

The Empire of China, prior to 1842, was a sealed book, as far as foreign intercourse was concerned, and it was only after the cession of the Island of Hong Kong to the British that the now so-called treaty ports were opened to foreign trade and intercourse. Five treaty ports, the cities of Shanghai, Canton, Amoy, Ningpo and Foochow, were gradually made ports of call and of trade by virtue of the British Treaty with China of 1842.



FRANCIS A. CARL,

Chinese Imperial Vice-Commissioner, holding equal rank with Mr. Wong. Mr. Carl is an American, born at Osyka, Mississippi. He was Statistical Secretary at Shanghai and Deputy Postal Secretary under the Inspector-General of Customs. Mr. Carl was accompanied to Saint Louis by his wife and sister, Miss Kate Carl, who painted the portrait of the Empress Dowager, exhibited in the Palace of Art and presented by the Empress to the United States Government.

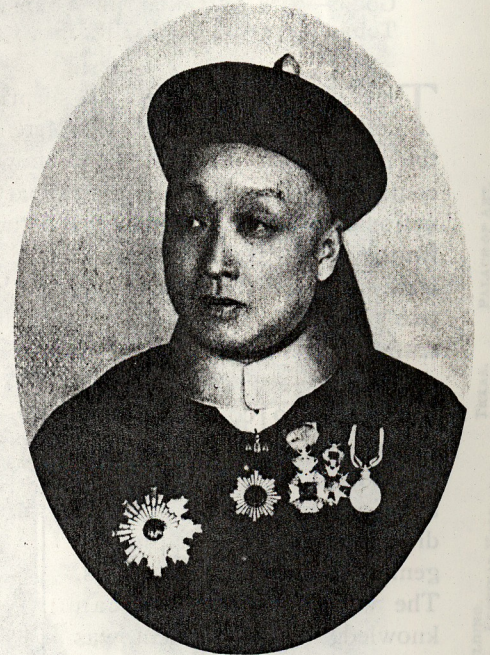


SIR ROBERT HART, BART., G. C. M. G.,

The Inspector-General of the Imperial Maritime Customs, who, although a British subject, is intrusted with the administration of the principal revenues of the Chinese Empire. The illustration is from a photograph loaned by his cousin, Mr. Francis A. Carl.

directly under Chinese rule, and their trade conditions are under the jurisdiction of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China.

Peking, the capital of China, does not come under the category of a treaty port, as it is merely the residence of the foreign ambassadors and other diplomatic officers accredited to China, the seat of the Inspector-General of Customs, and the headquarters of several missionary

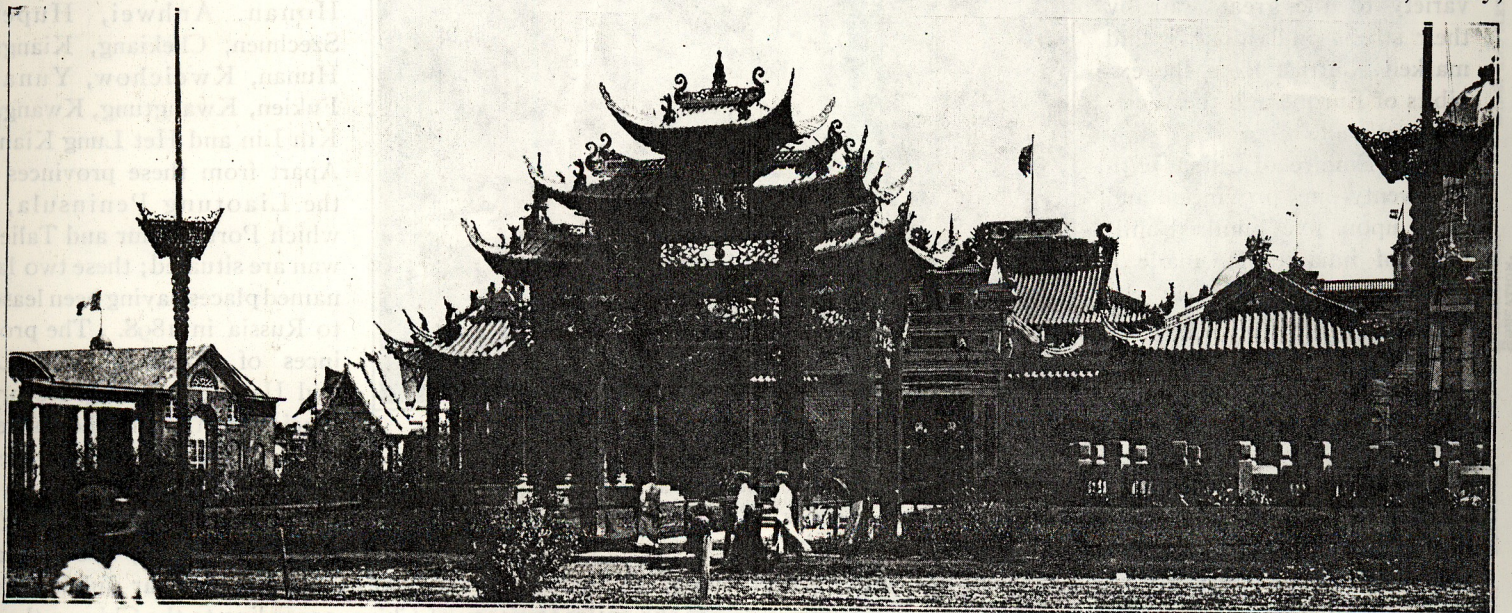


WONG KAI KAH,

Chinese Imperial Vice-Commissioner. Mr. Wong is a Yale University graduate, class of 1883. He speaks English fluently, is an accomplished diplomat, and an important official of his Government. The routine of the general official intercourse with the Government authorities devolved upon Mr. Wong. He brought his family with him to Saint Louis, and with Mrs. Wong took a prominent part in the social life of the Exposition.

these, two are leased to Russia, one to Germany, and one to France. The other forty-one are

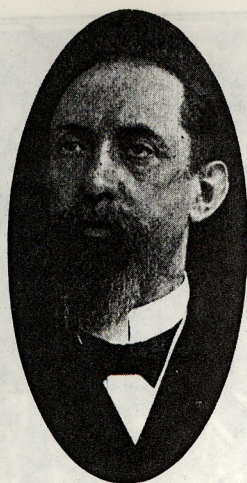
They became the nucleus of the real foreign relations with China as they exist to-day. At the present time there are no less than forty-six ports and stations in China that are open to foreign trade. Of societies from different parts of the world. The treaty ports actually having headquarters of the Customs service are: Newchwang, Tientsin, Chefoo, Kiaochow, Chungking, Ichang, Shasi, Yochow, Hankow, Kukiang, Wuhu, Nanking, Chinkiang, Shanghai, Soochow, Hangchow, Ningpo, Wenchow, Santuao, Foochow, Amoy,



CHINESE NATIONAL PAVILION.

This Pavilion cost to erect \$60,000 to \$75,000, the exact figures not being ascertainable, as a considerable portion of the decorative work had been done in China and here by native Chinese workmen. The Pavilion was situated on the south side of Administration Avenue. The site of the Pavilion was formally dedicated on September 5, 1903, and construction began at once. The dedication ceremonies were very elaborate. The Pavilion was a reproduction of Prince Pu Lun's summer residence, and at the close of the Exposition was presented to President Francis. During the Exposition it contained many beautiful works of Chinese art and industry.





D. PERCEBOIS.

Secretary of the Chinese Commission. Mr. Percebois has spent thirty years in the Chinese Customs service. He is a native of France, an accomplished scholar, and an expert in Chinese affairs. His catalogue of Chinese exhibits, with explanatory notes, is a most valuable work on China's exhibit at the Fair.

books and other educational paraphernalia was made in the Palace of Education and Social Economy, and an exquisitely furnished Chinese Pavilion, indicative of China's official participation in the World's Fair, was constructed among the other national pavilions.

In China's beautiful exhibit in the Liberal Arts Palace there was but one regrettable feature, prejudicial to the effect and influence of the display. That was the lack of space sufficient to show the exhibit to its best advantage. Accorded a space of about one hundred feet in breadth by a little less than three hundred feet in length, and deducting from this very inadequate area the space allotted for the different aisles and by-ways, to say nothing of the place reserved for the office of the Commission, China's exhibit was decidedly crowded. The space was in no way commensurate with the importance and the number and class of articles brought to the Exposition from such a distance. Notwithstanding this unfortunate and serious drawback, China did herself credit in her exhibit, and no praise is too great for those members of the Imperial Chinese Commission under whose direction and charge this thorough display was made.

It has been rightly said that the resources of China are as yet an unknown quantity to the people of the world outside of her own territory. Very

Swatow, Canton, Kowloon, Lappa, Samshui, Wuchow, Kiungchow, Pakhoi, Lungchow, Mengtz, Szemao, and Teng-yueh—thirty-three in all. The other stations, or "Barriers," as they are commonly called, are eight in number: Chinwangtao, Wanhsien, Changsha, Ngankin, Hueicchow, Kongmoon, Nanning and Yatung.

It was from the resources of the thirty-three treaty ports and their tributary districts that the wealth of China's magnificent display of her natural and manufactured products and multifold industries was drawn. Besides the vast display in the Palace of Liberal Arts, a large exhibit of

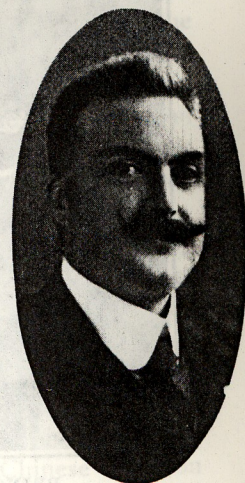


PAGODA IN COURTYARD, CHINESE PAVILION.

This characteristic Chinese structure, curiously carved and ornamented, added much to the striking appearance of China's pavilion and helped make the whole seem like a bit of the Far East transplanted to America.

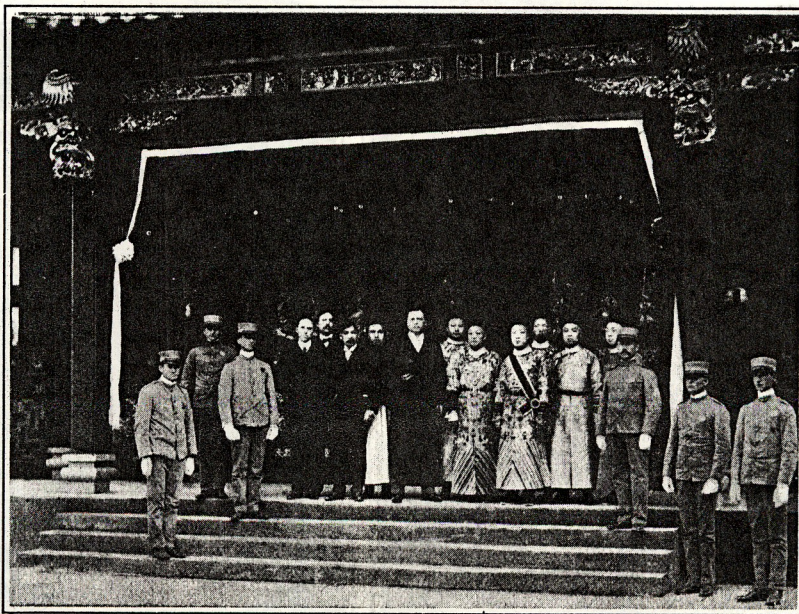
few, if any, persons outside that country fully realize the immense wealth that is hidden within China's borders. With her thirty or forty ports of trade through which to deal with the outer world, innermost China is still unknown. Her external trade is of a purely superficial nature and is but faintly indicative of the immense and even incalculable domestic commercial traffic. China is a nation of merchants and agriculturists.

There is no merchant or trader on the face of the earth that calculates his business ventures with such scrupulous exactness as does the Chinese. While his trading propositions may vary as to a greater or less margin of profit, according to circumstances, still that margin of profit, be it great or infinitesimally small, is always calculated upon, and a loss never cuts a figure in the Chinese method of reckoning accounts. In the matter of agriculture, the same idea of thrift shows itself. Not a foot of arable land in China is allowed to remain uncultivated. In many sections of the Empire the owner of land susceptible of cultivation, who does not put his soil to good use by having it properly tilled and sown with suitable crops, is severely punished and his land is liable to be confiscated. With an area of approximately one million three hundred thousand square miles of territory, or, to be exact, one million two hundred and ninety-seven thousand two hundred and ninety-nine square miles, and an estimated population of five hundred and seven people to the square mile, it can be readily seen that China requires the most of her agricultural products for home consumption, exporting but little of such beyond her borders. This especially refers to her cereals and produce for daily food purposes; but there are quite a number of products of China's soil of which she has an abundance to spare. These latter she exports, and does so freely.



J. A. BERTHET.

Assistant Secretary, Chinese Commission. Mr. Berthet has been long in the Customs service of China, and, like all the other foreign members of the Commission, speaks Chinese readily. Mr. Berthet had charge of the details of the exhibit and was a source of information for visitors.



IN THE COMPOUND OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT PAVILION.

On April 26th His Imperial Highness, Prince Pu Lun, accompanied by the Imperial Vice-Commissioner, Wong Kai Kah, arrived at the World's Fair, and later made an informal tour of inspection of Chinese exhibits under guidance of Imperial Vice-Commissioner Francis A. Carl.

In the statistics of the Foreign Trade of China for the year 1902, published in one of its yellow books, by the Inspector-