

in the city of Shanghai. His home is now a Chinese boat, by no means proof against the wind during the cold days of winter. The sphere of work is the district round Shanghai to the distance of about 30 miles on all sides, abounding with towns and villages. This part has been well visited for the purpose of distributing books, but never before systematically visited, as is now being done. Farther from Shanghai the dialect would change, and the Missionary of course would have to learn it before he could have intercourse with the people. The plan of operations pursued is this: On reaching any place, the Missionaries anchor in some convenient locality, and there remain until they depart to another town. The mornings and evenings are devoted to the study of Chinese, and the afternoons are given up to missionary work. After commending themselves and their work to the God of Missions, they go off together to some central and public part of the town, generally the courtyard of the principal temple. There they are soon surrounded by a large crowd, and, standing on some stone steps in front of a large vase, they preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified as the only Saviour from sin and ruin. They say: "We have almost always attentive congregations; and sometimes, after the preaching is over, very sensible questions are put to us, which we take great pleasure in answering. Any one who wishes to inquire more particularly is invited to come to the boat. Sometimes we have a good number of visitors at the boat after returning from preaching, with many of whom we have very interesting conversations."

The same plan of missionary operation is pursued by other Missionaries. The Rev. Mr. Burns, of the English Presbyterian mission, gives some interesting details of his work in a recent letter, which begins: "I write these lines on board a river-boat, which has been my principal habitation during the past three months." The great importance of this new mode of prosecuting the missionary work will appear from the following sentences from another part of Mr. Burns's interesting letter:—

"When on our way to Min-Haing, we passed through a creek or canal, which, as it is a bypath, seems not to have been yet traversed by our missionary brethren, and, meeting with the small market town of Sin-Keaou (or New Bridge), we spent here one pleasant day preaching to a larger crowd than we could address with effect, brought together of course by the novel sight of a foreigner in the garb of his country. When passing slowly down this creek on the afternoon of Friday, the people came out in unusual numbers to get books.—*Church of Scotland Juvenile Missionary Record.*