

While I try to tell you a little about it, please keep in view the fact that Mission work for a lady here is entirely different from your Mission work in Canada.

That you may better understand how a native lady in her position is able to be a great help to the Church, I ask liberty to tell you briefly a little about Mrs. Mackay herself, as a foreign lady sees her among her own people. Having seen her among strangers, and only for a short time, you would not know her gifts as one who sees her in her own home.

She is always cheerful, no matter what happens, she never seems to grow weary. She has very warm sympathy for any one in trouble. Like all Chinese, she readily reads character. Did foreigners she met while travelling with the Doctor guess that the black-eyed Chinese lady, without being able to speak a word of English, could count off their good points and their defects, as she would read pages of a Chinese book? Not that she would criticise in a fault-finding spirit, she has too much kindness of heart for that; but, so accustomed are the Chinese to read human nature, I believe they do it unconsciously. This is a necessary qualification for work among people in this country, as they are adepts at flattery, and easily deceive many foreigners. I do not know how Mrs. Mackay learned so much English in the short time she was in Canada. I still converse with her in English.

Like Dr. Mackay himself, and those around him, Mrs. Mackay is devoted to the church; often having visited all the stations, and constantly meeting people from them, she is able to take a comprehensive view of the whole field. Of what she endured in years past, when she faced the Chinese mob beside the Doctor, we sometimes hear, but I write you only of what I have *seen*.

When we arrived, three years ago, Dr. Mackay had workmen building the Girls' School. Far into the night they would be digging the hard soil, and Mrs. Mackay would be out keeping the Doctor company, and keeping the men in good spirits to make them forget how tired they were. "The students, I think, were already here; then the girls came, and such work as Mrs. Mackay, as well as the other teachers, must have had in training them, I can only now begin to guess; at that time I did not know, for we were occupied with our own study, and I saw little of the teaching. I only knew that all hours of the day or night, Mrs. Mackay was in demand. A messenger would come running, "Mrs. Mackay, Mrs. Mackay!" Some one, perhaps, suddenly ill. So many girls and students being here, it seemed as if there were always three or four down with fever, to say nothing of other things, constantly needing attention.