

sinner throughout his life, she felt emboldened to come to him, notwithstanding of all her provocations; and when she reflected on the end for which the Saviour died, the dreary winter of her soul relaxed, and her heart dissolved in godly sorrow. From that time to this, both in the church as a worshipper, and in the house where she is a servant, she has exhibited the same tenderness of spirit. The lady, with whom she has lately been living as ayah, has taken a warm interest in her welfare, and is in the habit every morning of reading and praying with her. On Sabbath evening, 3d inst., she was admitted into the Church by baptism, before a large and attentive English congregation. She had previously expressed her desire to receive on that occasion the name of Mary Magdalene, and though the request proceeded on what is now generally allowed to be an erroneous view of the character of the distinguished woman mentioned in the Gospels, it was complied with as illustrative of her feelings regarding her own former conduct, and the triumph of Divine grace in her conversion. —*Extract Letter, Rev. Mr. Hislop, 25th October 1852.*

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(From the Home and Foreign Record of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.)  
MISSION TO THE CHINESE IN CALIFORNIA.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS OF THE REV. W. SPEER.

*Cordial Reception—Chinese in the Hospital—Measures under consideration—The location of the Mission.*

Writing from San Francisco, November 15, 1852, Mr. Speer says, "I have been greeted here by persons of all denominations, and of no denomination, with great cordiality. A warm interest is taken by the mass of this community in the purposes of this mission. He then states:

The first means of doing good which Providence has opened, is the religious instruction of the patients at the State Hospital. There are generally under treatment here from twelve to a hundred Chinese, who have been brought down from the mines; the majority affected with disorders, which have assumed a chronic form. I have been received with much delight by those at present under treatment, and have distributed to each a copy of Dr. Mine's tract, "The Two Friends." For the present I wish to spend a portion of every afternoon with these men.

No steps have been taken yet to open a school or chapel; nor have I, in the few days I have been in the city, had the opportunity of forming many acquaintances among the Chinese residents, or ascertaining their views of these measures. They have as yet erected no idol temples, so far as I can learn. It is a gratifying circum-

stance that there are here several young men who have been instructed at the mission-schools among their countrymen. Two or three of them are spoken of as intelligent and influential men, who may prove of much service eventually to the missionary cause. Chinese tracts sufficient for present use, have been furnished through the Rev. F. Buell, part of them from our press at Ningpo. A *Si-ch sang*, or teacher, may probably be procured without difficulty. I have heard of one qualified person, who would be willing to engage in that capacity.

The first important question presenting itself on our arrival was that of the location of the centre of my missionary efforts. [This question is still under consideration. San Francisco will probably be judged the most suitable place. All the Chinese emigrants pass through that city. At the interior places, they are either limited in number, or transient. The greater expense of carrying on the mission at San Francisco, may be compensated by the liberal interest taken in its operations by the people of that city. The views of brethren would soon be received.]

*Interesting Notices of Chinamen.*

Writing at San Francisco, November 30 Mr. Speer says:—

Since my letter of the 15th, I have made the acquaintance of some of the leading Chinese. Hitherto, one of the most influential men here was Norman Asing. This man's character was not good; he professed to be a Roman Catholic; and he would have been an obstacle in the way of spiritual good to his countrymen. But within a short time he has been attacked with repeated hemorrhages from the lungs, has resigned his office of the chief of one of the large companies into which all the Chinese enter, and is about embarking for his own country. It is an interesting fact, that his successor, just elected, is Tong Achik, who is an intelligent young man, educated by an American missionary at the Morrison school in Hongkong. This is the individual whose efforts last spring in behalf of his countrymen, were the chief means of turning the tide of public opinion in their favour, when those unfriendly to them made the attempt to expel them from the country. And if he remains here, there is no man whose influence will be more felt among the large bodies of emigrants of his own race already in the State, or coming in the spring.

Another young man from whom much may be hoped, is Lee Akan, who spent eight years at the same missionary school. Akan's heart has evidently been touched by the Spirit of grace, and he feels deeply on the subject of his own salvation. May he yet be a burning and shining light among his countrymen in this land. I have learned of thirteen others who have