

with the greatest respect. This event is important, as from it dates the establishment of Mohammedanism in Khouresm, where later was founded the kingdom of Ui Ui, or Mohammedan Chinese. In 1124 this kingdom gave its subjection to China at Samarkand. There is not much more of importance to relate in connection with these provinces, until the present dynasty. It is evident that in the contentions which were continually occurring between the Chinese and the Mohammedan provinces on the west and in Central Asia, the Chinese now and then conquered portions of Mohammedan territory, and now and then these outlying provinces regained their independence; that Mohammedans were more or less employed as allies or soldiers in the Chinese army, became officials, sometimes occupying very high positions, and that in this general mixing up along the border a large number of Mohammedans became permanent inhabitants of the western provinces of China.

This account would not be complete without some notice of the great rebellion which took place in Shensi and Kansuh from 1861 to 1873. Like all other Mohammedan rebellions in China, it was not on account of religion. The members of this sect are quite as clannish as the pure Chinese, and generally go together in any attempt to resist what they deem oppression or to gain dominion. The outbreak of 1861, commencing in Shensi and spreading to Kansuh, originated in this way: "A Chinese rebel chief, after having devastated Sz Chuen, invaded Shensi. To resist the invasion the militia was organized in every locality. The Mussulman militia, commanded by their own chiefs, were by their own wish kept separate from the other militia. The bandits at length took the city of U Nau. The Mussulman militia took back the city, in which they found immense treasure, either brought

there by the rebels or abandoned by the owners, who had been obliged to flee to save their lives. The Chinese militia of the neighboring districts, learning of this, clamored for a part of the booty, which the Mohammedans stubbornly refused. The Chinese did not dare to attack them, but waited an opportunity for revenge. It came at length from quite a small affair. One day a Mohammedan cut some bamboos from a grove near the village where he was. The owner, not a Mohammedan, charged him with cutting them without permission, and was answered arrogantly. He then complained to the Mohammedan religious chief, and not obtaining redress went to the Chinese district magistrate. The magistrate did not dare to punish the offender, but plotted with the leader of the large town of Chely to massacre the Mohammedans. One of their villages was therefore laid waste by the Chely militia. This was followed by a general uprising of the Mohammedans, and a sanguinary contest of three days and three nights, in which they came off victors. When the mandarins sent imperial troops to succor the vanquished, these were also obliged to beat a shameful retreat.

"The insurrection then spread throughout the province and made its way into Kansuh. It was kept up for twelve years, and cost an immense amount of blood and treasure before it was finally and most thoroughly put down by that valiant General Tso Tsung Tang."

"In regard to the central provinces of the empire, the following quotation will suffice: "The history of Mohammedans in these provinces is the history of the inhabitants of each province. We need not speak particularly of them. We only say that since the dynasty of Yuen, 1280, a great number of them have occupied very high positions, both in the capi-