

in a new country. They are deficient in military aptitude and spirit, the result of which will probably be that they will have to give way before one or other of the more highly organised military powers pressing on them. Moreover, their strong conservative instincts which bind them down to methods unadapted to new requirements, and their lack of constructive imagination which indicates a merely imitative ability, should lead us to suppose that no very high form of development is likely to occur. And their foolish superstitions often stand sadly in the way of progress.

Yet, notwithstanding these decided drawbacks, there are still sufficient grounds for prophesying a great advance in coming years. We have to regard the immensely powerful influences now being brought to bear upon the country. We have to take into account those changes in the environing conditions which modern science has effected. Up to the present century Manchuria was surrounded on the north by barbarous tribes. Coreans had in ancient days made frequent invasions, but neither from across the Amur nor by sea had pressure ever been brought upon Manchuria.