

and grandchildren to the blush. They are a disgrace to the honor of our country, blots upon our national escutcheon, relics of barbarism only fit to be classed in the same category with burning witches in New England. The quicker they are repealed the better.

John is irrepressible; he is like Banquo's ghost, he won't down. Why?

1. God has some great destiny for the Chinese race. They have not been preserved so marvellously as a nation 4000 years for nothing. God does not work in that way. There is no waste of force or material in God's economy; and so the preservation of the Chinese down through the ages has been a conservation of a mighty force to be used by God in the consummation of His plans for the race. Neither is it for nothing that beneath the broad domain of China the mineral wealth of the world is stored.

2. The Chinese are capable of great things. They are slow, solid, aggressive, a people that will abide. They are patient, economical, filial, and they are pre-eminently a *determined* people. Some years ago China was devastated by a terrible rebellion. The southern half of the Empire was wrested from the Imperial sway and in the hands of the Taipings. The Mohammedans in the Northwest took advantage of this state of affairs and rebelled. "Aided by the reckless and seditious of all clans they drove out the governmental minions" and China lost Turkestan. At the same time Russia seized Kuldja. In a moment of weakness the Czar promised China that he would restore Kuldja as soon as China should reassert her authority in those regions and reconquer Turkestan. The attempt to restore prestige in a territory where every hand was turned against her seemed indeed hopeless. Her resources were exhausted, treasury depleted, foreigners were within her gates, the distance to be traversed was immense, and no one dreamed she could succeed. The Emperor sent for Tso Tsung Tang, one of his ablest generals, and asked him if he could reconquer Turkestan. Tso replied that he could. "But," said the Emperor, "have you considered that your operations will be so far removed from your base that the mules will eat up all the provisions before they reach your army? Have you thought of that?" "I have," answered the redoubtable warrior, "and I have my remedy. We will push forward as far as we can as soldiers, and when our supplies are becoming exhausted we will squat as farmers and till the ground as many years as are necessary to raise supplies. We will repeat the operation as many times as are necessary, and Turkestan will be restored to your Majesty's sway." And they did it! I have intense admiration for such dogged, persistent determination—a determination to succeed in a well-nigh impossible undertaking if it took five years or *fifty* years for its accomplishment. Dr. S. Wells Williams says: "The history of the advance of this 'agricultural army' would, if thoroughly known, constitute one of the most remarkable military achievements in the annals of any modern country."