going on by private communications with the reactionaries. When Yuan retired from the audience he started for the railway station, where he waited for a friend, with whom he proceeded to Ta-tsin. On his arrival in Tientsin that evening he called on Jung Lu, who said to him:—"You have come for my head. You had better confess all, because a man (Yang Ching-yi) who married the daughter of Lord Li Ching-fang), who was here just now before you came, has told me everything." Yuan answered:—"What you have heard is but the plot of a few political schemers. His Majesty the Emperor said nothing to me about such a plan and he is innocent of such a measure." When they got as far as that part of the conversation the late Admiral Yeh was announced, and later on Ta Yu-wen arrived. They stayed till 11 p.m., and Yuan, seeing no chance of renewing the conversation, retired to his lodging. Next morning, Sept. 21, Jung Lu called on Yuan and said:—"Lately friends from Peking have repeatedly informed me of the reformers' minutest movements. Their daring is astounding. We must rescue the Emperor from their clutches." When Jung Lu asked that the young prince be summoned Ta Yu-wen for consultation, and sent for Yuan in the evening, Yang Ching-yi was present, and produced an edict seal by wire, informing Jung Lu that the reform plan had been exposed in Peking, that the Emperor was in danger, and that the Empress Dowager had relinquished the Regency. On dismissing Yuan from his presence Jung Lu pointed to the tea-cup, and said:—"You can drink—there is no poison in your tea." Four days afterwards, on September 25, Jung Lu was called to Peking, and on the 28th he was transferred to the Grand Council and given the rank and power of generalissimo.

THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION.

The following is a translation of the "Central China Post" of the Articles of Confederation for the Provincial Government of the Chinese Republic as drawn up by representatives of eight of the Chinese provinces, with provinces from three other provinces, at Wu-chang:

Section 1. The Provisional President shall be elected by the Delegates appointed by the Governors-General of those provinces which have declared their independence. A two-thirds vote shall be necessary for his election. Each province shall cast one vote.

Section 2. The Provisional President shall be vested with full power to administer the affairs of the Public of China.

Section 3. The Provisional President shall be Commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the Republic of China.

Section 4. The Provisional President shall have power, with the concurrence of the Assembly, to declare a state of war and to make war on any of the constitutional factions. The Assembly shall be composed of Representatives appointed by the provincial governments.

Section 5. The Provisional President shall have, with the concurrence of the Assembly, to appoint the Ministers of the Executive Board of the Provisional Government and special diplomatic officials.

Section 6. The Provisional President shall have power, with the concurrence of the Assembly, to establish a system of national courts of justice.

Section 7. The Assembly shall be entitled to one vote in the Assembly.

Section 8. The duties and powers of the assembly shall be as follows:—
(a) To determine the matters referred to in Articles 1, 2, 3, and 4.
(b) To approve the action of the Provisional President in matters referred to in Art. 1.
(c) To determine the budget of the Provisional Government.
(d) To supervise the accounts of the Provisional Government.
(e) To determine all matters concerning the taxation, currency, and public debt of the Republic.
(f) To make laws for the Republic during the Provisional Government.
(g) To determine all matters referred to the assembly by the Provisional President.
(h) To answer questions put to the assembly by the Provisional President.

Section 5. No measure shall be passed without the concurrence of a majority of the Representatives present in the assembly.

Section 6. Every measure which shall have passed the Assembly shall, before it becomes a law, be presented by the speaker of the Assembly to the Provisional President for confirmation. If he rejects it, he shall sign and seal it, and instruct the executive officers concerned to act accordingly.

Section 7. If the Provisional President disapproves any measure, he shall return it to the Assembly, with his objections, for reconsideration by them, within ten days from the time it was first presented to him. If the Assembly after reconsideration shall approve the measure, agrees to pass it, and put it in force according to the preceding section.

Section 8. The Assembly shall elect from among its own members by ballot, and a majority vote shall determine the election.

Section 9. The Assembly shall determine its own rules of procedure.

Section 10. Before the Assembly is organized the Delegates appointed by the various Provincial Governments shall be established, and any new province may be admitted, and any of the Assembly, but the Delegates from each province shall cast only one vote for that Province.

ARTICLE III. The Executive Boards.

Section 1. The Executive Boards shall be as follows:
(a) Board of Foreign Affairs
(b) Board of Civil Affairs
(c) Board of Finance
(d) Board of War
(e) Board of Communications

Section 2. There shall be a Minister for each Board who shall have charge of the affairs of that Board.

Section 3. Rules governing and defining the powers and duties of the officers of each Board shall be drawn up by the Minister of that Board and be approved by the Provisional President before being put in force.

Section 1. Within six months after the establishment of the Provisional Government the Provisional President shall call a Convention of the People. The Assembly shall draw up rules to govern the calling of this Convention.

Section 2. The Articles of Confederation for the Provisional Government of the Republic of China shall become void from the day when the Constitution of the Republic of China comes into full force.

The above Articles of Confederation were drawn up and passed by the Delegates in session on the 10th day of the 10th month, 4001th year of Huang Ti (December 3rd, 1911). Delegates from the following provinces were present:—

- Anhui represented by 3 Delegates
- Chekiang
- Honan
- Hopeh
- Kiangsu
- Kiangsi
- Shansi
- Shensi

The following provinces were represented by proxy:—Kiangsi, Kwangtung, and Kansu.

Chihli and Hunan each send one delegate, but as these two provinces have not yet declared independence, their delegates were given the privilege to speak, but without the power to vote.

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