

"and we want nothing but to be allowed to pursue our peaceful life again." These pious men rose in high favor with the government, so high as to engender the jealousy of the old generals. Strange to relate, the monks rose equally in favor among the people they had conquered. Observing this, the generals schemed to get rid of them. In a petition to the government to "remove," which might mean imprison or destroy, the monks, the generals contended that these five men were stronger than the army, than the government itself, and were dangerous to the country in case of a general uprising. So great was the pressure brought to bear upon the reigning Manchu dynasty, and it was urged so strongly that the monks were planning for its overthrow, that three of the five were killed in an attack made upon them. Their death incensed the erstwhile rebels and led them to revolt against what they considered the unjust, ungrateful, and impious action of the government which turned around and slew those who saved it. The former rebels formed societies everywhere with one avowed intention—to overthrow the Tsing or Manchu dynasty. These organizations sprang up all over the country. Their members, if caught, were beheaded, without trial, but they flourished in secret, and not only maintained their strength but increased. For a long period they remained quiescent, but the vow to destroy the Manchu dynasty was handed down from father to son, to be practically accomplished when opportunity offered.

This society came into public view again about fifty years ago, when Hung Sintsuen, a religious fanatic, incited an uprising which developed into the famous Tai Ping rebellion. The old anti-Manchu society, which for years had apparently lain dormant, awoke at his call, and combined forces with him. These united societies became known as the "Redheads," and subsequently as "Boxers," at least to the foreigners resident in the Chinese empire.

The Rise of Li Hung Chang.

How formidable a power the Redheads became was demonstrated when they had captured nearly half of the provinces of the empire. They were stronger than the government, and it was only after the vigorous and brilliant campaign of "Chinese" Gordon that these provinces were restored to the Manchu dynasty. It was this campaign which brought forward, developed and made famous Li Hung Chang, now the doyen of the viceroys, who has upon his aged shoulders the task of mediating between his government and the aggrieved nations for the destruction of whose representatives it must render an accounting.

The people of China, noticeably since the Tai Ping rebellion, have been dissatisfied with the Tartar government.

The Tartars look upon the Chinese proper as do the Russians upon the Jews. The rulers of China have always come from Tartary, never from the South, and the favoritism shown for Tartars has always been as thorns in the side to the pure Chinese. The latter must contribute to the support of every male Tartar child, and the taxes imposed press them hard and embitter feelings already injured in many other ways. Why the "Boxers," who have always been against the Manchus, should now be aided by the imperial troops, be led by Tuan, a Manchu prince, and be secretly aided by the Empress Dowager, as is believed in many quarters, is explicable only by the fact that the Boxers have lost some of their enmity towards the Manchus and are making common cause with the latter in an effort to drive the foreigners, or "white devils," out of the empire.

The opinion of the intelligent Chinese in Greater New York as to the motive actuating the present outbreak is interesting. There are about 10,000 Canton Chinese in Greater New York. With the masses of these Guy Maine comes in daily contact and knows, therefore, their feeling on the present situation in China. Mr. Maine (the phonetic spelling of the Chinese name) is superintendent of the Chinese Guild of New York, an organization which aims to protect and advance the Chinese of this city. He is an American citizen and has embraced Christianity. He was in China during its war with Japan, the guest of his brother-in-law Dr. Mark, who is physician and confidential secretary to Li Hung Chang. Mr. Maine was the official interpreter for the Chinese Government when the constitutionality of the Geary act was being tested and forwarded his reports directly to Li Hung Chang for the Empress during the sessions before the Washington authorities sent theirs. It is remarkable with what unanimity the local Cantonese believe that Russia is at the bottom of all the present trouble and supporting the Boxers.

"The Boxers are rabble, led by fanatics and unscrupulous men who hope to make personal gain out of the uprising, and are utterly without money," said Mr. Maine. "Now, where have their modern weapons and ammunition come from? The government has all it can do to supply its regular troops and no arms worth mentioning have been captured from it by the rebels. There is a secret supply source, and the finger of suspicion points strongly to Russia. It is our solemn belief that the object of Li Hung Chang's visit to St. Petersburg four years ago was to sign a secret treaty between his government and Russia in which the latter pledged itself to support the Empress against all foreign powers in return for certain concessions of lands and privileges in the Chinese

empire. Now the boxers are given an opportunity in the theatre of hostilities in order to pave the way for Russia's advance into the Chinese empire in a way which will appear not of her seeking. This is to blind the allies helping her to accomplish her purpose. Russia is pulling the wool over the eyes of the other nations and is making a cat's-paw of the Boxers. It will make little difference to her who wields power finally, the empress or the young king, once she is firmly entrenched on Chinese soil. She has been preparing for this for years. Any overt act against her by the Boxers or Empress pending the settlement of the present crisis counts for naught. However, as we Chinese say, 'When the water is clear we shall see the rock.'"—New York Evening Post.

THE EXAMPLE OF IOWA.

Other Western states may find valuable suggestions in considering the conditions of the development of Iowa. In an article on the "Iowans", in the Atlantic Monthly, by Mr. R. L. Hartt, the story is told in the brief words: "From prairie grass to wheat, from wheat to clover, from clover to corn. Such are the short and simple annals of the Iowans."

The Hawkeye farmers learned by costly experience what scientific agriculturists frequently find it necessary to preach in Kansas and Missouri today—that the richest soil may be exhausted by the continuous drain of any one crop planted year after year. James A. Wilson, now secretary of agriculture, and other men of his stamp, exhorted on the need of rotation of crops at a time when the soil was in a bad way from much planting of wheat, and the farmers, heeding their advice, began to sow clover every fourth year. The abundance of forage naturally brought cows, and to fatten the cows corn was planted extensively. Then hogs were imported to clean up the corn wasted by the stock. As a result Iowa ships fewer car loads of grain today than she sent out twenty years ago. Her agricultural products are transformed at the home and go out of the state in the shape of shipments of fat stock and hogs.

Missouri has already learned this lesson well. According to the statistics of the department of agriculture, last year the counties of this state shipped less corn outside their own limits, in proportion to the size of the crop, than those of any other state in the Union. Most of the 163 million bushels raised in Missouri last year was fed to native stock. Kansas is beginning to work along the same lines. Until within the last two or three years it had been exporting to other states a large proportion of its crops. Now it is consuming more and more at home. The increase of its live stock by one million head, from 1895 to 1899, shows the reason for this. On the subject of crops Kansas has still much to learn, for the richness of its soil has prevented the matter from being brought to its attention so vividly as it has been to other less favored sections.—Kansas City Star.