

remained four years, took high honors in English, and was the first Chinese student to receive a degree,—all this is unassumingly told in the opening chapters; after which comes the account of his self-imposed labors for his country, his adventures in the Taiping rebellion, his work for the American education of Chinese boys, his appointment as joint minister with Chin Lan Pin at Washington, and his diplomatic activities in connection with the Japanese war of 1894-5. His opinion as to the cause of the Taiping rebellion is noteworthy. "Neither Christianity nor religious persecution," he maintains, "was the immediate and logical cause of the rebellion of 1850. They might be taken as incidents or occasions that brought it about, but they were not the real causes of its existence. These may be found deeply seated in the vitals of the political constitution of the government. Foremost among them was the corruption of the administrative government." In other words, it was "graft" that caused all the mischief. The author has excellent command of his adopted language, having in fact at one time all but forgotten his native tongue; and for both style and substance his book commends itself.

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*Autobiography of a Chinese-American.* In a clearly-written narrative of moderate length, Mr. Yung Wing, sometime Associate Chinese Minister at Washington, and Commissioner of the Chinese Educational Commission, relates the main events of his active and useful life. "My Life in China and America" (Holt) is the book's title, and a prepossessing portrait of the author serves as frontispiece. Born of poor parents in the village of Nam Ping, near Macao, the boy Yung had the good fortune to receive the rudiments of an English education in a mission school, which gave him a desire to go still further in occidental learning. How his desire was gratified, chiefly through his own pluck and perseverance, how he entered the Monson Academy, was graduated, and then proceeded to Yale, where he