

REINFORCEMENTS JOYFULLY ANTICIPATED.

CHENTU, *October 30th*, 1899.

WE are looking forward with much pleasure to having additions to our household. Fancy five of us together! Surely we shall be envied. I have had such a happy time since coming to China. The language has been hard and I have been extremely slow in acquiring it, but at the same time I have never felt really discouraged, but, on the contrary, have found it very interesting. Now, when I have a little grounding in it, I enjoy it better than ever.

The boarding school remains the same except that we decided to remove the two girls, whom L. Killam took to the mountains, for a change, to the hospital side for the present. They seem well and are quite fleshy, but besides their lung trouble they have both had sore eyes—at times pretty bad, so that they cannot be allowed to study. They are nine and ten years of age respectively, and one especially is very clever. Their poor health seems especially unfortunate at present, as there appears no prospect of additions to the school. Several mothers have spoken to me of their daughters entering, but when they are told that no bound feet will be allowed the subject is immediately dropped. I feel very sorry about it, for it would require very little more time to look after twenty-five than fifteen (if they conduct themselves at all nicely), but we believe the Lord knows all about it, and can leave it in His hands.

Wednesday, noon.—I have a few minutes before going down to take a class in Old Testament history. It is rainy to-day, so there are only two outside pupils in attendance. When the streets are the least bit slippery they cannot walk well with their bound feet. I had to dismiss our woman teacher, as there was strong evidence that she used opium. My personal teacher, Mr. Lee, has charge now.

The four older girls are finishing two pairs of woollen stockings, and I have found them working away at some tiny stockings just for amusement. The matron cut out sixteen pairs of shoes not long ago, and they have been spending most of their time on those recently.