

Chinese teachers were secured, and we juniors set to work with a will, to our first great task—the acquisition of the language. These teachers came from Nankin, and, therefore, spoke Mandarin, the one dialect spoken with greater or less variation in that large portion of China north of the Yangtse River. Shanghai dialect is scarcely comprehensible to one speaking Mandarin. This then was our principal work during our three months and a half in Shanghai. Our teachers came daily to our rooms, and we spent from three to five hours with them, besides what we might be able to do by ourselves. Many spare hours were spent in purchasing necessities and supplies for the next year, or for several years, as required. We visited several missionary hospitals and dispensaries in Shanghai, besides other mission agencies, and in each case we were on the look-out for hints that would be useful in our own new mission in Chentu. We were privileged also in meeting many missionaries, either stationed in Shanghai or passing through. It was an inspiration to come in contact with those old and tried veterans of the Cross, as also with those who were yet in the prime of life, and full of holy enthusiasm for their work.

As the weeks and months passed by, no further disturbances were heard of; the country seemed to be quieting down, and we prepared to start “up river.” Nearly all our boxes and trunks had been unpacked. Now they were all carefully repacked, and by the evening of February 16th, we found ourselves comfortably aboard the steamer *Ngankin*. After a little more than three days’ steaming, we arrived at Hankow, 650 miles from Shanghai. Here we were immediately taken in hand by the English Wesleyans, who entertained us royally, and whose acquaintance we were very glad to make. They showed us their two hospitals, one general, the other for women and children. The London Mission has also a large hospital and dispensary at Hankow. In all three institutions we were pleased to see progress in that agency for mission work which we hope soon to inaugurate in Chentu.

Dr. Hart proceeded alone by the first available steamer to Ichang, 400 miles farther west—there to hire native boats and get them ready for the remainder of our long journey. The rest of us followed by next steamer, leaving Hankow, March 3rd, and arriving at Ichang only to-day, Tuesday, March 15th. This trip, Hankow to Ichang, occupies ordinarily only four or five days, but we had a full week’s delay trying to get over a sand-bar, 120 miles below here.

We leave here to-morrow or next day, hoping, God willing, to reach Chentu by about May 1st. We are all well. We are eager to get to our destination and be settled. But we long most of all for the time when we shall be able to speak to this people in their own tongue, that we may tell them the wondrous story of Jesus and His love. Henceforth you will hear from us monthly, if only a little at a time. PRAY FOR US.

P.S.—Address any of us “Chentu, care Rev. Spencer Lewis, Chungking, Sze-Chuen, China.”

THE FRENCH WORK.

Montreal West.—Our Mission on Delisle Street is progressing rapidly. We organized a Temperance Society last year, which is likely to prove a blessing. All adult male members pay monthly ten cents; ladies pay five cents, and children under twelve go free. Last week forty-two children in Sabbath School took the pledge, to abstain from all intoxicating liquor as a beverage, the use of tobacco, and all profane language. On last Wednesday we held a temperance concert; and about three hundred gathered and filled up the church nicely. There was a good programme of

recitations, dialogues, solos, etc., by the children and others. All parted well satisfied. We have two temperance meetings every month; they are largely attended. The church members have signed the pledge with very few exceptions. Our meetings on the Sabbath are well attended, and God the Lord is sending fish into the net, and my heart is rejoiced.
M. SADLER.

NEWFOUNDLAND CONFERENCE.

Bonne Bay.—You do not often hear from this part of the world. I am glad to tell you that the Lord has a people here, and Methodism is making progress, though slowly. During the last seven years we have increased nearly twenty-eight per cent. Considering the removals we are highly gratified to our Heavenly Father for all His mercies. During that time we have lost over fifty souls by emigration. Had we all been true to our God we should have prospered more. We have held two missionary meetings and both of them were really successful. One of them was *unique*. It was held at a place called Rocky Harbor, the first ever held there. We held it in a cottage. It passed off well. You talk about missionary hens and potatoes, but here we had missionary rabbits. These dear people have got the love of God in their hearts. This is very evident when we remember some of them have no sweetening to put in their tea, and yet scraped up a few cents for the Lord’s cause. Noble sacrifice. Indeed it may truly be said these people out of their penury gave all they had. And some more than that, for they did not have money just at the time but hope to get it before the year closes. If all the people in Canada and Newfoundland belonging to our beloved Methodism gave in proportion the income this year would be far above the long looked for quarter of a million dollars. The following fact will show you what a work is to be done here yet. On a certain Sunday while praying earnestly for the fire of the Holy Ghost to fall upon us, a person in the church got alarmed, and anxiously kept a fixed gaze up at the ceiling expecting every moment the fire to fall through the roof of the church. What need for earnest, faithful toil, to give to the people the Gospel in all its purity and simplicity. May God the Holy Ghost fill every soul and chase away the darkness of nature’s night! While people remain in such ignorance of the simple truths of the Gospel, we feel compelled to preach anywhere and everywhere the truth as it is in Jesus. Pray for us. Every reader of the OUTLOOK pray for the prosperity of Zion. “If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.” May we all have that God-given earnestness.
JOHN PYE.

A NATIVE Christian has just been appointed Administrator General of Madras, and a native Christian girl, a graduate of one of the Christian colleges, has been appointed to the charge of the post-office at Mandapasali.

THE REV. S. P. CRAVER, D.D., missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church, writes to the New York *Independent* regarding the work in Mexico: “After fifteen years of experience in this field, I think I may safely say that there never has been a time in that period when there were so many open doors as there are now. Up to within quite a few years Protestant work has been largely confined to cities and large towns. Now it is extending rapidly into villages and *rancherias*. Its influence is, proportionately, much greater in these places than in the large cities. In a village of one or two thousand people a congregation of twenty or thirty Protestants is far more potent for good than one of two hundred members in a city of sixty thousand. When the country towns become evangelized the battle will be more than half won.”