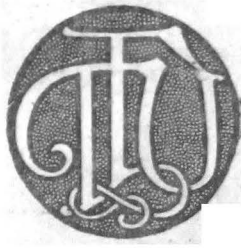
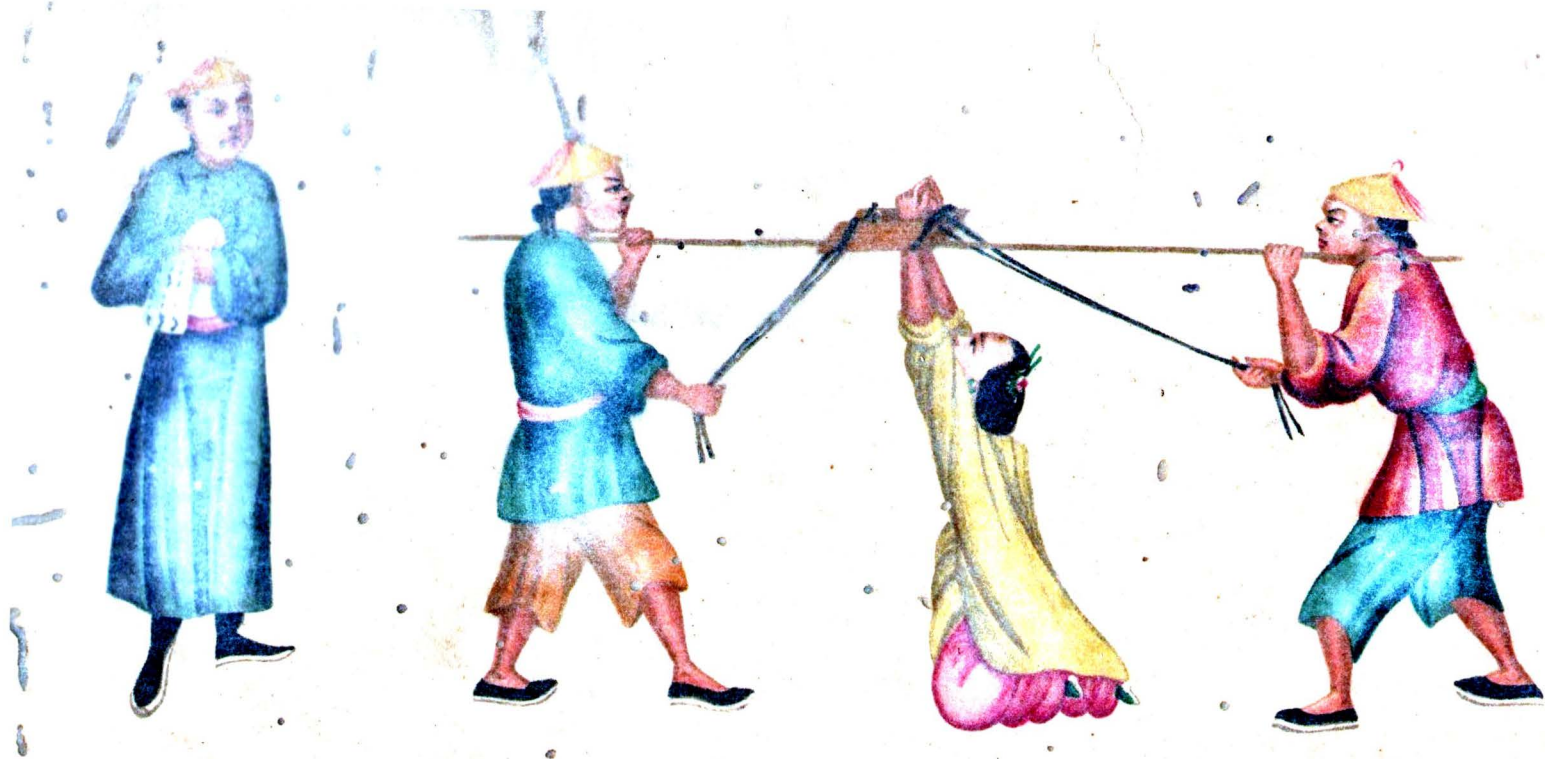


THE PEOPLES AND POLITICS
OF
THE FAR EAST





LAW IN CHINA : THE CONFESSION OF GUILT UNDER TORTURE.

(FACSIMILE OF A DRAWING BY A CHINESE ARTIST.)

THE PEOPLES AND POLITICS
OF
THE FAR EAST.

TRAVELS AND STUDIES IN THE
BRITISH, FRENCH, SPANISH
AND PORTUGUESE COLONIES,
SIBERIA, CHINA, JAPAN, KOREA,
SIAM AND MALAYA

BY
HENRY NORMAN
AUTHOR OF "THE REAL JAPAN"

WITH SIXTY
ILLUSTRATIONS AND
FOUR MAPS.

LONDON: T. FISHER UNWIN
PATERNOSTER SQUARE
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PRAESIDI SOCIISQUE HARVARDIANIS

τροφεία

P R E F A C E .

THIS book is the result of nearly four years of travel and study in the countries and colonies of which it treats. I have described and discussed no place that I did not visit, and in every one I remained long enough, and was fortunate enough in learning the views and experiences of the local authorities and best-informed residents, to make sure at any rate that I was not misled into mere hasty impressions. If I appear to present some of my conclusions with excessive confidence, this fault is to be explained, and I trust excused, first, by my conviction of the importance to Great Britain of the issues involved, and second, by my faith in the accuracy and wisdom of my many informants.

The Far East presents itself to the attentive traveller under two aspects. It is the last Wonderland of the World; and it is also the seed-bed of a multitude of new political issues. I have endeavoured to reflect in these pages this twofold quality of my subject. Therefore the record of mere travel is interwoven with that of investigation: the incidents and the adventures of the

hour are mingled with the factors and the statistics of the permanent problems. By this means I have hoped to reproduce upon the reader's mind something of the effect of the Far East upon my own. It is a picture which is destined, either in bright colours or in sombre, to become increasingly familiar to him in the future.

I find myself wholly unable to acknowledge here even a small part of the help and hospitality I received, and I can only express this general but deep obligation. To Sir Robert Hart, Bart., however, first of all; to Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, ex-Governor of the Straits Settlement; to Sir G. William Des Vofux, formerly Governor of Hongkong; and to Mr. F. A. Swettenham, C.M.G., British Resident of Perak, I have to offer my special thanks. To my friend Mr. R. L. Morant, whose knowledge of Siam is more intimate than that of any foreigner living, and who at the time of my stay in Bangkok was governor of the late Crown Prince and tutor to the Royal children, I have to acknowledge great indebtedness. I need hardly add that these gentlemen must not be forcibly connected with any of my opinions. Mr. J. Scott Keltie, Assistant Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, the Librarian of the Colonial Office, and the Librarian of the Royal Statistical Society, have been good enough to give me valuable technical assistance.

In a few instances I have reproduced here, with considerable alterations, parts of contributions to the

daily and periodical Press, chiefly descriptions of places written on the spot. The greater part of the illustrations are from my own photographs; one or two are by that excellent photographer A. Fong, of Hongkong, one or two by Mr. Chit, and one by Mr. Loftus, both of Bangkok. The maps, which present certain geographical facts not—so far as I know—to be found in conjunction elsewhere, have been drawn under my own supervision.

H. N.

LONDON, December 31, 1894.

ERRATA.

Page 134, line 12 from foot: *for* 257,068,654 *read* 257,048,654.
" 136, " 5 from top: *for* 63,231,047 *read* 63,211,047.

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