

the fortified post of Mien-ai. That was not convenient. It borrowed a way through the two Chou and turned against Han so as to attack Ch'u. That could not be done. Now it is not so. Moreover Wei will be ruined at any time soon. It is unable to grudge its possessions—Hsü, Yen-ling and Wu—but cedes them to Ch'in, while they are yet a hundred and sixty li away. As your servant sees it, the day has come for Ch'in and Ch'u to fight it out.'

24)

Kung Chung on several occasions was unfaithful to the nobles. The nobles refused him asylum. In the south he (would have) handed over the State to Ch'u. The King of Ch'u would not listen to him. Su Tai spoke to the king of Ch'u and said: 'The best plan is to listen to him and make preparations against his rebellion. When he rebels it is always relying on Chao in revolt against Ch'u or relying on Ch'i in revolt against Ch'in. Now the four States refuse him asylum and he has nowhere to go. And he is greatly distressed about it. This is indeed the period when he is like Wei Shêng.

HAN 11

1)

Ch'u besieged Yung-shih for five months. Han sent messengers in a continuous succession to ask for succour from Ch'in. The troops of Ch'in did not come down to Hsiao. Han also sent Shang Chin as an envoy to Ch'in. He spoke to the King of Ch'in and said: 'Han with respect to Ch'in dwells as a sheltering protection and goes forth as a direct follower. Now Han has suffered injury. The troops of Ch'in do not come down to Hsiao. Your servant has heard that when the lips are removed the teeth are cold. I wish Your Majesty would give it your mature consideration.'

The Queen-Mother Hsüan said: 'The envoys who have come are many. Only Shang-tzü's words are true.' She called Shang-tzü in. The Queen-Mother Hsüan spoke to Shang-tzü and said: 'When your handmaiden served the former king, if he placed his thigh over my body I was distressed and could not support it. When he put his body completely on me I did not feel the weight. Why? Because there was some slight gain. If now help is given to Han but the soldiers are not many and the provisions are not abundant, they will not be sufficient to deliver Han. In rescuing Han from danger a daily expenditure of a thousand (catties) of silver cannot alone cause the handmaiden to have some slight gain.'

Shang Chin sent back a written report to the King of Han. The King of Han commissioned Chang Ts'ui. Chang Ts'ui pleaded illness and in a day travelled (only) from one District town to another. When Chang Ts'ui arrived, Kan Mou said: 'Han is hard pressed. Although you are ill, sir, you have come.' Chang Ts'ui said: 'Han is not hard pressed. And yet it is hard pressed.' Kan Mou said: 'Ch'in is a weighty State with a king who knows what he is doing. There is no one who does not know that Han is in difficulty. Can you now say, sir, that it is not hard pressed?' Chang Ts'ui said: 'If Han were hard pressed it would humble itself in submission to Ch'u. How would your servant dare to come?' Kan Mou said: 'Do not report what you have said, sir.'

Kan Mou went in and spoke to the King of Ch'in, saying: 'Kung Chung's authority was such that he got troops from Ch'in. That is why he has dared to oppose Ch'u. Now Yung-shih is besieged and the army of Ch'in does not go down to Hsiao. That means that Han will be no more. On the one hand Kung Chung raises his head aloft and does not come to court and on the other hand Kang Shu will take the State and

make an agreement in the South with Ch'u. If Ch'u and Han are united, the House of Wei will not dare not to obey. That is, Ch'u will use three states to scheme against Ch'in. In this way the assault on Ch'in will have taken complete shape. I do not know whether it is more profitable to sit still and await attack or to attack others.'

The king of Ch'in said: 'Good'. As a result he sent troops down to Hsiao for the deliverance of Han.

2)

Ch'u besieged Yung-shih. Han ordered Ling Hsiang to beg for help from Ch'in. Ch'in accordingly sent Kung-sun Mei on a mission to Han. Kung Chung said: 'Do you think, sir, that Ch'in is about to deliver Han or not?' He replied: 'The speech of the King of Ch'in was: 'Allow me to go by way of Nan-cheng and Lan-t'ien so as to enter and attack Ch'u, and to send forth soldiers to San-ch'uan to await Your Lordship.' This would seem not to agree with (the proposal) to pitch his camp in Nan-cheng. Kung Chung said: 'How so?' He replied: 'The King of Ch'in will be sure to take the old policy of Chang I as his model. When King Wei of Ch'u attacked Liang, Chang I spoke to the King of Ch'in and said: 'If you join Ch'u to attack Liang, Wei will humble itself in submission to Ch'u. Han is already its ally. In that case Ch'in will be isolated. Therefore the best plan is to send forth soldiers to encourage Wei.' Thereupon (Ch'u) attacked P'i-shih. The House of Wei was encouraged. King Wei was angry. Ch'u and Wei fought a great battle. Ch'in took (the lands) beyond Hsi-ho and returned. Now it is speaking openly about delivering Han but secretly it is on good terms with Ch'u. If Your Lordship is encouraged by your reliance on Ch'in, you will be sure to enter lightly upon a battle with Ch'u. Ch'u, having secretly obtained that Ch'in will be of no use to you, will be sure to think it easy to withstand Your Lordship. If Your Lordship overcomes Ch'u in battle, (Ch'in) will thereupon, along with Your Lordship, take advantage of Ch'u, get possession easily of San-ch'uan and return. If Your Lordship does not overcome Ch'u in battle, it will block up San-ch'uan and garrison it; Your Lordship will not be able to deliver it. Your servant greatly dislikes the affair. Ssu-ma K'ang thrice returned to Ying. Kan Mou and Chao Hsien met on the frontier. Their words were: 'To receive a seal of office'. In reality it was as if they had a treaty.'

Kung Chung was afraid and said: 'Then what is to be done?' He replied: 'Your Lordship must put Han first and Ch'in last, put yourself first and Chang I last. Your Lordship's best plan is to unite the State quickly with Ch'i and Ch'u. Ch'in will certainly leave the State to Your Lordship in order to free itself from attack. In that case it will be only Chang I whom you will be warding off and in reality it will not be as though you had lost Ch'in.'

3)

Kung Chung was exchanging lands for Han and Wei. Kung Shu disputed it but he was not heeded and so he was going away. Ssu T'i spoke to Kung Shu and said: 'If Your Lordship goes away, the exchange can certainly be completed. Your Lordship will have no excuse to come back. Moreover it will show that Your Lordship is lightly esteemed. Your Lordship's best plan is to agree to it. If only the one hand lands of Han are exchanged, it will be injurious to Chao. If on the other hand lands of Wei are exchanged, it will be injurious to Ch'u. Your Lordship's best plan is to inform Ch'u and Chao. Ch'u and Chao will dislike it. When Chao hears of it, it will raise troops and station them near to Yang-ch'ang. When Ch'u

hears of it, it will send out troops and station them near Fang-ch'êng; and the exchange will certainly be defeated.'

I Hsüan's instructions to the King of Han to obtain (the support of) Ch'in were: 'Equip a hundred carriages for Kung Shu saying that he is going to Ch'u to exchange San-ch'uan.' He took the occasion to get Kung Chung to speak to the King of Ch'in and say: 'What San-ch'uan is saying is: 'The King of Ch'in is certain to take us. The King of Han can think of no solution.' Why does not Your Majesty make trial of sending Hsiang-tzū as a hostage to Han and cause the King of Han to know that Your Majesty will not take San-ch'uan? By this means you will send Hsiang-tzū out (of the State) and you will earn the gratitude of the heir-presumptive."

4) In the campaign of Hsiang-ling, Pi Chang spoke to Kung Shu and said: "I ask that without the use of your soldiers both Ch'u and Wei be made grateful to Your Lordship's State. Ch'u, wishing to appoint the kung-tzū Kao, will certainly threaten Wei with its soldiers. Why does not Your Lordship get someone to speak to Chao-tzū and say: 'You are not certain to be victorious in battle. Allow me on your behalf to raise troops with which to go to Wei, you will have an excuse for not fighting.' In this way you will cause the heir-presumptive together with Chao Yang and the King of Liang all to be grateful to Your Lordship."

5) Kung Shu sent the prince of Fêng to Ch'in, fearing that he might be ~~detained~~, he instructed Yang Hsiang to speak to the King of Ch'in and say: 'To detain the Prince of Fêng as a favour to Han Ch'ên is not the highest wisdom. Your Majesty's best plan is to show favour to the Prince of Fêng and give him the support of Ch'in. If the Prince of Fêng enlarges on Your Majesty's kindness and is not grateful to Kung Shu and so becomes a rival to the heir-presumptive, your Majesty's favour will be spread abroad but Han will suffer injury.'

6) (Someone) spoke to Kung Shu and said: "If Your Lordship wishes to get Wu-sui from Ch'in and yet not be troubled by Ch'u's ability to injury Ho-wai, your Lordship's best plan is to get someone to frighten the King of Ch'u and get someone to ask for Wu-sui from Ch'in for Your Lordship. Speak to the King of Ch'u and say: 'Send an important envoy to ask for Wu-sui from Ch'in for Han. If the King of Ch'in listens (to the request) your command gets its way with ~~the~~ lord of ten thousand chariots, Han gets Wu-sui so as to put a limit on Ch'in, there ~~is~~ no danger from Ch'in, and it ~~is~~ grateful to Ch'u; Han will be but a District of Ch'u. If Ch'in does not listen, Ch'in and Han's resentment will be profound and they will each seek the alliance of Ch'u.'"

7) (Someone) spoke to Kung Shu and said: "When you go on board a boat, if the boat leaks and the leak is not blocked up, the boat will sink. If you block up the leak in a boat and yet make light of the Marquis of Yang's waves, the boat will capsize. Now Your Lordship considers that you are yourself competent to argue with the Duke of Hsieh but you make light of Ch'in, that is blocking up a leaking boat but making light of the Marquis of Yang's waves. I wish Your Lordship would look carefully into it.'

8) Ch'i ordered Chou Chü to go on a mission to Chêng to appoint Han Jao and set aside Kung Shu. Chou Chü was troubled about it and said: "Kung Shu has connections with the prince of Chou. Now I am sent to Chêng to appoint Han Jao and set aside Kung Shu. The saying has it: 'He who is angry at home shows it in the market-place.' If now Kung Shu is resentful against Ch'i, he will be detested."

but can do nothing about it, he will be sure to break with the prince of Chou and become deeply resentful against me.' Shih Shê said: 'Go, my Lord. Allow me to get Kung Shu for certain to make much of Your Lordship.' Chou Chü went and came to Chêng. Kung Shu was very angry. Shih Shê went in, saw him, and said: 'Chou Chü was indeed unwilling to come. Your servant took upon myself to urge him. Chou Chü's unwillingness to come was because of Your Lordship. your servant's urging him was also on Your Lordship's behalf.' Kung Shu said: 'Let me hear it explained.' He replied: 'The sons of a great officer of Ch'i had a dog. The dog was fierce and could not be shooed away. If anyone shooed it away it would be sure to bite him. There was a visitor who asked permission to shoo it away. He fixed his gaze on it and gently shooed it away. The dog did not move. Again he shooed it away. The dog thereupon had no heart to bite anyone. Now Chou Chü has indeed got this business with respect to Your Lordship and, because he cannot avoid it, he comes on this mission. He will courteously set forth what he has to say and will be slow in speech. The King of chêng will be sure to think that the King of Ch'i is not urgent and will certainly not consent. If now Chou Chü had not come, someone else would certainly have come. The envoy who came would have no connections with Your Lordship and would wish to win favour with Han Jao. He would certainly be keen on his mission and his speech would certainly be urgent. Then the King of Chêng would certainly have consented.' Kung Shu said: 'Good' whereupon he made much of Chou Chü. The result was that the King did not grant the request concerning Han Jao.

Kung Shu of Han and Chi Shê were rivals for the state. Chêng Ch'iang went on a mission for the King of Ch'u to Han. He took upon himself to decree Hsin-ch'êng and Yang-jen to the the heir-apparent with which to dispute the state with Kung Shu. (The King of) Ch'u was angry and was about to punish him. Chêng Chiang said: 'It was in the interests of the state that your servant took upon himself to give them to him. Your servant said that if the heir-apparent got Hsin-ch'êng and yang-jen with which to dispute the State with Kung Shu and got complete possession of it, Wei of Han were hard pressed it would be sure to depend for its life upon Ch'u. And how would it dare to demand Hsin-ch'êng and yang-jen? If he was not victorious in the war he would flee rather than die. And if now he came how would he dare to speak about lands?'

The King of Ch'u said: 'Good' and did not punish him.

9)

Kung Shu of Han disputed the State with Chi Shê. The Chung-hsü-tzŭ Ch'iang spoke to the heir-apparent and said: 'The best plan is to make haste and smite Kung Shu before the troops of Ch'i have entered.' The heir-apparent said: 'Not so. If there is war within the state, the state is sure to be divided.' He replied: 'If the affair does not succeed, your person is sure to be in danger. How will you then be able to plan for the integrity of the State?' The heir-apparent paid no heed. The troops of Ch'i did in fact enter and the heir-apparent went forth a fugitive.

10)

Ch'i Ming spoke to Kung Shu and said: 'Ch'i has expelled Chi Shê. Ch'u is treating him well. Now Ch'u wishes very much to be on good terms with Ch'i. Why does not Your Lordship get the king of Ch'i to say to the King of Ch'u: 'Let Your Majesty expel Chi Shê for me and reduce him to extremities.' If Ch'u listens, it will be because Ch'i and Ch'u are in agreement and Chi Shê will flee. If the king of Ch'u does not listen, it will be because he has a secret arrangement with Han.'

11) Kung Shu was about to put Chi Shê to death. (Someone) spoke to Kung Shu

and said: 'The heir-presumptive gives weight to Your Lordship because he is afraid of Chi Shé. If now Chi Shé dies the heir-presumptive, having no troubles, will be sure to make light of Your Lordship. The great officers see that the King is old. They look forward to the heir-presumptive's taking control of affairs and are fixed in their desire to serve him. If the heir-presumptive ~~without~~ has no trouble from Chi Shé and ~~with~~ receives the support of the great officers, your Lordship will certainly be lightly esteemed. Your best plan is not to put Chi Shé to death so as to make the heir-presumptive afraid. The heir-presumptive will be sure all his life to give weight to Your Lordship.'

12)

Kung Shu moreover was putting Chi Shé to death. Sung Hei spoke for him to Kung Shu and said: 'The reason Chi Shé was able to create disorder was that at home he had got his kinsfolk and abroad he had got Ch'in and Ch'u. Now Your Lordship is putting him to death. The heir-presumptive, having no troubles, will be sure to make light of Your Lordship, and the great officers, ~~knowing~~ of Han, knowing that the King is old, and that the heir-presumptive has been appointed, will be sure secretly to serve him. If Ch'in and Ch'u have not Han, they will be sure secretly to serve Po Ying. And Po Ying is (another) Chi Shé. your Lordship's best plan is not to put him to death. If Po Ying is afraid he will certainly be a secret protection to Your Lordship. The great officers of Han cannot be certain that he will not enter. They will certainly not dare to support Po Ying and so create disorder. Ch'in and Ch'u maintain Chi Shé so as to block the way for Po Ying. If Po Ying abroad has not the authority of Ch'in and Ch'u and at home has not the host of his kinsmen, he will certainly not be able to create disorder. This will be to Your Lordship's advantage.'

13)

(Someone) spoke to the Prince of Hsin-ch'êng and said: 'Kung Shu and Po Ying are afraid that Ch'in and Ch'u will restore Chi Shé. Why does not Your Lordship on behalf of Han ask for the hostage in Ch'u? If the King of Ch'u gives heed and sends the hostage to Han, Kung Shu and po Ying will know for certain that Ch'in and Ch'u are not going to use Chi Shé to make trouble. They will be sure to bring Han into an agreement with Ch'in and Ch'u. Ch'in and Ch'u with their hold on Han will bring pressure to bear on Wei. The House of Wei will not dare to look to the East. That is, Ch'i will be isolated. If Your Lordship also gets Ch'in to ask for the hostage from Ch'u and Ch'u pays no heed it will be implicated in resentment with Han. Han with its hold on Ch'i and Wei will look fiercely upon Ch'u. The King of Ch'u is sure to ~~have~~ give weight to Your Lordship. If Your Lordship holds to the weight of Ch'in and Ch'u in order to accumulate gratitude in Han, Kung Shu and Po ying will certainly serve Your Lordship with the State.'

14)

When Hu Yen was getting Chi Shé out of Ch'u he instructed kung Churg to speak to the King of wei and say: 'While the heir-presumptive is in Ch'u, Han dare not leave Ch'u. Why does not Your Lordship try to support the kung-tzu Chiu and ask that he be appointed heir-presumptive?' Following on this he got someone to speak to the King of Ch'u and say: 'If Han appoints the kung-tzu Chiu and abandons Chi Shé Your Majesty will be holding a hostage in vain. Your Majesty's best plan is with all speed to restore Chi Shé. If Chi Shé enters (the state) he will be sure to use the authority of Han to take vengeance on Wei and will be grateful to Your Majesty.'

15)

Chi ~~Sze~~^{Sze} fled to Ch'u. Ch'u was about to accept (the help of) Ch'in and restore him. (Someone) spoke to Mi Jung and said: 'It was Ch'u which set Kung Shu aside and made Chi ~~Sze~~^{Sze} Counsellor. Now Chi ~~Sze~~^{Sze} has fled to Ch'u. Ch'u also is accepting (the help of) Ch'in and restoring him. On the day that Chi ~~Sze~~^{Sze} enters Cheng, Han will become a District dependent upon Ch'u. Your Lordship's best plan is to get the King of Ch'in to offer congratulations on the appointment of Po Ying. If Han breaks with Ch'u it will be sure to serve Ch'in eagerly. If Ch'in has the support of Han and is friendly with Wei, the one of Ch'i and Ch'u which arrives last will be the first to perish. This is a royal enterprise.'

16)

Ling Hsiang spoke to Han Chiu and said: 'Chi ~~Sze~~^{Sze} is a fugitive in Ch'u. The King of Ch'u has a great desire to restore him. He has ordered more than a hundred thousand soldiers of Ch'u to go beyond Fang-ch'eng. Your servant asks permission to get Ch'u to found a city of ten thousand households by the side of yung-shih. Han will certainly raise an army to oppose it. Your Lordship will be sure to have the command. Then Your Lordship may put the soldiers of Ch'u and Han at the service of Chi ~~Sze~~^{Sze} and restore him to Cheng. If Chi ~~Sze~~^{Sze} obtains an entry and is grateful to Your Lordship, he will be sure to put Han and Ch'u at Your Lordship's service.'

Ch'u ordered Ching Li to go to Han and Han was sending Po Ying to Ch'in. Ching Li was troubled about it. Ling Hsiang spoke to Po Ying and said: 'If you, the heir-presumptive, go to Ch'in, Ch'in will be sure to detain you and come to an agreement with Ch'u so as to restore Chi ~~Sze~~^{Sze}. In that case you will again be rejected. Han Chiu is appointed to the throne but has not yet been settled. His younger brother is in Chou. Chou wishes to send him with an escort of a hundred carriages. It fears that though Han Chiu ~~has been appointed~~ enters Han he may not be appointed. Chi Wu-hui is saying: 'The best plan is to follow him with a hundred (catties) of silver. If Han Chiu is appointed use it for the needs of the army. If he is not appointed say that you come to offer it to the rebel.'

17)

Shih Chi on behalf of Han went on a mission to Ch'u. The King of Ch'u asked him, saying: 'What principles, sir, do you follow?' He said: 'I cultivate the doctrines of Lieh-tzu Yu-k'ou.' He said: 'What do you esteem most highly?' He said: 'I esteem correctness.' The King said: 'And can correctness manage the State?' He said: 'It can.' The King said: 'There are many robbers in Ch'u. Can correctness restrain robbers?' He said: 'It can.' He said: 'How can robbers be restrained by correctness?' Just then there was a magpie which settled on the house. He said: 'May I ask what the men of Ch'u call that bird?' The King said: 'They call it a magpie.' He said: 'May it be called a crow?' He said: 'It may not.' He said: 'Now Your Majesty's State has a chu-kuo, a ling-yin, a ssu-ma, and a tien-ling. In their employment in official positions and appointment as ministers they must be said to be incorrupt and competent. Now thieves and robbers go about everywhere but they are unable to prohibit them. This is a case of a crow not being a crow and a magpie not being a magpie.'

18)

Han K'uei was Counsellor in Han. Yen Sui was in high honour with the Prince. The two men were hostile to each other. Yen Sui with upright criticism and straightforward indications exposed Han K'uei's transgressions. Han K'uei, because of this reviled him at court. Yen

Sui drew his sword and ran at him. They were separated. Thereupon Yen Sui, fearing punishment, took flight and went hither and thither seeking a man who could avenge him on Han K'uei. He came to Ch'i. Someone in Ch'i said that Nieh Chêng of Chih-shên-ching-li was a brave and daring man who to avoid his foes was in hiding among the butchers. Yen Sui secretly established a connection with Nieh Chêng, and treated him with great generosity. Nieh Chêng asked him, saying: 'What use, sir, do you wish to make of me?' Yen Sui said: 'I have had the opportunity of serving you, sir, for only a few days. It would be pressing the matter just now. How dare I make a request?' Thereupon Yen Sui prepared wine and toasted him in the presence of Nieh Chêng's mother. Chung-tzû presented a hundred i of gold for Nieh Chêng's mother's old age. Nieh Chêng was startled and wondered still more at his generosity. He firmly declined Yen Chung-tzû's gift. Chung-tzû insisted on offering it but Nieh Chêng declined, saying: 'Your servant has an old mother. My home is poor. I wander about a stranger as a dog butcher that morning and evening. I may get (food) sweet and crisp to nourish my parent. The supply of food for my parent is all prepared. It is right that I do not venture to be worthy of your gift, sir. Yen Chung-tzû cleared everyone away and then spoke for Nieh Chêng's benefit and said: 'Your servant has an enemy and I have wandered about among many of the nobles but when I came to Ch'i I heard that your righteousness, sir, was very exalted and so I straightway brought forward the hundred (i of) gold on purpose that it might meet the expense of coarse husks for your wife, so that I might join in your pleasure, sir. How dare I have any request to make with it?' Nieh Chêng said: 'The reason your servant degrades his aims and disgraces his person by dwelling in the market is that perchance I may nourish my old mother. While my old mother is here I dare not promise myself to anyone.' Yen Chung-tzû insisted on resigning (the gift) to him. Nieh Chêng to the end was unwilling to accept. So Chung-tzû finally performed the ceremony of guest and host and went away.

After a long while Nieh Chêng's mother died. When she had been buried and he had put off his mourning Nieh Chêng said: 'Alas! I am a man of the market. I grasp the butcher's knife. And yet Yen Chung-tzû, who is a high minister of state, did not regard a thousand li as a long way but came in vain by carriage and on horse to make connection with me. My treatment of him was very slighting. I had accomplished nothing great to be spoken about and yet Yen Chung-tzû offered a hundred (i of) gold for my mother's old age. Although I did not accept it, yet he understood me well. A worthy gentleman with a mind moved to wrath by angry looks nevertheless puts his personal confidence in a poor obscure man. And how can I alone be silent and make no move? Moreover when he formerly put pressure on me I made my old mother my sole excuse. Now my old mother has come to the end of her Heaven-given years. I will be employed by him who understands me.'

Thereupon he went West to P'u-yang, saw Yen Chung-tzû, and said: 'The reason I did not grant your request before, ~~was~~, was only that my mother was here. Now my mother is dead. Who is the foe on whom, sir, you wish to be avenged?' Yen Chung-tzû told him everything and said: 'Your servant's enemy is K'uei the Counsellor of Han. K'uei also is an uncle of the prince of Han. His clansmen are abundant. He is very well provided with a body-guard. If your servant sends anyone to kill him he will never be able to get up to him. Now happily you, sir, do not cast me off. Allow me to equip extra carriages and horsemen and ~~sundry~~ warriors for your protection.' Chêng said: 'The distance between Han and Uei is not great. If now someone's Counsellor is to be slain, and that Counsellor is also

a relative of the Prince of the State, the circumstances are such that many men cannot be used. If the men are many, it is impossible not to give rise to (talk about) success or failure. If (talk about) success or failure arises, the conversations will leak out. If the conversations leak out, the whole State of Han will become hostile to you, sir. Will not that be dangerous?'

Thereupon he declined the carriages, the horsemen, and the footmen, took his leave and went on his way alone to Han relying on his sword. Han happened to be holding the meeting at Tung-meng. The King of Han and his Counsellors were all present. Those grasping sword and lance who guarded them were very numerous. Nieh Cheng went straight in, ascended the dais, and struck at Han K'uei. Han K'uei ran and clasped Marquis Ai in his arms. Nieh Cheng struck at him and pierced Marquis Ai as well. The attendants were in great disorder. Nieh Cheng gave a great shout. Those whom he slew were several tens of men. Then he scratched his face and cut out his eyes, stabbed himself in the entrails, and so died.

Han took Nieh Cheng's corpse to the market-place and offered a reward of a thousand (catties) of silver. For a long time no one knew whose son he was. Cheng's elder sister Ying heard of it and said: 'My brother was most worthy. I may not grudge my person and destroy my brother's reputation. It was not my brother's intention.' So she went to Han, looked at him, and said: 'Bravo! In the abundance of his courage and self-reliance he excelled Pen Yu and excelled Cheng Ching. Now he is dead and has no reputation. Since my father and mother are dead and I have no brothers this is my affair. I cannot bear to grudge my person and not publish abroad my brother's ~~name~~ name.' Then she embraced the corpse and wept over it saying: 'This is my younger brother Nieh Cheng of Chih-shên-ching-li.' And she slew herself beneath the corpse. When Chin, Ch'u, Ch'i, and Wei heard of it they said: 'It was not only Cheng's ability. His sister also was a heroine.'

The reason Nieh Cheng was famous in later generations was that his elder sister did not shrink from the punishment of being salted and pickled in order to publish abroad his name.

HAN III.

1) Someone spoke to Kung Chung of Han and said: 'Twins are so much alike that only their mother knows them. Gain and injury are so much alike that only the man of understanding knows them. Now the gain and injury of Your Lordship's state are as much alike as twins are. If you get the right way to act Your Lord will be honoured and you personally will be at ease. If you do not get the right way Your Lord will be humiliated and you personally will be in danger. If now agreement is achieved between Ch'in and Wei and it is not Your Lordship who presides over the treaty between the two, Han will be sure to scheme (to enter the alliance). If Han goes in Wei's train to establish good relations with Ch'in, it becomes a follower of Wei. Then Han will be lightly esteemed and Your Lord will be humiliated. When Ch'in has come to be on good terms with Han it will certainly want to set up someone of whom it is fond and whom it trusts and make him to have charge of affairs in Han so as to accomplish its aims. In that case Your Lordship will be in danger. If now Your Lordship along with the Prince of An-ch'eng brings about an agreement between Ch'in and Wei, suppose it is achieved it will certainly be an occasion of happiness, suppose it is not achieved it will also be an occasion of happiness. If an agreement between Ch'in and Wei is achieved and Your Lordship presides over the treaty between the two, Han in that case becomes the doorway between Ch'in and Wei. That is, Han