

my feelings, and force myself to intermit awhile my heart-felt grief, that I may with reverence obey the unalterable decree, and on the 19th of the eighth moon, (October 3, 1820,) I propose devoutly to announce the event to heaven, to earth, to my ancestors, and to the Gods, and shall then seat myself on the imperial throne. Let the next year be the first of *Taou-kwang*.

“ I look upwards, and hope to emulate the excellence of former times. I lay my hand on my heart with feelings of respect, and cautious sincerity. When a new monarch addresses himself to the empire, he ought to confer benefits on his kindred, and extensively bestow gracious favours. Whatever is proper to be done on this occasion is stated below:

“ 1. On all persons having the title of *wang*, (king,) and downwards, and those of and above the rank of *kung*, (duke,) let gracious gifts be conferred.

“ 2. On all nobles below the rank of *kung*, down to that of *kih-kih*, let gracious gifts be conferred.

“ 3. Whether at court or in the provinces, Mantchou or Chinese officers, great and small, civil and military, shall be promoted one step.

“ 4. The deceased parents of officers who have received posthumous titles of honour, shall have those titles increased to correspond with the promotion of their sons.

“ 5. Officers at Court of the fourth degree, and those in the provinces of the third, shall have the privilege of sending one son to the *kuo-tze-keen* (national college.)

“ 6. Officers who have been deprived of their rank, but retained in office, and whose pay has been stopped or forfeited, shall have their rank and pay restored.