

the main pipe line with the help of the volunteers, the people's and the enlisted army.

The Foundation of the Jingtai Regime and  
Empress-Dowager Sun

by Moriyoshi HASUMI

Yingzong's 英宗 younger brother by a different mother, the Prince of Cheng 郕王, came to the throne on the sixth day of the ninth month of 1449, twenty-one days after the disaster at Tu-mu 土木. He is known as the Jingtai emperor 景泰帝. The establishment of this Jingtai regime represented the resolution of the political complications which had developed at the Ming 明 court following the Tu-mu incident. Now the key to the political process lay in the hands of Yingzong's "birth mother," Empress-Dowager Sun 孫皇太后. This paper, by extracting the Empress-Dowager Sun's connection with the foundation of the Jingtai regime, attempts to examine her vital grip on contemporary Ming court politics. The Empress-Dowager Sun's power was established in the mid Zhengtong 正統 period (1436-49). Empress-Dowager Sun, by controlling the young emperor Yingzong, maintained a hidden influence over the Ming court, but when Yingzong was kidnapped during the Tu-mu debacle, her position was undermined. To weather this crisis, Empress-Dowager Sun appointed Yingzong's first son, Jianshen 見深, Crown Prince, and the Prince of Cheng, Protector of the State (jianguo 監國). This measure was not, however, to be a temporary one. Hoping to be the backers of the new emperor, the courtiers recommended the fifth son of the Hongxi emperor 洪熙帝, the Prince of Xiang 襄王. The Empress-Dowager Sun would still not shift her support. In the end, however, the Prince of Cheng took the throne. The main reason why the Prince of Xiang was passed over, granted that he had priority in terms of blood line, popularity, and age, is in all probability that

he would have reduced the influence of the Empress-Dowager Sun. From her point of view, the Prince of Cheng, for his part, would be easier to manipulate. Furthermore, the courtiers hoped for the prompt establishment of stability at court. In this way, with the foundation of the Jingtai regime, the former ministers of Ying-zong shouldered the central responsibilities of government, and the Jingtai emperor's influence was limited.

### The Jiao fu 脚夫 in Baxian 巴县 during the Qing Period

by Susumu YAMAMOTO

In old China *jiao fu* 脚夫 generally meant coolie, but in this study the author describes two types of *jiao fu* as an example in Baxian (Chongqing). One is the coolies in ports meaning stevedores, and the other is the warehousemen in brokers called *guan hang jiao fu* 管行脚夫.

The coolies in the port organized guilds such as Xi-bang 西帮 composed of workers from Shanxi province, Nan-bang 南帮 from Chaling 茶陵 of Hunan province and Chuan-ban 川帮 from Sichuan province, and each occupied a territory. They were controlled by foremen called *fu tou* 夫頭. The foremen were contracted to unload ships owned by country traders and responsible to compensate in case of a loss. Also, the Baxian government imposed *chai wu* (local and unofficial taxes) on them.

However during the Qian long 乾隆 and Jia qing 嘉慶 periods (1736-1820) the warehousemen in brokers began to surpass the *fu tou* and directly employed coolies disregarding guilds. They were the managers of the transport section in brokers and made coolies carry commodities. The warehousemen earned much more than coolies but they had to own *jiao li sheng yi* 脚力生意 (a kind of stock) in order to be the warehousemen. They paid a deposit to the broker to obtain stocks and if the brokers closed their shops they lost their privileges. But in Baxian there was a custom that