

populous empires of earth) was impressive in its appropriateness,

"The light of the world is Jesus."

Beautifully appropriate, too, to the large majority of those present was the invitation of the hymn,

"Come to the light, 'tis shining for thee."

Bro. Chan offered an earnest prayer in Chinese, after which the hymn was sung, beginning,

"All the way along it is Jesus."

The President of the Conference assisted by the Chairman of the District, then dedicated the church according to the form of service prescribed in the Discipline. Following this were brief addresses by Revs. C. Bryant, J. Hall, J. H. White, C. Watson, and Bro. Chan—all of which were translated by Bro. Gardner. Those in English for the benefit of the Chinese, and that by Bro. Chan for the benefit of the English part of the audience. Bro. Gardner, in introducing Bro. Chan, pleasantly remarked, that though Bro. Chan was last called upon, it did not follow that he was least. Bro. Chan, on coming forward, smilingly commented on the introduction he had received. He said:—"Your pastor is a very intelligent man. His knowledge is extensive. Among other things, he knows that a picture is not perfect without its finishing touches. I humbly accept the position he has assigned to me as the last speaker of the evening. Well, friends, I congratulate you this evening upon having secured such a grand building as this to worship in. I am sure you must be thankful to the good people of Canada for advancing you the means with which to put up the building. Some of you would, as yet, only thank *them* for this great and kind act; I want to direct your thankful hearts a step higher. Thank *Him* from whom the good Canadians first learned to be kind. Thank Him from whom they first learned to be merciful. It was God who gave them the hearts to love the souls of them that know Him not.

"I have paid you several visits. You had then but a small hall to worship in, and one that was but dimly lighted. To-night you have a much brighter building. I am sure you appreciate the difference. You are more comfortable; you are better. Much more so, in another and higher sense, will it be when you have the light from our Saviour, who is more and more widely known every day as 'the light of the world.' Open your hearts, let this light shine in, and you will experience a more grateful change than through any increase of natural light. To many of you this meeting was announced by the ringing of the bell above us. I wish, as you hear it from time to time, that you

would take this meaning from it, 'That bell is calling me to go where I may learn more of the true doctrine. Its every stroke as it sways to and fro says to me, 'Come to Jesus, come to Jesus, come to Jesus just now.' If you will take that meaning out of it and come, He will save you, He *will* save you. My earnest prayer is that this building may be to many, if not all, of my countrymen in Victoria the very gate of heaven, for Jesus' sake. Amen."

A very interesting feature of the programme was the singing of hymns in Chinese by some of the girls of the Home, by Mrs. Chan and her little girl of five years of age. Jessie, the youngest girl in the Home (ten years of age), sang in English:—

"When I can read my title clear,"

with the chorus,

"Jesus listening all the day long
To hear some sinner pray."

This was sung in a clear, sweet voice and with remarkably distinct enunciation, and affected to tears many who heard it. Jessie was rescued from a life of slavery and of extreme hardship about eighteen months ago. She and the little girl next in age to her in the Home (Gertie) attend the public school, where their diligence and progress in learning English are remarkable. Jessie has attended only about a year, and now ranks first in a class of twenty-eight or thirty, while Gertie ranks second in a class of thirty-five. English grammar, geography and arithmetic are among the branches in which she excels.

Bro. Chan's little girl and Sarah (a former inmate of the Home, but now married and living in New Westminster) sang in Chinese:—

"Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so,"

the Christian Chinese and the girls of the Home joining heartily in the chorus after each verse.

Mrs. Chan and Sarah sang also in Chinese:

"From Greenland's icy mountains,"

Then came the administration of the rite of baptism to two recent converts. The first, we trust, of very many who, in this new sanctuary, shall take upon themselves the vows of fidelity to Christ and receive the sacrament of Christian baptism.

By way of bringing to a close the exercises of the evening, refreshments, consisting of sandwiches and cake and coffee, which had been prepared in great abundance by the Christian Chinese boys, was supplied gratis to all present. While these good things were being partaken of, an orchestra of Chinese music, organized for the occasion, discoursed such characteristically Methodist airs as "O happy day" and "There is a fountain filled with blood."