

Dr. Sun Yat Sen in one of his articles in 1897 gives us a very good description of the condition of affairs up to that time. The people were entrusted with no power whatsoever. Local magistrates had unlimited power and authority. Extortion to obtain money was permitted. The principal reason for this was the small salaries of the officials. When once a person obtained an office he could raise money by extortion and then buy a higher office and so on, until he obtained a high position. The masses were considered as very stupid, while in reality they were not. The laws of the Manchus were known to only the highest officials. An inventor was punished with death. At the present time, the people are worse off, because of the raise on taxation. The revolution only needed a spark to start it. The spark came and the inevitable followed.

Now let us look at the results. A weak China in the Far East has always been a source of danger to the peace of the world. If it had not been for the weakness of China, there never would have been a Russo-Japanese war. So if China was reformed and became a powerful nation it would bring matters to a better situation. There are many rumors that the change in China will affect India, in as much as it will prove a stimulant to the natives to rebel. But this is a wrong view of the matter because India is well-governed and has no reason to be dissatisfied.

It is said that the Chinese will make good soldiers, and if necessary the army could number 30,000,000 men. The assertion that it will serve to attack foreign countries is answered by the fact that it is so situated, that large expenses and obstacles unable to be overcome, would prevent them. China, as a great nation will form a perfect balance of power in the east. Since the Chinese regard England and the States as models of a perfect country, they will give a large scope to American and European enterprise in China.

In China there are to be eighteen provinces, each province, a republic in itself. Each province is to have complete control of its local affairs while the central government or supreme parliament which is modelled after the government of the United States is to have control over the whole of China.

R. C. LAHAIE, '14.