

bined and organized methods of relief for the sufferers. So strong was the feeling against them that for a time it seemed as if their laudable enterprise would be completely frustrated. They were supposed to have sinister objects in view, their charity was refused, and for a time their lives were in imminent danger. Gradually however the distributors bore down the ill will and aspersion of all classes. Doubt and distrust gave place to gratitude and respect, and those men were ultimately regarded as the Saviours of the people.

This was the case in the provinces of Shansi, Shensi and Shantung. It was far otherwise in Honan. Through the influence of the officials and gentry in the provincial Capital—Kai-feng-fu,—the famine relief distributors were to the last forbidden to remain, or even to carry on their work in the environs of the city. In the same place the scholars decorated the window of the room in which the famine relief men stayed with a set of four pictures, representing: (1) A foreigner pouring poison into a well: (2) Tearing out a child's heart: (3) Scooping out a boy's eyes: (4) Operating on a woman. A placard stated, "If foreigners come we shall not have a virtuous woman left. We don't want the devil's relief here." A member of the Canadian band tells of a placard on which it was stated, that, "Eyes were cut out, hearts opened, and bloody means made use of by the foreign doctor." Persons who saw operations performed yet asserted that the blood was taken away by the foreigner. These are but samples of many incidents which could be adduced to show how deep seated and virulent the antipathy to foreigners is in this province. A similar state of feeling prevailed in most of the other provinces at first, but it is now fast becoming a thing of the past. At present there is but little indication of such a change in the feelings of the Honanese. It may be asked, how account for such a strong anti-foreign feeling in Honan? Different reasons have been given by the way of explanation.

1. Historical. The position assigned to the province, the traditions perpetuated in it, the remarkable events which have occurred there, and the courageous character of the Honanese soldiers, would all come under this head. The people are loyal to their traditions and wish to have them transmitted to posterity uncontaminated by any admixture of foreign ingredients.

2. Geographical. Honan occupies an insulated position. The people have had but little contact with foreigners. When meeting any of them it did not always happen that those seen were good representatives of foreign