40. Hsieh

Deliverance.

Upper Trigram: Chen; Thunderclap, Movement. Lower Trigram: K'an; the Abyss, Water, Danger.

Governing Rulers: Nine in the second place.

Six in the fifth place.

The Image:

Thunder and rain in a state of manifestation: The image of Hsieh. The superior man, in accordance with this, forgives errors and deals gently with crimes.

Miscellaneous Signs:

(39)

Relieve and ease with Hsieh are sure to come; Hard toil and danger have in Chien their home.

The Judgement:

In the state indicated by Hsieh, advantage will be found in the south-west. If no further operations be called for, there will be good fortune in coming back to the old conditions. If some operations be called for, there will be good fortune in the early conducting of them.

Commentary:

In Hsieh we have the trigram expressive of peril going on to that of movement. By movement there is an escape from peril: this is the meaning of Hsieh.

'In the state indicated by Hsieh, advantage will be found in the south-west': the movement thus intimated will win all. That 'there will be good fortune in coming back to the old conditions', shows that such action is that of the due medium.

That 'if some operations be necessary, there will be good fortune in the early conducting of them', shows that such operations will be successful. When heaven and earth are freed from the grasp of winter, we have thunder and rain. When these come, the buds of the plants and trees that produce

the various fruits begin to burst. Great indeed are the phenomena in the time intimated by Hsieh.
The Lines:
Six in the bottom place: Showing that its subject will commit no error.
Nine in the second place:
Showing its subject catch, in hunting , three foxes, and obtain the golden arrows.
With firm correctness there will be good fortune.
Six in the third place: Showing a porter with his burden, yet riding in a carriage. He will only tempt robbers to attack him. However firm and correct he may try to be, there will be cause for regret. See also Ta Chuan, section I, chapter VIII, §11.
Nine in the fourth place: Remove your toes (the subject of the weak first line). Friends will then come, between you and whom there will be mutual confidence.
Six in the fifth place:
Showing its subject as the superior man and ruler, executing his function of removing whatever is injurious to the idea of the hexagram, in which case there will be good fortune; and confidence in him will be shown even by the small men.
Top-most six: We see a feudal prince with his bow shooting at a falcon on the top of a high wall, and hitting it. The effect of his action will be in every way advantageous. See also Ta Chuan, section II, chapter V, §6.

Commentaries:

Six in the bottom place: The strong fourth line and the weak line here are in correlation: we judge rightly in saying that 'its subject will commit no error'.

Nine in the second place:

The 'good fortune springing from firm correctness', is due to its subject holding the due mean.

Six in the third place:

For 'a porter with his burden to be riding in a carriage' is a thing to be ashamed of.

'It is he himself that tempts the robbers to come': on whom besides can we lay the blame?

Nine in the fourth place:

'Remove your toes': their place is inappropriate to them.

Six in the fifth place:

When 'the superior man and ruler executes his function of removing whatever is injurious to the idea of the hexagram', small men will of themselves retire.

Top-most six:

'A prince with his bow shoots a falcon': thus he removes the promotors of rebellion.