

unfolds itself ; particularly if the Band be a juvenile one, it will probably keep the teacher interested. One often feels sorry that in country places it is so inconvenient for children, and yet if they can attend a day school, why not a Mission Band? Do not wait for the minister's wife, as some are doing—unless she wishes to help. Be more considerate.

The time is short. Shall we allow this year, with its eternal consequences to become an irrevocable, unchangeable past, and not have in it for the future, some record of purpose and effort, as far as this Christ-given work is concerned. Listen to that authoritative voice of captivating sweetness, the voice of Him who gave *Himself* for the Church, speaking to each of us personally—"Lovest thou Me? . . . FEED MY LAMBS."

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

HONAN.

Dangers and Difficulties

FROM REV. W. HARVEY GRANT.

Ch'u Wang, Feb. 22, 1895.

Your kind letter arrived last mail. I am alone just now. Messrs MacGillivray and Mackenzie are away at the great annual religious fair at Ftsun Hsien, forty miles south from here. I would have gone too only we thought it unwise for all the foreigners to leave here when so much thieving is being carried on all around on account of the extremely hard times. How general this depression seems to be all over the world!

Mr. MacGillivray and I will soon be alone here again, we don't know for how long. Mr. Mackenzie has to go to P'ang Chuang, a village in Shantung, 140 miles north from here, where Mrs. Mackenzie and the baby, "Douglas Fraser," and Mr. and Mrs. McLennan are staying this winter. As you will know, the A.B.C.F.M. have a station at P'ang Chuang and our missionaries are staying with them because they have a doctor there and we have none here at present.

Mr. Mackenzie is going up because the British Consul at Tientsin has ordered all foreigners to come to Tientsin as quickly as possible, because the Japanese are thrashing the Chinese so badly that Chinese soldiers are deserting, and as bands of marauders are ravaging the country committing all manner of pillage and most horrible deeds of violence which I dare not attempt to describe, it is especially important that all women and children should leave the interior. So Mr. Mackenzie goes north immediately to go with the A.B.C.F.M. brethren, if they decide to go to Tientsin. All