



Chinese Military.

14. The religion of Fo or Buddha is professed by the chief part of the people; but the learned men worship the spirit of their great philosopher, Confucius. There are some Roman Catholics, Jews, and Mahomedans in China.

15. The government is despotic, and is conducted with great form and ceremony. The Emperor is styled the Son of Heaven; and when he goes abroad the houses and shops must be shut, and all that he meets must prostrate themselves on the ground.

16. Peking, the capital, is one of the largest cities in the world. It contains two distinct towns, the Chinese and Tartar: the former is the most elegant and populous; but the latter is adorned by the imperial palace and gardens. The shops are numerous: they are decorated with flags, paintings, and lanterns. The streets are immensely crowded, for the Chinese spend much of their time in the open air.

17. Nankin, the ancient capital, is larger than Peking; but it is now greatly decayed. It is noted for its porcelain tower, and its manufactures of nankeen. Canton was until lately the only port at which Europeans were allowed to trade and reside. Its commerce is very great. The boat town of Canton is composed of thousands of boats arranged in streets, and occupied by individuals, who live all their lives on the water.

18. By the late treaty between China and Great Britain, the ports of Canton, Amoy, Fouchow, Ningpo, and Shanghae, called the "Free Ports," are now open to Europeans and Americans. Shanghae is next to Canton for extent of commerce. Teentsin is the port of Peking, and a great emporium for salt.

19. Sootchow, Hongtchow, Kingteching, and Voutchang, are all populous cities, and situated in the midst of rich and fertile districts.

14. Religion? 15. The Government? Emperor? 16. Describe Peking. The shops. 17. Nankin. Canton. 18. What ports are now open to Europeans, &c.? What is said of Shanghae? Teentsin? 19. Sootchow, &c.? Hongkong? Victoria? 20. Describe the Chinese islands?