China's Millions.

(North American Supplement.)

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1892.

Famine in Shan-si.

We publish the letter given below, although the conditions described are considerably improved since it was written, in order that the friends of the Mission may know something of the trials which the Missionaries and native Christians in Shan-si have passed through and, to a degree, are passing through. In answer to prayer, rain has fallen and there is promise of a fair harvest; but sympathy and prayer are still needed, and, we trust, will be freely given.

Ping-yang, Shan-si,
July 5th, 1892.

We are on the eve of another famine here—in fact food is already at famine prices. For two years there has not been sufficient rain, and last year, I believe, the wheat and also the later crops were almost all ruined. This year there is none at all, except for one or two who have means of irrigating their land. I cannot tell you how sad it makes one feel to see field after field, where precious seed has been sown, lying bare and barren. If they only had the seed—but God knows best; He has some wise purpose in it all. We have been, and are daily waiting on Him in prayer that He would show mercy to this people.

We are told that thousands of them will die. They themselves speak in a sad, hopeless way, very touching to hear. In the villages near here they are eating grass and food that formerly they fed to the pigs. Last mail brought the news that many were dying in Tai-yuen.

Poor people, they are so ignorant and superstitious. Not long ago a great number of men gathered together and pulled down the telegraph poles and wire. They think that these kept the rain away; they also think that the foreigner has something to do with it. They forget that at the time of the last famine there were no telegraph lines. Many of them seem to forget too that it was through the foreigners that relief came before which kept thousands of them from dying of starvation. Then it was that this Province was opened up for the gospel and the Missionaries got a kindly welcome. For some time relief has been given out to such as have been in need, but what will the little that three or four of us can give amount to among a hundred with their families? One thing is very plain, it is our duty to share with them what we have. (See John 3: 17, Luke 3: 11, James 2: 15, 16.)

Pray for this people and pray for us. I think we ourselves scarcely realize how much it may mean for us. We cannot tell what lies before us; even now it is difficult to get chickens, meat and eggs. The native Pastor says "by-and-bye we will have neither, for there will be nothing to feed the chickens, and they will die," and also "when our man goes out to buy food he will have to carry a big stick to beat off the hungry ones who would take it from him." One will not feel much like enjoying it after that, will he?

There are about a hundred Christians in the city and surrounding villages. For some time relief has been given out to such as have been in need, but what will the little that three or four of us can give amount to among a hundred with their families? One thing is very plain, it is our duty to share with them what we have. (See John 3: 17, Luke 3: 11, James 2: 15, 16.) But we are asking the Lord that He will open the hearts of His people at home to give to their brethren and sisters in Shan-si. We hope to have enough to keep the Christians at least.

Ping-yang is not the only place where people are suffering. Hung-tung, a half day's journey from here, is, we hear, just as bad, and we were told this morning that there were 18 villages near here praying for rain;—not praying to the God that we pray to, but to idols of wood and stone.

The last famine brought great blessing to Shan-si; so did the one in Shan-tung in 1889. The Lord means to bless the people still further, and His people at home who cannot come to China themselves will have the means of preaching the Gospel to them in a very practical way; a way that will speak to their hearts louder than any word of ours; it will show them that there is something in the religion of Christ that has more power over the lives of men than the religion and teaching of Confucianism, Buddhism, or Taoism can possibly have.

Pray for this people and pray for us.
FROM W. LAGERQUIST.

FUNG-SIENG, SHEN-SI.

YESTERDAY we came 133 li in order to reach Han-chung to-day. Mr. Easton was away from home but Mrs. Easton gave us a very hearty welcome. Mr. Easton returned shortly and we were very glad to meet him. He is the Superintendent of the provinces of Kan-suh and Shen-si. The premises here are not large, the two houses having only 3 rooms each. Behind the houses stands the chapel, which was built by the natives, and seats about one hundred persons. In the rear of the chapel are two school rooms where Mr. Easton has a boys' school. The chapel stands in large grounds rented and paid for by the native church. The chapel premises are divided from Mr. Easton's by a wall, which has trees planted around it and being in a quiet spot of the city, it is very pleasant.

Yesterday we had the joy of meeting the native Christians at the morning service; some of them had come from 6 to 8 miles. The church was filled with men and women, all members. At the close of the service we had the joy of seeing nine men and women confessing Christ in baptism. It was a joy to behold their bright faces and hear the clear answers they gave. After baptism we returned to the chapel, where Mr. Easton spoke to each one he had baptized; then all of us arose and welcomed them into the church by giving them a Chinese hand-shake. Two of the new members had been brought in by hearing the gospel in connection with the medical work; one of them having had an operation performed which was the means of bringing him within the sound of the gospel, and also of bringing his wife, and his father and mother, all of whom were baptized. After the baptism we partook of the Lord's Supper, and when service was ended had dinner with the natives, who live far away, after which they started for their homes.

On Friday evening Mr. Easton has a class composed of Sunday School teachers, and takes up the lesson for the following Sunday. He is a good speaker in Chinese, and it is a treat to hear him talk to the natives. Before the teaching they have tea with the natives in order to get nearer to them.

This morning we left Han-chung. Mr. Easton going with us a long way outside the city. We soon reached Pao-hsien, where we left the plain and entered the mountains. As we went up the first mountain, which we had to cross, we saw a large number of stones—over 1,000—which have been put there by travellers as thank-offerings to their gods, for safe passage. We lost sight of it, and saw nothing but mountains all around us. The sun was setting long before we reached our inn, but as the moon was up we got on nicely, and at last reached a place 95 li from Han-chung where we stopped for the night.

Yesterday we reached Lin-pao, a busy little city, where there is a good inn. We had bought a pound of mutton on the road which we gave to the cook, and he made it up very nicely, so we had a real feast upon mutton with rice. Here we took a very kind innkeeper and so we had a real feast upon mutton with rice. Here we took a very kind innkeeper to the inn-keepers, and others, as we stopped for food. The people all seemed to be very friendly. We as we wanted to be in Fung-sieng by Friday, we travelled 25 li beyond the regular day's distance; doing this we cannot get as good inns, as in some of the places we have passed, however they are better than the place Jesus had when He came, for "There was no room for them in the inn."

Yesterday we met two Roman Catholic priests on the road. They travelled in great style, just as the mandarins do. In fact they call themselves foreign mandarins. The priests did not seem to be much pleased at meeting us. This a.m. we crossed the last hill and were once more on the plain, having been six days in the mountains. We arrived at Fung-sieng about 3 p.m., and Mr. and Mrs. Botham were quite surprised to see us back so early.

Last night after we had retired, Mrs. Botham and I were in the inn and were trying to get into the house. We had rented a house on the main street. He replied it would be all right, and that we could take all our things over there. The landlord had been here and rented a house, and that is something to praise the Lord for. We had had a consecration meeting there, and trust it will be the birth-place of many souls.

We have heard some bad rumors gotten up by our innkeeper, who is trying to set the people against us and drive us out of the house, as he does not like to lose us from his inn. We found out about this in time to stop it, and had two of our servants watch the landlord, so that in case anyone should try to take him away, our servants were to bring him over to our place, and no one would dare to come there for him.

Mr. Botham went to see the Mandarin and told him we had rented a house on the main street. He replied it would be all right, and that we could take all our things over there. He said the main street was the Emperor's highway, and
that we need not be afraid, as he would see that no one would disturb us; that the people of the "Jesus religion" were very good people, but the Roman Catholics he did not like. He assured Mr. Botham of his friendship, and after drinking tea with him accompanied him to the door and bade him farewell.

We have heard quite a number of rumors on the street, the past few days, but have not paid much attention to them; however on Friday the landlord's father came and called our servant, (who rented the house) saying they disturb us; that the people very good people, but the Roman Catholics he did not like. He assured Mr. Botham of his friendship, and after drinking tea with him accompanied him to the door and bade him farewell.

When they reached there our servant found quite a large number of people gathered. The argument was rather a heated one, but quite a number of people took our part, and we gained the point, the others having to pay for the tea as they lost the case. There are several persons who want to get money, and think that by causing this trouble, they will frighten us into giving them something to make friends with them. As they are a lot of scamps we have nothing to do with them, and in case of their making any trouble we know who they are and will report to the Mandarin, who will deal with them.

This morning they called the landlord and middle-man before a small officer in the country, and the landlord was told to send us back to the inn, and to tell us he could not let us have his house. Mr. Botham told them both they need not fear, but they were not satisfied with this, so Mr. Botham said he would go and see the Mandarin the next day.

Mr. Botham went to the Ya-men yesterday, but was told that the Mandarin was too busy and could not see any one. He sent up his card three times, receiving the same answer each time, and finally came back without seeing the Mandarin. The next day he went again and sent up his card twice, but the answer came that the Mandarin was too busy to see him. Mr. Botham then told the man to give him the card, and telling his servant to follow him, started for the top. Some of the underlings tried to stop him, but as he came near them they moved out of the way and he went on until some others told him to go back, but he told them he had not come there to go back again. When they saw he was determined to see the Mandarin they took his card up. The Mandarin came out at once and Mr. Botham learned that the underlings had not taken his card up at all, but that it was a scheme of theirs to keep him from seeing the Mandarin. The Mandarin was very friendly and said he would take steps to prevent any further talk, and shortly after Mr. Botham had left him, he called the landlord and middle-man, and told them they need not fear anything. The landlord was so much pleased that now he is going to repair part of the house for us. Truly the Lord is good!

We have had quite a number of visitors coming to see us here, and the people are becoming very friendly. We have had several good medical cases outside the West Gate, and now people are coming from the country for medicines. As our knowledge and stock of medicines is rather limited, we cannot do as much as we would like, but the little we have been enabled to do has been blessed and owned by our Father.

We are having a Conference, which commenced last Sunday evening with a communion service. The topic this evening was "Iiterating," and a review was given of work done. It was shown that during the past year 23 walled cities, and 50 market towns had been visited several times, and that about 50,000 tracts and Scriptures had been circulated.

FROM A. R. SAUNDERS.

TAI-YUEN, SHAN-SI.

May 4th, 1892.

It is now a very long time since I had the joy of writing you;—travelling has been the cause of my long silence. You will have heard long ere this reaches you, of our marriage at Tien-ts'in, so I need not mention that again, but will tell you something of our return journey, and of things in T'ai-yuen since our return.

Mr. Taylor having asked us to escort a party of ten Swedish sisters to Shan-si, we were not without company by the way. Nine of the ten were of the Scandinavian Alliance in America, which Society sent out fifty last year, and have come on to Shan-si for the purpose of study before proceeding to the province of Shên-si where they are hoping to labor. The other lady—Miss Prytz—is a member of a Swedish Mission under the leadership of Mr. Folke. The Swedish churches in America are truly showing us what can be done by even poor churches, in the work of evangelizing China. Oh! that some congregations in Canada far richer than they are would follow their example, and send out many to carry the glad tidings to the needy villages of poor, dark China.

We had a pleasant journey—first by boat five days, then by mule-litter eight and one half days to T'ai-yuen. Glad were we to get back here after our two months' absence. It was most encouraging to find a goodly number attending the Sunday services, as many in-patients as could be accommodated, and most of them with a good knowledge of the elementary truths of the Gospel. The blind boy whom Dr. Edwards kept at Mr. Murray's school at Peking for over two years, learning the blind reading-system, is back again, and is now doing good work talking to the patients, and from him many of them have received a fair knowledge of the Gospel. My class of enquirers is still keeping up, and from them we hope soon to select a few, whom we shall receive as catechumens to be more deeply instructed before being received into the full fellowship of the Church. I am now giving the in-patients one hour daily, and from that we are hoping to get many enquirers. To an invitation I gave on Monday, five of them have responded and given me their names as enquirers. I am hoping to have a class with them twice a week. I am longing to get into the villages again, but with our present building-operations, medical work, etc., going on, I fear I will not have much time, being single-handed in the evangelistic and teaching work, and Dr. Edwards being single-handed in the medical work. A telegram has just been received asking Dr. and Mrs. Cox to go to Shanghai. With the medical work going on here we are in great need of at least two young men to help in the evangelistic and teaching work. The classes which I have now inaugurated, together with other detail work, will keep me fairly busy, and there is no one to visit the villages, and follow up the enquirers after they leave us. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will thrust forth laborers into His harvest." The harvest is indeed abundant. Who will come and help us?
May the Lord incline the hearts of some to say, “Here am I, send me.” Our building operations are now in full swing, and by the end of the year we hope to have accommodation for a good many more in-patients than we have at present. This will give us increased opportunities for the spread of the gospel in all quarters round about us, for they come even from far-distant places for the Doctor’s aid.

It is a real joy to us to watch the growth of the few Christians about us here. The man baptized last year is giving good satisfaction. These Christians pray very definitely that the members of my enquirers’ class may all be truly born again. Oh, that we had a few really good evangelists! Pray that the Lord may give us at least one.

Now just a word about the troubles in China; we in the north have seen or heard very little of them, and there is no cause at present for anxiety. We are daily in the Lord’s hands, and daily trust that He will keep us. The troubles have mostly been in the south, with the exception of a short-lived rebellion to the north of Tien-tsin. A little affair has occurred in this province, but I hardly think it will amount to anything. In a district 13 miles north of Hung-tung-hsien, the villagers have destroyed 30 and 40 telegraph poles. The excuse they give for doing so is that since the telegraph has been built there has been great drought. They imagine the telegraph has driven the god of thunder away from the district, hence the drought. Strange to say that on the 25th of the last Chinese moon they destroyed the poles, and on the 26th rain came, thus confirming them in their belief. What strange things the devil is allowed to do in these last days. If he were able he would deceive the very elect. Pray that God will overrule in all these things for His own glory, and that the native Christians may not be moved from the hope of the gospel.

FROM MISS M. NILSON
CH’EN-TU, SZ-CHUEN,
March 22nd, 1892.

ISA. 54:10. “For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed; but My kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of My peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy upon thee.”

I do praise the Lord for supplying my every need so abundantly, and most of all I praise Him for the glorious promise given in the above text. I cannot begin to tell how full of goodness and mercy the Lord is to me, nor how safe it is to rest on his promises. Not one of them faileth.

I am feeling pretty well; now and then I have a slight attack of malaria, but not severe enough to keep me from studying. I believe this is in answer to prayer. I do not mind being pressed down a little, but I want to rejoice and give thanks to the Lord under all circumstances. Praise God he is giving victory! “Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house, they shall be still praising Thee.”

The Lord is blessing us in the work here as well as at other stations in Sz-chuen: large numbers are coming daily. This morning we had four women here, one of whom was a nun. The other three were pilgrims. They had with them a kind of instrument which they use to break up mountains, trying in this way to obtain salvation. We told them of the free salvation which Jesus obtained for us. We also gave them texts and tracts. May the Holy Spirit make the way clear to them.

I have lately begun to teach the women how to knit, at the same time teaching them hymns and texts. On Sunday morning, while Miss Bee teaches the church members I have the privilege of talking to the guests. The Lord is helping me very much to use the words He has given me. It is a joy to be allowed to speak of His great love to these dear people.

Miss Broman has begun a Sunday School among the children, and in the afternoon there are three classes going on. At present, there are several inquirers who will be baptized by and by. We believe the Lord is going to raise up a strong army of bright soldiers in Ch’en-tu, because it is a strong city. Here are over 200 Buddhist temples, and 79 other heathen temples. Among these strongholds of Satan there are only 2 Gospel Halls and 4 Roman Catholic places, which, of course, cannot be counted as true representatives of the Light. We need to pray the Lord of the harvest to send more laborers into the field.

FROM MISS E. LUCAS.
CHAU-KIA-K’EO, HO-NAN.
November 3rd, 1891.

On Saturday we crossed the river and visited our teacher’s wife. She knew we were coming, and invited her younger sister to meet us and hear the gospel. We were much pleased with her. She listened very earnestly, and we spent some time there teaching her about the Lord Jesus.

Yesterday being the 1st of the 10th moon, most Chinese went to the temple to burn incense for their mothers. Our teacher’s whole family, and some of his wife’s people, seemed anxious to learn. He himself has taken a stand for Christ, but has not been baptized.

Yesterday being the 1st of the 10th moon, most Chinese went to the temple to burn incense for their mothers. Our teacher refused to do so, and consequently suffered much persecution from his friends. He had special prayer about it yesterday, and to-day he seemed very bright, and said his persecutors did not know what they were doing.

Yesterday, Mrs. Kao, an inquirer from the country, came early thinking we would be having a service. She spent the day with us, and I was glad of the opportunity to have a long quiet talk with her during the afternoon. She first heard the gospel at the Ho-nan Gospel Hall about the third month of this native year. Mrs. Kao came to see us soon after our arrival, but did not seem to understand much of the truth. She has, however, come several times during the last two months and has accompanied me out preaching, always paying great attention, and trying to tell others what little she herself knows of the love of Jesus. I hope to make some arrangement to enable her to have regular teaching in the Word, and also to learn to read.

To-day Mrs. Kao returned to see me, bringing with her a young relative, to hear the doctrine. She seemed determined to believe in Jesus as her Savior, and when I told her that it would mean persecution, she replied: “If Jesus forgives my sins, what does it matter what people say?” She is very anxious for me to visit her home at Ho-nan.

November 4th.—A number of women and children came to-day. It is very difficult to have quiet meetings when they are together, and I trust (D.V.), to be able soon to separate them.
Mrs. Uen and Mrs. Li came with their children. Both these women seem to be trusting the Savior; and it was a real joy to hear Mrs. Uen give her testimony. We are much interested in Mrs. Li's second boy, a chubby little fellow of six. He has a splendid memory, and is learning fast. I hear that every night he folds his little hands and asks Jesus to forgive his sins; he tells the gospel, too, very sweetly. Naturally, he likes to scold; but now he knows that is a sin. I do hope the neighbors will soon see a change in him. Mrs. Li says that her husband bought a Gospel, or one of our books, and being interested in the gospel he reads it to others. The children in that neighborhood are beginning to call me "Foreign Sister," and they like to have little meetings.

I don't see the way out of many difficulties in connection with the work; but rest confident that God is able to overcome all difficulties, for "He is the same yesterday, to-day, and forever," and has "all power."

November 8th.—Weather very dull and wet. We did not expect any women to the service; but three came and we had a good time. One was Mrs. Kao. She came in from her village the previous day, and, being very anxious to learn, we kept her here, and spent most of Sunday and Monday teaching her more about the truth. She is very fond of repeating hymns.

November 10th.—This morning Mrs. Uen came, to invite me to go over to the south side of the river, to preach the gospel at her daughter's house. After dinner I went with her, and little Kiu-liang, the wee six-year old boy, begged to be allowed to go also. He was very good, and it was sweet to hear him sing "Jesus loves me" to the women, who listened with wonder and interest. We preached in several court-yards, and a number of people heard the gospel for the first time. Mrs. Uen explains the gospel very nicely. She seems to be growing very rapidly spiritually; may she be rooted and grounded in Christ, and be the means of leading many more to the Savior!

We occasionally get a glimpse of dear Mrs. Peh when she comes out of her front door, but have not had an opportunity to speak to her for many days. She is very much afraid of her husband.

November 13th.—We had two services this morning. The first was for women, and the second for children, but women were present at the latter also. Three of them seem to really want to follow Jesus. Mrs. Peh was able to come over, as her husband was away from home. Poor woman, she looks so sad! We are praying the Lord to help her; we can do very little for her ourselves.

November 17th.—I went by invitation to the house of our woman's married daughter. We had dinner there, and spent between 3 and 4 hours in telling the gospel and teaching hymns and texts. Some appeared intensely interested and remained all the time. Before we left, one young man destroyed the idol, and gave me the paper god which was hanging upon the wall. I have since heard that the people in his neighborhood declare that I shall not be allowed to go there again. Very bad rumors are afloat; this is an evident sign that the power of God is working in some hearts there, and that the devil is also busy. "If God be for us, who can be against us?"

November 18th.—One of our teacher's cousins brought his sister to see me, as she had a wound on her foot. I bound it, to examine and dress it; and as I saw the little crushed foot before me, my heart sickened, and I realized as never before the cruelty of foot-binding. Oh! when will this barbarous custom be abolished? I tried to make our teacher see how wrong it is, and praise God, he said he would have the little girl's feet unbound.

November 21st.—Praise the Lord for a good day! We had two services in the morning. The young man who gave me the idol came in. He says that the people in his neighborhood say that if I go there again, they will bring him before the magistrate. He does not seem to mind much, and expresses his determination to believe and trust the Lord Jesus for his soul's salvation. May the Lord bless him with the Holy Spirit, for as yet, he knows but little of the truth.

From 1 to 4 p.m. I was kept busy with several dear women and children and was not able to go out; but Miss Lloyd and one of our women went visiting in the neighborhood and had a good time. A number of little ones followed them home. We have much to praise the Lord for in letting us win the hearts of so many little ones in this place. It is sweet to hear them sing the hymns and repeat the texts. Some are learning to kneel down and join in prayer; and they look upon it as a matter of course that before any wounds are dressed or medicine taken, we first ask God to bless and heal.

November 27th.—To-day a messenger came to Chau-kia-k'eo from Chin-choo, a city 60 li away, to say that a Chinese gentleman who had been in America for several years, wished to pay the missionaries a visit, and intended coming over on Saturday. Mrs. Gracie prepared dinner for him and invited us over to meet him, but he did not come till 4 o'clock.

Soon after his arrival Mr. Gracie learned that he was the Viceroy's doctor, and had been sent from Tien-tsin to attend the Corean Minister's mother, who was very seriously ill with a complication of diseases. He came to ask if any one of us could look after her during his absence. He had spent several weeks with her, and was expecting to leave in about a week. Mr. Gracie told him that Dr. Taylor would be here soon, and asked him if in the meantime I could render him any assistance, having had some experience in nursing. He seemed pleased and said he would ask Lady Uen if she would like me to visit her. In the meanwhile, we had special prayer for guidance in the matter, and asked the Lord to hinder me from going if it would not be for the furtherance of the gospel.

About noon on Tuesday, December 1st, a man arrived on horseback, with a letter from Dr. Kin, inviting me to Chin-choo, saying that a cart was being sent for me. I put a few things together and started soon after dinner. The roads were fairly good and we reached our destination about 6 p.m. On arriving at the Ya-men, I was met by the Corean Minister, Dr. Kin, and a large number of attendants with Chinese lanterns; and on alighting from the cart, I was ushered into a beautiful guest-hall, partially furnished with foreign things, and invited to the seat of honor, a raised dais, covered with red. This I declined and took a more modest seat at the side of the room. The minister sat on the oppo-
site side and asked me several questions as to our object in coming to China, etc. He was extremely amiable, ordered tea for me, and later on conducted me to my apartment.

There a polished brass basin of hot water was handed me, into which lavender water was poured; and in the presence of the Minister, Doctor and some other gentlemen, I was invited to wash my hands. None of the ladies were present, but my own woman was with me, and several elderly women servants and slave girls were about. Presently, after some conversation about the patient, the gentlemen withdrew and the ladies appeared.

Among the upper classes the etiquette is very strict, and ladies are not permitted to speak to any gentleman outside of their own family circle. In cases of sickness this rule is set aside only when the patient is elderly, and thus Chinese ladies are almost wholly deprived of skilful medical aid. There seems to be great need of more lady medical missionaries, filled with the love of Christ, and able to treat diseases peculiar to women and children. Such might easily find a way into families which otherwise would never hear the gospel.

I think I was taken in to see Lady Uen the evening of my arrival, but the chief visit was paid her the following day. When Dr. Kin first saw her she appeared to be dying, and her coffin was already prepared. She is now, however, decidedly better, and though humanly speaking there is no hope for recovery, she may live some time longer. She and her son are so delighted with foreign medicine that they decided better, and though humanly speaking there is no

On Wednesday I had many opportunities of telling the gospel to the various people who came in to see me; sometimes it would be the ladies, then the underlings' wives, or the servants and slave girls. Everyone I came in contact with during my stay in the Ya-men, was kindness itself. I was advised by some of our friends not to enter the ladies' halls, but I am quite willing they should be. One morning in the guest-hall I had over thirty women and children. I spoke to the children and they seemed much pleased, and so were the mothers. "Jesus loves me" was the theme, of course. Miss Broman has started a little Sunday School, commencing with about eight children. Then there are often a number of little ones outside waiting for their mothers, who will no doubt be taught when we can get them to come in.

I had my first day out in the city on March 10th. Went to a compound where there were ten families, and was kept busy for about 4 hours going from one to another. Quite a number of neighbors also came in who were interested, most of them wanting to hear the gospel before examining me, which is quite unusual. One woman was so interested in listening that she paid no attention to anything else. As my woman helped me, we were able to make nearly twenty persons hear the message. The people promised to come on Sunday to the "big worship." I feel quite sure it will not be in vain. They are friends of our woman who is very earnest indeed, and has brought many of them to hear the truth. She spends all the time she can get in telling her friends about Jesus. She was once an opium smoker and her testimony now is a power among them.

There were ten people baptised in the 2 outstations a fortnight ago, and we hope there will be some here soon. Twenty baptisms are also reported from Pao-ning, and 2 more stations have been opened in the province of Sz-chuen. We believe this is going to be a year of wonderful blessing; the Lord has promised and will not deny Himself; we count the present blessings as only the earnest.

FROM J. MEIKLE.
FENG-KANG, KIANG-SI.
January 25th, 1892.

PRAISE our Father, these late storms from the enemy seem to have blown over for the present, and left us in peace, though our Master kept us in perfect peace through it all. We were promised more than once that our home would come down, and it seemed at times much like it. But praise God, it still stands! With the strong arm of our God protecting us, the gospel of Christ is spoken in it daily, either by us or the natives.

To-day we had a native teacher writing Scripture texts to deck our Hall with, as we are almost at the Chinese New Year. The Chinese are busy decking their houses, sticking up new paper idols and "shan-hua," or good words. The people here seem a little more friendly, but so slow to repent of their sins. Pray with us, dear friends, that God will pour out such a blessing upon us and this land, that we may see these dark hearts turning from their idols to repent of their sins. Pray with us, dear friends, that God will pour out such a blessing upon us and this land, that we may see these dark hearts turning from their idols to serve the living and true God.

The people in Kan chau are about the same. There are two families who seem to be real and in earnest, having held to the truth, although they were threatened to be beaten by the people. A short time ago Mr. Horne was out bookselling and preaching for 10 days, and was very successful. After his return I took a 10 days' trip with two natives. We called at 5 market towns, and had plenty of willing listeners to what we had to say of Jesus and the cross. We also had good success in selling books. We sold nearly $2.00 worth of Gospels and tracts. I met two men who seemed deeply in earnest about finding the truth, and one of them bought a New Testament. May God bless His own Word to them both, that they may see the light and life of the glorious gospel of Christ in it.

Our boy Chang is really growing in grace and in the knowledge of his Master; his bright face is often a blessing.
to-day. It is a pretty place, with high mountains be-

FROM W. TAYLOR.

CHANG-shu, KIANG-si.

FEBRUARY 1st, 1892.—A day or so ago we received a letter from one of the brethren in Ki-ngan suggesting that if possible I accompany Mr. Thor on a journey. After prayer, I decided to go, and to-day secured passage on a boat going to Ki-ngan. We weighed anchor about 3 p.m., and having a little breeze, made 40 li by night.

February 3rd.—Made over 100 li yesterday, although the wind was gusty. The boatmen are nice fellows and very good to me. The Lord knows my inexperience and so has graciously arranged this. Reached Ki-ngan about 9 p.m., but as it was raining I decided to remain on board till morning.

February 4th.—Coming ashore and making enquiries I at last found the house which Messrs. Duff and Thor have recently rented; a nice building on the main street. It was good to meet these brethren again and find them well.

February 10th.—Left Ki-ngan with Mr. Thor, in their "Gospel Boat," at noon to-day. No wind, and inexperienced boatmen, resulted in making only 10 li by night.

February 11th.—Reached Tong-ho about 10 a.m., and went ashore with books. It is a busy place of about 100 shops. Spent 2 or 3 hours in talking and selling books, and boarded the boat for dinner. A favorable wind took us to Pa-sah, 10 li farther on, by 2.30 p.m. This place has about 30 shops. One shopman was very friendly, and bought a number of books. Another man listened attentively on the river bank. Crossing the river we reached Chang-hia-tu—a poor place—but a number listened to the gospel.

February 13th.—About 1 p.m. we anchored, and a walk of about a mile inland brought us to Lo-hia-hsu—a busy place of about 100 shops. The people had never seen a foreigner, and when it was noise abroad that we were there, people came in crowds. We had to leave the street, as all traffic was stopped, and went to an open space where the crowd pressed around us and clamored for books. We were soon entirely sold out and then left, for the people were too excited and inquisitive to listen. Reaching the boat, we weighed anchor and after ascending a rapid, anchored for the night.

February 16th.—Reached here (Tai-ho) yesterday about 4 p.m. We went ashore and put up at an inn, as we intended to remain a few days. Tai-ho is a Hsien City—that is, it governs a district of about 100 square miles, and is the centre of government and civil life in this district. We were on the streets to-day and had good times speaking and selling books. In the evening the Mandarin sent, asking us to leave at once, owing to the student examinations to-morrow. Intending to remain a few days we sent word to that effect, but one of the officials came and pressed us to leave; we thought it best to do so and boarded our boat.

February 21st. (LORD'S Day.)—Our day of rest. We climbed a hill, and had a quiet time of prayer away from the noisy crowds.

February 23rd.—Reached Quan-gan Hsien City about noon to-day. It is a pretty place, with high mountains behind, and located half way between Ki-ngan and Kan-chau. Spent 2 or 3 hours on the street and had good times. The people were attentive.

February 27th.—We left the inn early and after a walk of 10 li, took breakfast at a wayside inn. Crossing some hills we reached Long-to'uen, a Hsien City, about noon. Here we had crowds, and hundreds pressed into the inn to see us, and for 2 or 3 hours we were on exhibition, being criticised from head to toe. The Mandarin wanted us to leave, which we promised to do in 2 or 3 days.

March 1st.—Left Long-to'uen about 4 p.m. yesterday and reached U-tien-hsu on our return journey by night. Rain came on, making the roads very muddy, and we reached the boat tired and wet.

March 3rd.—This morning we arrived at Unen-chi' so, and spent an hour or so on the streets. Reached Ki-ngan about 5 p.m.

March 10th.—Remained in Ki-ngan till the 7th inst., up to which time it rained almost continuously; then left for Chang-shu, and arrived here this morning.

This journey is ended—some seed has been sown, and we leave it in the hands of our covenant-keeping God.

"BUNGALOW," KIU-KIANG HILLS,
June 19th, 1892.

We have had to leave Chang-shu. I think I have mentioned to you in a previous letter the trouble that led us to give our word that we would leave the house we were in when the year expired. Now know this, for the last two or three months we have been searching for another place. House after house was seen, negotiations were begun in not a few cases, but again and again these failed. As far as we can find out it seems that the higher class, who are very anti-foreign, and the officials, knowing that we promised to leave at the end of the year, quietly ordered the people not to rent to us. We suffered no violence whatever; it was simply a polite dismissal.

As you will understand, this is not very encouraging, and one wonders why the Lord allowed it. Yet, we do and will praise Him, because we know He doeth all things well. The Lord has some blessed purpose in this that we know not now, but we shall know some day.

In speaking with a friend about our leaving, he said to me, "Well, you've left something behind you." Yes, praise God for that! "My word shall not return unto me void." The testimony, speaking and work of the past year in Chang-shu has been in weakness and much failure, but the Lord knows we have sought to glorify Him, and He will use His Word in that city for His own glory. We know of no believers in the city, yet some were friendly, and many knew the gospel well. The promises of God are so bright and clear, that we will surely praise Him for what He is yet going to do. May I ask prayer that the Lord may speedily raise up in Chang-shu a man who will do the work of the past year and more. We know that if He be His will, we may get a re-settlement there; or, if He would have us go elsewhere, that our way may be made plain.

We left Chang-shu on the 26th of May, and spent a few days on the way down at some of the cities, speaking and selling books. Just below the capital of the province we hailed Mr. Geo. Duff and his bride, who were on their way up to Ki-ngan, and spent a pleasant hour with them.
Our intention in coming down was to bring our boxes etc., to Nan-chang, and then return to Lahore; Mr. Lawson's being
unwell necessitated a visit to Kiu-kiang to see the doctor.
Arriving in Kiu-kiang I had the pleasure of meeting Mr.
and Mrs. Sibley of Nebraska, who were on their way up to
Han-kow, en route to She-k'tien, Honan. I was asked to
escort them up as far as Han-kow, and so had a day or so of
happy fellowship with them. From Han-kow, Mr. and
Mrs. Mills escort them to She-k'tien.

Mr. Baller is at present in charge at Han-kow, as Mr. Eyres
has been compelled by ill-health to resign his position there.
Returning to Kiu-kiang I found that the doctor wanted
Mr. Lawson to remain a week or so for rest and change, and
as I have an examination in the language to prepare for and
write on, we both came over to this "Bungalow" in the
Kiu-kiang hills. It is 25 li from Kiu-kiang, and a cool, re-
freshing spot. May we be prepared for a fuller and better
service, if the Lord wills.