

AMONG THE MOUNTAINS.

CHENTU, *Oct. 12th, 1899.*

THE number of treatments given during the past three months was three hundred.

The dispensary was closed from July 21st to October 8th, chiefly because of the illness of two little school girls and the necessity of having them out of the city. The little ones improved in general health and grew quite fat in their two months' stay on Mount Omei. Alas! this is not quite sufficient to restore their diseased lungs, and they still need much care.

Many women came from the scattered mountain houses to see the foreigner and to get medicine—the latter was dispensed one hundred and eighteen times, most of it from September 1st to 19th, for Dr. Smith received the patients up till that time. These women were very friendly and quite willing to listen to the Gospel story. We distributed tracts, but probably they learned more from what we told them, for few on the mountains can read. No fee was charged for medicine, but the people brought willing offerings of such as they had—squash, cucumbers, corn, walnuts, eggs and pancakes made of corn. The people were very hospitable.

Even here on the mountains, where nature appears so beautiful and the people so pleasant, sin was also present. We met with a sad case of cruel treatment of a diseased wife and the bringing of a second one to the home.

Many of the mountaineers are Catholics. The priests from the town of Omei visit the mountains occasionally to teach and gather in the converts.

On October 9th we opened the hospital wards. Guests were invited from four streets to drink tea and see the compound. Though invited to come at 3 p.m. they arrived regardless of the time set, and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. we had an almost unbroken procession into our gate. Tracts were distributed as well as could be under the circumstances.

While the dispensary was closed in the summer, Miss Foster still continued the treatment of two or three patients that could not be turned away quickly.

Please pray for us in our medical work.

MAUD KILLAM, M.D.