

PALM ❖ BRANCH.

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S. E. SMITH, EDITOR.
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MAY, 1898.

IF it be true that our great Methodist founder, John Wesley, said that we must go (with the Gospel message), not only to those who want us, but to those who want us most, no doubt if he were here today he would think, as we do, that perhaps of all countries China needs that message most.

If it be true, as stated on good authority, that every third person who lives and breathes on the earth, who toils and suffers under the sun, is a Chinese; that every fourth child born into the world looks up into the face of a Chinese mother; that twice as many people as live in Canada die every year in China without a knowledge of Christ, then it must, it must be true that China needs the message most.

The religion of China is a mixed one, as we all know. Confucianism and Ancestral worship prevail. The latter is a religion of superstition and fear, not of love as we have been sometimes led to think it. Easter is spent by the Chinese in visiting the graves of their ancestors, not to plant beautiful flowers or lay wreaths of immortelles upon them, in token of their hope of one day meeting again, for they have no such hope. It is to worship and make peace with them that they may not be molested by their spirits throughout the year. How different from the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ!

The Chinese know nothing of medicine nor how to heal the sick and wounded, so China is full of disease and misery. But Christian Medical Missionaries have found their way into large portions of China and a new day is dawning for her. Li Hung Chang's visit to our continent too will yet bear precious fruit. It is said that China's civilization and evangelization must come through her upper and educated classes, and the outlook is most hopeful.

Intelligence has lately come of the appointment of Hu King Eng, M. D., as first physician in the household of Li Hung Chang, Viceroy of China. Miss Eng was born in Foo Chow, 1866, and was a daughter of one of the most efficient native Methodist workers in China. Her Grandfather was a military Mandarin (Governor) who embraced Christianity late in life, his five sons also accepting it; the family was the second in China to embrace it. She took a special course of study in the Ohio Wesleyan University, preparatory to adopting the medical profession. In 1890 she was admitted, on examination, to the Wes. Med. College, Penn., and was soon ranked among the leaders of the class. After completing a full medical course she spent one year and a half in post graduate and hospital work and was practicing in Foo chow when this honor came to her. Dr. Eng is the first woman in China to be graduated from a medical college.—*Review*.

We are sorry to have to postpone Miss Preston's interesting letter again till next month—it will be good when it comes.

The poem "Jesus loves me" was sent from a young correspondent in Nova Scotia. Though not perfect in construction, it is sweet in sentiment, and there is a poetic vein running through it. If our young friend will study the rules and principles of Rhetoric she may attain to a high degree of excellence.

We hope that the plan of our hospital in Chen tu given this month will form a nice black-board lesson for Mission Circles and Bands.

(Continued from page eight.)

The Young Woman's Missionary Circle reorganized last November for its third year of service. We now number eighteen members, and we feel that our interest in the grand work is increasing under our present energetic leader, Miss C. Perley, who is frequently assisted by Mrs. B. Coulthard. Although Mrs. Coulthard has charge of the "Band" her deep interest in the work embraces every Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society.

On the evening of the first of March our "Circle" and "Band" united and held a most successful Public Meeting in the lecture room of the Church. After reports, readings, recitations, and singing by the smaller ones the feature of the evening was a most stirring address from the President of N. B. and P. E. I Branch, Mrs. Chipman. It was not so much what she said, but the way she said it that touched the hearts of all in the well filled room. The collection amounted to \$20.00, which was divided between the "Circle" and the "Band."

Signed on behalf of the Circle

NAN. P. THOMPSON, Sec.
 Fredericton, March 31st, 1898.