

馮公平山

馮公平先生，諱朝安。廣東新會縣人。以商業起家。生平樂善好施。尤熱心捐財興學。近世言慈善者必稱之。少讀書於家。年十六。業傷寒。從其父之選。既壯有室。其地有貢人某。見先生貌俊偉。許為大器。欲以其女為先生妾。並指其產鉅萬治奩具。先生婉詞謝之。



THE LATE MR. FUNG PING SHAN

者甚眾。後居香港。每舉先與辦慈善事業。連被選為東華醫院首總理。及永遠顧問。保良局首總理。國防局紳董。太平紳士。香港大學永遠校董等職。初先生總理東華醫院時。為院廣開財源。院費因益充裕。值癸丑年興。香港金融。蒙其影響。醫院有積存之資十數萬金。於銀號。眾議即須提取。先生謂院董皆殷富。動開商場觀聽。一提存款。必引起相繼。銀業益滋紊亂。乃以其產業文據為質。保不提金。

大學經費。公平山圖書館建築及開辦費。兒童工藝院建築費。皆出鉅資。慷慨相助。而景堂圖書館。為紀念其先人者。經營尤大。景堂其先德字也。計先後用於教育之資。凡百餘萬金。其歲捐零星小款。尚不與焉。民國十三年甲子。先生游於歐美。考察商業。普及教育。既歸。見吾國教育。設備辦理。多不如人。貢獻所得。益不遺餘力。至其言行。尤堪矜式。先生少在外。而篤於友愛。自其幼時。於先世遺產。未嘗過問。嘗曰。人能於分占財物時。視為父母多生幾子。於有事出資時。視為父母祇生己身。則必無爭執。又謂處世為人。第一不可欺人。第二不可為人欺。又以古人格言。乃積學經驗之語。辦事不暇讀書者。常取而常觀之。以增進道德。見金蘭生先生所輯格言聯璧乙書。喜其簡要。恒記誦其語。以為行事之則。故其遇事堅定。與人謙和。律身特已。視宿儒不多讓也。當其七十生辰時。親友之欲致賀者。悉請惠以現金。彙集指於慈善事業。人皆謂先生能以自壽壽人。民國五年六月十九日。卒於港寓。享壽七十有二。中外人士。聞之莫不惋惜。殯日。承遺命不用葬儀。惟港府特派之軍樂送殯耳。其故里懷者開追悼會於江門。廣州中大附小亦開會以表哀思。總理李氏。先租。其子汝材。亦早夭。側室李氏。生子汝槐。亦不育。五旬後而東華。東華。始生。初先生恐家展多故。不欲置妾。至是親友以其嗣續不繁。勸之。乃立庶室鄭氏。生東芹。計共生子五人。長存者三。生女八人。存者七。東華。畢業於香港大學文科。生子慶龍。東華亦曾畢業港大文科。生子慶麟。慶龍。東華尚在求學中。岐嶷異乎常人。諸子幼承庭訓。克承懿德。為世所重。積善之家。咸卜其必昌大云。

○清光緒癸未。丁外艱歸。服闋。以運商乘未足發展所長。乃北溯大江。過武漢。逾三峽。以入巴蜀。每應供求相劑之理。為化居懸遠之道。以此優有藏蓄。時蜀商多以運鴉片致富。有勸其兼營之。先生不為動。光緒壬辰。先生至廣州。任方便醫院。及各善堂董事。乙巳歲大歉。愛育善堂。及各善院紳董。舉辦平糶。眾推先生赴港購米。及期。金不至。米商鑒先生誠篤。先與米。不即索值。饑民得以存活。

成之。廣東政府當軸閣先生名。屢欲聘為顧問。先生謂不習為政。均不受命。先生少時好學。業已為商。無暇及此。既致巨產。乃一慈儒。辦教育事業。於其邑城則設立貧民義塾。職業學校。景堂圖書館。平山小學。及捐建運動場。於香港則立男女義學凡三校。復約同志組織孔聖會中學。香港華商總會圖書館。其輸財而不親其事者。於廣東高寺師範附屬小學校建築費。香港大學堂基金。閱書樓購書費。漢文

銀市率賴以安。自是益為當地人士所推重。每舉辦公益。必請曰微先生孰與成之。先生亦勇於任事。往往以一人之力。成眾人萬年謀議莫就之舉。其本藉新會書院。白沙公園。象山公園之建築。旅港新會商會之成立。多賴先生之力。勸

THE LATE MR. FUNG PING SHAN, J.P.

The Late Mr. Fung Ping Shan was one of the most prominent Chinese merchants in Hongkong. He was born in 1860 in the District of Sun-Wui, Kwangtung Province. In his early youth Mr. Fung was deprived of the opportunity of completing his education on account of poverty, and consequently, when he was only fifteen, he followed his uncle to Siam where he started his business career.

It was some years after that he returned to China to be married, and after his marriage he returned to Siam to continue his business. While in Siam he came in close contact with a certain rich merchant who took a ready fancy to him, deciding to betroth his daughter to him, with the promise of the rich dowry. This generous offer, however, Mr. Fung declined without hesitation.

In 1882 Mr. Fung's father died, and he returned at once to China to attend the funeral. Shortly afterwards, he went to the Szechuen Province, where he started a business of his own, dealing principally in Chinese drugs.

After making a fortune, he returned to Canton in 1891, and was at once elected Director of the well-known Fong Pin Hospital, and many other charitable institutions. In 1904 there occurred a severe famine in Canton, whereupon Mr. Fung, amongst a number of other philanthropists, was asked to depute for the Hospital and proceed to Hong Kong to purchase rice, which would be distributed among the sufferers. The rice was purchased, but the necessary fund was not fully subscribed in time. Yet the rice merchants trusted Mr. Fung and delivered the rice to Canton without delay, thus saving many lives from the disaster.

A few years later, when he settled down in Hongkong, Mr. Fung served on several occasions as Chairman, Director and Adviser of the Tung Wah Hospital and Po Leung Kuk. He was an unofficial Justice of the Peace, a member of the District Watch Committee, Life Member of the Court of the University of Hongkong, permanent adviser of the Po Leung Kuk, and a life member of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

Himself a self-made man, Mr. Fung's great desire was that those who came after him should enjoy the opportunities that he had missed. He initiated Free Schools and Vocational Institutions both in his own town and in Hongkong. He gave generously to the building fund for the Higher Primary School of the Normal College in Canton; and in his native district he established the King Tong Library to the memory of his late father. He was mainly instrumental in the establishment of the Aberdeen Industrial School in Hongkong, towards which he donated \$100,000.

To him it would seem monstrous that Chinese boys and girls should grow up in ignorance of their cultural heritage. He was one of the founders and staunch supporter of the now defunct School of Chinese Studies of the University of Hongkong; and the Fung Ping Shan Chinese Library is an abiding testimony to his devotion to Chinese learning.

In commerce, the late Mr. Fung was one of the founders and a permanent Director of the Bank of East Asia, Ltd., and many other public and private Companies. Besides his many commercial activities in Hong Kong, he had numerous connexions in the principal trading ports in North and South China, as well as in Siam, French Indo-China and India.

Owing to his genial disposition, Mr. Fung, both in his private life as well as in business, was much liked by all classes and nationalities with whom he came in contact.

He died on the 2nd August, 1931, at the ripe old age of 72, and is survived by three sons and six daughters.