

The Chinese Republic.

RATELY one of the greatest changes has taken place in the land of China; from a monarchy which was practically absolute it has completely altered the state of the government by changing itself into a republic. When I say that it changed itself into a republic I do not mean that the former government was in accordance with the popular will, but that the down-trodden, common Chinese inhabitants could not any longer bear the oppression of the Manchu Rule, and remain absolute slaves to the small minority.

At the bottom of this great movement was Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the only man who had the ability to accomplish such a great task. He is a man of about forty-five years of age, short, but wiry. His great control over all the Chinese has been fully manifested. His manners are very polished and in them are recognized the qualities peculiar to noble-minded men. He talks little but thinks a great deal; his methods when dealing with the people are not those which characterize the politicians of our country. He does not arouse or play upon their emotions by means of artifice and flattery but works with them in a straight forward manner. His value is indeed very great, as may be seen by the offers which the Manchu government gave for his head. These offers amount to about 500,000 dollars. Often he has been in danger, no, I would not say in danger of his life, but there have been many cases in which some Chinaman could have obtained the reward. But the esteem and admiration with which he is regarded by all his countrymen are shown by the fact that he has never been attacked nor betrayed. His great courage is shown, in his everyday life, when he goes about unescorted. The threat of the Manchu government has no fear for him. His wonderful ingenuity cannot be estimated very well. He cannot be compared with any other great man, because he stands alone. The gigantic task undertaken by him was the reforming of the oldest and probably most ill-governed country in the world.

Naturally, in looking into the revolution, and the change which has occurred, we ask ourselves these questions. What was