

CHINA

FROM

A MEDICAL POINT OF VIEW

IN 1860 AND 1861,

TO WHICH IS ADDED A CHAPTER ON

NAGASAKI AS A SANITARIUM.

BY

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PREFACE.

THE late expedition to China has afforded opportunities not heretofore available to Englishmen of making observations, upon a tolerably extensive scale, in regard to the climate of several portions of that great but disorganized empire, of inquiring into the various productions of its soil, and of investigating the phenomena of disease, as well as its ravages among our troops employed there.

In the following pages I endeavour to give a faithful record of my observations in regard to these matters, introducing, from time to time, as I proceed, such remarks upon various other subjects as I think likely to interest the reader.

If we may judge from the present aspect of affairs in China, further military operations there may confidently be looked for. Probably no expedition was ever more completely fitted out in all its departments, and certainly none could have been more successful, than the one sent out to avenge our disasters at the mouth of the Peiho. In the following pages may, it is hoped, be found hints that are calculated to show how, on a future occasion, the medical arrangements may be conducted in the

event of hostilities continuing there; and it is hoped that the plan adopted, of giving the medical statistics for each month separately, will form a guide as to the casualties that may for the future be expected, and for the probable amount of reinforcements necessary to maintain the numerical strength of an army there.

At the recommendation of the publisher, several statistical tables have been omitted, their results being embodied in the work itself.

The meteorological observations will, it is hoped, be found not without value as a contribution to this branch of science.

I regret it will not be in my power to examine the proofs as sent by the printer; this duty must be delegated to some person else, as I am about to proceed on foreign service. I therefore trust that, should typographical errors be discovered, the reader will be so good as to make some allowances on account of the circumstance mentioned.

C. A. GORDON.

DEVONPORT; *July*, 1862.

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