

**AN OUTLINE HISTORY OF CHINA:
PART II: FROM THE MANCHU
CONQUEST TO THE
RECOGNITION
OF THE REPUBLIC A. D. 1913**

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An Outline History of China: Part II: From the Manchu Conquest to the Recognition of the Republic A. D. 1913 by Herbert H. Gowen

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PREFACE

In view of the kindly reception the first volume of this "Outline History" has had at the hands of the press and public, the author is hopeful that the completion of the work will be as generously judged. It still, however, seems necessary to emphasize the fact that the book is neither a complete history of China nor a selection of episodes chosen according to the writer's taste. The word "Outline" is intended to be taken literally. The bulk of the book might all too easily have been increased, but in that event the idea of writing a brief, fairly-proportioned sketch would have remained unfulfilled. One or two critics have complained of the prominence of military episodes. The only excuse that need be made is that (as the Vicomte D'Ollone has so often repeated) Chinese history is unfortunately very full of campaigns which cannot be left unchronicled if a true picture is to be presented. At the same time the *Kulturgeschichte* has by no means been neglected. The philosophers and literati undoubtedly contributed much to Chinese history. Nevertheless, the framework of the story must necessarily be political and the effect of such a work as the present would have been invertebrate had not the

PREFACE

dynastic changes been carefully observed. The author believes that those who take the trouble to make this general outline their own will appreciate as they have not done before the ample materials provided elsewhere for filling up the gaps which have been deliberately left.

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