

land sea, were exceedingly attractive. One may consider it a rare privilege to see the British Columbia mountains, in all their majestic grandeur, as we saw them during those two days of beautiful autumn weather. They seemed to speak to the soul, and to lift one's thoughts away from the things of earth the great God Himself, to whom they seemed to point.

The Japanese Inland sea is one of the great sights of a trip around the world. Numberless islands, of every size, and mountainous shape, are so terraced and cultivated as to make a most exquisite and romantic picture. During the warm hazy days of our voyage in that vicinity, the quaint little villages and towns, which nestle in every sheltered nook, seemed to enjoy a most ideal location.

My first impressions of Chinese life were certainly vivid enough to be lasting. Of course in the Foreign settlements of Shanghai and other coast ports one finds as fine buildings as the average at home, and more fashionable display than in the same class of society in the home-land.

But one need not go far into native quarters to find, on every hand, wretchedness. Filth, degradation, and misery, are the rule. Even on the streets one sees these in forms which he never before pictured even in imagination. The wealthy Chinese merchant or official is to be found floating about in his bright colored silk garments, but underneath he is little better than the coolie. In one look at the foreigner, he betrays his ignorance, pride, conceit, and arrogance.

The sights, sounds, and smells, of the narrow filthy streets within the old walls of Shanghai or Tientsin, soon satiate one's desire for such an experience.

Our river trip of about 500 miles inland from Tientsin, was made in a flat-bottomed house-boat, drawn by "trackers," walking along the bank, after the fashion of our old canal-horse, or mule. Two boats carried ourselves, our baggage, and considerable winter supplies for the mission.

The winds were mostly contrary, and sometimes we did not move 20 miles in a day, perhaps less than half that as the crow flies, for the river is crooked to a proverb.

It took us 23 days, (inclusive of Sundays,

when we did not travel) to reach Ch'u Wang, our first station in the river.

I immediately came over here, 30 miles to Chang te Fu, upon invitation from Mr. and Mrs. Goforth, while Mr. Mackenzie and Dr. Leslie remained in Ch'u Wang. Since that time Presbytery has met and so stationed us for the present.

Since my arrival here the Chinese literary examinations for this district have been held here in Chang te, which is a city of about 100,000 people. About 2,000 students were writing. They were here for a couple of weeks, and the foreigners and their surroundings brought hundreds of them to our compound.

They came in companies of from 20 to 50, and Mr. Goforth's new house was the chief centre of attraction. I helped Mr. Goforth manage the crowds, which were usually taken through cellar, kitchen, dining room, and my bedroom.

They were always shown the first named place, because it is a great curiosity to a Chinaman, and because we are commonly reported to use it for storing away little children in order to make medicine of their eyes.

One day when they got into the cellar, Mr. Goforth turned and said, "This is where we are said to salt down the babies." Instantly one fellow sprang for the door. The others, however, saw the joke and the absurdity of the false stories, and had a good laugh at their companion's expense.

The kitchen stove, so different from their wretched fire places from which smoke and coal gas fill the room, is a great curiosity. So also are the organ, the sewing machine, and many other things.

Mr. Goforth usually ended up by giving them a talk in his study, in which, from maps, and astronomical charts, he gave them some idea of the world and of the wonders of the solar system. In this way he made them see and acknowledge the uselessness and powerlessness of their wretched idols, and led their minds up to the great God who made and rules the universe, and who asks our love and service.

This kindly treatment of the students is very productive of good. It is the only way in which many of them can be brought to listen to the Gospel. They are as proud as Lucifer, and often form one of the greatest