

manner figured forth by the vine and its branches, and none else do.

As the branch when perfectly united to the vine loses all concern about guarding that union, and devotes all its energies towards perfecting its own fruit, so he who doeth the whole will of God, year by year, wastes no time in aspirations after Christ-likeness or closer union to the vine, or even after being more perfectly taught concerning prayer, seeing he is now utterly lost in the sense of glad realization of all and more than all these aspirations can embody, and his whole energy is given up, concentrated on the doing this perfect will of God now made known to him continually by the ever present Paraclete.

When these thoughts shall have right of way in the religious world there can come a definiteness, a mathematical clearness of definition in Christian experience which will not fail to clear away the mists engendered by confounding aspiration with realization.

CHINA INLAND MISSION.

The following letter has been received from Miss Rebe McKenzie, daughter of Mr. J. R. McKenzie, of North Dumfries, a missionary of the China Inland Mission:—

I-ANG-HSIEN, Sept. 31st, 1890.

Dear Friends in Christ,—"Not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." For the past few months the Lord seems to be engraving the above words upon my heart, and I trust they may never be defaced. Every circumstance of my life cried out, "Not by might," etc. Health, strength, mental powers, all were taken away and I was left with nothing to rest on but the Spirit's power, to use even the weakest ones.

During the heat, on account of my illness, I was in Yuh-shan for nearly six weeks, and Miss Gardiner was in Knei-ki waiting on the sick, etc., for five weeks; but when we returned, we found that the Holy Spirit through our dear natives had gloriously carried forward the work. The converts had grown in grace, and new inquirers had been added. Praise the Lord!

At present, the work appears very hopeful and the Holy Spirit is at work day by day

in our midst. Lord, help us to give Him all the glory, that He may not need to withdraw His presence from us, in order to disclose our weakness.

Rev. J. McCarthy, the Superintendent, has just visited the station, and five of our loved ones publicly confessed faith in Christ by baptism.

On the 20th of September, just as the sun was rising, psalms full of praise were ascending from our little chapel, after which Mr. McCarthy addressed the five who then took upon them the sacred vows of baptism. Then we all descended the steps to the edge of the river, where Mr. Ts'ang led in prayer, and Hi Sienseng baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the five converts of I-ang-hsien. To me it was a solemn hour, for I realized that we were laying the foundation stones of the I-ang-hsien church, and that the solidity would depend very much upon the foundation. However, I trust and believe it is founded upon the Rock, and not upon the sands.

The first baptized was the old coffin-maker, who is seventy years of age. He has been waiting all these long years for the true Light to come to him, as he was not satisfied with what he had to worship. Mr. McCarthy was very pleased with the old man's testimony for Jesus. When he was asked how long he intended to worship and serve the true God, he answered, "Forever, and my son will serve Him also." It is probably five months since he and our first convert burnt all their idols, and hung up the Ten Commandments in their home. The day following they received great persecution from relatives and neighbors, but they weathered the storm and only seemed the more determined. Since that time he and all his family have carefully observed the Sabbath, locking the house, and all attending the services. Before he heard the Gospel, he was an honest, careful old man, but all his life he has had Chinese failing, a bad temper. So please remember this in your prayers.

The second baptized was I-ang-hsien's first convert, as he calls himself. For him we continually praise God. He is not the man you or I would have chosen as the first to represent Christ in this city, but the Lord knew who would stand unmoved through persecution. The Christ-like spirit with which he received the railing of his persecutors, and his daily life convinced those around him that the Jesus religion was true. Some of those baptized and some of our present inquirers have been brought to the hall