

THE
CHINESE READER'S MANUAL

A HANDBOOK OF BIOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, MYTHO-
LOGICAL, AND GENERAL LITERARY REFERENCE.

BY THE LATE

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PART I.

INDEX OF PROPER NAMES.

1.—A-FANG KUNG 阿房宮. A vast palace built by She Hwang-ti, B.C. 212, near the city of Hien-yang, his ancestral capital. It was an enlargement of a prior edifice, to which the name 阿基房 had been given. The palace was erected within the park or hunting-ground called Shang Lin Yuan 上林苑, and 700,000 criminals and prisoners were employed at forced labour in its construction. The central hall was of such dimensions that 10,000 persons could be assembled within it, and banners sixty feet in height might be unfurled below. Vast as it was, the son and successor of the founder commenced his brief reign, in B.C. 209, by adding to its magnificence.

2.—A KIAO 阿嬌. The infantile name of one of the consorts of HAN Wu Ti. It is related that the future emperor, when a child, was seated one day on the knee of one of the Princesses, his aunt, who asked him laughingly whether he would like to be married, and pointing to A Kiao, whether he would wish her to be his wife. The child replied: "If I could possess A Kiao as my wife, I would have a golden house to keep her in 當以金屋貯之!" The expression has become proverbial for doting love.

3.—A MAN 阿瞞. The infantile name of two celebrated personages, viz., Ts'ao Ts'ao and Ming Hwang of the T'ang dynasty, qq. v.

4.—A TOW 阿斗. The infant name of the child of Liu Pei by his consort Sun Fu-jên, and afterwards his successor, A.D. 223, on the throne of Shuh. In the memorable rout of

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PART II.

NUMERICAL CATEGORIES.

TWO.

1.—二 程. The Two Philosophers named Ch'êng.

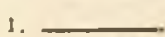
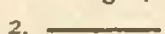
1. Ch'êng Hao. See Part I., No. 107.
2. Ch'êng I. See Part I., No. 108.

2.—二 皇. The Two ancient Emperors (with whom civilization commenced).

1. Fuh-hi. See Part I., No. 146.
2. Shên-nung. See Part I., No. 609.

3.—兩 儀. The Two Primary Forms or symbols representing the two primordial essences.

The equal divisions, or positive and negative essences, evolved by the 太極, or Ultimate Principle of being. These divisions are entitled (1) 陽 and (2) 陰, and are represented by the following symbols, from a repetition of which in divers combinations the 八卦 or Eight Diagrams are formed.

1.  A continuous straight line, called 陽 儀, or the symbol of the *Yang* principle, corresponding to light, Heaven, masculinity, etc.
2. . A broken line, called 陰 儀, or the symbol of the *Yin* principle, corresponding to darkness, Earth, femininity, etc. See No. 241.

4.—二 氣. The Two Primary Essences,—the *Yang* and *Yin* principles. See above.

See also

小學紺珠

卷三

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PART III.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLES OF THE CHINESE DYNASTIES.

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

With reference to the object and scope of the Chronological Tables presented here, the reader is requested to consult the observations offered on pages 384-386. The two tables of the Chinese cycles, anterior and posterior to the Christian era, furnish the means of reconciling any cyclical date with our own notation of time. Each table is divided into two portions in order to bring it within the limits of an ordinary page; but the reader will perceive without difficulty that the cyclical characters and the corresponding dates follow each other in regular succession. The short columns at the head of the tables contain the date of commencement of each cycle, in rotation, followed below by the years in successive order. Thus, for instance, 甲子 was the combination denoting the years A. D. 4, 304, 604, etc., down to 1804, and the following combination 乙丑 corresponds to A. D. 5, 305, 605, etc., down to 1805. In the next column a second period is commenced, comprising all the cycles beginning with the years shown in the index column at the top. For example, if we desire to ascertain the date according to our era of an event occurring "in the year *ling hai* 丁亥 of Wu Ti of the Tsin Dynasty," we find on consulting the historical tables that Wu Ti's reign commenced A. D. 265, and turning to the table of cycles, it is found that a cyclical period commenced in A. D. 244 and must therefore have embraced within its course the reign of Wu Ti. Fixing A. D. 265, the first of his reign, as the year *yi yao* 乙酉 of the cycle, we follow the column of characters down until we reach *ling hai*, and at once identify this combination, on reference to the column of years, as A. D. 267. On the other hand, in the course of Chinese reading a reference may be met with entailing the verification of the "3rd year of Wu Ti of the Tsin dynasty." On turning to the page of the Tables comprising the Tsin Dynasty, A. D. 265 is found to be the first year of Wu Ti's reign, and it becomes obvious that the 3rd year corresponds to A. D. 267. If, however, in lieu of referring to this sovereign by his *miao hao* or posthumous title, the Chinese historian has spoken of the "3rd year of T'ai She of the Tsin dynasty," it will be found on consulting the Tables that T'ai She was the first of three successive *nien hao* or epochal designations adopted during the course of Wu Ti's reign, and that the year 267 is still indicated.

PART IV.

INDEX OF CHINESE CHARACTERS.

— RADICAL 1.

一 *yih* | 行 921.

七 *ts'i* | 返 663; | 步 成 詩 759.

丁 *ting* | 義 868.

三 *san* | 才 558; | 公; | 省
191; | 桂 871; | 關 103,
415; | 傑 102, 156; | 神山
647; | 槐 王 氏 821; | 藩
王 871.

上 *shang* | 官 793; | 帝 會
201; | 帝 225; | 枕 苑 592;
| 清 宮 454.

不 *pu* | 狃 285; | 韋 465; |
空 554; | 害 611; | 周 山
284, 521; | 死 樹 330.

世 *she* | 傑 29; | 輔 344; | 民
366; | 忠 154a; | 翼 791;
| 貞 817.

丘 *k'iu* 319.

丕 *p'ei* 766.

| R. 2.

中 *chung* | 庸 319; | 都 319,
829; | 立 564, 893.

R. 3.

丹 *tan* | 朱 617, 664; | 水 330;
煉 | 663; 九 轉 還 | 663; 燕
太子 | 665.

| R. 4.

之 *che* | 推 253, 910; | 信 590.

乘 *ch'eng* Part 11., 11.

乙 R. 5.

九 *kiu* | 成 20, 712; | 船 21;
| 江 王 926; | 峰 748; |
州 931; | 淵 438; | 州 錄
錄 273; | 轉 靈 符 831.

| R. 6

予 *yü* 736.

事 *she* Part 11., 163.

二 R. 7.

二 *urh* | 世 皇 帝 184.

于 *yü* | 祐 201b; | 歸 707; |
奠 536.

五 *wu* | 湖 遺 跡 127; | 峰
195; | 老 867; | 殺 羊 皮
547; | 柳 先 生 715; | 斗
米 715; | 書 車 858; | 洞
天 784; | 柞 宮 863.

况 *kw'ang* 649.

亞 *ya* | 聖 494; | 夫 74.

→ R. 8.

亡 *wang, wu* | 是 公 726.

交 *kiao* | 趾 479.

亥 *hai* 11.