

# China to Have Christianity

Go ye out into all the world and preach the gospel. Thus spake the Christ to His disciples near the end of His wondrous career.

The command of our far-seeing Galilean ancestor was both laudable and wise. He suffered much because he dared to live a true life, a life in unison with the dictates of His own soul. And His gospel was simply the proclamation of whatever was true and beautiful, simply the most magnificent revelation of the God the world hath known.

Therefore we believe the gospel of Mary's Son will do no injury to any race of people. It must inevitably and ultimately do good. But we are as certain that modern Christianity often does a great deal of mischief simply because it is not a revelation of love.

Modern Christianity can do a civilized community very little injury, but it is evident on the surface that it has had a demoralizing effect, and will have a demoralizing effect on China for a considerable time to come. We charge the great bodies of the church with the revolution in the far east. These great communities of Christians have, unwittingly perhaps, caused the Chinese to pour forth every conceivable falsehood in the shape of promises.

These apparent facts lead us to declare that the test for missionaryship is absolutely absurd. It is not enough that the missionary should be physically strong and seriously religious; he should also be a calm, philosophical mortal not easily bewildered with either natural or spiritual phenomena. He should have a big heart, but this should be thoroughly under the control of a cold, discerning, logical intellect.

Instead of such men, boys and girls have been shipped to the Orient to convert to modern Christianity the most ancient nation of mankind, a nation with an ancient history before Rome was built on her seven hills. And the worst of the matter is that the missionaries differ largely from each other in their interpretation of the Christianity of Christ, thus exhibiting no larger a knowledge of the gospel of love than those whom they endeavor to make converts.

I know that the noblest of men have been missionaries, that well meaning, if short sighted men, are missionaries. But this knowledge does not hush the voice of reason. Again we declare that the great bodies of the church are accountable for the lurid history of the last two years. The missionaries in China could hardly help exposing the petty differences which are so apparent throughout the civilized world. The Roman Catholic missionary honestly preached what he considered to be the gospel of Christ. The Episcopalian informed them that the Roman Catholic emissary was wrong, that the church he represented misinterpreted the teaching of the God man. The nonconformists differed from both and differed vaguely and unreasonably from each other.

The poor Celestials were bewildered. They gazed on the shepherds with doubt and fear and did not hear them gladly. John Chinaman fancied he was being deluded for a purpose, and no one could nourish a fancy into a seeming fact as quickly as he. His exuberant imagination endowed the evangel of peace with powers they did not possess. They were the forerunners of diplomats and armies, he thought. Can we marvel that he mordered many of them?

After all, his unreasonable fancy proved to be a reliable prophecy. For soon the cavalries of Christendom encircled Peking and the artillery of Christian kings and emperors threatened to level the walls of the holy city to the dust. The followers of the mild and glorious Nazarene were rescued amidst the clamor of swords and bayonets and the clamorous roar of the world's most ponderous artillery. The magnificent Soul who commanded His followers to go out into all the world and preach His gospel also ordered His most intrepid disciple to put up his sword.

Christian princes, kings and emperors have not spoken thus, and the fanatics who caused the tremendous outrage lacked the authority to do so. The emperor of Germany in a fine frenzy requested his troops to remember that they were Christian soldiers, and then commanded them so to act that the name of Germany would thrill the Celestials with terror for centuries to come.

The armies of Christendom have forgotten the spirit of Christ, and only filled the hearts of China's millions with thoughts of revenge. The promises of China are worthless. Her officials will promise anything under the sun. Let missionaries, who adore righteousness, stay at

home and civilized powers beware! It is hard to imagine that among 400,000,000 of beings there is not one daring, lofty spirit who would be to his countryman a saviour, a liberator, almost a god. There must be an one in China today. His ideal of honor is hardly the same as ours. He might not consider it dishonorable to break a promise, or promises, extracted from his people at the point of the bayonet and under the muzzles of our guns. And it is very questionable, according to the records of civilized warfare, if it would be? No single power in the world today can conquer China. Christendom may wage victorious warfare in that far eastern land, but she cannot subdue the myriad children of a prophet of God.

Oh, advocates of "peace and good will amongst men!" what have ye done in your fanatical endeavors to plant a varied and doubtful Christianity in China? Ye have called forth the hounds of murder, rapine and war. Instead of obeying your Master by shaking the dust of China from your feet ye have persisted in sacrificing not only your own lives but the lives of thousands innocently ignorant and become the tools of unscrupulous politicians. One cannot exonerate the Chinese, but we are much to blame. And when the candid historian reviews the appalling records of the last two years the cruelty of the barbarians will only be equaled by the rapacity and wanton destruction of the Christians.

We are certain that it will be impossible to plant our varied interpretations of Christianity in China for centuries to come. And suppose it were possible to plant Christianity in China would it be profitable to do so? We do not think so. The representatives of the churches have been rescued by the allied armies of their countrymen, and for ages the so-called ambassadors of "peace and good will" will be looked upon, not as the emissaries of Christ, but as the forerunners of lawlessness and tyranny. If the imperialism of our day hath resulted in any notable crimes we must remember that it is the result of missionary enterprise to a very large extent.

It is almost impossible for the differing sects of Christendom to Christianize China at any time to come, nor is it worth while for them to try. The Roman Catholic church alone might do so. Her pompous services would appeal to the vivid imaginations of the Celestials. But while Christianity is represented by so many differing sects; while her advocates quarrel among themselves, it would not be accordance with the spirit of Jesus to ever endeavor to establish that gospel in China. Moreover, the first duty of the Church Universal is to Christianize Christendom! When the great nations of the world exhibit a thorough knowledge of the religion of Jesus in every-day life it will be time enough to convert the Celestials. Until then, and that day is far distant, it would be remarkable effrontery to even try.

Oh, advocates of peace and good will amongst men! Surely it is hardly consistent for cities like London, New York, Chicago and others, to subscribe millions of dollars for the purpose of proving to the Chinese that the teaching of their most luminous soul doth not save! It may be right and proper for our citizens to endeavor to suppress his satanic majesty in China and make a boon companion of him in New York! I really think it is rather unreasonable to proclaim to the Celestials that they shall enter our paradise "without money and without price" and to charge them \$100 for breathing the air of our fair, free land!

Let the different sects of Christendom organize "A Humanity Aid Society!" Provide that society with the same amount of money during the coming year as has been spent in missionary enterprise in China during the last and thousands of our poor will be rescued from the demons of hunger and despair! Men will believe in Christianity again when it becomes mighty in its sweep for the universal good, when every organized Christian church endeavors to accomplish a certain amount of honest, practical, Christian work.

I call on the divines who honor and love their Master to emulate Him in their daily lives. All the money your flocks can spare is required at home.

Missionaries who go to China at present are extremely foolhardy, neither brave nor wise. Those who provide them with the means of sustenance, considering the desperate state of affairs in the slums of our big cities, have a poor conception of the ideals of the Village Carpenter.

It is neither worth while nor reasonable to endeavor to plant a doubtful version of Christianity in

China at present. Let the churches unite in the serious work of elevating the down-trodden at home and the spirit of Jesus will rejoice.—Rev. John Stewart.

## Committed Suicide.

New York, April 9.—Oscar A. Shaffer, secretary and treasurer of the W. H. Baker Chocolate Company, committed suicide at the offices of the company in Wall street today. He used a revolver.

Mr. Shaffer was 28 years of age, and married, and in the morning had made an appointment with his wife to meet him at the office at the close of business hours. She reached the office a few minutes after the revolver shot was heard and the clerks had found Shaffer sitting in his chair dying.

## Edward Norton Resigns.

New York, April 9.—It was announced today that Edward Norton, president of the American Can Company, had resigned. He is at present in Europe, where he had gone to undergo an operation to prevent blindness. The officials of the company today said that an important lease had been signed with the Pacific Coast Cannery's Association, whereby the plants of that company will pass into the hands of the American Can Company.

## OBITUARY.

New York, April 9.—Wm. Strauss, counsel for the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad Company and land grant commissioner for the Texas & Pacific Railroad Company, is dead at his home in this city. He was 50 years old.

Pensacola, Fla., April 9.—Capt. Sewell C. Cobb died on Monday while on a pleasure trip off Egmont key, aged 75 years. The body was brought here today. Capt. Cobb was widely known through his articles on the Nicaraguan canal.

Boston, April 9.—Mrs. Elizabeth Whittier Pickard died at her residence here this afternoon. Her father was the younger brother of John Greenleaf Whittier and at an early age she became a member of the poet's household at Amesbury. After the civil war she taught in the schools of the Freedmen at Richmond Va., Camden and Charleston, S.C. Of late years she had taken much interest in the preservation and care of Whittier's birthplace in Haverhill.

New York, April 9.—George B. Meade, a Wall street speculator, was found unconscious today on the steps of the apartment house where he lived, and died several hours later. Meade was at one time a prominent broker in Philadelphia.

San Francisco, April 9.—Word has been received in this city that Rev. Horatio Stebbins, pastor of the First Unitarian church of this city, died last night at Cambridge, Mass. Some time ago Dr. Stebbins suffered a stroke of paralysis from which he never fully recovered, and this attack was followed by a serious affection of the heart, which finally carried him off.

Louisville, April 9.—A telegram from Los Angeles, Cal., announces the death from diabetes of Col. Blanton Duncan. Col. Duncan commanded a Virginia regiment in the Confederate army in the civil war and was later at the head of the Confederate printing bureau at Augusta, Ga. In 1876 he was defeated for congress by Henry Watterson. He was a native of Kentucky and moved to Los Angeles thirteen years ago.

Chicago, April 9.—Alexander C. Nevins, a well known newspaper man and of late years telegraph editor of the Record-Herald, died today of heart disease. Mr. Nevins' health had been bad for several months and two weeks ago it was found necessary to perform an operation in order to save his life. Although the operation was successful he had become so weakened by sickness that he was unable to recover from the shock.

## Have to Show Me.

Now comes a story from Alaska that Indians report finding some old ships far inland. They give descriptions of the vessels which correspond with those of the ships of the Vikings. The story recalls a famous yarn published in Leadville during the palmy days of that camp. A reporter with a glowing imagination discovered a ship up in the mountains beyond the Cloud city and published a report of his examination of the strange craft. That story attracted wide attention and set the archeologists by the ears. For a few weeks it was a raging sensation. Perhaps that reporter wandered off into Alaska with the throng of gold-hunters to give us a new sensation with the scene located at such a distance that Missourians could not ask him to show them the ships.—Idaho Statesman.

Job printing at Nugget office.

# PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

## Was Kindly Received at Charleston

### Made Ringing Address in Presenting the Sword to Major Michah Jenkins.

Charleston, S. C., April 9.—Greeted and honored by manifestations of the respect and esteem of enthusiastic thousands, President Roosevelt was the guest of the South Carolina Interstate and West Indian exposition today. The weather was ideal. The events of the day began with a grand procession through the streets of Charleston, and afterwards there were speeches in the Auditorium, the presentation of a sword by the president to Maj. Michah Jenkins, with a luncheon at the Woman's building and inspection of the grounds and buildings. The enthusiasm of the people was unbounded, and there was standing room only on the sidewalks and porches and doorways and in the wide piazzas of the houses along the line of march.

The parade started from the St. John hotel, the president's quarters, at 10 o'clock, and was composed of marines, seaman, cadets, artillerymen and militiamen of four states, under command of Col. Charles Morris, U. S. A., of the garrison at Sullivan's island.

When the president entered the Auditorium he bowed and smiled his acknowledgements to the cheering which greeted him from thousands of throats.

Flags and bunting were draped within the building and a dias erected for Mr. Roosevelt was covered with a large flag. The audience heard the speaker with attentive appreciation and cheered to the echo many of the sentiments expressed, but the president was the centre of attraction at all times. President Roosevelt's incisive, clear words never fell on more attentive ears.

Mayor Smythe introduced President Roosevelt, who spoke as follows:

It is to me a peculiar privilege to speak here in your beautiful city. My mother's people were from Georgia, but before they came to Georgia, before the revolution, in the days of colonial rule, they dwelt for nearly a century in South Carolina, and therefore I claim your state as mine by inheritance no less than by the stronger and nobler right which makes each foot of American soil in sense the property of all Americans. Charleston is not only a typical Southern city; it is also a city whose history teems with events which link themselves to American history as a whole. In the early colonial days Charleston was the outpost of our people against the Spaniard in the South. In the days of the revolution there occurred here some of the events which vitally affected the outcome of the struggle for independence and which impressed themselves most deeply on the popular mind. It was here that the tremendous, terrible drama of the civil war opened.

With delicate and thoughtful courtesy you originally asked me to come to this exposition on the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. The invitation not only showed a fine generosity and manliness in you, my hosts, but it also emphasized what hardly anything else could have emphasized, how completely we are now a united people. The wounds left by the great civil war, incomparably the greatest war of modern times, have healed, and its memories are now priceless heritages of honor, alike to the North and to the South. The devotion, the self-sacrifice, the steadfast resolution and lofty daring, the high devotion to the right as each man saw it, whether Northerner or Southerner—all these qualities of the men and women of the early sixties now shine luminous and brilliant before our eyes, while the mists of anger and hatred that once dimmed them have passed away forever.

All of us, North and South, can glory alike in the valor of the men who wore the blue and the men who wore the gray. These were iron times, and only iron men could fight to its terrible finish the giant struggle between the hosts of Grant and Lee. To us of the present day and to our children and children's children, the valiant deeds, the high endeavor and abnegation of self shown in that struggle by those who took part therein, will remain forevermore to mark the level to which we, in our turn, must rise whenever the hour of the nation's need may come.

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