

purchased from an American firm their entire plant. It will be needless to follow the development of this trade. Suffice it to notice that under Government patronage it has nearly absorbed the great rice trade from the South, and has increased its plant until it has a capital of more than \$5,000,000. The fleet of forty or fifty fine steamers of English make, still officered by Western masters, indicates how well the Chinese merchants have learned the lesson of commerce.

The trade of China with the West assumes the large proportion of nearly \$200,000,000. Into the intricacies of this trade we need not enter. We merely notice its growth and proportion, and its meaning, as, the outgrowth of the new life that is touching the great empire.

A second sign of change is to be seen in the building up of the Government navies and armies. The rise to power of those who had been brought into contact with foreigners at the close of the rebellion carried with them the hope of using Western methods of warfare and ingenuity. That hope has been steadily held to. The great arsenals which have been created are the legitimate outgrowth of the treaties of Tientsin and the admiration of foreign power which had broken through their own seclusion and brought them into contact with Western ingenuity. The first arsenal built was at Fuchow. The development of a Chinese navy thus began at the South. A second one was erected at Shanghai. I once saw cast there a gun of enormous calibre. The vast steam hammer which was being made, after the Woolwich pattern, indicated the power that was to weld China into the shape of Western civilization. The third great arsenal was at Tientsin. The very Temple of the Light of the Sea, in which the treaties were formed, has resounded or 20 years to the busy whirl off

steam power, and a vast arsenal gathered about it. A bell, the splendid gift of Krupp, great maker of guns, calls to worship in that idol temple. Across the little Peiho are to be seen the great powder mills and vast military repair shops.

The provincial governors have vied with each other in attempts, not all successful, to equip their armies with great factories and arsenals of military power. The great Viceroy in the North, determined to build up a navy as well as an army, a port across the gulf from the splendidly equipped Lake Forts was selected as its navy yard in the North. Port Arthur, or Port Li, as it has been called, has been in building for ten years, a great naval arsenal, with vast dry dock and complete equipment. Unable to secure competent workmanship, the Customs Commissioner, Chan Fu, a man of modern spirit, fertile of resource, diligent, energetic, ambitious, in 1881 made arrangements with a French syndicate on favorable terms for the complete equipment of this vast establishment, and to secure its control for ten years. Out of this is coming, has come, a great naval advance. From it has been developed a new Board of Admiralty, with the most progressive men in the Empire at its head, Prince Chien, Li Hung Chang and the Marquess Beng. Thus, in military and naval affairs, China has planned to be abreast with the nations.

A third sign of advance is in the preparing of supplies equal to the new emergency: Coal to supply her new commerce and new navies, iron to be supplied for the vast future of her industries. China has unlimited resources of coal and iron. But these resources must be secured. They could only be secured by introducing foreign machinery. The most interesting and progressive man not in official life in China is Tong-King-