

was strong enough to resist the pressure of the crowd, was an iron incense vase. I mounted it with a carpet-bag of books. The noise and clamour instantly raised were deafening; and it was impossible to proceed, till something like a calm was produced. At the lowest computation, there must have been five or six hundred people present; in fact, I do not think that a thousand was above the mark. As soon as I could get silence restored, I addressed them at the top of my voice: and I must say that a more quiet, attentive audience I never saw in the open air. It was very encouraging to hear them call out, as they frequently did, *puk chow, puk chow*,—not incorrect, not incorrect. When I exhorted them to be still, and let me quietly distribute my books, they promised to do so; but no sooner was my hand raised to open the bag, than the noise commenced. Twice, when Mr. Burdon left the yard, a diversion was formed, which I availed myself of for distribution, but ere long had to stop. At last a young man, making a desperate snatch and spring at the bag, pulled it and me down—a mode of descent not very ceremonious, but certainly quick, and one which for a moment, made the people stand back; but this result was but momentary. Once in the crowd, I found it no easy thing to get out, and had much difficulty to distribute well the remaining tracts. At length, however, I succeeded in doing so, and having got into a sedan chair and about leaving the city, my servant came up, and requested me to take in with me another bag, in which a few tracts remained, to keep them from the people, to which I consented; but was not quick enough to avoid being seen by the people, who pressed in the chair, so as to break it; and I had to spring out, to prevent its coming about my ears. The man was now separated from me, and I was unable to give him either of the bags; and so had to set off, to walk to

the boat, which was more than a mile distant. This was the most difficult task I ever attempted; for I was determined to give books to none who were not able to profit by them; and a mob of uneducated people was gathered round me, determined to have some, by some way or another. To this resolution I adhered; but when I opened my bag to get out some books to give to some respectable persons, a dozen hands were inserted, and it was not the easiest thing in the world to get them out again. In one street the small bag was snatched from me, and when I recovered it had one in each hand, at which they were pulling in opposite directions; and thus I was left comparatively helpless. One of the handles of the large bag was now pulled off, and it was got open, and the people began to snatch at the books. A few were obtained when, with a sudden swing round, I got the bag from them, closed it, and as it had only one handle, they were not able to open it again. In performing this latter movement, I had astonished the people, and made them laugh heartily, as well as cleared a small space around me; but when they closed, my hat and spectacles were knocked off; the former I recovered, but the latter it was impossible to save on account of the crowd; and I was only too glad to get off to attempt it. Many of the people followed me a long way, some even to the boat, but after I got out of the city I was little troubled by them. It may be well to add, to prevent misconception, that there was not the slightest approach to ill-feeling manifested by any; it was simply the desire to possess themselves of our books that caused the stir—one competing with the other to procure a book in good season lest they should be left wanting. Being thoroughly tired when I reached the boat, and it being nearly dark, this adventure among such a crowded assemblage closed the labours of the day.”