

The more I see of idolatry the more forcibly I am impressed with the fact that the religion of Christ is a religion of *love*.

How different here the fear, the cruelty and the hatred that exist. At home how much care and love is spent over a wayward soul, but here when a man comes out for Christ, or leaves his own religion for a new one, whether false or true, he is simply persecuted; they do not attempt to win him back with patience and love.

HONAN.

An Encouraging Outlook.

FROM REV. W. H. GRANT.

Ch'u Wang, March 2, 1895.

You asked me how we in Honan had spent the summer, and if we were finding the work encouraging. Now I shall try to answer these questions as well as I can.

After Dr. Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm and Miss McIntosh left here in the end of May, Mr. MacGillivray and I were alone until Nov. 20th when Mr. Mackenzie returned. The summer was very quiet, but not oppressively so, for there was always plenty of work to do, and this prevented our thinking much about being alone. For the greater part of the time this was literally true. The work required Mr. MacGillivray to be away from home almost all the time and me to stay here and see that nothing went wrong at the base of supplies. We were both graciously preserved from every kind of illness all summer, and all difficulties that did arise were solved in wonderful ways. There might have been serious trouble on four or five different occasions during the summer had not wisdom superior to ours been directing the work of the Mission. These dangers we saw; how many we saw not, we cannot tell.

The general uncertainties (humanly speaking) which surround a young mission like this, in a heathen land are not few. But all has gone on well; for this we thank God who has laid the honor and responsibility of being sole occupants of Honan mission-field during the summer upon us.

Mr. MacGillivray had the purchasing of the property which we now own at Chang-te-fu, to look after which would have been a great task even had there been ten missionaries here instead of two. This, however, he succeeded in completing in a most satisfactory manner.

Mr. MacGillivray also arranged to have all the damage, which was done by the flood here, repaired at no cost to the mission further than the renewal of the leases for another term of five years (1896-1901.) When the war broke out Mr. MacGillivray called on the Mandarins and had them post up favourable proclamations at all our stations. We believe this has been quite a help to our work.

The work is indeed encouraging—we cannot expect many large additions to the Church in such an early stage of our mission, we must be patient. During the summer six were added to the Church by baptism and fifteen taken on as probationers for baptism, and those who are interested are, for the most part, studying their Bibles earnestly and are growing in grace and knowledge and are telling the good news to others. The growth of the Church here this summer has been almost wholly through the testi-