

the barrier and threw himself between the gladiators, imploring them in the name of Christ to desist. 'He saved others,' but was himself butchered in the presence of 80,000 brutally applauding spectators—gathered here to celebrate "a Roman Holiday!" Byron translated an old prophecy into verse when he wrote the familiar lines.

While stands the Coliseum, Rome shall stand;
When falls the Coliseum, Rome shall fall;
And when Rome falls, the world.

Missionary Cabinet.

REV. J. HUDSON TAYLOR, F.R.G.S.*

THESE are few of our readers who have not heard of the "China Inland Mission," and its founder, *Rev. J. Hudson Taylor*, but inasmuch as the mission is numerically the largest at work in China at the present time, and differs in some important respects from other missionary organizations, a few particulars about the man and his methods may prove interesting.

Mr. Taylor was born in Barnsby, Yorkshire, on 21st May, 1832, and has consequently reached the age when it is thought that the average literary man is at his best. His bodily presence is weak. He is a little man, of a somewhat delicate habit, which residence in the East has not improved. He is not an orator, and yet there is that in his personal appearance and address that is singularly attractive—a power to fascinate those who come under his influence, and to command respect even from those who differ from him widely in regard to his ways of prosecuting missionary work. That he possesses administrative ability of a high order is self-evident; and since no one questions his sincerity, his self-abnegation, and his unflinching belief that he is following the leadings of Providence, it is not surprizing that he has become a trusted leader among men. His father was a Methodist, and his mother the daughter of a Wesleyan minister. In early life he had the advantage of their godly example, their religious training, and their prayers, and yet, coming into contact with persons of

sceptical and infidel views, he seems to have fallen under the spell of their teaching. But, at the age of fifteen, in answer to his mother's prayers, and by means of a tract which providentially came into his hands, he was enabled to accept the "finished work of Christ," believing with all his heart that "Christ died for our sins and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." "I now besought the Lord" he says "to give me some work to do for Him, who had done so much for me. For what service I was accepted, I knew not, but a deep consciousness that I was no longer my own then took possession of me." His thoughts turned towards China. But in the meantime, he began to prepare himself for "roughing it" by ridding himself of surrounding comforts and engaging in tract distribution, Sunday-school teaching and visitation of the poor and sick. After a time he went to Hull for medical and surgical training, and acquired the habit, first of tithing his small income for the Lord's service, which led to further economizing, until he found it easy to give away a much larger proportion, and was astonished to find how little he could live on.

Having accepted an appointment from "The Chinese Evangelization Society," Mr. Taylor arrived at Shanghai in March, 1854, to find himself surrounded with difficulties wholly unanticipated. The city was in the hands of a band of rebels and it was with great difficulty he could find a place to lodge in. He undertook a journey into the interior, suffering alternately from "cold and excessive heat, hunger, sleepless nights of danger, and the feeling at times of utter isolation and helplessness." Eventually he was brought into association with Wm. C. Burns, like him donned native costume, and began itinerating with him. "These happy months," he says, were an unspeakable joy and advantage to me; his love of the Word of God was delightful, and his holy, reverential life made fellowship with him to meet the deep cravings of my heart." He settled down for a time at Ningpo, where he had the joy of seeing a little company of between thirty and forty native Christians gathered into church fellowship. About this time he made up his mind to sever his connection with his society, and returned to England in 1860; there he was

* Chiefly from Mr. Taylor's letters in "China's Millions."