Syu-ngan " Szu-ngan
" 60 " 20 " Li-chao-chow " Li-chao-show
" 71 " 16 " After "Lord" insert "and"
" 76 " 17 " " Lien Hill " "Lion Hill"
" 78 " 25 " " Hoo-siu-chen " "Hoo-shù-chên"
" 78 " 32 After "Nan-wang" insert "Ting-wang, Ch'ûn-
" 80 " 6 For "Nanking" read "Nganking"
" 83 " 25 " " Geand Secretary " "Grand Secretariat"
" 86 " 14 " " lending " "tending"
" 88 " 29 " " Ping-yu-lin " "P'êng-yû-lin"
" 89 " 21 " " Lien Hill " "Lion Hill"
" 90 " 11 " " Chû wang " "Chû wang"
" 91 " 12 " " Chung wang " "Ch'ung-wang"
" 93 " 23 " " Sanko linsing " "San ko-lin-shu"
" 102 " 23 " " Hu kuo kung " "Fu-kuo-kung"
" — — " — " Pei lê " Pei lô
" 104 " 3 " " Hel pao t'ien " "Hsi-pao-t'ien"
" 84 " 5 " " Nanking " "that city"
" 84 " 23 " " prisoner of war " "State prisoner"