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JOURNAL

OF THE

NORTH-CHINA BRANCH

OF THE

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

1879.

NEW SERIES, No. XIV.

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REPORT

OF THE

COUNCIL OF THE NORTH-CHINA BRANCH

OF THE

Royal Asiatic Society,

For the Year 1879.

At the Annual Meeting, held the 3rd of February, the following gentlemen were elected Office Bearers for the year 1879, viz:—

T. W. Kingsmill, Esq., *President.*
J. McLeavy Brown, Esq., } *Vice-Presidents.*
P. G. von Moellendorff, Esq., }
G. G. Lowder, Esq., *Secretary.*
F. Hirth, Esq., Ph.D., *Librarian.*
A. Stripling, Esq., *Treasurer.*
A. A. Fauvel, Esq., *Curator.*
D. J. Macgowan, Esq., M.D. } *Councillors.*
F. B. Forbes, Esq., }
H. Bailey, Esq., }
A. Krauss, Esq., }
J. Haas, Esq., }
T. G. Smith, Esq., }

During the year only two meetings have been held, on which occasions the following papers were read:—

1.—Ethnology in Eastern Asia, by T. W. Kingsmill, Esq.

2.—Siamese Coins, by Joseph Haas, Esq.

The absence of many members of the Society and the consequent lack of papers were the cause that the meetings have been rather few this year. It is to be hoped, however, that the new year upon which the Society is now about to enter, may be a beneficial one for the increase of science, especially in regard

to this great Empire, the knowledge of which it is the principle object of the Society to promote and cultivate.

Last year the Society had to mourn the loss of three of its members, this year, again, two deaths have occurred : those of Mr. O. D. Crawford and Dr. P. E. Galle, who for many years were members of the Society.

In the course of the year six resident and two non-resident members have been elected, while six gentlemen have resigned their membership.

The publication of the Society's journal has been entrusted to the hands of Messrs. Kingsmill and Haas, and will appear shortly.

The Curator was not able to publish a Report, owing to his sudden departure from Shanghai. However, with the exception of a very valuable and most carefully arranged collection of stones presented by Dr. Guppy, very few additions have been made to the Museum.

We take this opportunity to offer once more our best thanks to the English and French Municipalities for the most liberal grants extended by them in aid of the Museum, and we hope that they will continue their support for the coming year.

The list of members of the society is herewith subjoined.

The report of the Treasurer is also appended.

The Secretary of the Society having been obliged to leave for Europe through ill-health, his functions have been entrusted by the committee to the undersigned during his temporary stay in Shanghai.

J. RHEIN,

Hon. Secretary, pro tem.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

(MAY 1880.)

HONORARY.

His Majesty LEOPOLD II., King of the Belgians.

Alcock, Sir Rutherford, K.C.B., London.
Hart, Robert, Esq., C.M.G., Peking.
Legge, Rev. J., D.D., L.L.D., Oxford.
Medhurst, Sir Walter H., K.C.B., London.
Parkes, Sir Harry S., K.C.B., Tokio.
Pereira, A. F. Marques, Esq., Bangkok.
Robertson, Sir D. Brooke, C.B., London.
Seward, His Ex. George F., Peking.
Shadwell, Admiral Sir Charles F. A., K.C.B., Melksham, Wilts.
Wade, Sir Thomas F., K.C.B., Peking.
Williams, Rev. S. Wells, L.L.D., Yale, U.S.
Wylie, Alex., Esq., London.
Yule, Col. H., C.B., London.

CORRESPONDING.

Bastian, Dr. A., Bremen.
Brown, Rev. S. R., D.D., Yokohama.
Cox, Rev. Josiah, ——.
Delaplace, Mgr. L.G., Peking.
Edkins, Rev. J., D.D., Peking.
Fryer, John, Esq.
Gordon, Col., England.
Griffith, Rev. John, Hankow.
Hance, H. F., Esq., PH. D., Canton.
Happer, Rev. A. P., D.D., Canton.
Hepburn, J. C., Esq., M.D., Yokohama.
Keischke, Dr. Jto, ——.

Johnson, F. B., Esq., London.
Kleinwächter, F., Esq., Chinkiang.
Kopsch, H., Esq., Kiukiang, (absent.)
Krey, W., Esq., Jchang, (absent.)
Little, L. S., Esq., M. D., Shanghai, (absent.)
Lowder, G. G., Esq., Shanghai, (absent.)
Mangum, W. P., Esq., Nagasaki.
McClatchie, H. P., Esq., England.
Möllendorff, O. von, Esq., PH. D., Tientsin, (absent.)
Möllendorff, P. G. von, Esq., Peking.
Morris, Herbert S., Esq., England.
Owen, Rev. G. S., Peking.
Parker, E. H., Esq., Canton.
Pitman, J., Esq., Tokio.
Plancy, V. Collin de, Esq., Peking.
Reid, David, Esq., England.
Rhein, J., Esq., Peking.
Russell, The Hon. James, Hongkong, (absent.)
Ryrie, The Hon. Phineas, Hongkong.
Sampson, T., Esq., Canton.
Schulze, Capt. F. W., Coast.
Smith, The Hon. Cecil C., Singapore.
Starkey, Reg. D., Esq., Hongkong,
Stent, G. C., Esq., Wenchow.
Stuhlmann, C. C., Esq., Kiukiang.
Sutherland, H., Esq., Foochow.
Watters, T., Esq., Ichang.
White, F. W., Esq., Hankow.
Wicking, H., Esq., Hongkong.
Wilcox, R. C., Esq., Hongkong.

TREASURER REPORT.

To the President and Committee of the
NORTH-CHINA BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY,
Shanghai.

GENTLEMEN,

ALTHOUGH the Statements of Accounts of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society and Shanghai Museum for the year 1879, which I have now the honour to submit to you, show the details of all receipts and disbursements; a few remarks will perhaps help to a better understanding of the financial position of the Society and Museum.

It will be observed that the gross receipts of the Society for the year just closed amounted to $969.88 and the disbursements to $987.15, including $409.36 for Journal for 1878, and $107.64 due the Hon. Treasurer for same year, in all $517, thus reducing the actual disbursements, for current expenditure for 1879, to $470.15. The deficit, amounting to $17.27, is more than covered by the amount credited to the Shanghai Library and Museum.

Subscriptions for the past year have been collected from forty-eight resident and thirty-three non-resident members. From the latter class there is still due about $160, which have not yet being received. The Society have no outstanding liabilities, and the arrears of subscriptions may be looked upon as a balance in favour of the Society.

As regards the Museum, the income for the past year amounted to $875.91; the disbursements for current expenditure to $686.24. The remainder, amounting to $189.67 shown as transferred to the account of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, balances the two sides of the Accounts.

The total outstanding liabilities of the Museum, on the 31st December last, amount to Tls. 273.45, made up as follows:—

To Recreation Fund Interest on Loan of Tls. 1,500, two years at 5 per cent per annum	Tls. 150.00
To Shanghai Library Rent of Museum for six months ending 31st December, 1879	Tls. 75.00
To W. B. Pryer, Esq., Sundry Expenses for Museum due since 1875, $51.39	Tls. 37.37
To North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Balance due on Rent Account, $15.33.....	Tls. 11.08
	Tls. 273.45

NON-RESIDENT.

Alford, R. G., Esq., Hongkong.
Allen, E. L. B., Esq., Foochow.
Allen, H. J., Esq., Newchwang.
Ayrton, W. S., Esq., Hankow.
Baber, E. C., Esq., Chungking.
Bandinel, J. J. F., Esq., Newchwang.
Bailey, David H., Esq., U. S.
Brenan, B., Esq., Peking.
Bristow, H. B., Esq., Tientsin.
Brown, J. McLeavy, Esq., Shanghai, (absent.)
Bushell, S. W., Esq., M. D., Peking.
Coignet,—Esq., Japan.
Cooper, W. M., Esq., Ningpo.
Cordes, August C., Esq., Hamburg.
Coughtrie, J. B., Esq., Hongkong.
Davenport, A., Esq., England.
Deighton-Braysher, C., Esq., Newchwang.
Dennys, H. L., Esq., Hongkong.
Dodd, J., Esq., Amoy.
Eitel, Rev. E. J., PH. D., Hongkong.
Farago, E., Esq., Ichang.
Fauvel, A. A., Esq., Shanghai, (absent.)
Ferguson, His Ex., J. H., Peking, (absent.)
Fergusson, T. T., Esq., Chefoo.
Fisher, H. J., Esq., Keelung.
Frater, Alex., Esq., England.
Fritsche, H., Esq., PH. D., Peking.
Gardner, C. T., Esq., Chefoo.
Giquel, P., Esq., Paris.
Glover, G. B., Esq., Kiukiang.
Gottburg, W., Esq., M. D., Berlin.
Hanbury, T., Esq., England.
Henderson, J., Esq., Tientsin.
Hirth, F., Esq., PH. D., Shanghai, (absent.)
Hobson, H. E., Esq., Amoy, (absent.)
Jamieson, G., Esq., England.

Lindau, Rudolph, Esq., ——.
Lockhart W., Esq., M.D., London.
Macgowan, D. J., Esq., M.D.
Martin, Rev. W. A. P., D.D., L.L.D., Peking.
McCartee, D. B., Esq., M.D., Tokio.
McClatchie, Rev. Thos., M.A.
Moule, Rev. G. E., Hangchow, (absent.)
Muirhead, Rev. W.
Schereschewsky, Rt. Rev. S.I.J., D.D.
Silveira, Lieut. F. da, ——.
Williamson, Rev. A., L.L.D., Chefoo, (absent.)

RESIDENT.

Boleslawski, Chevalier C. de,
Bryner, J., Esq.
Butcher, Very Rev. C. H., D.D.
Christiernsson, Dr. B.
Dülberg, F. W. E., Esq.
Forbes, F. B., Esq.
Grant, P. V., Esq.
Gubbay, R. A., Esq.
Haas, J., Esq.
Hague, E. P., Esq.
Henderson, Ed., Esq., M.D.
Hippisley, A. E., Esq.
Hosie, Alex., Esq., M.A.
How, A. J., Esq.
Hübbe, P. G., Esq.
Jansen, D. C., Esq.
Johnston, J., Esq., M.D.
Kingsmill, T. W., Esq.
Kleinwächter, G. H. J., Esq.
Knight, F. P., Esq.
Krauss, A., Esq.
Little, A. J., Esq.
Low, E. G., Esq.
Maclay, R. H., Esq.
Maignan, H., Esq.
Pichon, L., Esq., M.D.
Rivington, Charles, Esq.
Rocher, E., Esq.
Ruegg, E., Esq., PH. D.
Samson, J., Esq.
Saunders, W., Esq.
Schmidt, C., Esq.
Schultz, Lieut. C. A.
Shinagawa, E., Esq.
Sim, Alexander, Esq.
Slevogt, M., Esq.
Stripling, A. B., Esq.
Tata, D. B., Esq.
Wetmore, W. S., Esq.
Whitty, Chas. D., Esq.
Wood, A. G., Esq.
Youd, F., Esq.

These figures are sufficient to prove that the Museum is in want of funds, and it is to be hoped that the annual grant of Tls. 500 given by the Municipal Council North of Yang-king-pang, and Tls 100 by the French Municipal Council, will be continued.

ALFRED B. STRIPLING,

Hon. Treasurer.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE

North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society,

FOR THE YEAR 1879.

RECEIPTS.	$	c.	$	c.
To Cash from Hon. Treasurer for 1878				48
„ Subscription for 1879	645			
„ Donation from Dr. Fritsche	61	30		
„ Kelly & Walsh sales of Journals	26	35		
„ Honorary Treasurer Shanghai Library for External Repairs Tls. 19.50	26	67		
„ R. E. Wainewright, Esq., for use of Meeting Room, Tls. 15	20	41		
			779	73
„ Museum Fund (for Rent of Museum from 1st July 1877 to 30th June 1878), on account.	189	67		
„ Hon. Treasurer, Balance due...	17	27		
			206	94
			$987	15

DISBURSEMENTS.	$	c.	$	c.
By Amt. paid to Hon. Treasurer for 1878	107	64		
„ Amount paid to Printing Account for Journal for 1878	409	36		
			517	
„ Printing Journal for 1878	305			
„ Fire Insurance Tls. 44	60	19		
„ Municipal Taxes Tls. 4.35	5	95		
„ External Repairs, Tls. 9.75	13	34		
„ „ „ repaid by Hon. Treasurer Shanghai Library, Tls. 19.50	26	67		
„ Municipal Taxes to be repaid by Hon. Treasurer Shanghai Library, Tls. 8.71	11	91		
„ Packing Case for Journals	1			
„ Freight of Journals to England Tls.7	9	44		
„ Advertisements	5	89		
„ Stationery	6	90		
„ Wages, Coolie	8			
„ „ Shroff	10			
„ Postage	4	46		
„ Gas	1	40		
			470	15
			$987	15

Audited and found correct,
JOSEPH HAAS,
J. RHEIN.

E. & O. E.

ALFRED B. STRIPLING,
Hon Treasurer.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE

Museum Fund of the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society,

FOR THE YEAR 1879.

RECEIPTS.	$	c.	$	c.
To Cash from Hon. Treasurer for 1878, Tls. 40.$\frac{20}{100}$			55	12
„ Grant of Municipal Council North of the Yang-king-pang, Tls. 500	683	99		
„ Grant of French Municipal Council, Tls. 100	136	80		
			820	79
			$875	91

DISBURSEMENTS.	$	c.	$	c.
By Wages, Taxidermist for December 1878	20			
„ Sundry Expenses, for Dec. 1878	5	65		
			25	65
„ Rent for 12 months ending 30th June 1879 Tls. 150.			205	20
„ Wages, Taxidermist for 12 months, ending 31st December 1879, at $20 per mensem	240			
„ Wages, Coolie 8 months at $5 per mensem	40			
„ Incidental Expenses for year ending 31st Dec. 1879	85	55		
„ Fire Insurance, Tls. 8	10	94		
„ External Repairs, Tls. 9.75	13	34		
„ Municipal Taxes Tls. 4.36	5	96		
„ Glass Case	32			
„ 5 Packing Cases	9			
„ 4 Frames	5	60		
„ 100 Bird Stands	13			
			455	39
„ N.-C. B. of the R. A. Society (for Rent of Museum from 1st July 1877 to 30th June 1878), on account			189	67
			$875	91

E. & O. E.

Audited and found correct,
JOSEPH HASS,
J. RHEIN,

ALFRED B. STRIPLING,
Hon. Treasurer.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The stock of publications added to our Library during the past year again consists entirely of the donations of books received from other societies, public institutions, etc., and presented by private individuals. I subjoin a list of the books so received.

No new boobs have been purchased, although the Library is now in a somewhat backward state, and threatens to become more and more a collection of books on the most heterogeneous subjects having assembled in the same room by accident, instead of being what is ought to be,—an establishment facilitating reference to the principal literary material, of the past as well as of the present day, relating to China and the Far East.

It has been the practice, it seems, not to make purchases in anticipation of gifts from the authors of the new books. Thus purchases of works of mark were postponed, and, after a number of years had elapsed since their first appearance, lost sight of altogether. The result is a number of important *lacunae* in our collection, the filling up of which I would recommend to be taken in hand as early and as often as the financial position of the Society will permit, the number of important books *not* presented, though wanted for the completion of our collection, accumulating year by year.

During the short time I have been in charge of the Library, I have had ample opportunity to observe two important defects. The one is that the Library is a great deal too sparingly used by the members of the Society; the other, that it is, or has been formerly, used in a somewhat disorderly, not to say unconscientious, manner. A thorough overhaul will show that a number of books duly catalogued is missing, without any record of their whereabouts,—the result, no doubt, of the practice of taking out books in the absence of, and without afterwards returning them to, the Librarian.

It seems that the existence of an honorary librarian is no sufficient guarantee against this malpractice. It will be found impossible by almost anyone who may unite this post with the more bulky duties of his daily pursuit, to be always in attendance when books are taken out by members; nor is it always convenient to accompany those who wish to consult books on the premises; moreover, the library room has to be cleaned and aired from time to time by Chinese servants, and is it not often that an honorary librarian will find time to superintend such access to his treasure on the part of irresponsible people in person.

It is chiefly for this reason that the proposal has been made to move the Shanghai Library Committee, if convenient, to take over the administration of the Asiatic Library in consideration of permission being given to the members of the Shanghai Library to use it for purposes of reference or reading on the premises. As the Asiatic Library could easily be kept in a separate room, say, the present lecture room, when meetings might be held upstairs, and would continue to be the sole property of the Asiatic Society, I should say that the acceptance of such a proposal would benefit both the interests of the Society and the Shanghai Library. There can be no doubt that the present librarians of the last-named library, being professionally engaged in that work, would be much better qualified to see that books are easily used and are accessible at regular hours, while keeping their issue to members of the Asiatic Society, and their return in due course in proper order, than a member of our Council, not living on the premises, and not being able to attend to the Society's business at any time he may be called upon to do so.

I avail myself of this opportunity to strongly recommend the adoption of such a plan, the advisability of which may not at once seem plausible to members not immediately connected with the administration of our books; but has forcibly attracted the attention of myself and Mr. Haas, who, having been librarian himself, has paid particular attention to the subject.

F. HIRTH,
Hon. Librarian.

LIST OF WORKS PRESENTED TO THE LIBRARY OF THE NORTH-CHINA BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCEITY DURING THE YEAR 1879 AND UP TO DATE, 4TH MARCH, 1880.

1. Complete sets of the publications issued from the Inspectorate General of Customs, Statistical Department, viz :—
   Returns of Trade, 1878, Parts I. and II., English Version.
   Returns of Trade, 1878, Chinese Version.
   Customs Gazette, Nos. 40 to 44.
   Medical Reports, 16th and 17th Issues.
   List of Lights, Buoys, and Beacons for 1879, English Version.
   List of Lights, Buoys, and Becons for 1879, Chinese Version.
2. Journal of the Royal Asciatic Society, New Series, Vol. XI, Parts I. and II.
3. Proceedings of the Royal Society, Vol. XXVI, No. 184; Vol. XXVII, Nos. 185-189; Vol. XXVIII, Nos. 190-196.
4. Journal of the Royal Geographical Society, Vol. XLVIII, 1878.
5. Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society, Vol. XXII, Nos. 4-6 (1878); New Monthly Series, Vol. I, Nos. 1-10 (Jan. to Oct., 1879.)
6. Journal of the Statistical Society of London, Vol. XLI., Parts II., III., and IV. (1878); Vol. XLII., Parts I. and II.
7. Statistical Society of London: List of Fellows, 1879.
8. Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London, 1878: Parts II. and IV.; 1879: Parts I. and II.
9. Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London, 1878; Nos. 135 and 136; 1879: 137-139.
10. List of the Geological Society of London, 1878.
11. Smithsonian Report, 1877.
12. Essex Institute Historical Collections, Vol. XIV, Nos. 1-4.
13. U. S. Court Survey, 1874 and 1875.
14. Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan, Vol. VII., Parts III (two copies) and IV; Vol. VIII Part I.
15. Geological Survey of Japan: Reports of Progress for 1878 and 1879; By Benjamin Smith Lymen.

16. Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischea Gesellschaft, 1876: Vol. I-IV.; 1877: Vol. I-IV; 1878: Vol. I-IV; 1879: Vol. I and II.
17. Monatsbericht der Kgl. preuss. Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin. Jan., Febr., März, April, Mai, June, Juli, August, 1879.
18. Sitzungsberichte der philos.—philol. u. histor. Classe der K. B. Akademie der Wissenschaften zu München, 1877: Heft 3 and 4; 1878: Heft 1-4.
19. Sitzungsberichte der math.—physik. Classe der K. B. Akademie der Wissenschaften zu München, 1877: Heft 3; 1878: Heft 1-3.
20. Almanach der K. B. Akademie der Wissenschaften [München]: 1878.
21. Jahresbericht (XIII and XIV) der Vereins für Erdkunde zu Dresden, 1877.
22. Verhandlungen der K. K. zoologisch-botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien. Vol. XXVIII, 1879.
23. Jahrbuch der K. K. Geologischen Reichsanstalt, Vol. XXVIII, Jan.—Juni, 1878.
24. Oesterreichische Monatsschrift für den Orient, 1879.
25. Bulletin de la Société de Géographie [Paris], 1879: Mars, Avril, Mai, Juillet, Août, Septbre, Octbre, Novbre.
26. Annuaire de la Société des Études Japonaises par L. Bastide. Paris, 1879.
27. Atti della R. Accademia dei Lincei. Transunti, Vol. III, fasc. 1-7. Roma, 1879, 4to.
28. Cosmos di Guido Cora. Vol. IV, 1877, No. 2; Vol. V, 1878: Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 7.
29. Boletin del Ministerio de Fomento de la Rep. Mexicana: Seccion Astronómica, 1879.
30. Bijdragen tot de Taal-Land-en Volkenkunde van Nederlandsch-Indië. Vierde Volgreeks: I, 2 en 3; II, 1-3.
31. J. J. Meinsma, Babad Janah Djawi, in proza's Gravenhage, 1877.
32. H. C. Humme, Abiăsă, een Javaansch Tooneelstuk. 's Gravenhage, 1878.
33. W. P. van den Broek, Javaansche Vertellingen. 's Gravenhage, 1878.
34. Tijdschrift voor Indische Taal—Land-en Volkenkunde, 1878: XXV., 1, 2 en 3 [two copies].

35. Notulen van de Algemeene en Bestuurs-vergaderingen van het Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen. Deel XVII, 1879, No. 1.
36. Verhandelingen van het Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen. Deel XXXIX, No. 1, 1877, containing: W. P. Groenefeldt's Notes on the Malay Archipelago and Malacca.
37. Dr. A. Spengel, Ueber die lateinische Komödie. München, 1878.
38. Dr. Ad. Baeyer, Ueber die chemische Synthese. München, 1878.
39. A. Wylie, the Mongol Astronomical Instruments in Peking. Leide, 1878.
40. F. Scherzer, la Puissance Paternelle en Chine. Paris, 1878.
41. P. G. von Möllendorff, the Family Law of the Chinese. Shanghai, 1879.
42. F. W. Schulze, on Periodical Change of Terrestrial Magnetism. Shanghai, 1879.
43. J. J. Henderson, LL.B., an International Court for China. Shanghai, 1879.
44. T. Watters, a Guide to the Tablets in a Temple of Confucius. Shanghai, 1879.
45. Sketch of the Life and Contributions to Science of Prof. J. Henry, LL.D. [Secretary of Smithsonian Institution]. Seven copies.
46. N. Siouffi, Catalogue (?): Dynastie des Mogols, etc., Mossoul, October-December, 1879.
47. F. Jimenez y L. Fernandez, Determinacion de la Longitud del Péndulo, etc., en Mèxico. México, 1879.
48. Shanghai Municipal Council Report, 1878, with sundry Municipal papers.
49. Annual Report of the Astor Library, A.D. 1878.
50. Trübner's American and Oriental Record, Nos. 138-42.

JOURNAL
OF THE
NORTH-CHINA BRANCH
OF THE
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I.

THE INTERCOURSE OF CHINA WITH CENTRAL AND WESTERN ASIA IN THE 2ND CENTURY B.C.

(By T. W. Kingsmill, Esq.)

INTRODUCTORY.

The period to which the following notes refer is one of considerable historic interest. In the Far East the Emperor Wû-ti, the most enterprising of the Han dynasty, having broken the power of the Turkish Empire of the Hiung-nû, *i.e.* Kara-Nirus, was engaged in strengthening the internal administration of China, and in extending its influence abroad. In the West the Romans had, B.C. 146, captured and destroyed Carthage and had reduced Greece to a Roman province. The Ptolemies yet ruled in Egypt; and in Asia the Syrian Empire under the house of the *Seleucidæ* still survived, but was showing evident signs of decrepitude. In Asia Minor, Pontus was rising into importance under Mithridates V., who was one of the first of the more important sovereigns of the continent to enter into close relations with Rome. This position of affairs finally resulted in the great war between his son Mithridates VI. and Rome: which afforded that encroaching power the opportunity of firmly establishing the Roman rule in Asia; and eventually overturning the decadent power of Syria, already frittered away by internal dissensions between the members of the royal house of the Seleucidæ.

To the east of Syria lay the powerful state of Parthia, which

founded by Arsaces I. about the year B.C. 250, had now B.C. 124 descended to the greatest of Parthian monarchs, Mithridates II. His father Artabanus had lost his life in an attack on the Tochâri, the Ta-hia of the Chinese narrative, who, having accomplished the destruction of the Greek kingdom of Bactria, were threatening the adjacent kingdom of Parthia. Mithridates continued the war and was eventually successful; taking possession of Sarangia, and forcing the Scythian tribes who had poured down on Bactria to find a vent for their superabundant energy in Afghanistan and the Punjaub.

To the north-west of Parthia lay Armenia, a country geographically of importance in the long continued disputes of West and East; and its peculiar relations with Pontus and Parthia led to the first contact of Rome with the latter power. Forced at last to take some side in the quarrel of Rome and Pontus, Mithridates II. of Parthia despatched an envoy to the Roman General Sylla; and thus by a curious concatenation of circumstances it fell to the lot of one man to open negotiations with the two great empires of the East and West, China and Rome.

The Chinese embassy preceeded, however, that sent to the Roman General by some thirteen years, and may probably be referred to the year 105 B.C, The power of Rome was already making itself felt in Asia, but the absence of any allusion to it in the pages of Sze-ma T'sien seems to prove that Parthia had as yet seen no cause to anticipate the struggle for empire which the events of the next few years forced upon her. For some years longer she succeeded in holding herself neutral in the great war between Rome and Mitridates of Pontus; but the great republic at last compelled her to declare herself, and we find the Parthians for a short period in alliance with Pompey,—an alliance however sufficiently unnatural to lead to a breach a few years later, and which finally culminated in the total defeat of the Roman army under Crassus.

The descriptions given in the following pages will serve to explain many of the allusions to Serica and the Seres in the pages of the Augustan poets, and enable us the more readily to comprehend how Parthia came to be the medium of communication. A misinterpretation of the embassy of Chang-K'ien has led to erroneous views on the intercourse of China and the west; and as the received version of the embassy, taken mainly at second hand from late Chinese writers, could scarcely be made to tally with what we knew of Asia from other sources, much needless doubt has been thrown on the accounts of the embassy extant.

I have in the following notes adhered to the original description given in Sze-ma T'sien's great work, the Shi-ki; and as Sze-ma was almost a contemporary of the events he describes his account is naturally more trustworthy than that of later writers, who simply copied his descriptions, or, if they varied generally did so erroneously.

Two writers from very different stand-points have given us geographical descriptions of Central Asia during the period referred to. In the East we have Sze-ma T'sien; in the West Strabo. The Chinese is somewhat the older in date; having been born B.C. 163, while Strabo's birth is attributed to about B.C. 66. As might be expected the Chinese author is fullest in his descriptions of Eastern Turkestan, while Strabo's recital ends with the lately overthrown Greek Kingdom of Bactria. The Chinese author was acquainted with Parthia, and even with Sarangia, the modern Seistan, while many of the other Central Asian States were known to him by report. Both writers were careful and critical, and hence have arisen many curious and undesigned coincidences, which enable us to gauge the general trustworthiness of both narratives. These coincidences I have remarked on in the notes attached to the text; which is a translation of the CXXIII. Chapter of the Shi-ki or "Historical Memoirs" a work which deservedly holds a high rank amongst histories; and the translation of which in full would add much to our knowledge of the early history of Eastern Asia.

I have preserved the ordinary transliteration of the Chinese names; not that that system is to be considered correct, but that it has for the present become so firmly fixed as to be more familiar to students. The rules for transliteration into the older language, which seems to have partially survived up to the Han dynasty, are stated Journal N. S. Vol. XII. p. 124.

THE INTERCOURSE OF CHINA WITH EASTERN TURKESTAN AND THE ADJACENT COUNTRIES IN THE SECOND CENTURY B.C.

The following is mostly a translation from the 123rd Chapter of the Shi-ki or "Book of History" of Szema Ts'ien. Information divided from other sources is inserted in the form of Notes.

As a portion has already appeared in print (vid. *Celestial Empire*, May 6th, 1876) I shall only give a summary of the beginning.

Chang K'ien had been sent by the emperor Wu-ti of the Han dynasty to try and open communication with the Yueh-ti or (Viddals, the Ἐφθαλῖται of the Greeks) who, having been dispossessed by the Turks (Hiung-nû or Kara Nirus) had poured down on the decaying Greek Kingdom of Bactria, called by Szema Ts'ien Ta-hia 大夏 *i.e.* Tochâr-ia, from the Tochâri (Τόχαροι of Strabo) who had lately overrun it, and whose name survives to the present day in Tokhâristan.

Chang-k'ien on his road outwards was captured by the Turks and held in captivity for ten years. Having made good his escape, and nothing daunted, he determined to carry out the object for which he had been sent. Travelling westwards for ten days he arrived at Ta-yuan 大宛, a country which forms the central feature in the narrative, and regarding which much misapprehension has existed. Ta-yuan has been usually identified with Ferghâna or Kokand, the valley watered by the upper streams of the Sir Daria and recently annexed by Russia, but the narrative will show that it must be placed east of the great Pamir steppe, and most probably near the site of the modern Yarkand.

Chang K'ien tried to induce the people of Ta-yuan to enter into a league under the Chinese suzerainty, with the object of driving back the Turks, then encamped along the slopes of the T'ien-shan. In this although received with civility he was unsuccessful; and he went on to K'ang Ku 康居, apparently Riang Kul on the Pamîr. Passing through K'ang Ku Chang K'ien came to the Yueh-ti, who dwelt then on the banks of the Tu-kwai Shui 都媯水 or Surkh-ab of to-day; their southern boundary being formed by the Kwai 媯 Shui (the Wakh or

Oxus). Though animated with a burning hatred towards the Turks, who had expelled them from their ancient seats in what is now Kan-suh, they could not be brought to agree to the proposition of the Chinese ambassador; who thereupon went on to the Tahia (Tochâri) with the object of returning to China through Thibet 羌. After a detention of more than a year he was a second time captured by the Turks; but taking advantage of the confusion caused by the death of the Shen-yu, he finally escaped back to China (B.C. 126) after an absence of thirteen years. He was honourably received and promoted to high office.

Szema T'sien then proceeds to a geographical description of the countries visited. Ta-yuan lay to the southwest of the Hiung-nû territory and about 10,000 *li* due west from China. The country was for the most part settled, and the land cultivated, producing both rice and wheat. The inhabitants made use of wine made from grapes 蒲陶,[1] and possessed many Shen[2] 善 horses. These were described as sweating blood; and being descended from a celestial breed 天馬子. There were some seventy cities large and small in the country, and its population was calculated at about 100,000. Its troops used the bow and spear, and shot from horse-back.

North-west of Ta-yuen lay K'ang-ku; west the greater Yueh-ti (Ἐφθαλῖται); south-west Ta-hia (Τόχαροι); north-east the Wu-sun 烏孫 (Ἀσιανοί). To the east were Kan-mi 扞采[3] or Kan-mao and Yu-t'ien 于寘 (Khoten). West of this latter place the rivers flowed to the Western sea. East of it into the Im-châk (the Salt marsh, later on called the Salt Water 鹽水 *i.e.* Lake Lob[4]) which was said to have an underground communication with the sources of the Yellow River. Adjoining the Im-châk were the States of Low-lân 樓蘭 (apparently originally called Dardan[5]) and Ku-sze 師姑 (also called Kiu-sze or Ch'e-

1 P'u-tao-tze 蒲陶子 the grape, is apparently connected with the Greek βότρυς. Strabo XI, X., speaking of Margiana calls it 'ενάμπελος, and says of the grapes that they grow in bunches two cubits in size τὸν δε βότρυν δίπηκυν.

2 I have left *Shen* have translated, as in the sequel it will be found to bear a technical meaning.

3 扞 Han or Kan is probably in error for 扜 Yu; Ch. *Recorder* VII. and the characters, written also 扜彌, represented apparently Khori-a, Kiria of the maps.

4 Lob is apparently a corruption of Lavâpa *i.e.*, Salt Water.

5 See *Chinese Recorder* VII. 342.

sze 車師 *i.e.* Akshi[6]), the plains outside the cities of which reached to the waters of the lake.

Of Wu-sun we are told that it lay some 2,000 *li* to the north; its people were herdsmen, and similar in their customs to the Hiung-nû. They could produce some ten thousand bowmen, brave in fight. Formerly subject to the Hiung-nû they had attained independence. They married their near relations, and refused to pay homage at court.[7]

North-east of Ta-yuan lay K'ang-ku;[8] whose inhabitants were similar in their customs to the Yueh-ti, and which could produce some 80,000 or 90,000 bowmen. On its south lay the Yueh-ti, on the east the Hiung-nû.

Some two thousand *li* to the northwest of Kiang-ku lay Im-

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6 In the Shui-king called 且末 C'he-möt *i.e.* Aksh-marda; by Yuen-chuang 折摩馱那 Ché-mo-t'o-na, Aksmardana, which he identifies with 涅末 evidently an error for 淖末 Chek-möt, agreeing in sound with the name in the Shui-king.

7 The Wû-sun 烏孫 are apparently to be identified with the Asii or Asiani who according to Strabo occupied the upper waters of the Jaxartes, and who are classed as nomades with the Pasiani, To-chârî and Sakarauli, the latter possibly transposed from Sarakauli, i.e. the Sarikoolies of Shaw. Strabo's description would agree perfectly with Sze-ma's both as to locality and manners.

8 K'ang-ku 康居 I am disposed to identify with the Rañgha of the 1st Fargard of the Vendidad, which Sir H. Rawlinson (notes to Monograph on the Oxus, Journal R. G. S. Vol. XLII. p.p. 494,501) places in the position I have marked out for K'ang-ku. Etymologically K'ang, in Cantonese hong, *repose, joy*, and Zend rañh, to *sound, praise*, seem to be connected with Sanscrit ras, 1st *gustare, amare*; 2nd *sonare, clamare*; Greek ελρήνη, ε^ιρω. The old pronunciation therefore of the Chinese word would thus have approached nearer than the modern the Zend rañh; in which case the Chinese K'ang-ku would have represented sufficiently well the Rañgha of the Vendidad. The verse in which the name occurs has been translated so very differently by Spiegel and Haug that it may seem presumptuous to offer an opinion, but it may be rendered "As the sixteenth best of regions and countries, I, who am Ahuramazda produced Rañha upon the waters, governed without supreme chiefs." The phrase upon the waters may refer to its position surrounding the lakes of the Pamîr; or taken in connexion with the next verse which speaks of the subsequent creation of frost and snow, to the legend of the upheaval of Pamîr from the primeval waters, and the consequent increase in the severity of its winters as the land grew more elevated. This legend is given at greater length in the 2nd Fargard. The statement that it was governed without supreme rulers agrees with the description of the inhabitants as semi-nomades similar to the Yueh-ti. That they were not Turks we may gather from the text which always connects them with the Aryans of Yuan and Im-t'sai.

t'sai, called subsequently Im-t'sai-li-kan[9] (Samarkand) very similar in its customs to K'ang-ku, and which could muster upwards of 100,000 bowmen. It adjoined a great marsh[10] with-

9—Im-t'sai-li-kan 奄蔡黎軒. It seems most likely here that the two first characters are inverted and that we should read T'sai-im-li-kan in the old pronunciation Sai-im-ar-kand for Salmarkanda, modern Samarkand, the Marakanda of Strabo and Ptolemy.

10—The great marsh communicating with the Northern Sea is to be placed to the east of the present Aral. Strabo describes the Polytimêtus or river of Sogdiana as flowing through cultivated grounds and ending like the Arius (the Herirud) in the desert. The name Polytimêtus was not original, but was conferred by the Macedonians. Ptolemy speaks of several unnamed rivers flowing from the Sogdian mountains, one of which he says formed the Oxean marsh. Two others which rose in the mountainous region of the Kômêdæ, where the Jaxartes itself had its rise, joined it in either side, one of which was the Dêmus, the other the Baskatis. Ammianus Marcellinus, while generally following Ptolemy, is more explicit. He tells us that two navigable rivers the Araxates and Dymas, which descend into the plain through gorges and precipitious valleys, form at the foot of the Sogdian mountains a long and wide marsh known as the "Oxia palus." Strabo too speaks of extensive marshes east of the Hyrkanian sea. A slight alteration in the level of the Aral and an increased flow of water in the upper Zarafshan would restore this condition of affairs. The upper valley of the Zarafshan is still called Macha, whence not improbably is derived Ptolemy's Baskatis, and the Demus in this case would be the present Kishka, which after flowing past Karshi loses itself in desert. There seem to be still remains of the ancient bed of the Jaxartes across Kizilkûm from Khojent along the northern flanks of the Sogdian mountains. When Alexander the Great was at Samarkand he determined to advance as far as the river Tanais, and on it at the furthest limit of his territory, found a city to be called Alexandria. On the Tanais was the city of Kyra called by Arrian Kyrupolis. In two days he captured the five intermediate cities, and on the third appeared before Kyra. He found the water in the river so low that a portion of the bank beyond the extremity of the wall was dry, and by this means introduced a portion of his troops into the city, who opened the gates for their comrades. After a severe fight, the garrison retired to the citadel which they defended a day longer, but were compelled for want of water to surrender. Strabo waxes wrath over the account of the Macedonian, whom he accuses of falsehood for calling the river the Tanais. As however, Dânu in Zend signifies river, it is not unlikely that the lower course of the Jaxartes may have been known by some such name to the Persians who accompanied Alexander. Kyra was destroyed, and on the site was erected Alexandria Eschatê. The present town and citadel of Jizakh probably occupy its site. The marsh described by Sze-ma would thus have stretched from the neighbourhood of Bokhara, across the Kyzil-kûm, and northeasterly in the direction of the present Otrar near the junction of the Arys with the present Syr-darya. This river is not improbably the Araxes of Strabo (XI,, VIII,, 6) which he says was the principal cause of the inundation of the land; it divided at its mouth into several branches, some of which flowed to the "other sea" towards the north, and one into the Hyrkanian gulf.

The statements of the old geographers, all point to the former con-

out defined banks, covered with reeds and (communicating with) the northern sea.

West of Ta-yuan at a distance of two or three thousand *li* lay the Yueh-ti who dwelt north of the Oxus 嬀水. Their country was bounded in the south by the districts lately conquered by the Ta-hia (Tochâri), and on the west by An-sik 安息[11] or Parthia. The Yueh-ti were herdsmen and nomades, and in manners and customs resembled the Hiung-nû. They could muster some 100,000, or 200,000 bowmen. After their defeat at the hands of the Hiung-nû they had removed to a distance; and passing Ta-yuan had attacked the Tahia from the west and defeated them. The Yueh-ti followed the course of the Tu-kwai (Surkh-ab) and fixed their royal residence on its northern bank. A portion of the tribe not being able to get away with the others took refuge in the Nan-shan amongst the Thibetans 羌, and became known as the lesser Yueh-ti.

About 1,000 *li* to the west of Ta-hia, lay Parthia, a very powerful state about 1,000 *li* square, and which had dependant on it about one hundred cities large and small. It was well cultivated, and had marts where the people and merchants trafficked. Both carriages and ships were used for the conveyance of merchandise, and it had a silver coinage bearing the image of the king, changed with each successive reign.

To its west was T'iaou-chi[12] 條枝 (Sarangia or Drangia); to its north Im-t'sai-li-kan (Samarkand).

T'iaou-chi was on the sea coast. It was an agricultural coun-

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nection of the Aral and Caspian. Pliny says that an expedition sent by Pompey travelled in seven days from India to the river Icarus, the river of Balkh, which then flowed into the Oxus; and that thence Indian merchandise could be conveyed by way of the Caspian to the Kyrus, from which a portage of not more than five days was sufficient for their carriage to the Phasis. Strabo makes on the authority of Aristobulus the same statement, which however must be received *cum grano salis*. In this case either the levels taken by the Russian engineers must be erroneous, or the basin of the Aral has undergone an elevation of at least two hundred feet, as the Russian surveys place the dividing ridge between the two seas at that height above the water-shed of the Manych between the Caspian and Black seas.

11 安息 Ngan-sik. The old pronunciation of 安 seems to have been ar., cfr. Gr. Ἄρσακος; Sans, ram. Parthia was apparently known to the Chinese as Arsak after the title of its kings.

12 條枝 T'iaou-chi. T'iaou is to be compared with Gr. σειρά showing that the initial was *s*.

try, producing rice. There were large birds[13] there, with eggs as big as water jars. It was inhabited by a turbulent people, who were continually changing their sovereigns, and hence fell an easy prey to Parthia. Old men in the latter country said that in Sarangia was the Yok-shui and the Si-wang-mu,[14] but they had not seen them.

Ta-hia (Tokharia) was situated about two thousand *li* south-west of Ta-yuan, to the south of the Kwai-shui (Oxus). It was a settled country with towns and villages; the people very similar to those of Ta-yuan. There was no supreme ruler, each city and town electing its own chief. Its soldiers were weak and cowards in battle, fit only for traders. The Yueh-ti attacked it from the west, defeated its forces and established their superiority. Its population was reckoned at upwards of a million; its capital was Lam-shi-c'heng[15] (Darapsa of Strabo). It has marts for the sale and purchase of merchandise. To its southeast lay Shen-tu 身毒國 (India).

When Chang-kien was in Ta-hia he noticed some goods which had come from Szechuen 蜀, and asking how they had come, he learnt that they had come by way of India.

Of India we learn that it was situated some thousand *li* to the southeast of Ta-hia. The country was cultivated, and the manners and customs of its inhabitants were very similar to those of the Tochâri. The climate was damp and hot, and the people made use of elephants in war. It lay near a great river (the

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13 Ostriches, whose former range seems to have extended to these regions.

14 The Yok-shui, 弱水 weak, or rather dead-water, is evidently here applied to the Hamun or lake of Seistan. The Yok-shui of Chinese legend referred apparently to an ancient lake once occupying the greater part of Eastern Turkestan, and of which lakes Lob and Gash are the decaying representatives. It is associated with the Kwen-lun shan *i.e.* Mts. of Gandhara and the Si-wang-mu 西王母. The latter name seems to be a corruption of Sumeru, the character 王 being used for 亡, in Cantonese mong, and connected with the root mar or mor to die. W. F. Mayers in his Chinese Readers' Manual *sub. voc.* gives a sketch of the wonderful legends which have grown up round these two names. They are evidently connected with the Hindoo stories of the Gandharvas. Finding as their knowledge of Eastern Turkestan extended that they could not apply the legends to Lake Lob in its then condition, and hearing of the similar situation of the Hamen, the stories were readily transferred to the new site.

15 *Lam-shi* Ch'eng 藍市城 the Da-*rapsa*, Δάραψα of Strabo. The phonetic as seen in 𡍮 lam *i.e.* λαμβ-άνω seems to point to an original lamb. Darampsa was probably the original form of the name.

Indus). Chang-k'ien calculated the distance from Ta-hia to China at twelve thousand *li*. It was situated to the southwest of the latter country.

India lay upwards of a thousand *li* to the south of Tahia. There were commercial relations between Szechuen and India, the two countries not being very distant from one another. At present intercourse with Ta-hia is carried with difficulty through Thibet 羌; the Thibetans not being friendly. Some few on the north, on account of what they can gain from the Hiung-nû, prefer the shorter road by Szechuen, which is besides free from robbers.

The emperor heard that Ta-yuan had entered into relations with Tochâria and Parthia, all being important countries with large commerce, well settled land, and arts yielding only to the Chinese. Their military power was but small, and they valued highly the productions and wares of China. To their north lay the Yueh-ti and K'ang-ku fierce in war. They might be induced by the hope of profit to enter into relations with China. This was as reasonable a connexion as could be hoped for, since the countries extended some ten thousand *li*, and nine interpreters were needed to reach the different tribes, their authority extending as far as the Western Sea (the Arabian Gulf).

The emperor was much pleased and gave his assent to what Chang-k'ien had suggested, and directed him to despatch from Kien-wei 犍爲[16] in Szechuen expeditions along the four roads leading outwards from that place, viz., by Mang 駹, by Yen 冉, by T'u 徒 and by Kiung-pak 邛僰. Each advanced one or two thousand *li*. That taking the northern road was stopped by the Tai-tsok 氐笮, that going south by the Kwen-ming 昆明 of Sui 嶲.[17] The Kwen-ming tribes acknowledge no supreme ruler. They were a set of robbers, and seized and killed the Chinese travellers, so that this route had to be given up. They however heard that some thousand *li* or so to their west lay a country where elephant carriages were used named T'in-yût,[18] the people of which carried on a clandestine trade with Szechuen.

As the Chinese were now seeking to establish a route to Tochâria, they commenced by endeavouring to communicate with

16 Kien-wei, now Kia-ting-fu.

17 Sui, now Li-kiang-fu in Yunnan.

18 T'in-yût 滇越 apparently the ancient Sthâneswara now Oude and Rohilkund (See Cunningham's Ancient Geog. of India I. 328) but here applied to north-eastern India generally.

T'iu-yût. They first tried to open a road to the southwestern I 夷 and spent much money on it. They did not however succeed, and discontinued it. Chang-k'ien affirmed that it was possible by this route to reach Tochâria, and a second time tried negotiation with the I. He was however appointed to join the commander-in-chief in an attack on the Hiung-nû, as he was well acquainted with the localities where water and provisions were to be found, so that the army should not suffer from their want. He was also invested as marquis of Po-wang. This was in the sixth year of the term Yuen-so (B.C. 123).

The next year he was appointed escort officer 衛尉, and ordered in conjunction with General Li, to lead the right wing in an attack on the Hiung-nû. The Hiung-nû surrounded General Li, whose forces suffered severe loss: Chang-ki'en came, however, to his aid and succeeded in rescuing many of his troops.

This was the year in which the Chinese despatched the Light-horse General (Ho Kü-ping) with ten thousand troops to attack the western settlements of the Hiung-nû. He succeeded in advancing as far as the K'i-lien Shan.[19]

The next year the King of Hwan-ya 渾邪 induced his people to submit to the Chinese, and in consequence Kam-ch'eng 金城 Ho-si 河西, Si-ping 西平 and Nan-shan 南山 as far as the Im-chak (Lake Lob) were cleared of the Hiung-nû,[20] and for the time their chiefs ceased their encroachments. Two years after this the Chinese routed I 呿 Shen-yu to the north of the Gobi.

After this the Emperor bethought himself of asking Chang-k'ien as to the condition of Tayuan. Chang-k'ien had been deprived of his marquisate (on account of the defeat mentioned above[21]). He replied "When your servant lived amongst the Hiung-nû he heard that the King of the Wu-sun was called K'wen-mo 昆莫. His father had ruled over a small state lying immediately to the west of the Hiung-nû, which was attacked by the latter, who killed K'wen-mo's father (his name according to the Han-shu was Nan-tow-mi 難兜靡) K'wen-mo was deserted

19 祁連山 K'i-lien is said by the Chinese commentator to have been the Hiung-nû title for heaven. If this is correct the characters are inverted and should read 連祁 *i.e.* Dhan-gri. The How-Han-shu gives Chang-li *i.e.* Tangri as the equivalent, *vide* A. Wylie, Journal of the Anthropological Ins. Vol. II. No. III.

20 These positions, were in the prefectures of Lan-chow and Si-ning in the present Kansuh. For a detailed account of these operation vide Shi-ki Ch. 110 also A. Wylie *l.s.c.*

21 A. Wylie *l.c.*

in the wilderness. The ravens brought him meat in their mouths and hovered over him, and a wolf came and gave him suck.[22] The Shen-yu astonished at the prodigy took him and brought him up, and when he grew up to manhood gave him a body of troops to command.

Finding he was a man of ability, the Shen-yu restored to him his father's people, and gave him the protection of the western cities. K'wen-mo carefully looked after the interests of his people. He raised a corps of ten thousand bowmen, and accustomed them to battle. The Shen-yu dying, K'wen-mo led his people to more distant quarters, and established himself as an independent prince, as he did not wish to continue subject to the Hiung-nû. The Hiung-nû thereupon sent a force to attack him, but were unsuccessful, on account of the supernatural protection afforded him, as well as the distance. Without any important fight they entered into a compact with him. At the same time the Shen-yu was much distressed at the progress of the Chinese.

The territory of Hwan-ya had been almost depopulated, and the barbarian tribes 蠻夷 were willing to accept presents from the Chinese, and the present was a favourable time for holding out inducements to the Wu-sun. They might incite them therefore to move eastward and take up their abode in the former territory of Hwan-ya, where they and the Chinese would be as brothers. If they accepted the invitation, it would be equivalent to cutting off the right arm of the Hiung-nû. The Wu-sun placed in close contact with China, and a connexion formed through them with Tochâria in the west, all might then become outer tributary states to the empire.

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22 This tale of suckling by a wolf, familiar in the cases of Romulus and Cyrus, is matched by at least two more tales from Chinese sources. In the Tso-chuen VII. V. is given the story of Tsze-wan of T'sû suckled by a tiger Ch. Class. V. 297. Klaproth *Tableau de l'Asie* relates from Chinese sources, the similar story of Assena, founder of the northern Turks, p. 114. The addition of the raven (烏 wu) above is a play on the name of the tribe (Wu-sun). With regard to the attack on the Wu-sun, Mr. Wylie's translation (l.c.) may be quoted. In the year 176 B.C. the Shen-yu wrote to the Emperor * * * "Now in consequence of a slight breach of the treaty by some petty officials you pursued the Right Sage Prince, till he was driven westward into the territories of the Yueh-ti. There, however, Heaven favoured our cause; our officers and troops were loyal and true; our horses strong and spirited; and by slaughter, decapitation, subjugation and pacification our army effected the complete reduction of the Yueh-ti; while Low-lan, Wu-sun, Hu-ki and the adjacent kingdoms, to the number of twenty-six in all, without exception submitted to the Hiung-nû; and thus all the bowmen natives are united as one family.

The Emperor gave his assent to the scheme and appointed Chang-k'ien leader with the rank of Chung-lang 中郎. He took three hundred men, each provided with two horses. The mission was supplied with about ten thousand sheep and oxen, and gold and silk for presents in almost unlimited quantities. Everything was done to expedite it; along the road it has to traverse presents were sent to the neighbouring districts.

On his arrival amongst the Wu-sun, Chang-k'ien was received with ceremonies similar to those made use of by the Shen-yu. He was much mortified at this. Knowing, however, the avarice of the barbarians, he told them that he was the bearer of gifts from the Emperor. If the king were not willing to acknowledge the Emperor as his superior lord, then he would take them back with him. If he agreed to acknowledge him then he would present them; they might take their choice. Chang-k'ien then explained the object of his visit. The people of Wu-sun had the opportunity of moving eastward and occupying the territory of Hwan-ya; in case they did so, the emperor would bestow a princess of his own immediate family on the king. The people of Wu-sun (it was urged in reply) would be divided; their King was old, and they dwelt so far from China that they did not know whether it was a large or small state. They were long accustomed to the ways of the Hiung-nû; they were their neighbours, and their leaders feared the power of the Hu. They did not desire to change their quarters, nor had their King power to compel them. Chang-k'ien could not prevail them to accept his propositions.

K'wen-mo had some ten sons; the second of whom was called Ta-luk 大祿: he was brave and skilled in leading troops. He moved his quarters with about ten thousand horsemen. Ta-luk's eldest brother was Tai-tsze and had a son named Sham-t'su. This brother died young. As his death approached he expressed to his father his desire that Sham-t'su should become Tai-tsze in order to preserve the succession. K'wen-mo willingly assented, and after his death Sham-t'su 岑娶 became Tai-tsze. Ta-luk was irritated that he had not been appointed; he plotted with his younger brothers, and raised a rebellion with the object of compelling his father to set aside Sham-t'su, K'wen-mo was now old, he was apprehensive that Ta-luk would kill his nephew, and sent away the latter to new quarters with ten thousand horsemen. K'wen-mo had still ten thousand horsemen left which he kept about his own person. The forces of the state were thus divided into three bodies, of which those adhering to K'wen-

mo were, however, the most powerful; but K'wen-mo under the circumstances did not dare to enter alone into a compact with Chang-K'ien

Chang-k'ien in consequence divided his embassy, and sent his lieutenants to Ta-yuan, K'ang-ku, the greater Yueh-ti, Ta-hia, An-sik, Shen-tuh, Yu-t'ien, Yu-mui and the contiguous countries, Wu-sun supplying escorts and interpreters.

When Chang-k'ien returned he arranged with Wu-sun that they should send ten envoys, with ten horses, to return thanks (for the proposals that had been made) and that they should be able to see the extent and power of China. On Chang-k'ien's arrival he was promoted to the dignity of *ta-hing* and made one of the nine grandees, but died the following year.

The Wu-sun envoys having seen China, its great population, its wealth and liberality, returned to their own country and reported how great in comparison was China. For many years after Chang-k'ien's mission, intercourse with Ta-hia continued and men passed freely. It was thus that communications commenced between China and the countries to the north-west, the way to which had been opened by Chang-k'ien. All succeeding envoys spoke of the honesty and straight-forwardness of his dealings with foreign states, and the latter agreed in their appreciation of his character.

After the death of the Marquis of Po-wang (Chang-k'ien) the Hiung-nû, hearing of the arrangements between China and the Wu-sun, were irritated, and wished to make an attack on the latter; the Chinese, they said, had opened communication with the Wu-sun, and there were nothing to prevent them going southward and forming a league with Ta-hia and the greater Yueh-ti. The Wu-sun were alarmed; they sent envoys to China with a present of horses, and asked a Chinese princess in marriage, so that they and the Chinese should be brothers. The Emperor laid the request before his Ministers in Council. They all said, "let them first send the wedding presents, afterwards we will send the bride." The Emperor wrote a letter in reply "Shen horses come from the north-west; those to be obtained in Wu-sun are good, notably those known as T'ien horses. There are also Han-hiueh (blood-sweating) horses of Ta-yuan full of spirit. Besides there are the celebrated Wu-sun horses called Western Paragons 西極, and the noted horses of Ta-yuan called the T'ien horses etc. When China first desired to establish settlements in the West, it founded the principality 郡 of Tsiu-t'siuen to facilitate intercourse with the North-west. Since China is now sending missions to

Parthia, Samarkand, Sarangia, and India, and the Emperor is desirous of having a supply of Yuan horses he sends this letter in the hopes that his wishes will be attended to."[23]

As to the Envoys sent by China to foreign countries one *pei* complete consisted of one hundred. Few however, numbered as many. Those who had been trained under the Marquis of Po-wang and afterwards had increased experience, had dwindled to a few. The Chinese despatched yearly missions, of which the larger consisted of ten or more *pei*; the smaller of five or six. Those to the more distant countries were absent eight or nine years, to the nearer, a year or so.

It was about this time that China effected the conquest of Yueh, and made an impression on the south-western I in Sze-chuen 蜀, so that these requested permission to send envoys to do homage to the Emperor. At the same time the departments were formed of Yik-chow 益州, Yût-sui 越巂, Yang-ho 牂牁, Sham-lai 沈黎, and Wan-shan 汶山.[24] The desire being to amalgamate with the Empire all the countries between it and Tochâria.

The same year Peh-shi-ch'ang, 桓始昌, a man of Lu-yût 呂越, was sent with ten companies through the newly appointed departments to proceed to Tochâria. They were stopped by the K'wen-ming,[25] who murdered the escort and plundered the presents, and put an end to the expedition. In consequence of this outrage the Chinese raised three battalions from amongst the criminals of the Empire, and about ten thousand troops of Sz-chuen 巴蜀 soldiery, and sent them under the command of the two generals Kwoh-ch'ang and Wei-kwang-tang to punish the K'wen-ming for the outrage on the mission. They executed or imprisoned about ten thousand individuals, and an expedition was again despatched. The K'wen-ming again plundered it, so that eventually attempts at intercourse were given up, and all communications with Tochâria passed along the northern route by way of Tsiu-t'siuen.[26]

As the number of expeditions increased, a distaste for the

23. The whole of this passage is written in a peculiar style. The text is probably corrupt.

24 Near the present Ch'eng-tu-foo in Sze-chuen.

25 See above p. 10.

26 Tsze-lung says (in his account of the intercourse of the Hans with the western States. "The southern route led through Sze-chuen 蜀, the northern by way of Kam-ch'eng 金城 and Tsiu-t'siuen 酒泉. The southern route not being open, they made use of the northern, which they were enabled to do owing to the retreat of the Hiung-nû. The southern route was rougher, and altogether more difficult to travel than the other.

Chinese commodities arose amongst the outer states, and their goods were not valued. When the Marquis of Po-wang opened up the road to the outer world they were highly esteemed. Succeedings missions, however, were hasty and got insolved in disputes. The Emperor published a notification stating that foreign countries were strange, and dangerous to be traversed, he therefore invited volunteers. Should none be found willing to serve he would have to give up the more distant expeditions. This words were heard with indifference and the people did not respond to his invitation for officers. He made ample provisions for numbers of men, in order to expedite them along the road but they returned; not being able to prevent robbery and plunder of the goods, and the missions proved an utter failure. The Emperor still persevered; he enquired judicially into the heavier offences, and insisted on restitution.

When he again sought for envoys he did his best to select good men, not poor, nor given to breaking the laws, but the officials suddenly recommenced to shrink having anything to say to foreign affairs. They said that the majority looked upon them with indifference, and but few favoured these expeditions. Idle reports without foundation were circulated, and much unpleasantness ensued. The envoys sent were all the sons of poor men; the officials provided private stores of goods, and with a view to private pelf procured them of the thrashiest description. The foreigners in consequence grew suspicious of the Chinese caravans, the more especially, as the words of the leaders could not be depended on. Thinking that the Chinese forces were at too great a distance ever to get at them, they stopped supplies of food and goods in order to distress the expeditions. The caravans were well nigh starved, and ill-feeling ran so high that blows were exchanged.

Low-lan and Ku-shi were but small states and the road lay through their territories; they attacked and plundered the envoy of Wang-k'uei and his escort. The Hiung-nû at the time were very hostile and thought an opportunity had arrived for striking a blow at these missions to the west. They sent envoys all round to remonstrate at the danger to foreign interests; on all sides were cities and forts, and their soldiers though not strong might strike a blow. The Emperor thereupon sent the Marquis of Piao and the P'o-nû General with the cavalry of the allied states and about 10,000 infantry. They in due course arrived at the Hiung river, and determined to attack the enemy, but the latter had retired.

The next year he attacked Ku-shi; and P'o-nû with seven hundred of his light cavalry having arrived first, he captured the King of Low-lan. Having reduced Ku-shi to terms he disposed his troops so as to overawe Wu-sun and Ta-yuan, and returned, when P'o-nû was made Marquis of Chuk-ye (B.C. 108).

Wang-k'wei was frequently employed as an envoy, and what he did with reference to the difficulty at Low-lan was reported to the Emperor. The Emperor accordingly having raised an army placed Wang-k'wei in command with orders to assist P'o-nû, and invested him as Marquis of Ho. At this time Tsui-t'siuen was separated from Ting-chang as far as Yuh-men.

Wu-sun having sent a thousand horses as a betrothal gift, the Emperor sent Kiang-tu, a princess of the Imperial house, as a bride to Wu-sun. K'wen-mo, King of Wu-sun made her right Foo-jen. The Hiung-nû having also sent a lady to marry K'wen-mo he made her left Foo-jen. K'wen-mo being old, he ordered his grandson Sham-t'su to marry the princesses.

Wu-sun was rich in horses; rich man had as many as four or five thousand. When the first Chinese envoy arrived in Parthia the King[27] despatched a general with twenty thousand horses to meet him on the western frontier, from which to the capital was about a thousand *li*. On the way they passed some ten cities. The inhabitants were all of the same race and very numerous. On the return of the mission he sent envoys with it that they might see the extent and power of China. He sent with them as presents to the Emperor eggs of the great bird of the country, and a curiously deformed man from Samarkand.[28]

Adjoining Wan on the west were the small states of Hwan-

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27 Apparently Mithridates II. who ascended the throne *cir* B C. 124.

28 Such gifts were evidently customary in these countries. When Pandion (King of the Indo-Scyths?) who, a little later reigned over the north-west of India, sent an Embassy to Augustus at Samos, the mission brought as presents a partridge larger than a vulture περδικὰ τε μείζω γυπός, and a *hermes*, a man without arms who shot from a bow with his feet, as well as tigers, snakes and a large river tortoise: see Strabo *lib.* XV. The bird was apparently one of the struthionidæ; the descriptions point to the ostrich, but the ostrich was well known to the Romans, who ought certainly to have known better than to call it a partridge. There is no physical difficulty involved in the supposition that the range of the ostrich formerly extended accross the Persian gulf to the deserts of Kermania and Sarangia. Its eastern limit would thus coincide with that of the lion. It is possible of course that a second species of struthio, now extinct, inhabited these districts at the time in question, and that it was sufficiently distinct to justify the description of Strabo.

t'sim 驩潛[29] and Ta-yik 大益. To the east of Wan were Ku-shi, Yu-mi and Su-hiai 蘇薤. All complied with the desires of the Chinese envoys, and sent tribute to the Emperor. The Emperor was much pleased and took the opportunity of sending an expedition to explore the sources of the Ho, (Yellow River). The Ho rises in Khoten; the mountains about its sources produce large quantities of jade. The Emperor examined the ancient charts and books, and learnt that the name of the mountain in which the Ho has its rise is the K'wen-lun 崑崙 (*i.e.* Mts. of Gandhâra, see note to p. 9).

About this time the Emperor was in the habit of making pleasure excursions by sea, when he was accompanied by all the foreign visitors at court, and great numbers of people took part in them. Gifts and largesses were bestowed on them and a liberal store of provision, so that they might see how rich and liberal was China. There were every means of enjoyment afforded, plays and sleight of hand tricks; numbers collected to see them, and those who took part in them were well repaid. Wine was there in lakes; flesh as if forests. The Emperor gave orders to show the foreign visitors over the granaries and treasuries, where all manner of things were piled up, so that they might have some idea of the great resources of the empire. They were especially struck at the mechanism by which the plays and other representations were produced, and their astonishment was kept continually on the stretch.

At this time caravans regularly passed and repassed between China and the countries lying to the north-west, and even from places far to the west of Yuan, from Kiao-t'sze 驕恣 and An-jen 晏然,[30] but they had not yet established binding rules with respect to the treatment of envoys. From Wu-sun westwards as

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29 Hwan-t'sim is Kharism; the Zend Quairizem; Gr. Χωράσμια. Ta-yik the Δέρβικες of Strabo, Δροπικοί of Herodotus.

30 晏然 An-yan. As in the similar case of Parthia we must pronounce the initial syllable *An*; the Aria or Arian-a of Strabo and Herodotus, the Haraêva of the Avesta. It lay S.W. of Bactria, and its name survives in the Herat of to-day. Strabo says of it that it is "partly composed of valleys enclosed by mountains, and partly of inhabited plains. The plains are watered by the Rivers Arius (Heri Rud) and by the Margus (Murgab) . . . . Its length is about 2,000 stadia, and the breath of the plain 300 stadia" XI., X. Kiao-t'sze is probably the Arachôsia of Strabo situated in the banks of the Arachotus, the Haraqaiti of the Avesta, the 毗羅賦提 I-lo-fu-ti of the Shui-king.

far as Parthia they complied with the practice of the Hiung-nû.

When the Hiung-nû had conquered the Yueh-ti they had sent envoys hearing a letter from the Shen-yu; the neighbouring countries had passed them on, and had supplied them with provisions, not daring to detain or incommode them. On the arrival of the Chinese caravans, unless they were prepared with presents, and rich stuffs they could not obtain food, nor could they purchase beasts of burden or horses. These people concluded that as China was a long way off, and was rich, they could compel the caravans to purchase what they needed at any price they wished. They moreover feared the Hiung-nû more than they did the Chinese envoys.

In all parts of Wan and adjacent countries the people used grape wine. Rich men stored as much as ten thousand shih in their cellars. They did not value it till it was at least ten years old; they relished their wines and their horses relished lucerne 苜蓿. The envoys having brought home specimens of both the Emperor introduced the culture of the wine and lucerne in the fertile districts of the Empire.[31]

T'ien horses were now abundant. Foreign nations sent them in numbers, and they were distributed amongst the royal residences. The cultivation of grapes and lucerne succeeded to their best hopes.

From Ta-yuan westerly as far as Parthia although the languages spoken differed slightly, they yet had a general resemblance (大同俗) and were mutually intelligible. The men had all deep blue eyes (深眼) and large beards and whiskers. They were astute traders and would wrangle over a farthing. They held their women in high estimation, and the husband commonly took his wife's advice before coming to a decision. Their country pro-

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31 The Chinese name for the grape 葡萄, or as it is here written 蒲陶 p'u-tao is not native. As the grape itself was introduced from the neighbourhood of Yarkand we have to look to that locality for the origin of the name. Strabo speaks in many places of the exuberant growth of the grape in Central Asia. The wines of Asia he said might be kept for three generations in unpitched vessels *εἰς τριγονίαν παραμένει ἐν ἀπιτώτοις ἀγγεσι*. So in his account of Margiana he speaks of bunches of grapes two cubits in size. It seems not unlikely that in the Chinese word therefore, which regularly represents the Greek *βότρυς* (see note p. 5.) we have a vestige of the Greek occupation of Bactria. It is possible too that the 苜蓿 Muh-suk of the Chinese may have some connection with the *Μηδικὴ βοτάνη* of Strabo XI., XII.

duced every thing except silk and varnish 漆.[32] They did not understand the art of casting cash 錢 or metal vessels (some copies for 錢 read 鐵 *i.e.* they did not understand the art of casting iron vessels, a more probable supposition, as Sze-ma previously, see p. 6, speaks of the Parthians using silver coins.) They induced some of the attendants attached to the Chinese mission to desert for the purpose of teaching them the art of casting weapons and vessels. They obtained from China gold and silver for the purpose of making various utensils. They made little use of gems, and when the envoys were going away they took a quantity with them: of these a few were ordinary but the greater part were fit for imperial presents.

It was reported that there were concealed in Urh-shi 貳師城 a number of *shen* horses, which the people were not willing to hand over to the Chinese envoys. The Emperor wished much to have a stock of Yuan horses and was pleased at the information. He sent officers skilled in the management of carriages, with a thousand pieces of gold and a golden horse to ask of the King of Yuan the *shen* horses at Urh-shi.[33]

Yuan had had enough of Chinese commodities and readily entered into a plot. China, they said is far distant, and between us lies the salt lake (Lob) subject to sudden disturbances. Should they go to the north they will encounter the Hu (Turkish) robbers; if to the south there is a dearth of water and fodder. Whichever road they take there is an absence of towns, and scarcity of provisions. The Chinese envoys travel in companies of a hundred men or so: if they try to cross without provisions

32 A curious coincidence with Strabo's description of Bactria XI., XI. πολλὴ δ'ἐστὶ καὶ πάμφορος, πλὴν ἐλαίου. "It is an extensive country, producing everything except oil."

33 Urh-shi-ch'eng the capital of Ta-yuan has not been identified; it was probably not far from the site of the modern Yarkand. On page 23, *infra*, we are told that the Royal city of Yuan had no wells within the walls, and was altogether dependent on streams without the city for its supply of water." This perfectly tallies with the description of Yarkand given by Hayward, (Journal of R. G. S. XL. 84.) "Both the city and fort are supplied with water from several tanks, into which it is conveyed by canals cut from the river. These are frozen in the winter, and the supply is then stopped, but the tanks contain sufficient water for the consumption of the inhabitants until the regular supply is renewed in the spring." Urh-shi 貳師 was apparently pronounced Ur-dû, a corruption of Sanscrit Urdhva *high*. Its employment here as to the name of the chief city and citadel of Yuan was probably the origin of the modern Turkish use of the word to signify a citadel or royal city, and finally a camp.

they will die before they are half over. It would be easy to stop a large army without any effort on our part. As for the Urh-shi horses the people of Yuan value them and do not wish to hand them over to the Chinese envoys. The envoys were annoyed at their opprobrious words; they broke up the golden horse and took their departure.

The chief men of the city were vexed at their departure, and bethought themselves, the Chinese envoys will think but little of us, now that we have let them go; let us suggest to our eastern neighbours in Yuk-ch'eng 郁成 to intercept and murder them, and plunder their goods.

The Emperor was greatly enraged at hearing this, and consulted privately respecting the mission with Yao Ting-han. The latter told him that the military sources of Yuan were weak, and that though the Chinese troops did not exceed three thousand men, still they were brave and well trained in the use of the bow, and could at any time capture and destroy Yuan. The Emperor had himself had experience of his troops when he despatched the Marquis of Chuk-ye to Lowlan, the result of which was the capture of the King by the seven hundred cavalry before-mentioned The Emperor expressed his assent to Ting's suggestion, and as he had a fancy for the Marquis on account of his favourite concubine the Lady Li, he appointed Li Kwang-li 李廣利 to command the force against Urh-shi. Six thousand cavalry were despatched from the dependent states, and in the provinces they enlisted about ten thousand youths for the expedition against Yuan. Li was given a fixed period to proceed to Urh-shi and capture the *shen* horses, and in consequence got the name of the Urh-shi General.

Li lost no time in making his forces effective, and for that purpose selected the Marquis of Ho and Wang-K'wei to guide the army, and Li-ch'i his Lieutenant to look after the affairs of the force. This was in the first year of the term of T'ai-ch'o (37th year of Wu-ti, B.C. 104.) At the same time there was a great plague of locusts in Kwan-tung, their ravages extending westward as far as Tun-hwang.

The Urh-shi General advanced with his troops to the west of Lake Lob: as he went along the road the small states were suspicious and closed the gates of their cities, nor would they supply him with provisions. He was placed in a dilemma. An attack on them would delay his advance. It was necessary to move, otherwise in a few days his stores would be exhausted.

Under the circumstances he turned North to Yuk-ch'eng.[34] The soldiers who were with him scarcely exceeded a thousand men, all exhausted by hunger. They attacked Yuk-ch'eng, but met with a severe defeat, losing in killed and wounded the greater portion of the force.

The Urh-shi general consulted with Li-ch'i and Chao Shi-cheng respecting the condition of affairs. They had got as far as Yuk-ch'eng, but could not take it; still worse would be their condition if they went onto the royal city (Urh-shi.) They determined accordingly to retire to Tun-hwang. The expedition had occupied three years, and on its arrival at the frontier not more than one or two tenths of those who had set out remained.

The General sent a despatch to the Emperor stating that the distance to be traversed was great, and they had suffered much much from hunger. The soldiers had died of hunger not in battle, and were too few in number to reach Yuan. As for the troops they were much exhausted: still if a larger force were raised they were willing to start again.

On hearing this the Emperor was much enraged and sent a messenger to intercept the army at Yuh-men, and enquire how it was that the army had dared to re-enter China without permission. Fearing the consequences the Urh-shi General detained his troops at Tun-hwang.

In the summer of the same year the Chinese lost some twenty thousand men of Tsok-yi's army at the hands of the Hiung-nû.[35] The chief officers of the state were unanimous in wishing to give up the war against Yuan and concentrating their forces in an attack on the Turks. The Emperor was however, determined in punishing Yuan. Yuan, he represented, was but a small country, if they failed to reduce it the Tochâri would think but lightly of China, and the supply of *shen* horses cease. Wu-san and Lun-t'ow would find it easy

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34 Yuk-cheng 郁成. The position is doubtful. It lay north of the road to Urh-shi. The first syllable probably represents the Turkish Ak.

35 B.C. 103. The Marquis of Tsok-yi had left Suh-fang in the spring of the year with 20,000 cavalry. The left Commandant General of the Turks had offered to transfer his allegiance in China, and the Marquis set out to join his forces. The plot had been discovered before his arrival and the commandant been put to death. The Turks fell on the Chinese but were defeated. The latter however retired, but before their arrival at the frontier were set on by the Turks, their leader killed and his army cut to pieces. Wylie in T of Antropological J. *l.c.*

to annoy the Chinese caravans, and they would become the laughing stock of foreign nations.

It was resolved to punish Yuan at any cost; prisoners in jail and ruffians of every description were impressed, and the younger culprits were sent to join the border cavalry. In little more than a year there marched out of Tun-hwang a force of sixty thousand men, not including army followers, accompanied by one hundred thousand cattle and upwards of thirty thousand horses, besides some ten thousand mules, asses and camels, all well supplied with fodder. The troops were well provided with cross bows, and the whole empire was moved to provide means for the attack in Yuan. More than fifty generals were appointed to the force.

The royal city of Yuan had no wells within the walls, and was altogether dependent on streams outside the city for its supply of water. The Chinese took with them men skilled in waterworks to divert the streams and so deprive the inhabitants of water. In addition to these preparations 180,000 men were sent to the north of Tsiu-t'siuen and Chang-yih and depots of provisions were established for the protection of Tsiu-t'siuen. From China they despatched the seven classes of criminals to act as provision carriers to the Urh-shi's army; men used to the management of vehicles were sent to join it at Tun-hwang, and two cavalry officers well skilled in the management of horses were attached as instructors in horsemanship, to take back the *shen* horses after the capture of Yuan.

When all was ready the Urh-shi General again set out with a numerous army. As they marched through the border states they were everywhere well received. On their arrival at Lûn-t'ow,[36] however, the people would not submit; the army attacked the place, and in a few days destroyed it. From thence westwards as far as the chief town of Yuan the road was level.

On its arrival at Yuan, the Chinese force numbered thirty thousand men: the Yuan troops marched out to attack it, but were defeated and forced to retire within the city for shelter. The Urh-shi's troops had wished to go and attack Yuk-ch'eng;

36 We are as yet too ignorant of geography of Eastern Turkestan to be able to fix position of Lün-t'ow. It lay west of lake Lob, and the indication that thence to Ta-wan the road was level would seem to place it at the W. extremity of the mountains known to lie S.W. of the lake. Lun-t'ow 侖頭 possibly represents Darsila *i.e.* Cleft-rock; compare K'wen-*lun* for Gan*dhara*.

he was apprehensive of the consequences of interrupting their march, and only succeeded in getting them to Yuan by a ruse.

On their arrival they set to to divert the water courses, so that the inhabitants shut up lost heart. The siege was pressed for forty days when the outer city was stormed. The chief men and the officers in command were much harrassed at the loss, and the people in great trepidation retired within the inner city, where the chief men had a consultation. They represented that the reason of the Chinese attack on the city was that the King Mû-kwa 毋寡 had refused to give up the *shen* horses, and (had instigated) the murder of the envoys, If therefore they killed the King and sent out the *shen* horses. the Chinese troops could scarcely refuse to accept their submission. If on the other hand they did not come to terms the contest would be carried on to the death.

Before evening the principal inhabitants all expressed their assent; they killed their King Mu-kwa, took his head and sent it with their chief men to the Urh-shi General. They told him that if he would spare the lives and properties of the citizens they would send out as many of the *shen* horses as were required, and would supply the Chinese troops with provisions. If on the other hand he would not agree to their proposal they would then kill the *shen* horses, and request the people of K'ang-ku to come to their assistance. They then with their own forces inside the city, and those of K'ang-ku without, would be well able to meet the Chinese in battle.

The Chinese generals consulted together as to what course to pursue. Meanwhile the Prince 侯 of K'ang-ku had come to reconoitre the Chinese force, but it being still in good condition he had not dared to enter the city. The Urh-shi General took counsel of Chao Shi-ch'eng and Li-chi. They learnt that within the city they had recently obtained the services of some men from T'sin, who knew how to sink wells, while provisions were still abundant. Come what might they had cut off the head of the obnoxious Mu-kwa, and it had arrived in camp. If they did not agree to the terms proposed, they would have to take measures for their own defence, as the prince of K'ang-ku as soon as the Chinese soldiers were exhausted, was ready to come to the assistance of Yuan, in which case their army must be exterminated.

The various generals accordingly agreed to accept the terms proposed, and a convention was entered into with Yuan that

the latter should send out the *shen*[37] horses, which the Chinese should have the right of selecting, and that they should in addition fully provision the army.

The Chinese General took of the *shen* horses some ten individuals, besides of medium and inferior qualities about three thousand horses and mares. They likewise selected from among the grandees of Yuan, one who had in previous time entertained in a friendly manner the Chinese envoys, by name Mui-t'sai[38] and set him up as King of Yuan.

On their side the Chinese stipulated that they would withdraw the troops without entering the inner city; and would cease hostilities and lead them back to China.

As the army was numerous, and no provisions were to be had for so many along the road from Urh-shi to the districts immediately west of Tun-hwang, the army was divided into several sections, which followed respectively the northern and southern routes. Wang Shen-sang with about a thousand retired through the districts of Hung-lu 鴻臚 and Wu-chûng 壺充[39] to Yuk-ch'eng; they found the city closed, and the inhabitants unwilling to provide supplies. Wang Shen-sang went on some two hundred *li* in advance of the main army with a body of light horse in order to reconnoitre. He made a requisition on the town for provisions but was refused. The people in the town knew through their spies that the troops with Wang were but few; at daylight they march out 3,000 strong and cut to pieces his escort. A few only escaped to the Urh-shi General. The General ordered the troops under the command of San-suh and Kih to destroy Yuk-ch'eng; the King fled to K'ang-ku whither he was pursued by Kih. The people of K'ang-ku hearing that the Chinese had taken Yuan, and had driven out the King of Yuk-ch'eng delivered him up to Kih.

Kih ordered four cavalry officees to take him bound to the general-in-chief. The four consulted altogether. "This" they said "is the King of Yuk-ch'eng who has inflicted so much loss

37 Shen horses 善馬. Is it possible that these are connected with the celebrated Nesæan horses of Strabo and the other Greek writers? Strabo XI., XIII., says:—Τοὺς δὲ Νησαίους ἵππους, οἷς ἐχρῶντο οἱ βασιλεῖς ἀρίστοις καὶ μεγίστοις. See also Herod VII. 40. Possibly like grapes the race was introduced through Bactria from W. of the Pamir.

38 昧蔡 Mu-t'sai apparently Malsalya *i.e.* Bolophoros, Saggitarius; so Mu-kwa is possibly Mahavira.

39 Apparently representing some such forms as Hariurva, *terra gilva*, and Ugrajara, *male dura*.

in our troops. So long as he lives he will be a source of trouble, let us kill him and finish the affair." They wished to kill him but each feared to be the first to strike. The Shang-kwei cavalry officer, Chao's younger brother was a young man; he draw his sword killed him and cut off his head. He was sent on by Kih to communicate the fact to the general-in-chief.

After the Urh-shi General had set out the Emperor sent an envoy to Wu-sun requesting it to assist him in the attack on Yuan; Wu-sun in response sent 2,000 cavalry. They were now placed in a dilemma, and did not wish to proceed as the Urh-shi General had retired to the east. The smaller states through which the the army passed when they heard that China had conquered Yuan all sent the sons or younger brothers of their ruling chiefs along with army to pay tribute to the Emperor and remain as hostages at the court.

Great rewards were bestowed on the Urh-shi General for his success at Yuan, and on the Kiun-ching, Chao Shi-ching, for his bravery on battle; as well as on Kih for the courage he displayed in entering K'ang-ku, and on Li-ch'i for his wise counsel. The army entered the Yuh-men about ten thousand strong with a thousand horses; the Urh-shi General bringing up the rear.

The army had been abundantly provisioned, and those who died in battle could not be many. The generals were, however, avaricious, and many of the troops cared very little for their officers and fell to plundering, and this caused some disturbance. The Emperor, as it had marched ten thousand *li* to the capture of Yuan and had returned successful, took no further notice of the irregularity. He invested Kwang-li as Marquis of Hai-si, and the younger brother of Chao, the cavalry officer who had killed the King of Yuk-ch'eng, he made Marquis of Sin-c'hi. The Kiun-ching Chao Shi-c'heng was made Kwang-luh Ta-foo, and the Shang-kwan Kih, Siao-foo. Li-chi was made Shang-tang T'ai-show, and three of the other generals made high officers of the ninth grade.

To each of the Marquises who had an income of 2,000 shih 100 hundred men were allotted, and a thousand were distributed amongst those with less than 1,000 shih. In view of their strenuous exertions all were rewarded beyond their hopes and fully contented were permitted to retire. 40,000 pieces of gold were distributed amongst the troops, and those who had taken active part in the operations against Yuan received four years furlough. After the victory at Yuan the Chinese general had set up Mui-t'sai as King, and immediately after departed. Scarcely a

year had elapsed when the principal men of the city finding that Mui-t'sai was nothing but a feeble tool, sent an envoy to China asking permission to kill him. This being accorded they put him to death, and raised to the vacant throne a brother of Mu-kwa named Shen-fung, and sent his son to China as an hostage. To preserve the good understanding, an envoy was despatched in return with costly presents, and more than ten caravans were sent to the countries lying west of Yuan to seek for articles of *vertu*.

In order to keep Yuan under control Fung-lan was appointed Tu-wei of Tun-hwang and T'siu-tsiuen. Westwards as far as the Im-shui (salt water *i.e.* Lake Lob) rest houses were established. At Lun-t'ow a hundred agricultural officers were appointed, for the purpose of encouraging the cultivation of millet and corn to supply the caravans on their way to or from foreign countries.

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(ROCKS WITH INSCRIPTIONS, AT THE NORTH SIDE OF YENTAI-HILL SHANTUNG.)

ARTICLE II.

ROCK INSCRIPTIONS AT THE NORTH SIDE OF YENTAI HILL.

(By J. Rhein, Esq.)

On the North slope of Yentai Hill lies,—often unheeded by passers by,—one of those curious acts of Nature, not seldom seen in mountainous countries where volcanic eruptions, coupled with influence of rain and weather, have shaped the aspect of hills and dale. It is simply an obelisk-shape granite standing perpendicular in the hill-side and in its front another horizontal—lying broad flat stone in the form of a table. The latter seems like a piece sliced off from the top of the standing Rock and deposited at its foot on another mass of granite, keeping balancing on them like the loose board of a huge table. This rock is known by the Chinese under the name of Shih-Chu'an 石船.

On these two stones are chiseled the following characters, dating from the 36 year of K'ang-hi (1697).

CHARACTERS ON THE TABLE ROCK.

誰將石壁劈成舟　　屹立山腰海上頭　　縱有風濤驚不到
雖無槳舵勢能悠　　難供利客奔南北　　止許高人宴夏秋
郤笑膠舟遊梵氷　　問玉空自動齊侯
康熙丁丑秋
交虹劉九標題并書

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CHARACTERS OF THE OBELISCAL ROCK.

造化奇觀

康熙丁丑仲夏之吉

関中崔巖祁國祚題幷書

The following are the characters of later date chiseled under the preceding on the Obeliscal Rock :—

一帆里乘長風壯志雄添海
浪片石巍我參造化天工端
不藉人工
同治壬申年冬月由
京返棹之衆觀石船題句
上杭笏初丁錦堂題
同安萱山蔣長庚
同治五年正月十七日
歸安沈丙瑩
徐照徐立言
桐城李經
吳縣潘庚宸
大興李鍾陽
海甯陳光綬同遊至此
吳縣陶懷杲
薛應珍
洪鈞後至

Translation of the Inscriptions on the Obeliscal Rock.

"A Phenomenon of Creation wonderful to behold."

"On an auspicious day of the fifth month of the 36th year of Kang-hi (1697), composed and written by Ch'i-kwoh-tsu surnamed Ho-yan from Kwan-chung (Shensi)."

Inscriptions of Later Date, under the Preceding.

"A said for 10,000 li driven by wind, firm and brave to the utmost amidst the waves of the sea (meaning the vessel in which the composer of this verse returned from Peking; speaking of the stone at the North side of Yentai Hill called the stone-junk, he says): 'A stone so high and lofty may be considered creation; it is Heaven's work, whereby the work of man has not been invoked.'"

"In 10 month of the 11 year of T'ung-chi (November 1872) on his return with a vessel from Peking to Chefoo and seeing the 'Stone Junk' this verse was composed by Ting Chin-tang surnamed Hu-chu from Shang-hang-hsien (Ting-chow-fu in Fuhkien); and written by Chiang Chang-keng surnamed Hsuen-shan from T'ung-an-hsien, (Chuen-chow-fu in Fuhkien)."

Names of Visitors to the Rock, although of Earlier Date, Written to the Left of the Preceding.

"On the 17th day of 1st month of the 5th year of T'ung-Chi, (3rd March, 1866). Shen Ping-ying; Hsü-Chaŭ and Hsü Li-yen from Kwei-an-hsien (Hu-chow-fu in Cheh-kiang). Li-ching, from T'ung-cheng-hsien (An-ching in An-hwei). Pan Chang-heng from Wu-hsien (Soo-chow-fu in Kiang-su). Li Chang-yang from Ta-hsing-hsien, (Shŭn-tien-fu in Chihli) and Ch'en Kwang-shou from Hai-ning-hsien (Hang-chow-fu in Cheh-kiang) have together visited this place."

"T'au Hwai-kao, Hsueh Ying-chen and Hung chün, from Wu-hsien (Soo-chow-fu in Kiang-su) have visited it afterwards."

Translation of the Transcription on the Side of the Table-Rock or "Stone Junk," Written in the Autumn of the same Year as the Large Characters on the Obeliscal Rock.

"Who took this stone wall and tore it asunder making this vessel and depositing it in the slope of the hill above the sea? Although wind and waves may roar she cannot be terrified; although without oars or rudder she can keep her course for ever. Although gain seeking merchants cannot travel in her from North to South, yet the Poet can feast on her in Summer and in Autumn, and forsooth laugh at the glued ship which wandered in the waters of Tsu, where the Marquis of Ts'i made in vain enquiries for his King."*

"In the Autumn of the 36th year of Kang-hi (1697), composed and written by Liu Chiu-Piao, surnamed Chiao-hung."

* This has reference to the glued vessel which the Prince of Tsu (at present the provinces Hunan and Hupeh) treacherously provided for Chao Wang, the fourth King of the Chow dynasty (who reigned from 1052-1001 B.C.), when he came over to the Kingdom of Tsu for a pleasure-trip, and was drowned by the foundering of the glued vessel. This was kept secret for the Princes of the different feudal Kingdoms, but the Marquis of Ts'i (now the Northern port of Shantung and Southern port of Chihli), made enquiries after the King and accused the people of Tsu of that treacherous act. (Annals of Confucius, commentary of Tso Ch'iu-ming, 4th year of Lu Hsi-kung 春秋左氏傳魯僖公四年昭王南征句註.) Mayers Chinese Reader's Manual.

ARTICLE III.

SIAMESE COINAGE.

By Joseph Haas.

The country known to us as *Siam* is by the natives called *Muang Thai* (Kingdom of the free). Its ancient name was *Sajam* (tawny race), whence that of Siam has been derived.

Beyond the scanty and somewhat mythical information which is to be found in the collection of the sacred books of the *Thai*, called *Trai-pidok i.e.* the three vehicles by which we have to traverse the great Ocean of this world, little is known of the ancient history of Siam.

The collection above referred to is divided into three series: viz., *p'ra-vinai* (rules), *p'ra-sut* (sermons and histories) and *p'ra baramat* (philosophy). It forms a total of 402 works in 3683 volumes. These are written in the Pali language, but a great many of them were translated into Siamese.

Some contribution to the knowledge of the ancient history of Siam may also be gained in searching the Annals of the country which are divided into two parts: the first, in 3 volumes, entitled *Phongsavada-Muangnua*, or History of the Northern Kingdom, gives the origin of the *Thai*, but is also full of fables and myths. The second part *Phongsavada-Muang Thai*, History of the Kingdom of Thai, or as it is called officially *Phongsavada-Sajama Rahcha*, History of the Siamese Kings, in 40 volumes, begins with the foundation of *Ayuthia*, and carries us down to the present time.

When we consider that Siam is almost the equal of China on the scale of civilisation and that she even boasts of a more perfect system of coinage than her sister country, this paucity of numismatic records is remarkable.

Some time ago our Honorary Member, Marques A. Pereira, Consul General of Portugal in Siam, in a pamphlet*, produced some valuable, but unfortunately incomplete, notes upon the subject; and to this source I am indebted for information regarding the stamps on the former Siamese coins. I have also consulted with advantage the "Siam Directory," compiled by Mr.

* Moedas de Siam por Marques A. Pereira—1879—Lisboa—8vo. 30 pag.

Samuel J. Smith, for the chronological table of the Kings of Siam.

With the knowledge obtained from these various sources, together with the results of personal investigations during my recent visit at Bangkok, which I may remark have not been entirely fruitless, I make bold to appear before you with this essay on Siamese coins.

As in the numismatics of every country, so also in that of Siam the knowledge of her history is essential. Unfortunately, however, the earlier history of Siam is shrouded in an almost impenetrable mythical veil, and only from the time that *Ayuthia* was built we step into real historical facts.—We are informed that the original capital of Siam was *Sangkalok*, then *Picheluk*, and at last *Ayuthia*, which was built in the *Chula* Era 712, corresponding with A.D. 1350. With this era we commence our chronological tables—extending over the last 600 years.

The Siamese distinguish two eras, either of which is mentioned when quoting dates,— namely, the sacred and the civil era.

The former is called *P'utt'a-sakaraht* (or Buddha's era), and is reckoned from the reported death of Buddha. At the full moon of the sixth Siamese lunation, *i.e.* April 23rd, 1880, the era will have closed its 2423rd year. It antecedes the Christian era 543 years, and as the term given it implies, its application is entirely confined to religious matters. Every time a Siamese priest reads or recites one of his homilies, he is very particular to state the number of year Buddhism has existed up to date, and how long it will continue to exist, which Buddhists believe will be 2577 years after the date above mentioned.

The other is the Civil era, or the *Chula-sakaraht*. It begins from the time when King *P'ra Ruang* established it in A. D. 638. On the last day of the fourth Siamese lunation, *i.e.* March 10th, 1880, it will close its 1241st year, thus corresponding with the 638th year of Christian era.

Some events in Siam's history before Ayuthia was built, say about 500 B.C.—*Bathamarat* a grand son of *Sachanalai* and *Sithimongkhon* built the city of *Savan-thevalok*, or *Sangkalok*, and thereupon he was proclaimed King. In short succession three more cities sprang up under his creation: viz., *Haripunchai*, *Kamphochana*, and *Phetchabun*, and each received as King one of his sons, of whom he had *Sokha-kuman*, *Thama-kuman*, and *Singhakuman*.

This dynasty flourished for about 500 years, during which period no mention is made of troubles or wars in the country.

About the year 950 of the era of *P'ra-khodom* there reigned at *Haripunchai* the King *Ap'ajakha Muni* whose son *Arunnarat* by marriage was elevated to the throne of *Sangkalok* under the name of *P'ra Ruang*.

At this time the country of the *Sajam* was under the rule of the King of *Kamphocha-Nakhon* who gradually drifted into the vasallage of *P'ra Ruang*. When the latter monarch attained the fiftieth year of his age he established the Civil era or *Chula-sakaraht*.—His reign is also marked by the first clash of arms with China; and here also we hear of the first settlement of Chinese in Siam.—

The succsssion fell to his son *P'raja Sucharat*, during his reign great wars were raging between the *Thai* and the *Lao*.

Then *Thama-Trai-Pidok* builds the city *Phitsanulok*, makes *Chao-Kraison*, one of his sons, King of *Lophaburi*, and the other one *Chat Sakhon*, King of *Chieng-mai*.

Khota-Thevarat takes refuge at the borders of the *Menam*, and *P'raya-Krek* ascends the throne.

P'ra-Chao-Uthong builds on an island the city *Krung-Thep-Maha-Nakhon-Si-Ajuthaya* which becomes afterwards famous under the name of *Ayuthia*.

THE KINGS OF SIAM.

FROM THE TIME THE OLD CAPITAL AYUTHIA WAS BUILT.

1*st Dynasty*.

Name.	*Chulâ Era.*	*Ascension A.D.*	*Lenght of Reign.*		
			Years.	*Ms.*	*Days.*
1.—Sómdëtch P'ra Rahmah T'i-baudee 1st	712	1350	20	—	—
2.—Sómdëtch P'ra Ràhme-súan 1st, son of the 1st and King of Lophaburi	732	1370	1	—	—
3.—Sómdëtch P'ra Boroma-Rah-ch'ah T'iraht, brother of the 2nd	732	1371	13	—	—
4.—Chóu-Oö, T'uang-làu, son of the 3rd	744	1383	—	—	7

Name.	Chula Era.	Ascension A.D.	Length of Reign.		
			Years.	Ms.	Days.
5.—Sómdëtch P'ra Rahme-súan, the 2nd, assassinated the 4th, his brother	744	3183	16	—	—
6.—Sómdëtch P'rayah P'ra Rahm, son of the 5th	759	1398	5	—	—
7.—Sómdëtch P'ra Nak'aun In...	763	1402	18	—	—
8.—Sómdëtch P'ra Boroma Rahch'ah Tiraht, son of the 7th	780	1419	17	—	—
9.—Sómdëtch P'ra Boroma Trai Lohkanáht, son of the 8th.	796	1435	16	—	—
10.—Sómdëtch P'ra Boroma Rahch'ah, son of the 9th	811	1450	22	—	—
11.—Sómdëtch P'ra Rahmah T'ibaudee, the 2nd, son of the 10th	832	1471	40	—	—
12.—Sómdëtch P'ra Boroma Rahch'ah Mahâh P'ut-t'ang, son of the 11th	871	1510	5	—	—
13.—P'ra Ratsat'a T'irath, son of the 12th, 5 years old	875	1514	—	5	—
14.—Sómdëtch P'ra Ch'ai Rahch'ah T'iraht, son of the 12th	875	1514	15	—	—
15.—P'ra Yáut Fah, son of the 14th, aged 11 years..... His mother *Si-Suda-Shan*, was Regent of the kingdom. Her lover *K'un Waravongsáh T'iraht* slew the 15th king and usurped the throne, reigning only 5 months. Being an usurper, his name is not allowed to appear in the annals of the Siamese Kings. He was assassinated by *K'un P'irena-t'ep.* The high dignitaries of the kingdom then	889	1528	2½	—	—

Name.	Chula Era.	Ascension A.D.	Length of Reign.		
			Years.	Ms.	Days.
placed on the throne *P'ra T'eean Rahch'ah*, an uncle of the late king. His name was					
16.—Sómdëtch Mahâh Chakra-p'atdi Rahch'ah T'iraht ...	891	1530	27	—	—
17.—Sómdëtch P'ra Mahint'a Rahch'ah T'iraht, son of the 16th	917	1556	1	—	—
The capital of the kingdom was taken in 918 by the King of *Kóngsâh-wadee* or Pegu.					
18.—Sómdëtch P'ra Mahâh T'ama Rahch'ah T'iraht.....	918	1557	23	—	—
19.—Sómdëtch P'ra Nare-sûan, son of the 18th	940	1579	6	—	—
20.—Sómdëtch P'ra-Ekah-Totsarot, a younger brother of the 19th	945	1584	19	—	—
21.—Chóu Fah Sri-sâwa-p'ahk, son of the 20th, ...	964	1603	1	—	—
called the "one-eyed," succombed to a conspiracy. Here closes the dynasty of *Sómdëtch P'ra Rahmah T'ibaudee*, comprising 21 different kings and one usurper.					
2nd Dynasty.					
22.—P'ra Chóu Song T'am, uncle of the 21st	964	1603	26	—	—
acquired a great name by his pretended discovery of Buddha's footprint at *P'ra-baht.*					

Name.	Chula Era.	Ascension A.D.	Length of Reign.		
			Years	Ms.	Days.
23.—P'ra Ch'etáh T'iraht Otarot, an elder brother of the 22nd	989	1628	1	7	—
The Prime Minister *Chôu P'raya Kalahôme Sri-suriwong* assassinated the 23rd and placed on the throne.					
24.—P'ra Aht'itaya-wong, a brother of the 23rd, 9 years old	992	1630	—	5	—
Here ends this dynasty of 3 reigns, the 2nd and 3rd of which, however, were merely nominal, the power being actually held by *P'raya Suriwong*, the Prime Minister.					
3rd Dynasty.					
The former king was driven from the throne by the Siamese Nobles and Lords, and his place filled by the Prime Minister abovementioned, who assumed the title of					
25.—P'ra Chóu Prasáht T'aung...	992	1630	26	—	—
26.—Choú Fah Ch'ai, son of the 25th	1017	1655	—	9	—
27.—P'ra Sri-sut'ama Rahch'ah, killed his nephew, the 26th	1018	1656	—	2⅔	—
28.—Sómdëtch P'ra Narai, son of the 25th, killed the 27th...	1018	1656	32	—	—
under his reign Constantin Falcon, a native of the Jonian island Cephalonia, originally a sailor, becomes Prime Minister. Christianity makes rapid spread,					

Name.	Chula Era.	Ascension A.D.	Length of Reign.		
			Years.	Ms.	Days.
and foreign factories are established in Siam; a great development of trade between Siam and foreign countries takes place and several embassies between France and Siam are sent and received.					
29.—P'ra P'et Rahch'ah ..... is called an usurper, and is not allowed to rank with the legitimate kings.—Constantin Falcon becomes the victim of his murderous designs, and all the seeds of civilisation introduced by his predecessor are rooted out. Notwithstanding, this sovereign sends an embassy to France.	1050	1688	9	—	—
30.—P'ra P'utt'a Chóu Tu'a, son of the 28th	1059	1697	10	—	—
31.—P'ra Chóu Yü Hua Tái Säi, son of the 30th.....	1069	1707	26	—	—
32.—P'ra Chóu Yü Hua Boroma-Koht, brother of the 31st...	1094	1732	26	—	—
33.—Choù Fah Däuk-madü'a, son of the 32nd ..... Taking to the vocation of Buddhist priest abdicates in favour of his brother	1120	1758	—	—	10
34.—P'ra Choú T'inang Suriya Marintara..... with him ends the dynasty of *Prasäht T'aung*, represented by 9 kings, the usurper being excluded.	1120	1758	9	—	—
The reigns of the above named					

Name.	Chula Era.	Ascension A.D.	Length of Reign.		
			Years.	Ms.	Days.
34 kings extend in the aggregate over a period of 417 years, so that on an average 123 may be counted to each. In 1767 the Burmese plundered and looted the capital, after a siege of two years, and carried away many captives. The king succeeded to escape from *Ayuthia*, but, finally abandoned by everyone, he lost himself in the forests, and there died of hunger and misery. The chief of the Siamese army *P'rayah Tahk* rallied the Siamese at *T'onaburee* (now the site of H. R. H. *T'oon Kramäum Ong Yai's* place), where he built the city of *Bangkok*, and reigned as the					
35.—King *P'rayah Tahk-sin* ..... This is one of Siam's most glorious reigns on record.—Towards its end, however, the king became insane—through poison, it is supposed, administered to him by jealous statesmen. He spent the eve of his life in a Buddhistic monastery and there ended, assassinated by his successor.	1129	1767	15	—	—

Name.	Chula Era.	Ascension A.D.	Length of Reign.		
			Years.	Ms.	Days.
The 4th and present Dynasty.					
The Prime Minister, also a General of great celebrity under *P'rayah Tahk-sin* ascended the throne under the name of					
36.—Sómdëtch P'ra Boroma Rahch'ah P'ra P'utt'a Yaut Fah	1144	1782	27	—	—
37.—P'ra P'utt'a Lo't-láh, son of the 36th	1171	1809	15	—	—
38.—P'rabaht Sómdëtch P'ra Nang Klów, son of the 37th.....	1186	1824	27	—	—
39.—P'rabaht Sómdëtch P'ra Paramendr Mahâh-mongkut, brother of the 38th	1213	1851	17	—	—
40.—P'rabaht Sómdëtch P'ra Paramendr Mahâh Chulahlong-korn Klów, the present king, son of the 39th..	1230	1868	12	—	—

These chronological tables, with the addition of some of the most important events, may be said to give us a fair general outline of the history of the country, in which we are thus enabled to distinguish two prominent and important Epochs: viz., one from the time the old city *Ayuthia* was built, A.D. 1350, up to the time of its destruction by the Burmese, A.D. 1767, and the second, or *new* epoch, beginning with the rise of the city of *Bangkok*, as the Capital of Siam, or say A.D. 1782, to the present time.

Proceeding to the next and important subject, that relating to the description of Siamese money, I append the following table:—

Name of Money.	*Description.*		*make.*
Bi'ah	Sea shells, known as the cowry, — existed previous to and during the reign of the 38th king, 1824-50. Their value varied according to the supply in the market, sometimes there would be 1,500 *Bi'ah* to a *Fu'ang*, and at other times more or less. The legal value fixed by the Government was 800 *Bi'ah* for one *Fu'ang*.	50 *Bi'ah*	1 *Solot*
Solot.....	Copper	2 *Solots*	1 *At*
At.....	ditto	2 *At*.....	1 *See-o or Pai*
		200-450 *Bi'ah*	1 ditto.
See-o or Pai	ditto	2 *See-o or Pai*	1 *Seek*
Seek	ditto	2 *Seek*	1 *Fu'ang*
		1 *Seek*	32 *Saga or* red beans
Fu'ang.....	=$0.075, Silver	2 *Fu'ang*	1 *Salu'ng*

Name of Money.	*Description.*		*Make.*
Salu'ng ...	=$ 0.15, do. —the equivalent of one Chinese Tael, so that 5 Siamese equal 8 Chinese Taels.....	4 *Salu'ng*	1 *Baht or Tical*
Tical	Since the last reign = $0.60, or 5 Ticals are equivalent to 3 Mexican Dollars—Silver.	4 *Baht or Tical*	1 *Tamlu'ng*
Tamlu'ng ...	= $2.40, Silver	20 *Taml'ung or* 80 *Baht* ...	1 *Chang*
Chang	=$48, but this denomination only represents a weight; the same with the two following. The *Chang* is equivalent to two Chinese Catties, or 2⅔ English pounds	50 *Chang*.....	1 *Hahp*
Hahp	=$2,400	100 *Hahp* ...	1 *Pahrah*
Parah	=$240,000		

The above table condensed gives the following schedule, viz :—

1 Chang	=20 Tamlu'ng	=80 Tical	=320 Salu'ng	=640 Fu'ang	=1280 Songpei	=2560 Pai	=5120 At
	1 Tamlu'ng	= 4 Tical	= 16 Salu'ng	= 32 Fu'ang	= 64 Songpei	= 128 Pai	= 256 At
		1 Tical	= 4 Salu'ng	= 8 Fu'ang	= 16 Songpei	= 32 Pai	= 64 At
			1 Salu'ng	= 2 Fu'ang	= 4 Songpei	= 8 Pai	= 16 At
				1 Fu'ang	= 2 Songpei	= 4 Pai	= 8 At
					1 Songpei	= 2 Pai	= 4 At
						1 Pai	= 2 At

It will be seen from the foregoing tables that the denomination of the coin determining the weight thereby indicates the value, and such is the case with most coins of East Asiatic countries.

The Siamese standard of weight is double that of the Chinese. The equivalents of Siamese weights are :

4 Ticals make 1 Tael,
20 Tael ,, 1 Catty = 2 lbs. 9 oz. 4¾ dwts. av.
50 Catties or 80 Tical make 1 Picul = 129 lbs. av.

I have been unable to trace any coins from the first and second dynasty, and it still remains an open question whether such existed.

The oldest coins, of which specimens remain, date from the 3rd dynasty (1630-1780) and were made at *Ayuthia*, then the capital of the kingdom.

Until the reign of the 4th king of the present dynasty, silver coins, with but one exception to which I shall refer latter on, had the shape of bullets or that of a Buddhist wooden fish (木魚 *Mu-yü.*) It is not at all unlikely that the *Cowry Shell*, the original medium of exchange in the country, suggested the adoption of of that odd shape.

The black appearance of some of the oldest coins is caused by the frequent practice that prevailed among the people in times of war,—especially so during the invasion of the Burmese in 1787 —of burying their treasures in the earth which is said to be impregnated with sulphur.

The exception above mentioned occurred during the reign of the 2nd king of the present dynasty, when the *Fu'angs* were made flat and round.

The former or bullet-shaped coins bear two impressions (*Kra*, stamps), the upper one represents a "wheel" or a "star" and is the stamp of the mint, while the lower one represents the stamp of the reigning king.

Although the names of some of these stamps are known, it is impossible to deduce therefrom the *year* of their mintage.

The stamps (*Kra*) indicating the reign of the different kings are classified as follows :—

I. COINS OF AYUTHIA.

Kra-Chang, the "Elephant" Stamp ;

Kra-Bet, the "Fish-hook" Stamp ;

  *Kra-Dockmei*, the "Flower" (Lotus) Stamp;

 *Kra-Kri*, the "Three-pronged Spear" Stamp, called also *Kra-Son*, "Fork" Stamp, which originates from the reign of *P'rayah Tahk-sin* the regenerator of Siam and the founder of Bangkok.

II. PRESENT DYNASTY.

1st *King.*

 *Kra-Bua*, the "Lotus Flower" Stamp;

 *Kra-Chak*, the "Sling" Stamp.

2nd *King.*

 *Kra-Krut ok-san*, the "Large King of Birds" Stamp;

 *Kra-Krut ok-yau*, the "Small King of Birds" Stamp.

3rd *King.*

 *Kra-Keng*, the "Royal Pavilion" Stamp;

 *Kra?*

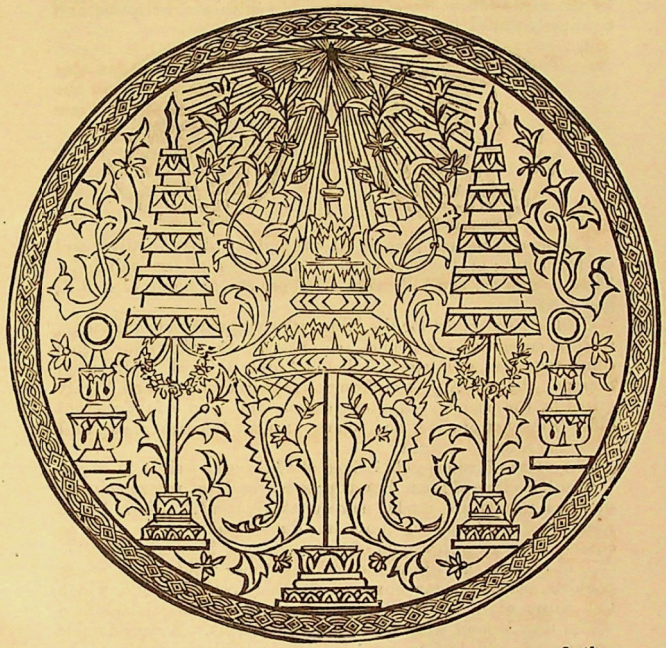
4th *King.*

 *Kra-Kunto*, the "Gobblet" Stamp;

 *Kra-Mongkut*, the "Crown" Stamp.

Besides the above mentioned flat silver-coins, made during the reign of the second king, others of the same shape, for general circulation, were issued for the first time by order of the 4th

king of the present dynasty in two different coinages; on the first the avers shows the Royal crown between two Parassols,



(Seal of the First King, representing the Royal crown and the Parassols), and the reverse bears an elephant within the crest; the second coinage is of the same design, but is of a superior workmanship. These coins were made also at the beginning of the reign of the present (5th) king, while under the tutelage of the Regent.

I have next to review the present coinage which is superior to anything of the kind yet produced in Siam. This marked progress, however, is principally due to the dies having been

made in London. With the silver coin the obverse bears the portrait of the young king, the reverse the Siamese Arms, and for the first time we see a Siamese coin with an inscription and a properly milled border.





For general use minting is at present confined to silver and copper coins; of the former there are pieces of the value of 1 Tical, 1 Salu'ng, and 1 Fu'ang; of copper coins: pieces of 4, 2, 1, and ½ At.

Gold is only coined for the King, who on great state occasions, such as cremation-ceremonies, coronation etc., distributes gold coins together with silver coins of 4 and 2 Tical, 2 Salu'ng, Songpei, Pei and At;—the former are therefore rare and highly prized by the people. In other respects the gold coin does not differ from that of silver and copper, it bears the same stamp and is named after its weight.

The value of coined gold is fixed at 16 times its weight in silver.

The Kingdom of Siam has at present *one* Mint where coins of precious metals are made, namely at *Bangkok*. Siam has a number of gold mines, those at *Bang-tapahn*, "are said to contain the very purest gold of the country. Most of the native gold of Siam is used in manufacturing those gold vases, water gobblets, teapots, cigar boxes, and other costly utensils, which the Kings of Siam usually present to the distinguished men whom they honour with high official positions. A considerable amount of gold leaf is imported from China mostly to be manufactured into jewelry."

"Heretofore the Siamese have not known that silver could be obtained from their many and varied mines in the country. They depended entirely on Foreign silver or silver money which the Siamese Government remelted and then manufactured into Ticals, Salu'ngs and Fu'angs."

The export trade of the country is greatly in excess of the import trade, and foreign merchants must import foreign coin to

effect their purchases. To this drawback was added the unwillingness of the people to accept foreign coins in payment for their commodities; hence the importer of such coin had to apply to the Government to effect an exchange for native money. Supposing Dollars were presented at the Mint, they were passed over the fire sufficiently to obliterate all marks of their origin and then a Siamese Mint officer placed 80 Ticals of a given weight on the scales and received in exchange the same weight of defaced Dollars—less 4½ Ticals Mintage money. When the Siamese mint people remelted these Dollars, they added lead enough to make up for any loss that might result from remelting.

This was the usual method for exchanging Dollars for Ticals till the reign of H. M. Sómdëtch P'ra Chaun Klòw, the late King. He established the standard of 5 Ticals to 3 Mexican Dollars, and ever since importers exchange their "Mexicans" without difficulty. The mint officers fire the dollars, and if found genuine, five silver Ticals are given for every three Dollars without any further loss of time.

The fineness of the precious metals is expressed as in China by toques or touches, 100 denoting purity. They are weighed by the Tical of 236 grs. troy. The new Tical is to be of the standard purity. Its intrinsic value is about 57 cents or from 29d to 30d; formerly its purity was from 11 oz. 4 dwts. to 11 oz. 12 dwts. fineness.

As already mentioned the small sea-shells, known as the *Cowry*, were formerly used as *Small-Currency*, and still are in some provinces of the Kingdom, generally 800 of them go to a Fu'ang. Owing to the total want of a governmental small coinage of suitable shape, they grew into great demand, which was further enhanced by the special requirement of the gambling class.

In the same way as opium, salt, and several other mercantile articles form Government monopolies, which are yearly given over to the highest bidders, so are the public lotteries and the establishing of *gambling houses* farmed out by the authorities.

The farmer of these houses devides the region over which he holds the monopoly, into districts, and subfarms these again to others. These sub-farmers, called "Akuhns," are mostly owners of one or two more houses specially adapted to their business, and are also entitled to sublet such houses or parts therein *ad libitum* for gambling purposes. Consequently gambling in Siam is confined to licensed houses, except when a general permission

to gamble is in force during the first three days of the Chinese and Siamese new year.

The method of gambling in Siam is the same as in China—Archdeacon S. H. Gray in his excellent and learned work "China" describes the gambling as follows:—

"Gaming houses are of various kinds. Those which are called *Tan-koon* are conducted by a joint-stock company, consisting either of ten or twenty partners. Such houses consist of two apartments. In the first of these is a high table, on the centre of which is placed a small square board. The four sides of the board are marked respectively one, two, three and four. For the game played in this apartment the presence of three of the partners is necessary, The first is called *Tan-koon* or the croupier; the second the *Tai-n'gan*, or shroff, who sits by the side of the former, with his tables, scales, and money drawers, to examine and weigh the money which may be staked; and the third, the *Ho-koon*, who stands by the table, keeps account of the game, and pays over the stakes to the rightful winners. The gamblers stand round the high table, and the *Tan-koon* or croupier, places a handful of cash on it before him. Over the heap he immediately places a tin cover, so that the gamblers cannot calculate the exact number of the cash. They are now called upon to place their stakes at any of the sides of the square board in the centre. When this has been done, the *Tan-koon* removes the cover, and using a thin ivory rod a foot long, proceeds to lessen his heap by drawing away four cash at a time. Should one cash remain, the gambler who placed his stake on the side of the small square board which is marked one, is declared the winner. If two cash remain, he saves his stake; and in the case of three remaining he is allowed the same privilege. If, however, four cash remain, he loses his stake. The game is called *Ching-tow*, and the gambler, as the reader will perceive, has one chance of winning, two of retaining his stake, and one of losing it."

"A second game played at the same table is called *Nim*. At this game the gambler has one chance of winning double the amount of his stake; two chances of losing it, and one of retaining it. Should he place his stake on the side of the board marked two, and two cash remains, upon the *Tan-koon* removing his heap by four at a time, his winnings are double the amount of his stake. If three cash remain of the *Tan-koon's* heap, the gambler retains his stake; if either one or four remain, he loses.

A third game played at this table is called *Fan*. In it the gambler has one chance of winning three times the amount of his stake, and three chances of losing it. A fourth game at this table is called *Kok*. The rule observed in it, is to place the stake at one of the corners of the board, that is, between any two of the numbers. Should the croupier's remainder correspond to either of the number between which the stake is placed, the gambler wins a sum equal to his stake. Should the remainder correspond to one of the other two numbers, he loses."

In Siam gambling is practised on a large scale; not only is it sanctioned by the authorities, but it actually forms a source of revenue to the Government.

As gambling became more and more a recognised institution the bullet-shaped small coins—*Salu'ng* and *Fu'ang*—were found inconvenient to handle; namely, the gambler squating down on an oblong mat, at one end of which the cashier or croupier was seated in a kneeling attitude, the coin had often to be thrown to a considerable distance to reach the croupier, and it was very apt to roll off into a wrong direction. To remedy this inconvenience the owners of gambling establishments introduced special *Counters*, made of porcelain, glass, or lead, and representing various shapes, such as stars, cash, butterflies, door-tablets, etc., and on which were inscribed, in Chinese characters, the name of the Hong, the value, and some favorite motto or classical quotation, and also in Siamese characters, again, the value which the counter is suppose to represent. With very few exceptions these gambling houses are farmed by Chinese and the majority of the customers are of the same nationality.

Among the names of the gambling Hongs we find such as:—王合公司, 美利公司, 和順公司, 興隆公司, 如意公司, 順源, 和記, 永盛, 玉記, 和合, 通亨, 玉順, 王順, 宋源, etc. I need hardly remark that the Chinese above alluded to are from the Southern parts of China.

Examples of mottos are:—惠來, 其安, 順財, etc., of other inscriptions:—同治通寶, 萬利欽記 etc.

As designations of value there appear:—

For 1 Salu'ng 錢 or 錢, in Siamese ฯ

„ 1 Fu'ang 方 in Do. ฯ

„ 1 Songpei 宋派

„ 1 Pai 一派

For 1 At 百 文

„ $\frac{1}{8}$ Songpei 二 百 文 or 公, in Siamese ๙๘

These counters being issued under authority granted in the gambling licence or concession, they rapidly became a favorite medium of exchange, and were found to fill a long felt want of small money so well, that the circulation went much beyond its legal sphere.

Such a facile field for foreigners was, however, not long to be left unexplored by the enterprising Celestials. Gradually a large quantity of imitations were thrown into circulation, and in self-defence, the gambling Hongs were compelled to call in and exchange for money their counters, which they continually substituted by new ones of varied colours and shapes.

In this way originated the great variety of counters consisting, as far as I can ascertain, of about 890 different kinds. The control by the Government became naturally more and more difficult, and at last in 1871, it became necessary to prohibit and stop completely all circulation of these counters. They are however still to be seen in some parts of the country.

Even since the counters made their first appearance—about in 1760—there existed in circulation some bronze coins of the value of 1 Salu'ng and of 1 Fu'ang. They were made by hand, and some of them are remarkable for the extremely artificial and tasteful formed workmanship displayed thereon. But the quantity issued was very limited and inadequate to the requirements.

During the reign of the 4th King of the present dynasty small coins were made of copper, bronze, and tin, representing a value of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{16}$ and $\frac{1}{32}$ Fu'ang. They were coined in the same manner as the second issue of the flat silver coins. The circulation of both the copper and bronze money was never very large, while the tin cions, issued considerably *below* their nominal value, were in consequence of the numerous forgeries soon put out of circulation. Chinese residing in Siam ordered of such coins from Hongkong, where they were manufactured on an extensive scale, and thence exported to Siam.

Hereupon, in substitution of the tin coin, a great improvement was introduced. Copper money was ordered to be minted in England, first issue of which came in circulation under the reign of the present King, in February, 1875.

It consisted of four different sizes :—viz 4, 2, 1, and $\frac{1}{2}$ At.—

The obverse of the coin bears the Siamese Crown with the King's signature and the reverse in Siamese characters the value.



There is also to be mentioned here an issue of *paper money*, which, however, remained but a short time in circulation. Its value was one *At*.

To recapitulate:—*During the first period, when* AYUTHIA *was the Capital of the Kingdom, there were only silver coins with the first mentioned stamps, while during the second period, with* BANGKOK *as Capital, the flat coin took the place of the bullet-shaped one, and after various trials, a small currency was successfully introduced.*

II. TRIBUTARY STATES OF SIAM.

Siam is bounded in the North by the many principalities of the Laos, all tributaries to Ava and China; on the East by Annam; on the West by the sea and by the British Possessions on the Malay Peninsula, and in the South by the small states of *Pahang* and *Perak*.

The Tributary States of Siam are:—1, in the South: the Kingdom of *Ligor*; 2, on the Malay Peninsula: *Tringano*, *Kalantan*, *Patani* and *Quedah*, 3, *Cambodja* and *Korat*, and 4., the principalities of Laos, viz., *Chieng-mai*, *Laphun*, *Lakhon*, *Muang-P're*, *Muang-Nan*, *Luang-p'ra-bang* and *Muang-long*.

The first, *Ligor*, called by the Siamese *Muang-Lakhon*, but the correct name of which is *Nakhon-si Thamarat*, is a Kingdom, founded by one of the Kings of *Ayuthia*, 450 years ago. It is situated between the parallels of latitude 7° and 9°, and is fifty leagues long and over thirty wide, *Thalung* and *Song-khla* are two provinces forming part of the Kingdom, and are governed by two princes, relations of the King of *Ligor*. The populations of *Ligor* may be estimated at 150,000 inhabitants, of which three

fourths are of the Siamese race, and the remaining portion is composed of Chinese, Malays, and aborigenes, which latter live in the forests.

1.—COINS OF LIGOR (LAKHON).

1.—*Fu'ang* of old origin, now only used as talisman, in the globular shape, bears only one stamp, which is, however, indistinct.

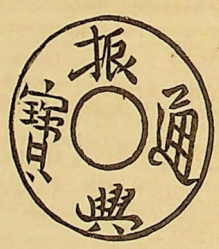
2.—Pewter *Pichi* (1256=1840/1) with the Arabian inscription: *Khalifa el mumenin* (Ruler of the believers), the Reverse bears also in Arabian: *Shehr Ligur derba* (?) *sene* ١٢٥٦ (City of Ligor, in the year 1256 ?)—28½ mlm.—on both sides it has a walled border and a hole.

3.—Pewter Cash of which about 40 are equal to $1,—of the former Governor,—the Obverse bears: 六崑通宝, the Reverse; 源利公司,—40 mlm.—both sides have a walled border and a hole.

4.—Pewter Cash, of which about 40 equal to $1— of the present Governor; the Obverse same as above, the Reverse: 廣利合其—40 mlm.—both sides have a walled border and a hole.

Song-khla (Singgora, Sangura.)

Pewter Cash, of which 400 are equal to $1—½ Fu'ang—bears a Chinese inscription: 振興通寶, coin of the epoch *Chen-hsing*.—Its Reverse bears in Arabian, above: *Nagri (Kingdom)*, below: *Sanggura*, and in Siamese 4/3, *Song-khla*,—39-41mlm; it has a round hole and a walled border and hole.





2.—THE OTHER STATES OF THE MALAY PENINSULA.

Before the Portuguese took possession of Malacca the sovereignity of Siam extended over the whole Malay Peninsula, as

far as Singapore. The states of Johore, Pahang and Perah, were subsequently severed from the dominions of the legitimate sovereign, and placed under British Protectorate, so that the Kingdom of Siam, properly speaking, only begins from *Tringano* — being situated between the parallels of 4° and 22° of north latitude.

These provinces are administered by native governors, who are nominated by the King of Siam, and who hold the power to coin small money and to fix its value within their respective province over which they rule. This prerogative is exercised by all provincial administrators of *Tringano*. But further south the chief currency is the copper coin of the Straits Settlements. On the West coast, whereas formerly the governors issued their own money, we find at the present day Indian money (Rupees, Anas) circulating freely. The currency differs in every province and its denomination is fixed by the prerogative of the Governor. The larger coins found on the Eastern part of the Peninsula are the Mexican Dollars and the Dutch 2½ Gilders-pieces, which both pass at the same value. In the interior of the province of *Kalantan* the only means of effecting payment is in gold-dust.

The state of *Tringano*, situated in latitude 14 North, is a mountainous, but fertile country, wherein vast forests abound. Its population is placed at about 50,000, not including 10 or 12,000 Chinese. The river beds are said to be rich in gold and tin, which is mostly exploited by the Malays in the most primitive way, but the yield is sufficient to make it an important article of commerce in the country.

The city of *Tringano*, the residence of the Rajah, consists of some 1,500 houses, including Chinese quarters, is situated at the mouth of a small river, and an unpretending fort commands the approaches to it from a neighbouring hill.

Coins :

1.—Silver—¼ Real—bears an Arabian inscription : *Soltha*— the Reverse is also inscribed in Arabian : *Adil* (Shah)—13 mlm. both sides bear a dotted circle.

2.—Pewter—*Pichi*—has an Arabian inscription : *Melik /el adil/...../* (the just king) 24 mlm.

3.—Copper—*Kepeng* (1/400 Peso, 1251=1835/6).—Arabian : *Nagri* /Tringganu/ ; the reverse bears also Arabian inscription : */Satu Kepeng/* ١٢٥١ (I/one *Kepeng*/1251) 21 mlm.

The state of *Kalantan* is situated in the north-east of *Tringano*, from which it is separated by the small river *Batut*, and extends to another river called *Banara* on the confines of *Pa-ta-ni*.

The population, including the Chinese, consists of 65,000 souls. The country is divided into fifty destricts.

Pewter Cash of which there are 980 to $1 bears an Arabian inscription which, however, is so effaced as to render its deciphering on all the specimens in my collection, next to impossible—25 mlm., has a round hole, and a walled border.

Thani or *Patani*, situated to the North-west of *Kalantan*, is a rich and flourishing state, more fertile, has had more intercourse with the outside world than any other Malay state. It is celebrated in the annals of ancient navigators for having been the emporium of commerce between Siam, Cambodjia, and China. The population is computed to 100,000 souls, principally Siamese, and the country is divided into five provinces.

Under this heading there is, as far as my knowledge goes, only one coin, viz.

Pewter-*Pichi* (1261 = 1845) with Arabian inscription: *Ajin Pitis Belancha Rach Patani* (this is a current *Pitis* of the Racha of *Patani.*)—Reverse also in Arab. *Khalifa el-mumenin sene* ١٢٦١ (of the ruler of believers, year 1261)—30 mlm—with a round hole.

Quedah, which the Siamese call *Muang-Sai*, lies between the parallels of latitudes 5 and 7. A high range of mountains of a granite formation, varying in hight from 4,000 to 6,000 feet, and said to be rich in tin, separates it from *Songkhla* and *Patani*. Gold is also found here but in small quantities.—The country is irrigated by thirty rivers of which six are navigable, and, it is divided into 105 districts containing a population of some 60,000 souls, chiefly Malays.

Sultan: *Mohammed Chiwa Zeinal Aladin Ma Alem Shah.*

(1192
1778 A.D.)

Silver Real—1154=1741/2—Arabian inscription; Face: *Solthan Mohammed (محمد) Chiwa (؟) Khalifa er-nahmen* (Sultan Mohammed Chiwa, representative of Clemency). Reverse: *Bibelad Qedah [dar el man] sene* ١١٥٤ (in the country of Kedah, the sit of peace, year 1154) 21mlm.

Sultan: *Tach ed-din Alem Shah.*

(1219-1237 Hj.
1804-1821 A.D.)

(last Malay ruler, was dethroned by the Siamese in 1821, and his kingdom incoporated to Siam, himself died 1846.)

Pewter *Trah.* Arabian inscription; Obverse: *Belad Kedah dar al-man* (country of Kedah, the seat of peace)—Reverse:

Tahin alif ١٢٢٤ year, (of the cycle, Alif, 1224); 22½ mlm. round hole.

Tuanku Anum, Malay Governor of the Siamese.

Pewter *Trah*. Arabian inscription : *Belad Kedah (dar) el-man* (country of Kedah, the seat of peace)—Reverse : large six-rayed star ; 22 mlm ; round hole.

Pewter *Trah*. Arabian inscription : *Belandshah belad kedah dar el-man* (current in the country of *Kedah*, the seat of peace.) —Reverse : large 12 rayed star ; 18 mlm ; round hole.

Pewter *Trah* (1262-1846). Arabian inscription : *Belandshah belad el-Perlis Kedah* sene ١٢٦٢ (current, [in the capital] Perlis, of the Kingdom of Kedah, year 1262.)—Reverse : Lotus flower ; 24 mlm, round hole.

Pewter *Timma*. Cock standing on two rings. 43 mlm.

3.—SIAMESE CAMBODJIA.

Cambodjia, anciently known as *Kamphuxa*, whence it derived the name of Cambodjia, is now called *Khmer*.

Not later than 300 years ago this was a great kingdom, as compared with its present condition, then extending from 8° 30′ to 20° N. lat. Its dominions comprised a great portion of the territory now forming part of Laos and even Siam.

Harassed on all sides, by Siam and Cochinchina, Cambodjia gradually lost one province after the other, and with them vanished her grandeur and splendour. The kingdom now embraces but few provinces which cover an area of only some 40 leagues, viz., *Photisat* or *Poursat*, *Kampong-suai*, *Kampong-som*, and *Kanpot* ; the last two of which border on the sea.

Korat, a small state, was in olden times but a city serving as boundary between Siam and Cambodjia, whence it became the name of *Nakon-raha-sema* (frontier city.)

From the province of *Battambong* (13° N. Lat., North of *Photisat*) we possess an oval shaped copper coin, of small size, covered with a poor silver coating ; the face shows a cock steping to the right, and over it the Chinese character 固 [or 固, to strenghten] ; the reverse is blank ; 15 mlm.—1,15 gr.— Value : 64 to 1 Tical.

In the Northern provinces there is the *Tical*, being the largest coin in circulation, while in the Southern provinces extensive payments are effected in silver bars which bear a stamp as proof of having been examined and of the touch ;— and brass bars in the value of 2 *At* take the place of small money.

Other Cambodjian coins are :—

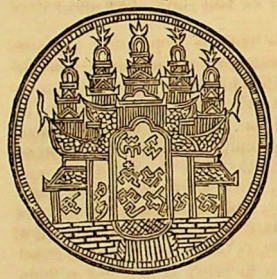
1.—Silver *Fu'ang*—cock steping to the right, 13-16 mlm, 23, 70 gr.

2.—Copper *At* , below cock turned to the right, 14 mlm.

3.—Pewter—Pagoda with one tower : Cambodjian inscription in two lines ; Reverse : on branches  (100) 20 mlm.

4.—Silver *Tical* (1208=1846) 3-towered Pagoda with Cambodjian inscription in 3 lines. Reverse : Cambodjian inscription ; cock turned to the right— (1208) — 35½ mlm. 14, 70 gr.

5.—Pewter (Ounce=3 Tical, 1208=1846) 5-towered Pagoda with Cambodjian inscription in 3 lines.—Reverse : cock turned to the right, inscription, at its feet (1208),—35½ mlm. 14, 70 gr.



6.—Silver *Tical* (1208=1846) 3 towered Pagoda with Cambodjian inscription in 3 lines. Reverse : cock turned to the right, inscription, and (1208)—30 mlm. 15 gr.

7.—Silver ¼ *Tical* (1208=1846) Pagoda with 1 tower. Reverse : Cambodjian inscription in 3 lines, cock turned to the right and (1208)—20 mlm. 3, 60 gr.

8.—Pewter ¼ *Tical* (1208=1846) Pagoda with 1 tower. Reverse : Cambodjian inscription in 3 lines, cock turned to the right and (1208)—20½ mlm.

I shall not treat here the 22 different coins of Cambodjia issued since her protection under France.

4.—THE LAOS STATES.

The city of *Chieng-mai* lies in a fertile and picturesqne plain to the east of a lofty mountain. In the annals of Siam we can

trace its age back to the fifth century of the Christian era. At the time of *P'ra-Ruang*, the king of Siam married a Princess of *Chieng-mai* to his brother, whom he then placed as ruler over that country.

Laphun is a petty state, governed by a prince of its own and stands under the vassalage of its neighbour, the ruler of *Chieng-mai*.

Lakhon—not to be confounded with the kingdom of *Lakhon (Ligor)*—a city of about 25,000 inhabitants, is situated in a rich and fertile plain, through which flows a great river.

Muang-P're.—The capital of this small kingdom is described as being situated in a well cultivated, small valley between two chains of mountains; a river which below the capital precipitates its waters in many cascades over a rocky bed, provides for ample irrigation. The population of this city does not exceed 15,000.

The kingdom of *Nan*, both as regards population and size, ranks above the three foregoing states, its capital alone containing at least 60,000 inhabitants. This country is bounded on the north by the territory of the *Laos* tribe called the *Lu*.

Luang-P'ra-Bang.—Not very long ago there flourished along Cambodjia's largest river, the *Mekong*, three *Laos* kingdoms, viz., *Yen-shan*, in the south, *Muang-P'uen* in the north, and between these two *Luang-P'ra-Bang*. The Siamese after completely devastating it annexed the first to their kingdom, and carried into captivity the greatest part of the population of *Muang-P'uen*. But *Luang-P'ra-Bang* was considerably extended to the north and gradually grew to what it is to-day a flourishing country, having an extensive commerce with the Siamese, the Lolos and the Chinese. The population of the capital is estimated at about 60,000 souls.

Muang-Long.—A month's journeying down a river which flows into the Menam in Ayuthia, that petty state, called *Muang-Long*, is reached. It is completely incased in a system of mountains and has a capital of scarcely more than 9,000 to 10,000 inhabitants.

In the South of the *Laos* States the ordinary Siamese money is in circulation, in the north, however, that of British India (Rupees, Anas etc.), whilst at the frontier of Burmah we meet also with coins of that country. In all the Loas States, besides, the so-called "Sapeques," the tin cash of Anam and Cochinchina, serves as a medium of exchange.

For numismaticians these States are of a certain interest on account of the particular coin with which the *fines* are paid. This is in the shape of a shell, made of silver alloy. Each one of these coins bears three stamps, viz., two of the maker, the third in Laos-letters is the name of the temple, nearest to which the mint issuing the coin is situated.—Each piece, which according to law must contain a Rupee in silver, is issued at the value of three Rupees, and is paid—as above stated—only for certain purposes, such as fines, court-fees, and tributes to temples. In cases of smaller fines, as those of breach of discipline, the peasant pays 6, the lower official 12, the higher 24, and a chieftain 33 pieces. The benefit accruing to the Government from these peculiar coins amounts to the difference between the contents of silver to the value at which they are issued.

Older silver coins of the Laos are in the shape of bars, lobsters, and two clumsy horse-shoes joined together, with stamps in *Pali*, not yet deciphered.

Not to be omitted here are *Medals* lately coined, of which there are six, viz.

1—A gold medal in memory of the sixtieth birthday of the late (4th) King—weight 4 Ticals;

2—the same medal in silver;

3.—A large silver medal, coined in memory of the coronation of the present King,—weight 8 Ticals;

4.—Copper medal in commemoration of the same event;

5.—Copper medals coined on the 17th birthday of the present King;

6.—A large silver medal in memory to the festival of the inauguration of the royal palace at Bang-paling,—weight 8 Ticals.

Although coined in France, but issued in commemoration of an event in Siam's history, the following medal is the most interesting.

The medal is of copper; the Obverse bears: LUDOVICUS. MAGNUS. REX. CHRISTIANISS. with King Louis XIV.'s profile looking towards the right, clothed in Roman toga (below an R.—On the reverse we read: FAMA. VIRTUTIS. and see the Siamese Ambassadors before the King sitting on his Throne) and below the inscription: ORATORES. REGIS. SIAM. [M.D.C. LXXXVI.] MAUGER. F.

The history of this Siamese Mission is briefly as follows:—
Under the reign of King *Sŏmdĕtch P'ra Narai* (1657-1688) Constantin Falcon through the favour of his sovereign rose to the office of Prime Minister of the Kingdom. Upon his instigation the king sent an embassy to France, which were, however, shipwrecked near the Cape of Good Hope. Meanwhile, by the exertions of Falcon, trade with the outer world flourished more and more in Siam. The Dutch, French, English, and Portuguese had their commercial factories there. Falcon persuaded the king to send another embassy to France. His Majesty appointed *Nai Pahn* as first Ambassador, and two others, one as 2nd and the other as 3d Ambassor. This embassy reached happily its destination. King Louis XIV. gave audience to the Ambassadors on several occasions and was offered the cession of *Sangora* in consideration of his sending a small army of French soldiers to Siam.—In memory to their visit to France, and more especially to the first audience obtained from the King the above medal was coined, but in a very limited number. Two of these medals are kept in the Musé du Louvre; the hereto annexed impression I was fortunate enough to obtain from the original one, now preserved at Bangkok; it has a radius of 73 Millimeter and 172 gramms of weight; a small one had a radius of 41 Millimeter





Although the description of Siamese coins given in this essay has been well considered and is based upon most careful enquiries, it lays, as little as the author himself, no claim to infallibility—nor must it be considered as perfectly complete.—All I hope is that the notes above given may prove a useful guide and lead to further knowledge, and may they assist future collectors in entering upon profounder researches of the numismatics of that most interesting part of the Far East.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SOCIETY.

Catalogue of the Library of the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society (including the Library of Alex. Wylie, Esq., systematically classified, by Henri Cordier, Esq. *Shanghai.*

Journal of the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, First Series, II, III and IV.

Journal of the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, New Series, I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, XIII and XIV.

Catalogue of Books relating to China and the East.

Reports for 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868 and 1869.

Notes sur quelques-unes des Récherches que l'on pourrait faire en Chine et au Japon au Point de vue de la Géologie et de la Paléontologie, par M. G. Eug. Simon. 1869, 8*vo.* (few copies.)

