

Peking After the Siege

Li Sing found out his mistress soon. He had brought his sad burden from Shansi. They laid Dr. Gilmour's remains in the sunny cemetery overlooking the city where he had spent the best years of his life. Dr. Medhurst, as his nearest friend, attempted to speak at the grave; then, overcome by a sense of loss, saddened by the memory of Dr. Gilmour's lonely death, and weakened by long hardships, his eyes filled with tears, his great form quivered, and he broke down completely, and was led away by a friend.

"For your sake and Paul's, Ray," said Mrs. Gilmour that night, "I see that we must go to America. I regret that it is necessary. I shall not live long and I wish I might rest in the same grave with Graham."

After that Mrs. Gilmour grew more languid. She, who had always been feverishly active, was content to lie or sit for hours with folded hands. Dr. Medhurst, seeing this, hastened all preparations for leaving Peking.

Some days after Dr. Gilmour's burial, Li walked into the dining room, where all but Mrs. Gilmour were seated, and addressed Dr. Medhurst. His face, usually mild, wore a look of excited hatred, and he forgot his English and hissed his story in his native tongue.