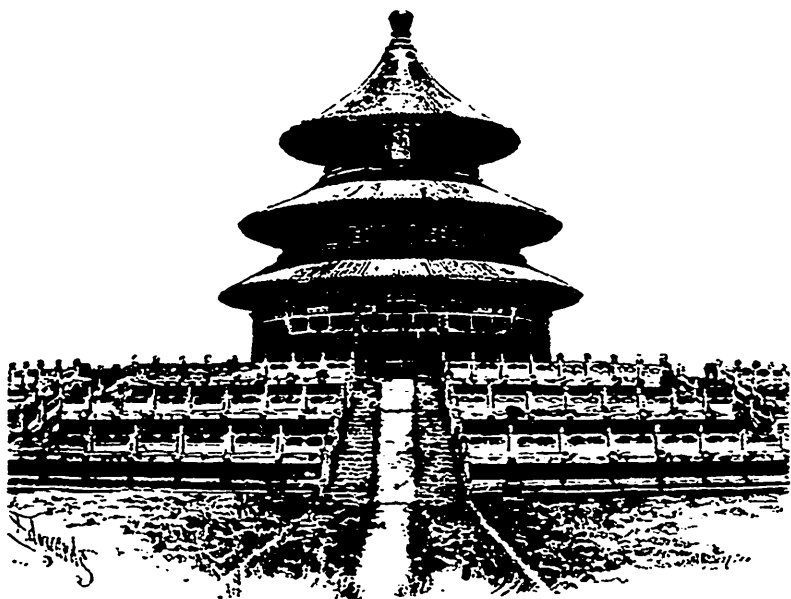


A native preacher says: "A single province of China converted would be equal to the conversion of whole nations elsewhere. Convert any one of her eighteen provinces and you would have more than all Brazil and Mexico. Any one of a dozen of her provinces would be more than the conversion of all Italy. As goes China, so goes Asia. She is to-day the citadel of paganism. Secure her to Christ, and you secure all her dependencies, as Thibet, Turkestan, Mongolia, Manchuria and Korea. Break down her idols and you dethrone the greater part of heathenism at a stroke!"



COVERED ALTAR, TEMPLE OF HEAVEN, PEKIN.

The missionaries appeal to the Churches because China is the largest and most important heathen country; because, though old, the nation is full of vigour and promise; because they are the great colonizers of the East; because morally and religiously there is no hope for China itself; because, since the Che-foo Convention of 1876, the Empire is more open than ever; because multitudes are reading Christian books, and inquiring after Christian truth.

There are hosts of gods who are worshipped by the Chinese. Gods of almost every calling—of the mechanic and tradesman and scholar; gods of the workshop and store and school-room; gods of land and sea; gods of the tempest and the calm; gods of wind and thunder and lightning; gods of the honest tradesmen,