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MISSION WORK IN CENTRAL CHINA.

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Being invited to write a few lines to you good friends in Montreal who take an interest in Foreign Missions, I rejoice to hear you are so interested in the C.M.S. work among the Indians, as I am also—may God save the Indians. I am wanting to have a little talk to you about the *Heathen of China*. I might write pages of most interesting matter about the antiquity of China, flourishing even when Moses lived in Egypt, nor would he have been at all behind, if learned in all the wisdom of the Chinese at that time. I might write most interestingly about the late war, the people of China, their character, literature, arts and sciences. But I cannot to-night, my theme is "*the Heathen of China*." Some think a heathen must be a savage; but such is not the case, in China you may see the proud Confucianist walking in his long flowing robes of silk and satin, looking through his big spectacles with a supercilious air of mingled amusement and contempt upon the despised foreigner; or you may meet the more friendly coolie, a word which includes all the poorer working classes, specially those who carry their loads on their back, the porter class, which is a very large class in China, where there are no railways and all traffic, except where there is a river, is done by porters or coolies, who carry up to a cwt. or more per man going 30 miles a day. We came to China because the Lord sent us. Perhaps you will ask: How did God call you to China? I certainly received no dream or