

Meantime there is a call to the Church of God in every land to bear China in prayer before God continually. God can overturn all the counsels of His foes. China needs the glorious gospel. No other power can regenerate this land. It is changing the lives of individuals now. It is destined to influence the Empire at large. We have profound cause for unceasing gratitude to Almighty God for the peace and safety He has thus far granted. We are always safe in His hands. We are here about His business and He will see to it that His promises are fulfilled, His purposes carried forward, and His Kingdom established. Thus believing we look forward hopefully to the future.

Progress is being made in our own Mission slowly. I told you in a former letter of our having secured a second station. Messrs. MacGillivray and MacVicar went there to see to the carrying out of repairs about the end of August. The work was allowed to go until October 29th, when a most cowardly and brutal attack was made on our brethren there by a gang of beggars, evidently put up to the work. All the money on the premises was handed over. Fortunately Dr. Smith and Mr. MacDougall arrived the scene before the squabble was over. Their presence at that juncture caused consternation and led to part of the money being sent back speedily. The authorities have not yet prosecuted the criminals. Dr. Smith and Mr. MacGillivray have remained there ever since. Mrs. Smith joined her husband about six weeks ago.

We are at present holding our first Presbytery meeting in Honan, at Chin Wang. Work is being carried on daily now at both stations, Chin Wang and Hsin Chen. There are three or four persons giving encouraging evidence of being real seekers after the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is now the day of sowing, and a day of small things. The abundant harvest will be reaped in future. I trust God may spare us all to share in the reaping. I have been out on a tour lately with Mr. Goforth. We will likely tour a good deal all of us this spring.

Mrs. MacKenzie unites with me in Christian greetings to Mrs. Yuile, all the children and yourself. I trust the blessing of the Most High is resting daily on you all. Pray for the "Honan hand," that God may greatly own our work for Him this year.

Very sincerely yours,

MURDOCH MACKENZIE.

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The greatest man is he who chooses the right with invincible resolution; who resists the sorest temptations from within and without; who bears the heaviest burdens cheerfully; who is calmest in storms, and whose reliance on truth, on virtue, on God, is most unfaltering.

LETTER FROM REV. H. A. ROBERTSON.

ERROMANGA, Dec. 31, 1891.

DEAR MR. SCOTT.—Our work in the group is going steadily forward. Last year Rev. A. H. MacDonald, son of the Rev. Dr. MacDonald, of Melbourne, was settled most favorably in Santo, where James Gordon labored for a few months 24 years ago. They are in the North end of Santo about 70 or 80 miles from Mr. and Mrs. Annand.

You see we are getting missionaries, tho' not from Canada. But what matter so long as we get them. Australia, and especially the Victorian Church, is doing grandly. It is quite time that Scotland and Canada, so far away, were relieved of the care of the New Hebrides Mission, and left entirely free to develop missions nearer and larger, while Australasia should undertake the entire expense of this mission at their door, in these islands from which the Australian colonies alone are likely to receive any benefit.

We expect Mr. Fairlie, Dr. Lamb, and Mr. Fred Paton down very soon as missionaries. So we are getting men. No mission is more fully manned than our little group, with 18 or 20 European missionaries to about 100,000 natives.

Speaking of Mrs. Laurie's mind giving way he says, "the climate and the many trials and cares tries sorely mind and body. Mrs. Robertson, and our second daughter, are both down with fever and ague now.

But though the trials are great, it has its rewards. The way in which we were received by the whole Church on our return to Canada was surely sufficient reward for all our twelve years of toil, suffering, and danger, and then, on our arrival back here again, we got a Roman welcome. Apart altogether from the fact that this people have naturally, as their teachers now for nearly 20 years, a place in our hearts that no other New Hebrideans can possibly possess, I can truly say that they rank high, as a kind, helpful, gentle and devout Christian people. In their wild, savage state a more cruel and repulsive people I have never seen.

Erromanga may now be regarded as a professedly Christian island, i.e., Christian, as England, America, or Canada, are Christian. There are a few natives here and there, still on the island, who are not in, but they are weak and of no importance as leading men, and they are perfectly friendly to ourselves and to the Christian party.

Our whole work continues most encouraging all over the island, and more than ever before do our young people seem anxious to increase and extend their knowledge, and, as one good result, our Central schools at the mission stations, east and west, are more regularly attended.

Yours sincerely,

H. A. ROBERTSON.