Li Hongzhang

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Li Hongzhang (also rendered in English as Li Hung Chang) (15 February 1823 – 7 November 1901) was a politician, general and diplomat of the late Qing Empire. He quelled several major rebellions and served in important positions of the Imperial Court, including the premier viceroyalty of Zhili.

Although he was best known in the West for his generally pro-modern stance and importance as a negotiator, Li antagonized the British with his support of Russia as a foil against Japanese expansionism in Manchuria and fell from favor with the Chinese after their loss in the 1894 Sino-Japanese War. His image in China remains controversial, with criticism on one hand for political and military mistakes and praise on the other for his success against the Taiping Rebellion, his diplomatic skills defending Chinese interests in the era of unequal treaties, and his role pioneering China's industrial and military modernization.

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Early life and career

Li Hongzhang was born in the village of Qunzhi (Chinese: 群治村) in Modian township (Chinese: 磨店鄉), 14 kilometers (8,7 mi) northeast of central Hefei, now the capital of Anhui province. His brother, Li Hongzao, was also to become a high official. From very early in life, he showed remarkable ability, and he became a shengyuan in the imperial examination system. In 1847, he obtained jinshi degree, the highest level in the Imperial examination system. Two years later gained admittance into the Hanlin Academy. Shortly after this the central provinces of the Empire were invaded by the Taiping rebels, and in defence of his native district he raised a regiment of militia. His service to the imperial cause attracted the attention of Zeng Guofan, the generalissimo in command.

In 1859, Li was transferred to the province of Fujian, where he was given the rank of taotai, or attendant of circuit. At Zeng's request, he fought the rebels. He formed an army called the Waigun (淮軍). He found his cause supported by the "Ever Victorious Army", which, having been raised by an American named Frederick Townsend Ward, was placed under the command of Charles George Gordon. With this support Li gained numerous victories leading to the surrender of Suzhou. For these exploits, he was made governor of Jiangsu, was decorated with an imperial yellow jacket, and was enfeoffed as an earl

An incident connected with the surrender of Suzhou soured Li's relationship with Gordon. By an arrangement with Gordon, the rebel princes yielded Nanjing on condition that their lives should be spared. In spite of the agreement, Li ordered their instant execution. This breach of faith so infuriated Gordon that he seized a rifle, intending to shoot the falsifier of his word, and would have done so had Li not fled. On the suppression of the rebellion (1864), Li took up his duties as governor, but was not long allowed to remain in civil life. On the outbreak of the Nian Rebellion in Henan and Shandong (1866), he was ordered again to take to the field, and after some misadventures, he succeeded in suppressing the movement. A year later, he was appointed viceroy of Huguang, where he remained until 1870, when the Tianjin Massacre necessitated his transfer to the scene of the outrage. He was appointed to the viceroyalty of the metropolitan province of Zhili, and justified his appointment by the energy with which he suppressed all attempts to keep alive the anti-foreign sentiment among the people. For his services, he was made imperial tutor and member of the grand council of the Empire, and was decorated with manyeyed peacocks' feathers.

To his duties as viceroy were added those of the Superintendent of Trade, and from that time until his death, with a few intervals of retirement, he created the foreign policy of China. He concluded the Chefoo Convention with Sir Thomas Wade (1876), and thus ended the difficulty caused by the murder of Mr. Margary in Yunnan, he arranged treaties with Peru and the Convention of Tientsin with Japan, and he directed the Chinese policy in Korea. Among Li's projects to open China to the world on Chinese terms was support for the Chinese Educational Mission, which sent Chinese boys to the United States for education starting in 1872. The Mission, however, was aborted in 1881.

Later career

On the death of the Tongzhi Emperor in 1875, he introduced a large armed force into the capital and effected a coup d'etat which placed the Guangxu Emperor on the throne under the tutelage of the two dowager empresses Ci'an and Cixi. In 1886, on the conclusion of the Sino-French War, he arranged a treaty with France. Li was impressed with the necessity of strengthening the empire, and while Viceroy of Zhili he raised a large well-drilled and well-armed force, and spent vast sums both in fortifying Port Arthur and the Taku forts and in increasing the navy. For years, he had watched the successful reforms effected in the Empire of Japan and had a well-founded dread of coming into conflict with that nation.

Li Hongzhang 李鴻章



Li Hongzhang in 1896

Viceroy of Zhili and Minister of Beiyang

In office

1871-1895

Monarch Tongzhi Emperor

Guangxu Emperor

Preceded by Zeng Guofan Succeeded by Wang Wenshao

> In office 1900-1901

Preceded by Yu Lu Succeeded by Yuan Shikai

Viceroy of Huguang

In office 1867-1870

Preceded by Guan Wen Succeeded by Li Hanzhang

Viceroy of Liangguang

In office 1899-1900

Tan Zhonglin

Preceded by

Succeeded by Tao Mo

Personal details Born 15 February 1823

Hefei, Anhui, Qing Empire

Died 7 November 1901 (aged 78)

Beijing, Qing Empire

Li Wenan (father) Relations

Li Hanzhang (brother)

Occupation Official, general, diplomat

Military service

Beivang Fleet Allegiance

First Sino-Japanese War Battles/wars

Li Hongzhang

李鴻章 Traditional Chinese

李鸿章 Simplified Chinese

Transcriptions

Mandarin

Hanyu Pınyın Lĩ Hóngzhãng Wade-Giles Li Hung-chang



Li Hongzhang in early life



Nanjing Jinling Arsenal (金陵造局), built by Li Hongzhang in 1865, during the Self-Strengthening Movement



Li Hongzhang with Lord Salisbury and Lord Curzon

Empress Cixi's declaration of war. [10] Li refused to accept orders

In 1885 Li founded the Tianjin Military Academy for Chinese army officers, with German advisers, as part of his military reforms. [1][2] The move was supported by Anhui Army commander Zhou Shengchuan. [3] The academy was to serve Anhui Army and Green Standard Army officers. Various practical military, mathematic and science subjects were taught at the academy. The instructors were German officers. [4] Another programme was started at the academy for five years in 1887 to train teenagers as new army officers. [5] Mathematics, practical and technical subjects, sciences, foreign languages, Chinese Classics and history were taught at the school. Exams were administered to students. The instruction for Tianjin Military Academy was copied at the Weihaiwei and Shanhaiguan military achools. [6] The 'maritime defence fund' supplied the budget for the Tianjina Military Academy, which was shared with the Tianjin Naval Academy.[7]

Because of his prominent role in Chinese diplomacy in Korea and of his strong political connections in Manchuria, Li Hongzhang found himself leading Chinese forces during the disastrous Sino-Japanese War. In fact, it was mostly the armies that he established and controlled that did the fighting, whereas other Chinese troops led by his rivals and political enemies did not come to their aid. Rampant corruption in the army further weakened China's military. For instance, one official misappropriated ammunition funds for personal use. As a result, shells ran out during battle, forcing one navy commander, Deng Shichang, to resort to ramming the enemies' ship. The defeat of his modernized troops and a naval force at the hands of the Japanese undermined his political standing, as well as the wider cause of the Self-Strengthening Movement. Yet the court entrusted Li to go to Japan and negotiate with Japanese Minister Ito Hirobumi. Li paid a personal price for China's defeat. While signing the Treaty of Shimonoseki ending the war, a Japanese assassin fired at him and wounded him below the left eye. Due to the diplomatic loss of face, Japan agreed to the immediate ceasefire Li had urged in the days before the incident. [8]

In 1896, he attended the coronation of Emperor Nicholas II of Russia on behalf of the Qing Government and toured Europe, Canada and the United States of America, where he advocated reform of the American immigration policies that had greatly restricted Chinese immigration after the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 (renewed in 1892). While in Britain, he toured parts of the country by train in keeping with his desire to inspire railway development in his own country, forever fighting against the prejudices of China's conservative leaders. He visited the industrial area of Barrow in Britain's north-west and even toured Lake Windermere (Visit to Lake Windermere (http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Li-Hung-chang-UK-visit-1896.jpg)) on a steamer operated by the Furness Railway Company. He also witnessed the 1896 Royal Naval Fleet Review at Spithead.) It was during his visit to Britain in 1896 that Queen Victoria made him a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order. [9]

In 1900, Li once more played a major diplomatic role in negotiating a settlement with the Eight Nation Alliance forces which had invaded China to put down the Boxer Rebellion. His early position was that the Qing Dynasty was making a mistake by supporting the Boxers against the



Li Hongzhang Names (details)

Known in English as: Li Hongzhang or Li Hung-chang

Traditional Chinese: 李鴻章 Simplified Chinese: 李鸿章 Pinyin: Lǐ Hóngzhāng Wade-Giles: Li Hung-chang

Peerage: Marquis Suyi of the First Class 一等肅毅侯

Courtesy names (字): Jiànfǔ (漸甫) Zǐfù (子黻) Pseudonyms (號): Shǎoquán (少荃) (Yisou and Shengxin Yisou (儀叟)

used in his old age) Shěngxīn (省心)

Nickname: Mr. Li the Second (李二先生) (i.e. 2nd son of his father) Posthumous name: Wénzhōng (文忠)
(Refined and Loyal)



Portrait of Li Hongzhang, 1871



Photographic portrait of Lihongzhang by Baoji Studio, Shanghai. Date

from the government for more troops when they were needed to fight against the foreigners, which he had available. [11] Li controlled the Chinese Telegraph service, whose despatches asserted falsely that Chinese forces had exterminated all foreigners in the Legation siege, convincing many western readers. [12]

In 1901 Li was the principal Qing dynasty negotiator with the foreign powers who had captured Beijing. On 7 September 1901, he signed the Boxer Protocol treaty ending the Boxer crisis, obtaining the departure of the foreign armies at the price of huge indemnities for China. Exhausted from the negotiations, he died from liver inflammation two months later at Shenlian Temple in Beijing. [13] Guangxu created him the title Marquis Suyi of the First Class (一等肅毅候). This title was inherited by his grandson Li Guojie.

Legacy and assessment

Li left a word as his self-evaluation: "To know me and judge me is a task for the next millennium(知我罪我,付之千载)".

Because of Li's reputation for welcoming foreign influence and his 1896 visit to the United States, he was regarded favourably there. He was wrongly credited with inventing Chop suey during that visit. In 1913 William Francis Mannix wrote and published a fabricated Memoirs of Li Hung Chang [14] which received widespread praise before being exposed as a forgery in 1923. [15][16]

A scholarly biographer said Li "did perhaps all he could for a land where the conservatism of the people, a reactionary officialdom, and unrestrained international rivalry made each step forward a matter of great difficulty," and praised him as "always progressive, yet patient and conciliatory, it was his fate to bear blame for failures which might have been avoided if he had had his way."

[17] The leader of China's New Culture Movement, Hu Shih was also sympathetic, remarking that if Li had been allowed the opportunity, his achievement for China might have equalled the achievement for Japan of his 1895 negotiating partner, Ito Hirobumi.

Chinese nationalists criticized Li's relations with the western powers and Japan. Liang Qichao's 1902 biography of Li blamed him for China's woes and set the tone for further castigation. Li in this view was the chief culprit for the Self-Strengthening Movement, which these nationalists condemned for collaborating with the European imperialists and suppressing the masses. Liang Qichao's son, Liang Sicheng in 1951 denounced Li for "selling out" the country. [18] History textbooks in the People's Republic of China attacked Li as a "feudalist" and a traitor to the Chinese people. [19] It was not until the 1980s that mainland historians began a serious debate of the sort which had been taking place in Taiwan.



Woodcut of Li Hongzhang with Otto von Bismarck in Friedrichsruh in

For his life's work, Britain's Queen Victoria made Li a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order.

Bribery controversy

Sergei Witte dismissed some rumours during Li's visit to Europe that Li was bribed. [20] However according to Russian account, he himself had urged Russian government to build a 3 million rubles' "Li Hongzhang Foundation" to make Li and Zhang Yinheng to support Sino-Russia railway treaty and Lushun-Dalian Rent Treaty. And a payment of 0.5 million rubles is confirmed. [21] Ma Wenzhong questioned whether Russian account is reliable. [22]

Works

■ Trade Charter Precedents Collection (通商約章成案彙編 1886) (http://books.google.com/books? id=UKMsAAAAYAAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0)

See also

- · Self-Strengthening Movement
- Military history of China (pre-1911)
- Beiyang Army
- Battle of Shanghai (1861)

Notes

- 1. ^ Kwang-ching Liu (1980). John King Fairbank, Denis Crispin Twitchett, ed. Late Ch'ing, 1800-1911 (http://books.google.com/books?

 id=pEfWaxPhdnlC&q=Liu+Chin-t%27ang%27s+big+German+guns+Pai+Yen-hu+without+resistance#v=snippet&q=wu-pei%20hsueht'ang%201885%20tardy&f=false). Volume 11, Part 2 of The Cambridge History of China Series. Cambridge University Press. p. 266.

 ISBN 0-521-22029-7. Retrieved 2012-1-18. "China's first academy to train personnel for land war, the Tientsin Military Academy (wu-pei
 hsueh-t'ang), was not established until 1885, five years after the founding of the naval academy there. This tardy start is hard to understand especially in the light of Li Hung-chang's
 efforts in the seventies to send Chinese military trainees to both Europe and the United States.171 The American general, Emory Upton, had suggested to Li as early as 1875 that a
 Chinese military academy be established, but Li rejected as too"
- 2. ^ Kwang-ching Liu (1980). John King Fairbank, Denis Crispin Twitchett, ed. Late Ch'ing, 1800-1911 (http://books.google.com/books?id=pEfWaxPhdnlC&q=Liu+Chin-t%27ang% 27s+big+German+guns+Pai+Yen-hu+without+resistance#v=snippet&q=proposal%20'professors%20and%20instructors&f=false). Volume 11, Part 2 of The Cambridge History of China Series (illustrated ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 267. ISBN 0-521-22029-7. Retrieved 2012-1-18. "expensive Upton's proposal for nine 'professors and instructors' from the United States Army and a six-year programme of instruction in the English language. In 1880, Gordon also urged Li to set up a military academy, but only in 1884 did he seriously pursue the idea, evidently because of the Sino-French War, the arrival in China of some German military instructors, and the changing attitude of some of his own commander, notably Chou Sheng-ch'uan 172"
- 3. ^ John King Fairbank, Denis Crispin Twitchett, ed. (1980). Late Ch'ing, 1800-1911 (http://books.google.com/books?id=pEfWaxPhdnIC&q=Liu+Chin-t%27ang% 27s+big+German+guns+Pai+Yen-hu+without+resistance#v=snippet&q=%20Chinese%20Western%20model%2C%20%20chiang-ling%20veteran&f=false). Volume 11, Part 2 of The Cambridge History of China Series (illustrated ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 267. ISBN 0-521-22029-7. Retrieved 2012-1-18. "Even Chou Sheng-ch'uan indicated that while he favoured a Chinese military academy on the Western model, he felt nonetheless that it was 'not necessary to train many commanders (chiang-ling)'.173 Chou was basically satisfied with the Anhwei Army's command structure, and he knew that many veteran officers would resist personnel changes."
- 4. ^ John King Fairbank, Denis Crispin Twitchett, ed. (1980). Late Ch'ing, 1800-1911 (http://books.google.com/books?id=pEfWaxPhdnIC&q=Liu+Chin-(%27ang% 27s+big+German+guns+Pai+Yen-hu+without+resistance#v=snippet&q=civil%20functionaries%20(wen-yuan)%20astronomy%20german&f=false). Volume 11, Part 2 of The Cambridge History of China Series (illustrated ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 267. ISBN 0-521-22029-7. Retrieved 2012-1-18. "Li's initial proposal for an academy was very modest, He planned to train only about one hundred lower officers and some troops selected from the Anhwei army and the Lien-chün battalions, together with some civil functionaries (wen-yuan) who were 'willing to learn about military affairs'. The compressed curriculum consisted of astronomy, geography, science, surveying, drafting, mathematics, fortifications and military drill and operations. Half a dozen German officers began teaching at the school. Instruction was primarily in German, with the help of translators drawn from the Peking Interpreters' College (Tung-wen kuan) and elsewhere. Li expected the students to complete their education in one year (it actually took two), after which they would return to their original units to impart their newly acquired knowledge to their comrades. In all, about 1,500 'cadets' were trained in this way from 1885 to 1900. Most served only as instructors; only a few became officers. 174"
- 5. ^ John King Fairbank, Denis Crispin Twitchett, ed. (1980). Late Ch'ing, 1800-1911 (http://books.google.com/books?id=pEfWaxPhdnIC&q=Liu+Chin-t%27ang% 27s+big+German+guns+Pai+Yen-hu+without+resistance#v=onepage&q=spring%201887%20five-year%20applicants&f=false). Volume 11, Part 2 of The Cambridge History of China Series (illustrated ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 268. ISBN 0-521-22029-7. Retrieved 2012-1-18. "In the spring of 1887, Li added a five-year programme designed to produce officers. Applicants were limited in age to between thirteen and sixteen, and were required to have had a Chinese education appropriate for their years. This qualification was tested by an entrance examination. Forty"

- 6. ^ John King Fairbank, Denis Crispin Twitchett, ed. (1980). Late Ch'ing, 1800-1911 (http://books.google.com/books?id=pEfWaxPhdnIC&q=Liu+Chin-t%27ang% 27s+big+German+guns+Pai+Yen-hu+without+resistance#v=snippet&q=course%20rigorous%20german%20english%20geometry%20astronomy%20chinese%20history% 20classics&f=false). Volume 11, Part 2 of The Cambridge History of China Series (illustrated ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 268. ISBN 0-521-22029-7. Retrieved 2012-1-18. "students were accepted initially. Each had to pledge to be at the academy for five consecutive years and not to take the civil service examinations or get married. Leave was granted for mourning a parent, but only for a short period.175 The five-year course was comparatively rigorous: the first three years included a foreign language (German or English), arithmetic, algebra, geometry, mechanics, astronomy, natural science, geography, map-making, Chinese history and the classics; the last two included gunnery, military drill, fortifications and other technical subjects. Periodic examinations tested proficiency, determined class standing, and provided the basis for progress reports to the throne. This general approach was also followed at Li's military training schools at Weihaiwei and Shanhaikuan, whicih may be considered extensions of the Tientsin programme.176"
- 7. ^ John King Fairbank, Denis Crispin Twitchett, ed. (1980). Late Ch'ing, 1800-1911 (http://books.google.com/books?id=pEfWaxPhdnIC&q=Liu+Chin-t%27ang% 27s+big+German+guns+Pai+Yen-hu+without+resistance#v=onepage&q=dwindling%20maritime%20defence%20fund%20important%20figures&f=false). Volume 11, Part 2 of The Cambridge History of China Series (illustrated ed.). Cambridge University Press. p. 268. ISBN 0-521-22029-7. Retrieved 2012-1-18. "Like the Tientsin naval academy, the military academy was financed by the dwindling Peiyang 'maritime defence fund'. Though plagued by poor and corrupt management, difficulties with foreign instructors, the language barrier, and problems with students, many important figures in China's early twentieth-century history were trained there.177"
- 8. ^ Mutsu, Munemitsu. (1982). Kenkenroku, p. 174.
- 9. ^ Antony Best, "Race, Monarchy, and the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, 1902–1922, "Social Science Japan Journal 2006 9(2):171–186
- A Zhou, Yongming (June 2005). Historicizing Online Politics: Telegraphy, the Internet, and Political Participation in China. Stanford: Stanford University Press. p. 75. ISBN 0804751285.
- 11. ^ Marina Warner (1974). The dragon empress: life and times of Tz'u-hsi, 1835-1908, Empress dowager of China (http://books.google.com/books? ei=oGsLT5rpEqHu0gGY29nuBQ&id=hTend7Ttp9UC&dq=have+started+the+aggression% 2C+and+the+extinction+of+our+nation+is+imminent++no+face+ancestors+death&q=unmolested+friendly+troublespot) (illustrated, reprint ed.). Cardinal. p. 138. ISBN 0-351-18657-3. Retrieved 1-9-2011. "moored unmolested in the Chinese port; friendly exchanges took place for a few weeks; in Peking, the court, breathing war, was hampered by its generals, and by Li hung-chang in particular, who simply did not obey and send the reinforcements Tz'u-hsi ordered to the troublespot."
- 12. ^ Robert B. Edgerton (1997). Warriors of the rising sun: a history of the Japanese military (http://books.google.com/books?id=wkHyjjbv-yEC&pg=PA85&dq=the+siege+of+the+peking+legations+was+not+intended+to+kill+all+the+foreigners.+If+it+had+been,+nothing+would+have+been+easier+for+the+chinese+than+to-20hung-chang%20ownership%20of%20the%20chinese%20telegraph&f=false). W. W. Norton & Company. p. 86. ISBN 0-393-04085-2. Retrieved November 28, 2010.
- 13. ^ Fenby, Jonathan (2009). The Penguin History of Modern China: The Fall and Rise of a Great Power, 1850-2009. Penguin Books. pp. 89-90.
- 14. ^ William Francis Mannix. Memoirs of Li Hung Chang. (Boston, New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913; Reprinted: Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1923; with "The story of a literary forgery," by Ralph D. Paine.
- 15. ^ Samuel C. Chu and Kwang-Ching Liu, Li Hung-Chang and China's Early Modernization (http://books.google.com/books?id=y5aFP-7b3jIC&pg=PA286&dq=Memoirs+of+Li+Hung-chang&hl=en&sa=X&ei=NTn3UMfXBeb3qQGxh4HQAw&ved=0CEMQ6AEwBA#v=onepage&q=Memoirs%20of%20Li%20Hung-chang&f=false). Armonk, New York: M. E. Sharpe, 1994), p. 286
- 16. Albert G. Hess, "The 'Memoirs' of Li Hung-chang: The story of a non-translation," in George Kao, ed., The Translation of Things Past: Chinese History and Historiography (Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 1982), 155-67.
- 17. A William J. Hail, "Li Hung-chang," in Arthur Hummel, ed., Eminent Chinese of the Ch'ing Period (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1943) Vol II, p. 470-471.
- 18. ^ Samuel C. Chu and Kwang-Ching Liu, Li Hung-Chang and China's Early Modernization (http://books.google.com/books?id=y5aFP-7b3jlC&pg=PA286&dq=Memoirs+of+Li+Hung-chang&hl=en&sa=X&ei=NTn3UMfXBcb3qQGxh4HQAw&ved=0CEMQ6AEwBA#v=onepage&q=Memoirs%20of%20Li%20Hung-chang&f=false). Armonk, New York: M. E. Sharpe, 1994), p. 286
- 19. ^ Albert Feuerwerker, History in Communist China (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1968), p. 235.
- 20. ^ He wrote the name as Li Hung Chang http://archive.org/stream/memoirsofcountwi00wittuoft/memoirsofcountwi00wittuoft_djvu.txt
- 21. ^ 《俄国的远东政策--1881~1904》 (商务印书馆 1977)
- 22. ^ 《旅大租借交涉中李鸿章、张荫桓的"受贿"问题 (《学术界》2003年第2期)

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External links

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- Alicia E. Neve Little (1903; rpr. 2010). Li Hung-Chang: His Life and Times (http://books.google.com/books?
 id=reCar2RbbzgC&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false). Cambridge University
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Wikisource has the text of the 1911 Encyclopædia Britannica article Li Hung Chang. • Hung-chang Li, Hirobumi Itō, Verbal Discussions During Peace Negotiations between the Chinese Plenipotentiary, Viceroy Li Hung-Chang, and the Japanese Plenipotentiaries, Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu, at Shimonoseki, Japan, March-April, 1895 (Tientsin Press, 1895). GOOGLE BOOK: [1] (http://books.google.com/books?id=quQBAAAAMAAJ&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false). Transcripts of the talks and negotiations.

	Political offices	
Preceded by	Acting Viceroy of Liangjiang	Succeeded by
Zeng Guofan	1865–1866	Zeng Guofan
Preceded by	Viceroy of Huguang	Succeeded by
Guan Wen	1867–1870	Li Hanzhang
Preceded by	Viceroy of Zhili and Minister of Beiyang (1st time)	Succeeded by
Zeng Guofan	1871—1895	Wang Wenzhao
Preceded by	Viceroy of Liangguang	Succeeded by
Tan Zhonglin	1899–1900	Tao Mo
Preceded by Yu Lu	Viceroy of Zhili and Minister of Beiyang (2nd time) 1900—1901	Succeeded by Yuan Shikai

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