

I think the friends at home would have been not a little amused could they have peeped in and seen me when I was training my servants after coming here. We had only those who knew nothing of foreigners, so I had to just set to and teach them everything from sweeping a room to making bread. I had often to pray very hard for grace, as one's patience is sometimes severely tried by the slow ways of the Chinese. The motto of the Chinese is "Man Marti" (slowly, slowly).

The work to be done among the women of China is very great at this station; although there are three who spend almost all their time teaching and visiting the women, yet they cannot begin to overtake the work that ought to be done. There is a Station class held at the compound during the winter months for women. At this class the women are taught to read and repeat the Lord's Prayer, creed, commandments, catechism, and passages of Scripture that would most help them in their daily life. The women are densely ignorant, at least most of them. Some are able to learn all I have mentioned above, but the most can not learn very much, but still enough to help and strengthen them to bear persecution bravely, as many of them do. The two young ladies of this Mission have just returned after a two weeks visit to a distant place, where they have been teaching the women. During their absence I was enabled to hold morning prayers with the women here. Of course I did not pray in Chinese myself, but simply led the reading and singing. I felt so glad to be able to do even that for the Master, little though it was.

Dear sisters, I ask you to pray that God might give much help in the study of this difficult language. I am very anxious to be able to read and speak plainly and freely by the time we get a place in Honan, so as to be able to help in work among the women.

The Chinese New Year season has just ended; while it lasted we had a large number of women coming in to see us. My little daughter always gave them a genial welcome, jumping and crowing much to the delight of both women and children. It is very touching to see and hear of the great wretchedness and poverty of the Chinese. There is one case I am specially interested in. About three months ago a poor old blind woman, led by her little son, pleaded for admittance at the hospital. After she was admitted we found she had walked about two hundred li, or sixty-six miles, in the bitter cold. They had begged their food