China Inland Mission.

General Director—Rev. J. Hudson Taylor.

Council for North America.

Home Director—Mr. H. W. Frost. Secretary-Treasurer—Rev. F. A. Steven.


The members marked thus * meet weekly; the whole Council meets quarterly.

Office of the Mission: 632 Church Street, Toronto, Canada.

Friends are requested kindly to address all Mission correspondence, and to have all drafts, cheques and post office orders made payable to the China Inland Mission. Communications specially intended for the Home Director or the Secretary-Treasurer, should be thus addressed and marked “Personal.”

In the case of a donation, or part of it, being intended as a contribution toward any special object, either in China or at home, it is requested that this may be stated very clearly; and any sums of money sent for transmission to a missionary and not intended as a donation to the Mission to be applied toward the support of the receiver, should be clearly indicated as for “Transmission only.”

A Prayer Meeting for China is held in the Mission House, 632 Church Street, every Friday, at 8 p.m.

FORMATION. The China Inland Mission was formed in 1865, because of the overwhelming necessity for some further effort to spread the knowledge of the Gospel among the unevangelised millions of China, and with the definite and avowed purpose ofcommencing missionary labour in the interior provinces, eleven of which, with an aggregate population of about a hundred and fifty millions, were without a Protestant Missionary.

Deeply impressed by the spiritual destitution of China, which at that time had only ninety-seven Protestant Missionaries among its hundreds of millions of people, Mr. Hudson Taylor was led to form the China Inland Mission. Referring to this some ten years later, he said:

“There was little difficulty attending it. I was very anxious that what we did should not appear for a moment to conflict with the work of any other Societies; and still more that it should not actually divert any help of any kind from channels already existing, because that would have been no gain to China or the cause of God; but that we should have such a method of working given to us as should draw out fresh labourers who, probably, would not go otherwise, and should open fresh channels of pecuniary aid which otherwise, perhaps, would not be touched.—From a Address delivered at Westminster Chapel, August 14th, 1876.

CHARACTER. Like the British and American Bible Societies, and the Evangelical Alliance, the China Inland Mission is evangelical and interdenominational. Duly qualified candidates for missionary labour, who are sound in the faith, whether ordained or unordained, are accepted.

STAFF. The present staff of the Mission numbers 554, viz.: Missionaries and their wives, 172; unmarried Missionaries, 267; Associates, 115. Of this total, the Missionaries from North America number 40. There are also about 200 native helpers, whose whole time is given to mission work as Pastors, Evangelists, Colporteurs, Bible-women, etc.

Some of the Missionaries, having private property, have gone out at their own expense, and do not accept anything from the Mission funds. The others have gone out in dependence upon God for temporal supplies with the clear understanding that the Mission does not guarantee any income whatever, and knowing that, as the Mission does not go into debt, it can only minister to those connected with it as the funds sent in from time to time may allow.

SUPPORT. The Missionaries and Native Helpers are supported, and the rents and other expenses of mission-premises, schools, etc., are met by contributions sent to the offices of the Mission, without personal solicitation, by those who wish to aid in this effort to spread the knowledge of the Gospel throughout China. The income for 1876 was about $167,564 from all sources—North America, Great Britain, Continent of Europe, Australasia, China, etc.

PROGRESS. Stations have been opened in ten out of the eleven provinces which were previously without Protestant Missionaries; from one of these, however, the Missionaries had to retire, but they have done much itinerant work from over the border. The eleventh province has been visited several times, and it is hoped that in it permanent work may soon be begun.

More than a hundred and fifty stations and out-stations have been opened, in all of which there are either Missionaries or resident native labourers. Some five thousand converts have been baptized; and deaths, removals and discipline leave over three thousand now in fellowship.

China’s Present Need. China, at the present time, taken as a whole, has only one male Missionary to about half a million of its people; while some of its interior provinces have a still smaller supply.

Any further information desired will be gladly supplied upon application to the Mission, at the office, as above.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give and bequeath to the China Inland Mission Corporation the sum of $........................... dollars; and I direct that the Release of the Secretary for the time being of the said Corporation in America shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors in the premises.

July 15th, 1893.
England’s Millions

Separation, Blessing, and Service.

THOUGHTS ON NUMBERS VI., VII.

BY REV. J. HUDSON TAYLOR.

(Continued from page 73.)

“And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto Aaron and unto his sons, saying, On this wise ye shall bless the children of Israel.... And they shall put My Name upon the children of Israel; and I will bless them.”—Num. vi. 22, 23, 27.

In our previous papers we have seen the grace of God making provision that His people, who had lost the privilege of priestly service might draw near to Him by Nazarite separation and consecration. And not as the offence was the free gift: those who had forfeited the privilege of priestly service were the males only, but women and even children might be Nazarites; whosoever desired was free to come, and thus draw near to God.

III.—THE BLESSING OF GOD.

We now come to the concluding verses of Num. vi., and see in them one of the fullest forms of benediction to be found in the whole word of God. The thought naturally arises, Why are they found here? And the reply is twofold.

There is the Divine side. Flowing from God’s heart of love first came the privilege of Nazarite consecration; and then, by the act of consecration His loving heart is so gladdened that it further overflows in these rich benedictions.

Looking, on the other hand, at the human side, we may learn that the soul which is fully consecrated always receives the blessing of God. Where that blessing is not enjoyed, there is always something unreal or defective in the consecration. It may be that we have separated ourselves to carry out our own way, or thought, or plan of service, instead of surrendering ourselves and our will, to learn and to do His will. But it is real consecration to God that puts us into the position in which He can pour out His richest blessings upon us.

The prodigal was a son of the father all the time; but when he preferred his will to the will of his father, his way to the way of his father, his management of his share in the property to his father’s management, it issued but in ruin and misery—in hunger and nakedness and shame. The fact that he was a son was no avail to him in the “far country,” in the place of self-will and self-management. But as soon as he arose, and with true repentance and submission came back to the father’s house, willing to serve and to do his father’s will, he found himself restored to his father’s heart, and to all the privileges of sonship; the fatted calf was killed, the best robe was put upon him, once more he had shoes on his feet and a ring on his hand, and joy and gladness filled the home.

How many Christians there are who, in their self-will and attempted self-management, find themselves day by day full of sorrow, or full of care. Trying to keep themselves, they are not kept; trying to be happy, they are often unhappy; trying to succeed, they July, 1893.
fail; and they can but confess that their life is very
different from that ideal life described in Ps. lxxxix.
15:18:

"Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound:
They shall walk, O LORD, in the light of Thy
countenance.

In Thy Name shall they rejoice all the day:
And in Thy righteousness shall they be exalted.
For Thou art the glory of their strength:
And in Thy favour our horn shall be exalted.
For the LORD is our defence;
And the HOLY ONE of Israel is our KING."

Instead of this many know very little practically of
peace "which passeth all understanding," of joy that
is literally "unspeakable"; adjectives far more moder­
ate would be found strong enough to express all they
know of oft-troubled peace and intermittent satisfaction
and happiness. Many there are who fail to see that
there can be but one lord, and that those who do not
make God Lord of all do not make Him Lord at all.
The slightest reservation in our consecration shows that
we hold ourselves as our own, and consequently at liberty
to give Him as much or as little as we think fit. If
we recognize Him as Lord and Master, we have noth­
ing to withhold, and nothing of our own, for we, and all
we have, are already His. But then, in return, all He
has, and all He is becomes ours. Oh! blessed por­tion! Who would not wish henceforth to have no pri­
ivate property in himself—in his members—in his possess­
ions—in his family—in his affections; but, in
fullest consecration, to acknowledge and recognise God's
right, and to be no longer a robber of God?

We now come to the blessing that God delights to
give to those who have dedicated themselves and their
all to Him. But before considering it in detail, let us
notice first, how spontaneous and unsought is the bless­ing
from God—the Lord commanded Aaron and his
sons to bless Israel, to put His Name upon them; and
declared His own unutterable purpose, "I will bless
them." And then, let us ask ourselves the question,

WHAT IS THE REAL MEANING OF BLESSING.

We frequently use the word so vaguely as to lose much
of its preciousness, and to forget the primary meaning in
some of its secondary significations. For instance,
we use it frequently as a synonym of praise, and in
speaking of blessing God, we think of praising Him.
But blessing does not mean praise, for God blesses us.
Again, sometimes we use it for some gracious gift, as
when we speak of the blessing of peace or of plenty.
But blessing does not signify gift, for when we bless
God we do not give to Him peace or plenty. Bless­
ing is the moving of the heart towards an object of affection
and complacency. The out-going of the heart is
naturally accompanied by gift or ascription, as the case
may be. When our hearts bless the Lord, we sing a
song of praise to Him for the great love wherewith He
hath loved us; but the blessing is not the song—it is
the feeling that prompts it. When the Lord blesses
His people with peace and plenty, it is His open Heart
that moves His loving Hand.

Again, blessing is always accompanied with joy; it is
a joy, and it gives joy, both to the giver and the receiver.
A little child playing with his toys may be both happy
and satisfied. But it hears the mother's footsteps, it
sees the mother open the door, and instantly the toys
are dropped and forgotten; the little arms are stretched
out, and the little feet are running to meet the welcome
mother. Nor is this all; the great, motherly arms are
as quickly stretched forth towards the child, and with
longer steps the mother hastens to meet the little one,
and clasps it to her bosom, while the loving little arms
entwine themselves around her neck. But whose heart
is the more glad? The little one's heart is full; and
the mother's heart is also full; but her capacity is
greater, and so her joy is deeper. And is not this true
of our Heavenly Father? When His heart blesses
ours, and ours blesses Him, we are full of joy; but His
heart is infinitely greater than ours, and His joy in
His people exceeds all their joy in Him, as the
finite exceeds the finite. Let us always remember in
connection with blessing that the deep heart-feeling is
the primary thought. "Bless the Lord, O my soul;
and all that is within me, bless His holy Name." The
praise of the lip may be insincere; the blessing of the
heart cannot be.

(To be continued.)

Destruction of Idols.

FROM MISS F. M. WILLIAMS, OF PAO-NING, SI-CH'UEN.

Mrs. CasseLS has been away for
some weeks, and left her women's
and girl's classes to me. It was such a
pleasure teaching the children. There are
now over twenty in the school, but the
average attendance is fourteen to seventeen.

Their ages vary from seven to sixteen.
They are most affectionate, and have such
pretty little ways of showing their love.
Their memories are capital, quite equal to
the boys. I so enjoyed seeing them drinking
in the stories from the Bible for the first time.

I was able to visit some of the homes of the
children, and in some cases I found the

Little girls had taught their mothers
hymns and texts they had learnt at school.

Pray that soon these dear little ones may
know Jesus as their own Saviour. They read a few Chinese books with the teacher, and a woman is engaged in the afternoons teaching them sewing and embroidery. A week or two ago Mrs. Cassels gave some prizes to those who had behaved and worked well. They were charmed with their little needle-books, thimbles, pictures, etc.

I have been continuing my weekly visits to the village, Hsia-ko-tsi. Now and then I am invited into fresh homes, and often get interested listeners. At one house, where I visited regularly, I noticed the bowl of incense sticks had been taken away from its usual place, and, on enquiring, was told: "Since my husband has been attending the services at the Fah-ing-t'ang (Gospel Hall) he has

DONE AWAY WITH INCENSE AND IDOLS.

He now reads the Bible to us every evening."

In that same house, on another occasion, a stranger came in. She told me her husband had some of our Christian books. He lived too far away to come to the services, but he had an almanac by which he knew when Sunday came round, and then he read the books; he wanted to know if doing right from day to day would cancel the sins of former years, and was it true that God could heal us when we were ill? She also said, "If the Doctrine is so good, why didn't you come before to tell us?"

Lately we have been setting ourselves to pray for a revival in the men's work in Fao-ning, because so few had been coming to the services. Our God is answering our cry. He brought two men, one educated and the other a farmer, who had been brought to the Gospel by a distant teacher. They wanted to be taught to keep their families from worshipping idols, burning incense, etc.

Mrs. Cassels has been teaching the children, and on Saturday brought her two pupils to the services. She met with the Shao family to take this step. Miss F. Culverwell and I went yesterday to the house, and were encouraged by our visit. The dear old man told us how that for the last two years his faith in idols had been shaken, but his wife and sons were against his doing away with "the gods of many centuries." He said that every evening when the sons went through the ceremonies of worshipping idols, burning incense, etc., he went for a walk round the house.

ROUSED TO ACTION AT LAST.

Lately he has been talked to plainly, by one and another, about the necessity of giving up his idols if he wanted to be saved; and in conversation with the Teacher Ho.
two days ago, the Lord seemed to bring home to him what an awful thing it was to be serving the devils. Then and there he assembled his family, and together they agreed to serve the Lord. The sons tore down the family and kitchen gods, and gave them to Mr. Ho. The third son is particularly bright and rejoicing in the Lord, and longs to be used in His service. I know how you will praise God for this good news, and that you will hold up these young believers with your prayers.

I must here add a little about the Hsueh family. The Devil has been stirring up opposition; the pao-chang (elder or superintendent of the district) has threatened to report them to the Mandarin because they have given up their idols; and the neighbours threaten to turn them out of their home. The old man and his sons are not disturbed by these threats; they mean, by God's grace, to go forward; but the old lady, Mrs. Hsueh, is very frightened. She is afraid of losing the benefits which she supposes the idols could give her, such as having many grandsons, etc. The old man is distressed that his wife should be terrified; yesterday I said to him, "I think it may be because she does not understand what a good thing it is to be a Christian; you tell her what God's Word says, and comfort her heart." He answered, "I do read to her seven or eight pages out of the Bible every day!" Pray that the Holy Spirit may lighten her darkness.

The Hsueh's idols (they were paper) were taken to Pao-ning, and on Sunday at the service were burnt, as being hateful to God. Those of the old woman, Mrs. Chao, were still in our possession; they were of the same description as those of the Hsueh family—the household gods, one large scroll with representations of every sort upon it, the god of riches, the god of thunder, fire, etc. Yesterday, at our Sunday service here, these were brought out, and Mrs. Chao was asked if she were willing to burn them. Without any hesitation she answered, "I am willing. I hate them, THEY BELONG TO THE DEVIL."

Then she struck a match and set fire to them. They were very old and musty, and it seemed at first as if they would not ignite; but she persevered, and at last they ignited and smouldered on the floor.

This was not enough for the dear old woman: she suddenly disappeared, and came back with a handful of burning straw, which she threw upon the top of the idols; then they quickly burnt to ashes. While they were burning we sang, "Follow, follow, I will follow Jesus."

Then we asked, "Who will follow Jesus?" and old Hsueh directly answered, "I and my family will follow Jesus," and Mrs. Chao said the same. One of the women said to Mrs. Chao, after the idols were burnt, "See, you have burnt the god of fire, and he could not defend himself."

We do praise God for what He is doing in this district, and pray that these two families may so let their light shine that all in the neighbourhood may glorify God. We spent a happy, and, I trust, a profitable time yesterday afternoon with these dear people, looking out passages in the Bible about the sinfulness and folly of idol worship.

Itinerant Work in the Si-ch'uen Province.

FROM MR. A. GRAINGER, OF CH'EN-TU.

KIA-TING, Oct. 6th, 1892.—Meetings have been held here every evening since we came. I first preach in the entrance hall, from a scroll or texts of Scripture. Then a second meeting is held in the chapel. The people come in great numbers and listen very attentively to the Word. Often we have to begin again after having spoken an hour or more.

Two days ago Mr. Ririe and I went to Nin-hua-k'i, twenty miles down the river. This place looked like a city full of churches with steeples. The smoke, too, reminded one of England. It is quite different from any other place that I have been to in China. These houses, with steeples, are built over SALT WELLS, which are all over 1,000 feet deep. It was market day, and we were preaching for nearly three hours in the temple courtyard to large and attentive crowds.

Oct. 22nd.—The meetings mentioned above continued night after night, with evidently increasing interest. Several interesting conversations were held with individuals. We left Kia-ting on Wednesday, the 30th, by boat, and have just arrived at Mao-chau.

Oct. 50th.—We are now in Tan-lin, and have been preaching every second day among the market people, and have had encouraging meetings with the Christians every evening. We meet with new faces among the members, and are glad to see the Church growing. It is growing because it is living. One member brings another.

On Monday, Oct. 31st, I started out from Tan-lin, and with a band of volunteers to visit K'iong-chau, a city forty miles to the north, for the purpose of preaching. Many of the Christians were willing to accompany me, and I selected five. These were: (1) Mr. Lo, a dyer, who is a native of K'iong-chau, and has many friends there. He had important business that day with a customer, but he said, "The Lord's work is more important than that man's money: I will go." (2) Mr. T'ang, who was one of the first converts in Tan-lin. He is about fifty-five years of age, and Mr. Lo is forty-four. (3) The evangelist's son, Wang Huan-t'ing, a lad of sixteen. (4) Mr. Chu, a tailor, who was brought to Christ by Mr. Lo. And (5) Kueh, our servant, who is always ready to preach.

After prayer in the little chapel, we set out in Indian file. Mr. T'ang carried a paste-pot and shee-tract, and left a silent messenger wherever he found a good wall to put one on. This was his work all the time. He always took the opportunity to speak to those who gathered round him. The rest had books and tracts for sale, but their main object was to preach and preach they all did, both faithfully and well.

A wayside inn Mr. Lo got into conversation with a man who had read some of our books. A little crowd gathered round to listen. The woman of the house, who was cooking by the door, also showed much interest, and asked some questions. The rest of the day was spent at the town of Pu-kiang, where, being market day, large numbers of people listened to the Gospel.

Next morning we pressed on to a market, Hsi-lai-chang. We went into a tea-shop to rest a minute, when someone asked Mr. Lo where we were going. He replied, in his hearty way, "We are travellers on the heavenly road," which at once introduced the Gospel. He often made this remark, and in K'iong-chau someone wished to have a joke at his expense, and asked, "Which gate do you go out by?" He promptly replied, "Are you willing to go? I will tell you." We reached K'iong-chau at dusk, and found a room to accommodate us all. Wednesday was market day, and every street of this large city was thronged. In the morning we were at work before breakfast, talking to individuals. After the people had begun to gather we went out two and two, and did not meet again until the evening, when we all had interesting stories to tell of many willing listeners.

I made my way to the city temple, where I preached for two hours, and afterwards in front of the Ya-men, where we had a large crowd. I certainly never had a bigger day's talking in my life, but I don't think
my heart was ever so full of praise. The others felt the same.

Mr. T'ang had gone out with his sheet-tracts for sale displayed before him, and a bundle of sheet-tracts, for pasting up, under his arm. Usually he stammers a good deal in his speech, but in the evening he said, "My tongue was loosened very much to-day, praise the Lord!"

The streets were very busy on the following day, so we had plenty of work, and met with some interesting cases. It was quite touching to hear Mr. Lo pleading with and exhorting his brothers. He has been very faithful in his dealings with all his friends.

We started on our homeward journey on Thursday, arriving at Pu-kiang city in time to do some work among the market people, and after supper had a good time in a tea-shop.

On Saturday morning, as we passed the inn where Mr. Lo had such attentive listeners on Monday, we were stopped by two or three men who wanted to hear the doctrine. They had heard something of what had passed on Monday from the woman of the inn. In a few minutes fourteen or fifteen persons from the one farm-house had gathered together. We told them the way of life more perfectly, rejoicing to see how the Word had spread and how many had heard through that one woman.

This was the best week I have spent in the Master's service, either at home or in China, praise the Lord!

Blessing in She-k'i-tien, Ho-nan Province.

FROM MISS MARLER TO HER HOME FRIENDS.

DECEMBER 3rd, 1892.—Methinks the bells of Heaven have been ringing during the last few weeks, and joy and gladness have been brought to the heart of our Good Shepherd, as he has seen some of the "other sheep" gathered into the fold.

It was a glad sight to see nine of our dear native converts coming forward to confess Christ before the world. Nov. 9th was the day fixed for the baptism, and those of us who were present will never forget that ceremony. As I looked at the bright faces of those who a few years ago were worshiping false gods, but who now are rejoicing in salvation through the blood of Jesus, my heart was deeply moved, and the cry escaped my lips, "What hath God wrought?" To you at home nine baptisms count very little, but to us it means so much. Nine saved out of the devil's power; nine saved from the sin and wretchedness we see around us every day; and this means more than we can say.

1. Our own servant Chao-sao, who has given clear testimony by a changed life that she is indeed the Lord's. It is a real pleasure to watch her daily life, and to see how humbly and earnestly she seeks to follow her Saviour's example.

2. Chang-sao, another who has been connected with us for some time. Some years since, when her little boy, who had been taught by Miss Guiness and Mrs. Herbert Taylor, was dying, he said to her, "Mother, you will come to Heaven, won't you?" This so impressed the mother that she resolved to learn the way to that heavenly land. She has just lost another little son by death, and it was nice to see how bravely she bore her trial, leaning upon Jesus for support. This woman has to fight against a very bad temper. Pray for her, please; her husband is an inveterate opium-smoker.

3. Old, white-haired, Chang-mu. She has been coming to worship for over four years, and although very simple and ignorant, yet clearly awows that she trusts only in Jesus for salvation. This poor old woman is very much persecuted by her daughter-in-law.

4. Liu-mu, the pedlar's wife. She has a nice Scripture scroll put up in her house in place of her god. She prays every day, and is very anxious for her husband's conversion. Help her with your prayers.

5. A Young Wife of twenty-three years of age, the daughter of one of our older Christians. She has been wishing baptism for some time, but her home is away in the country, some sixteen miles from this. As soon as it was announced that a baptism was to take place her brother started off to let her know, and returned in a few days, bringing his sister and her two children with her. She had walked the whole distance, carrying a big baby, in order to be present. Remember when I tell you she walked that she used those tiny little Chinese feet, of which you may have some idea if you take that the little one had been sent out to call his eldest brother, who is in business in the town. While at his brother's employer's home, some men said to him— "Oh! there is a little boy who follows the foreigners, and believes their doctrine!"

"No!" replied the little boy, "I believe in God, and serve the Lord Jesus." "Oh!" the men said, "they have given you their medicine, and deceived you."

Thereupon, the little o-c, of six years, warmed up, and preached against idolatry as well as any missionary ever did. He said, "Will you tell me what use your gods are to you? They are only wood, paper, and mud; and you—well, if you worship them, they cannot save you; and after death, you go straight away down to hell; while we go to heaven."

Noble little fellow! I may the Lord graciously enable him to become bolder and bolder for the truth! "Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings, Thou hast perfected praise!"
The Thick Darkness of Yun-nan.

T O­DAY my woman, Chu Ta-sao, her little girl and I came to a village about fifteen li from Yun-nan Fu to spend some days. This is Chu Ta-sao's native village, and she has many friends here. She is a great help in the work; she knows something of the love of Jesus, and what she knows she tells out with real warmth and sincerity. We occupy an upstairs room in a cottage. Soon after our arrival the people came, as they usually do, in large numbers to gratify their curiosity. Next morning I spoke to women who came in small groups. At midday I visited the market; several women invited me to their homes. After evening rice I had some play with the village children, and then the women congregated outside. I sat on a low form; they sat around on the ground. I had a very nice time with them. They listened patiently and long to the Gospel. We sang before parting and they promised to come on the morrow.

Feeling the darkness.

This morning Chu Ta-sao and I started for two villages; on reaching the first we were rather warm and tired, so sat just inside a tea-shop. Some old men asked to look at a Gospel; my woman preached to them. Women gathered round the door, and as we talked several repeated, sentence by sentence, what we said. I showed them a picture—"The two ways,"—the way to destruction and the way to eternal life; my woman is always eager to explain it. A woman close beside us who had been listening as she stitched her shoes talked about it; she had learnt something, but as she spoke she felt what a dreadfully dark condition her soul was in. The village women are very unintelligent; they know little more than what happens within their own villages; they have never before heard anything like the Gospel, no such good news has ever been told them; it is so new it has to be preached again and again before it is in any degree taken in. When Missionaries are sufficient in number to allow a worker to stay in a village where untold blessings this will bring to the people!

Without hope.

At the second village I felt dismayed. Talk as I would I could not raise any hope in the hearts of the women; they laughed and shook their heads, saying, "Heaven for us! No, not for us; heaven is for men, for you, but not for us. How can we women go to heaven? We are sinners, and shall suffer for sin: there is no heaven for us," and they laughed at the very idea. They were sinners, and it was nice to tell them about the Saviour, but they seemed too hopeless to heed. My woman and I preached on until they all went away but one. I asked her to remember that the world's Saviour loved her and was willing to save her; she listened, but with sadness and indifference.

I came home and afterwards went to walk flower-gathering with the village children. After evening rice the little ones accompanied me to the village adjoining. I had a delightful congregation of women; several told me of their complaints, and then I had a good time of preaching. Coming back I found another crowd waiting near our door; they listened till the stars were visible in the sky.

In a village where some of the people had heard before there was a general spirit of interest in the Gospel; some asked us to stay and preach there for two days, and a woman offered us a room in her cottage.

I went to see an old lady who lives near our lodging, and who is anxious to learn how to pray.

She was busy shelling beans, so I sat at her side and helped. "What is the name of the One who gave up His life for us?" she asked. "Ye-su" (Jesus) I replied. "I fear I cannot say it," she said; and indeed she had to try again and again before she had it clearly in her mind. As we shelled the beans she asked questions as to how to trust and pray to the Saviour; then she took up again the word "Ye-su," and said it many times. The dear woman can just grasp line upon line with much repetition. May she be saved!

Three women were anxious to know how to pray. It is grievous that these people have to be left.

I do pray that we may get more help soon. There is so much sadness, so much grief in the hearts of China's women—no peace, no hope. Oh that one could stay and teach them of Jesus the Comforter; but while I stay in one place there are hundreds of calls elsewhere. Christian sisters, come over and help us. Mothers, give up your treasures for Jesus. It is easy to give what costs you little, but Jesus is worthy to receive the precious things; and He is well able to take care of that which is given to Him.
their negligence? As we find that blessing comes to our own souls and lives by waiting in intercession before the Lord, let us see to it that we miss no opportunity of telling of this blessedness to others, so as to induce them to become, with us, partakers of blessing from the presence of God. The law of the kingdom in this as in all else is, “Freely ye have received, freely give.” If any desire to be so used, we will be glad to supply slips giving a statement about the formation and objects of the Prayer Union. These slips can be had on application at the office of the Mission.

Intelligence in prayer will always be greatly helped by having reliable information about the work for which we plead, and so we would earnestly commend the careful and prayerful perusal of the accounts of the work from the field as they appear month by month in China’s Millions. Members will find also that a disposition to join the Union will be begotten in the minds of outsiders who may be led to subscribe for that periodical, and whose interest may be thus awakened; and those who are already interested to some extent, will have their interest and sympathy continually stirred, and the spirit of prayer continually quickened by the accounts of the Lord’s workings through His servants which are there reported.

All desiring information about the Prayer Union will kindly address their communications to the China Inland Mission, 632 Church Street, Toronto, Ont., putting upon the corner of the envelope the words “Prayer Union.”

J. McC.

Report of Anniversary Meetings,
HELD AT MILDMAY CONFERENCE HALL,
LONDON, MAY, 1893.

The Anniversary Meetings have come and gone, and we thank God for them. We were favoured with beautiful weather, and large attendance of friends. Never were so many of our returned Missionaries present—a natural result of the large increase in our numbers eight or ten years ago. And never were we able to report a year’s work so fruitful of spiritual results, or a prospect so bright, spiritually, for the future. The time passed all too rapidly; for God was present with us, and we rejoiced in Him and in His work.

There is, however, much call for prayer as well as for thanksgiving. The year has been one of great difficulty as well as of success. While there are more missionary and native workers, more stations and outstations than ever before, the income from England in 1892 was again a diminished one, being £1,950 less than that of 1891, about £5,000 less than that of 1890, and £6,000 less than that of 1889. The effect of this falling off would have been much more serious had it not been in some measure compensated for by the increase in the funds received in China of £7,000 over those received in 1889; but this sum includes the funds received from America and Australia, from which countries many new workers have joined us. Thus, while including funds received in China, there has been an absolute increase of about £1,000 on the income of 1889 for the purposes of the Mission; there has been, on the other hand, an increase of 200 Missionaries in the same time; and, therefore, a very real lessening of means available for the support of the workers. Will our friends remember this in prayer? We can still say, thank God, that every real need has been met by God; but the need in China of the workers from England has not been met by contributions remitted from England, nor have we been able to do for those at home on furlough all that we gladly would have done had more means been available.

We need also to remember the prayer, “Give peace in our time, O Lord.” We have had to record the riots at Sung-p’an and Ch’eng-ku during the past year, and in several other of our stations there was a time of much anxiety. Nor has our own Mission been the only one thus tried. Apart from God’s protecting care, the position of many Inland Workers would have been very precarious. But the Lord reigneth! We will trust, and not be afraid. And we rejoice all the more to have to record more natives baptized, and more candidates for baptism enrolled, than ever before. The first letters, too, received after the Annual Meetings were over tell us of 137 converts baptized by Mr. Rudland, out of 300 candidates—the baptisms having taken place in what was once a heathen temple, but is now, and has been for many years, a Christian chapel. Mr. Stevenson also tells of other baptisms in four provinces.

The Annual Meetings were preceded by a series of devotional meetings for returned Missionaries and candidates, from May 25th to May 29th, held in No. 2 Pyrland Road, and mostly conducted by Mr. Walter B. Sloan. These were times of great refreshment and blessing. Public prayer-meetings also were held on the evening of May 29th, and the morning of May 30th.

J. HUDSON TAYLOR.
**AFTERNOON MEETING.**

**GEORGE WILLIAMS, Esq., Chairman.**

The hymn, "Saviour, Thy dying love Thou gavest me," was sung, and the 103rd Psalm was then read by Mr. Theodore Howard. Prayer was offered by the Rev. J. Hudson Taylor.

**MR. BROOМHALL,**
the General Secretary, welcomed the friends present, and expressed our pleasure to have with us again our beloved friend Mr. Williams: adding,

We recognize gratefully the interest which he has taken in this Mission, and in all missions, and how much he has done to encourage young men in connection with the Young Men's Christian Association to think of the claims of foreign missions.

I shall not take much time by detail in report. Our friends from China will speak of the work, and Mr. Taylor will give us such statements as time may permit. But it falls to my lot to give the following statistics:

[We condense Mr. Broomhall's statement into the following table.]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present Staff of Missionaries and Associates</th>
<th>Arrived in China in 1892</th>
<th>Arrived in China in 1893</th>
<th>Total as shown in the Report</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MISSIONARIES:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>From this Country</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From North America</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Australasia</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ASSOCIATES WORKING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE MISSION:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>From this Country</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Bible Christian Mission</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swedish Missions in China</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swedish Holiness Union</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norwegian Missions</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free Church of Finland</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>German Alliance Mission</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scandinavian Alliance Mission</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
<td><strong>26</strong></td>
<td><strong>552</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We have during the last year suffered loss by the removal through death of one associate and seven members of the Mission, some of them old and experienced, and much-valued workers. You will have seen from CHINA'S MILLIONS that during the present year three others have been called to their rest, one of them under very pathetic circumstances.

The income received last year in this country was £24,632 13s. 8d., and £9,860 15. 4d. were received in China from other sources, making a total of £34,492 15s. ($167,864.71). The income has not kept pace with the increase of workers, and that is a thought which our friends need prayerfully to remember.

I should like to remind you that, notwithstanding the prospering hand of God upon the work of His servants, the need of China is immeasurably and indescribably great; and

**THE DIAGRAM (See below)**

will show you, by a little white spot in the centre, what the relative proportion is of those who are in Church-fellowship as compared with the great mass of the heathen population in that land. I trust that the result of our gathering will be that we shall leave this place to-day desiring more deeply and more earnestly than ever to do what may be in our power to hasten the evangelization of that vast mass of people, who are yet without the knowledge of God.

The population of China, estimating it to be 800 millions, is represented by the diagram, each square representing one million souls.

One sixteenth of one square would more than cover all the Church Members of all the Protestant Missions in China.
GEORGE WILLIAMS, ESQ.

It is a real gratification to the friends to see such a number of workers from China on the present occasion. What a satisfaction it would be to me if I had a brother or sister among them! A visit to England must be very refreshing after the privations of missionary work, and bearing the burden of souls. I am especially happy to be here, because the Y.M.C.A. ought to provide a very large number of Missionaries for this Mission, and for other Societies as well; and I am thankful to know that it has done so, and will continue to do so.

God has many cheering words for us in His Book. He exhorts us to be strong and of good courage, just as He did Joshua in giving him the great commission to subdue the land of Canaan. God has given us China, only we have to conquer it. We are praying at home, giving and helping, and our beloved friends are going forward carrying the glad tidings.

This Book speaks of being "sorrowful, yet always rejoicing." I want our dear friends to take that special verse for their own comfort — sorrowful to see the degradation of the people; sorrowful in seeing their sins, and apprehending what will be their doom unless they are delivered by faith in Christ; sorrowful to behold the hardness of their hearts and their prejudices, yet always rejoicing. "Poor, yet making many rich." That is what they are doing—I ought to say what we of the China Inland Mission are doing. How could we make people richer than by carrying to them the glad tidings? We are all Missionaries. God give us grace to give more and more, and to sacrifice ourselves for the advancement of His kingdom yet more and more!

Beloved friends, "All things are your's; ... and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's." May God help you to realize this, and to think it a privilege to contribute to help forward this work. Thousands upon thousands in China will bless God that there ever was such an agency as this, and for the dear friends who have combined to help on this work. May God prosper it yet more and more!

REV. J. HUDSON TAYLOR.

In 1889 I was with you last. In 1890 I attended the great Missionary Conference in Shanghai. The great work of that Conference was the decision to bring out three new versions of the Bible. This work, which will take many years to complete, has been well begun, and is sustained by the liberal hand of the British and Foreign Bible Society—I hope that you are all contributors to that great and invaluable Society. The National Bible Society of Scotland, and the American Bible Society, are also helping to provide the sinews of war; and the translators are working on and seeking to render God's own precious Word more perfectly than the Chinese have yet had it.

Just before that time we had in Shanghai a very great privilege. We entered upon NEW PREMISES there, a very substantial answer to six years' prayers. The Lord heard and answered your prayers and ours for healthy premises in Shanghai. May He abundantly bless the kind donor!

In those premises, I believe lives have been spared, sick ones restored, and weary ones refreshed not a few, who otherwise might have been lost to the work, or who might have had to come here at considerable loss of time as well as expense.

It is a pleasure to have our dear friend Miss Williamson here with us. In those new premises she has been a mother to us all. There are many mothers in this audience, but none of you have as large a family as she.

We are very thankful to God for the good gifts that He gives us, and we have found that "willing, skilful" men includes willing, skilful women too. There has been no truer post of service than that which Miss Williamson (with her friend and ours, Miss Kay) has so willingly and lovingly occupied for some years. And it is a special pleasure to me to see on the platform the one who preceded her, and had all the inconvenience of very much less satisfactory premises, dear Miss Black. What she did for us during that time is recorded on high; and there are some hearts that have not lost the record, and will not lose it.

Shortly after that, it was my privilege, with Mr. Montagu Beauchamp, to visit Australia; and you have heard that we have now from Australia between thirty and forty workers. Our three months in the Colonies was a time of very great blessing. The meetings were many of them true meetings for consecration, and the natural outcome of real consecration, loving service far away from home, resulted.

Then followed the riots, in which one dear young missionary life was sacrificed—Mr. Argent, of the Joyful News Mission. God graciously preserved all our friends inland. I am not sure that the rioting time is over yet.*

Last Saturday I received a letter from one of our medical Missionaries, Dr. Wilson, in which he spoke of the marked effect that this spirit of agitation had had on the attendance at his hospital and dispensary in Han-chung; but, he said, the Lord has overruled it for good. We have had fewer to heal, but not fewer to preach to, and we have had all the more time to preach to them.

But best of all has been the great spiritual blessing God has been giving us. In Shanghai and other parts, residents, seamen, and marines on our ships, have been saved; while in inland stations, God has been with us too.

Native Christians have been quickened, and have commenced new work themselves, through which not a few heathen have been brought to the Lord. He has given us more souls during the past year, in spite of opposition and rioting, than ever before. There have been more persons baptized, and I believe that there are at least a thousand more candidates for baptism now on the registers of the hundred little churches than there were twelve months ago.

Besides this, God has been speaking

* A telegram in the Times, dated Shanghai, May 30th, speaks of a small anti-missionary riot in the province of So-chow, which was quelled by the authorities.
to the hearts of many of us, and telling us that we needed filling and refilling with His own Spirit; that there could not be an overflow unless there was a fuller indwelling. Oh, how one would delight to dwell upon these times of blessing!

While we were getting blessing in Shanghai, dear friends in other places were blessed in like manner by the self-same Spirit.

In conclusion, I want to read you an extract from a private letter kindly given us by a friend a few days ago. It was written by the wife of a Missionary residing in Ch'ung-k'ing, in the province of Si-ch'uen. There has been special prayer for that city since the death of our beloved brother Dr. Cameron, and one hoped that the going up of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Smith would cheer our tired workers and help the native church. But our loving Lord sent a blessing before they got there.

Receiving the Holy Spirit.

Extract from Letter, dated Ch'ung-k'ing, March 26th, 1893.

"Do you remember my telling you in my last of our united meetings for prayer for the gift of the Holy Spirit? Last Thursday, March 23rd, was our usual weekly English service: dear Mr. Willett (C.I.M.) was led to speak on 'Bear- hold your God!' (Isa. xl. 9), and all at once we every one seemed to get a glimpse. A member of the Friends' Mission said, 'Have we not been praying for days for the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit? Has He not come? Can we receive Him?'

There was a general response that He had been most manifestly given. We all went prostrate on our knees, and were filled to overflowing. No one who was present will ever forget that time. Some sang, some spoke, some prayed, many wept, and were quite broken down; as for myself I was perfectly calm, only intensely happy; they told me afterwards that my face was beaming. I was not altogether unprepared. I had expected 'great things,' and the Lord had not disappointed me. Such wonderful revelations had been given to me from God's Word; no wonder everything has a new light now.

But to return to our Thursday evening meeting. The oldest Missionary in Ch'ung-k'ing, at whose house the meeting was held, stood up, and with tears running down his face, said, 'Dear friends, the Lord has been dealing very definitely with me during the last few minutes. Let us each join hands, and here make; with one accord, a solemn covenant with the Lord that in the power of the Holy Ghost, Whom we have just received, we place ourselves anew on the altar, asking that the power given may be used for future service in the salvation of precious souls! Oh, it was a blessed time, as each one grasped the other's hand! I could only keep saying 'Glory to God! Praise the Lord!'

"We separated somewhere about 10 P.M. There was very little said; every heart was too full for words.

"On going home I looked at that text you sent—'The Lord shall be thine everlasting light.' I said to C., 'I have been trying to say that all the week, but could not; now I can say it, and what's more I can add, 'The days of thy mourning shall be ended.' Hallelujah!

"The next morning it was definitely laid on my heart that we ought to return at once to that room, where we had received the blessing, for a thanksgiving service. I feel quite sure that that 'upper room' at Jerusalem must have resounded with praise after the Pentecostal blessing. There were very few cleansed, but only one returned to give glory to God; we must do as that one did.

"I wrote to the other sisters and brethren, and received kind responsive answers. Well, we met—such a time was—everyone had something to tell of the Spirit's marvellous leadings. C. said the age of miracles had not passed away, for surely a very wonderful miracle had just taken place in our midst: to which everybody said, 'Amen!' "

"If a stranger could peep in on us now, I think he would say, 'See how these Christians love one another!' One spoke of it as a time of beautiful liberty, because the Spirit of the Lord was there. We have claimed great things from the Lord, and we know we are going to have them. Our chapels have been very full to-day.

"Thank you for sending CHINA'S MILLIONS. My experience has been almost parallel with Mr. Stanley Smith's, only it was my baby I did not want to give up. I could not feel the Lord Jesus could satisfy; and He has taken him, to show me He can, and does. To-day I often repeat 'Abide satisfied.' I have never been so happy in my life. . . .

"We are fully expecting to be assailed by the Evil One: we have been on the Mount of Transfiguration, and may soon be called to go to Gethsemane; but the Lord will be there. Mr. Owen Stevenson, of the C.I.M., passing through on his way home, was at that meeting; write to him and try to meet him; he will tell you all about it."

MISS MARIANNE MURRAY.

My first word this afternoon must be praise to God. Perhaps some of you met with us, a party of nine ladies going to China, more than eight years ago. If we were all here again to-day, the first thing that we should like to do would be to thank God for His goodness to us, and for answering your prayers, and blessing us all.

If my dear sister were here to-day she would like to speak to you about the children in China. God has laid the little ones on her heart. She has a boarding-school at Yang-chau, where at first she had twenty-four Chinese girls. I think all of them are converted now, thank God! Many of them are the wives of pastors and evangelists, and are themselves doing work for the Lord.

It is very much on my sister's heart for some person to go out with the desire of reaching the young. We want something like the glorious work which you have here conducted by dear Miss Macpherson. Will you pray for that?

It is not easy to speak of the work God has given me in the Training Home at Yang-chau. I do thank God for what He has been to me. He has taught me many, many lessons through His dear children in Yang-chau.

He has also given me the joy of seeing His work among the heathen in that city. When we first went in 1885, we used to meet in a dining-room with a few of the natives. Now our chapel is well filled, and we have had the joy of seeing many men and women turned from their idols.

We came from Colombo on the Australasian mail steamer, and many of the passengers were troubled because of the state of trade. You all know how the banks have failed, and I suppose it has affected England. But what has made us sad in coming home is to find that the trade in which we, as God's children, ought to be engaged, is so low and so dull.

God has given us so many gifts to trade with. When we come to England we speak to God's children one after another, and ask about missionary interests. I asked one friend the other day, "How is it in your Society? Are the funds coming in? Are men and women offering themselves?" And he said, "There are a few ladies, but hardly any men offering, and the funds are low." It seems such an awful thing when our trade is in such a dull way as that. Our bank does not fail. Our resources are
always the same. We have no excuse. God is pouring down His blessings upon you, and giving you so much. That is what led me to go to China. God had given me all my life such a home of love; I was surrounded by love and comfort and blessing; and then God led me to pray that I might be filled with the knowledge of His will. Well, that was His will for me.

He said to me, "I have given you all this, not to keep it and enjoy it; but to give it. You can give love where there is no love; and you have health and strength to go and rescue the perishing." And so, by God's grace, I did go, and I do thank God for it; and I would ask anyone here to-day who has a home of love, and who has been surrounded through life by love and blessing, What was it given you for? Are you trading? Are you trading for your Lord? He is coming to reckon. He wants you and me to be trading just now.

May God bless you, dear friends, and do let us have young men offering themselves for the foreign field. Do come and taste how good the Lord is in China, and what a blessing it is to lay all on the altar for Jesus. Amen.

The Need and the Power.

MISS GERALDINE GUINNESS.

I AM afraid that many of you will hardly appreciate the Chinese hymn that has just been sung as much as some of us have done. The words and the music all seem to us very sweet, and recall happy hours in the far away land so dear to our hearts.

This afternoon's meeting is a very special joy to some of us, because we are meeting here in England dear friends that we left in China. Some of us have never seen one another in English dress until to-day, and it is a little puzzling to make out who we are just at first. But it is very pleasant to meet.

We are not here to glorify any mission or any individual, but it is deeply on my heart to say how much many of us are indebted to some upon this platform. Eternity alone will reveal how very, very much of blessing and strength in our lives have come to us far away in China from the sympathy and the teaching and the blessed example of some who are here with us to-day. Our dear friend, Miss Murray, said only a very few words to you; but, ah, dear friends, if we could say what is in our hearts about her, and if many, many sisters out in China could say what a blessing her life, by the grace of God, has been to us, you would have to sit a long time in this hall to hear it. I want you to thank God for these lives, and to praise Him for this blessing, and to rejoice with us in welcoming her.

I feel that I have no business to be talking at all, because I am not one of the Missionaries who have just come back from China. I came home about a year ago, and but for unforeseen contingencies I should have been in China again ere this time. Some, perhaps, may know that it has been long weeks working there for God. In the north of the province the dear brethren and sisters of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission are at work. I do not know their numbers. I think that they have one station.

We have stations in the north of the province. That is to say, if you had Scotland twice as large as it is, and four times as populous, we should have two men in Greenock, for example, two men at Stirling, and three men in Dundee, and that is all. Nobody in Glasgow, the great commercial centre, and nobody in Edinburgh nor Aberdeen nor St. Andrew's; none among the literary classes as we should call them—nobody anywhere except in those three little centres.

Thank God, we have some Christians there, but though their number is now more than fifty, we are glad to say, they would scarcely be more than one man in a quarter of a million people.

I remember well when I was coming down from Ho-nan to..."
Shanghai, one of the first Christians in the province was accompanying us as our escort. Coming down the little river I was writing some letters, and he asked me whether I was writing to England, and I said, “Yes; shall I send any message for you?” He said:

“I should like to send a message to England.”

This is a man of very devoted Christian life, one who has stood for years, and is a very true lover of the Saviour. He looked away across the populous country which we were slowly passing, and he was silent for some moments; and then with his eyes still turned away from me across the land, for we were still in the province of Ho-nan, which was so dear to his heart, he said: “I should like Kin Ku-naing” (that was my name) “to tell her venerable father and the Christian people in England that here the harvest is very great, but the labourers are but few. Tell them that there is nothing to prevent their coming. The people are glad to receive them. There are no great persecutions or overwhelming difficulties. I pray constantly that large numbers may come to these white fields, for see how few the present handful.” He repeated it once or twice, “I pray constantly that many may be sent to get in this white harvest.”

Dear friends, in face of such a work as lies before us in Ho-nan, one may say, “What can we do? What can a handful of people like that do?” Ah, but “Ye shall receive power.” We believe in the power of the Holy Ghost. Oh, how responsible is the missionary to be filled with the Spirit; but no more responsible than every one of us at home.

Are we daily filled with that power? Do we know what it is to have, by the Holy Spirit, the power to make what is impossible, possible to us? to make real to us all the great verities of that eternity in which we live and have our being even now? Do we know what it is? Beloved friends, what are these things to each one of you? Oh, what are you doing with this great responsibility?

TOUCHING GIFTS.

I should like to mention an incident that came to my knowledge last night in connection with our own work in East London, showing how hearts really touched by God can help.

Only on Saturday a dear woman in very humble circumstances sent to our Institute, which my brother, who is here this afternoon, is representing in London, a donation of ten shillings for the missionary work, and she mentioned in her letter that her whole income was ten shillings a week. She lived upon that, and she sent a gift of ten shillings for the missionary work! Now, is not that a beautiful instance of the real devotion that we ought to find in all Christian hearts?

Only last night another letter came from a lady, a person in middle life, also in humble circumstances. It was a most astonishing letter. I have not got over the influence of that letter yet. I hope that I never shall. She was a Board School teacher, no longer young; and she sent a donation for missionary work of £40. Her heart was touched, and she could not hold back the gift any longer. Just out of her savings, we suppose, in that laborious, toilsome occupation of a Board School teacher she sent £40 for missionary work!

Beloved friends, are we living in earnest like that? Are we all of us really giving what we should to Christ—not money only, but ourselves, our all? Dear Miss Murray was alluding to the dullness and depression that seem to exist in the hearts of the Lord’s people about missionary work. It is a very solemn thing indeed to contrast this with the spiritual blessings existing in these countries. Since coming home I have been profoundly struck with the number of conventions of all sorts—the congress meetings, the holiness meetings, and the great cloud of spiritual blessing that seems to be passing all over our land. Beloved friends, the Master is coming into our gatherings, and saying to us, “Now, be real; be real. Can ye drink of the cup that I drink of, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” Oh, let us apply this to our own hearts, and commence at home. He wants something real from us. He wants that which costs us something. Ye shall receive power to give, to give to the uttermost, the power of the Holy Ghost. Let us receive that power, and let us receive it daily and go on receiving it. Let that power have its way through our lives. It is the only power that can move the church of God as it should be moved in these last days about this great missionary work.

Joy in Serving.

MISS WILLIAMSON.

I have only been three weeks in England, and I spent my first Sunday in the Midland counties, and went to church in the evening. There was a large congregation. I do not know what it was that came over me, but as I saw the people come troop ing it, great numbers of them, and sitting down to the service, and, then, after it was over, going out again, showing perfect satisfaction, I longed to get up and ask them what they were doing. What are so many people doing here? They have all heard the Gospel: they have heard it all their lives. I suppose there were twenty churches almost within sight of each other, and yet those people all seemed perfectly satisfied. Shall I ask you the question, for it would hardly have been seemly to ask them in the church? What are you doing, I do ask?

Perhaps there are some here who are thinking of the foreign field. O friends,
give your heart out and out to the Lord. Have faith in the Holy Spirit and in His power, and then, O do come and tell of what Jesus has done, tell of Jesus' love for sinners, for the Chinese. His love for the Chinese is absolutely as great as His love to us, and He is longing that they should know this love, and yet they do not know it because there are so few to tell them. Will some one of this congregation come to tell of His great love?

The other day, when I was coming up from Bristol—and I should like to leave this with you—the Lord seemed to give me these verses, "How excellent is Thy loving-kindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings. They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of Thy house; and Thou shalt make them drink of the river of Thy pleasures. For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light shall we see light." That is really true, dear friends, and if you come out to China you will be able to prove it for yourselves.

Just one word. I say that I have no Chinese work at Shanghai. Well, in its real sense perhaps I have not, but we have Chinese servants in the home. I have eight, and I may say that I have never been better served by any servants than by those eight men. I love them, and I think they love me. They are not all Christians. One is a Christian, the son of the first man that Mr. Stevenson baptized twenty-four years ago in Shao-hing, and there is one other who is a believer, though he has not been baptized.

The rest are not Christians. O friends, we like to have something definite to pray for, and I ask you, this vast number of people, definitely to pray for the conversion of these men in our Shanghai home. It seems so sad that they should remain away from the Lord, and yet be surrounded with Christian influence. Pray believingly that they may all serve the Lord.

The King’s Bounty.

The question is often asked us by those who know that we are in a peculiar sense dependent upon God for temporal supplies, "Do you find the life of faith a practical one; does the Lord fully and continuously answer prayer; are your needs really met?" It has been and is our glad privilege to reply to this inquiry, that we find the Lord faithful to His every promise; not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord our God spoke concerning us; all are come to pass.

In order that the friends of the Mission may realize this more fully, and that the faith of those who read these lines may be encouraged and strengthened, the following incidents connected with our life in the Mission Home in Toronto, have been prepared, partly by Mr. Steven and partly by myself, for print. They will illustrate how God has heard and answered prayer and how He has cared for us while engaged in His service.

We would not have our friends suppose, however, that the trials and testing times here referred to are our usual experiences; on the contrary, we have generally an abundant supply of every earthly need, and we feel that the long stretches of uneventful prosperity call for praise as truly as the times of testing and deliverance; but the times of scarcity and of marked answer to prayer reveal peculiarly how God does and will undertake for His own, and prove, as perhaps the more prosperous times do not, that no circumstances are too adverse for Him to deal with, and no need too great for Him to meet and supply. We rejoice, therefore, to sit at the King's table and to be dependent upon the King's bounty; whether in prosperity or adversity, our portion is a blessed one; like Jehoiachin of old, our allowance is a continual allowance given us of the King, a daily rate for every day, all the days of our life.

H. W. F.
Editorial Notes.

W e give this month a partial reprint of the report of the Annual Meetings held in the Conference Hall, Mildmay, London, in May last. We regret there is not room to reproduce all of the addresses then given, as each one has its own special interest. We print this month those delivered at the afternoon meeting, and will hope next month to give those delivered at the evening meeting, including an address by Dr. Pierson from Matt. 24: 14.

It was our privilege to have with us at our weekly Prayer Meeting on Friday, June 30th, Mr. and Mrs. Hobson, from China. These friends have lived in that country most of their lives, and have known the Mission almost since its inception. Mr. Hobson is the son of a Missionary, and a grandson of Robert Morrison, the first Missionary to China, and, though not a Missionary himself, has been constantly associated with Missionaries and a co-worker with them. It was gratifying to hear Mr. Hobson speak most warmly of the work of ours with those with us who knew the land of China and its connection with the Mission. This is an aspect of our work not often considered or thought of. We praise God that it can be a real part of our service in China, and trust that it may be ever more largely true.

Mr. Steven has been for some weeks attending a Bible School in the eastern part of Kansas, and travelling through Western Ontario during the course of the summer months, and may go as far as Windsor before returning to Toronto. We would be glad if any of our friends along this route who wish to obtain copies of any of our books, or to subscribe to CHINA'S MILLIONS, would give their orders to Mr. Rodger if he is in their locality.

We print upon the second page of this month's edition a form of bequest for the use of any desiring to leave money by will for the work of the Lord in connection with the Mission. This is done in view of a recent difficulty experienced in obtaining a small legacy left by a friend in the States, where the wording of the will was so indistinct as to make it difficult to give a proper release for the amount bequeathed. The use of the form now printed will avoid all legal complications, and will insure the carrying out of the wishes of any donor who prefers to give money to the Mission by will rather than by direct gift.

MAILS FOR CHINA.

Steamers leave Vancouver for China upon July 17th and August 7th and 28th. Steamers leave San Francisco for China upon July 22nd and August 10th, 22nd and 31st. Letters should be mailed for the Vancouver steamers seven days, and for the San Francisco steamers, eight days before the date of sailing. The postage by both routes is five cents for every half ounce.

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