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THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU.

THOU not made with hands,
Nor throned above the skies,
Nor walled with shining walls,
Nor framed with stones of price,
More bright than gold or gems,
God's own Jerusalem!

Where'er the gentle heart,
That comes from above,
Where'er the heart forsook
Warmth with the breath of love;
Where faith bids fear depart,
City of God! thou art.

Thou art where'er the proud
In humbleness melts down,
Where self itself yields up;
Where martyrs win their crown;
Where faithful souls possess
Themselves in perfect peace.

Where in life's common ways
With cheerful feet we go;
Where in His steps we tread
Who trod the way of woe;
Where He is in the heart,
City of God! thou art.

Not throned above the skies
Nor golden-walled afar,
But where Christ's two or three
In His name gathered are;
He is the midst of them,
God's own Jerusalem!

—Francis Turner Palgrave.

SCRIPTURE ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE SHORTER CATECHISM.

BY REV. A. B. MACRAY, MONTREAL.

XCVII.

BEFORE the Israelites kept the Passover they were commanded to search the corner of their houses to find out where was the smallest particle of leaven in them. All that was found was burned, and then they were ready to keep the feast. This rendered ne-

in our hearts and lives. Let us see that our soul-cleaning is not superficial, but deep and thorough-going. Let us see that the whole house is cleaned, not the reception rooms only. For decency's sake we must keep these respectable. But let us take care that every room in the house, every part of our being, from the attic of our imaginations to the cellar of our appetites, is sweet and clean; and let us be perfectly sure that we are not living over some spiritual cesspool.

No occasion is more suitable for such a thorough self-examination as when we purpose sitting down at the Lord's table. Then should we, most particularly search into our whole heart and life, for if we judge ourselves and put away the evil from us, we shall not be judged by Christ. But if we neglect this work of self-judgment, or do it dishonestly or superficially; if we do not thoroughly cleanse ourselves from all that we know to be wrong, He will have to judge us, in order to bring us to a penitent frame of mind, so that we may not in the long run be condemned with the world. Because they came to the Lord's table without this true self-judgment, many Christians at Corinth were weak and sickly, and some had even died. Thus by coming unworthily they ate and drank judgment to themselves. That does not mean that they were lost for ever, but it means that they were chastised for their sin on earth, that they might not be condemned with Christ's enemies. This shows the great importance of that self-examination which was pictured in the burning up of all leaven before the Passover. We are to keep our feast, not with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, for, "It is required of them that would worthily partake of the Lord's Supper that they examine themselves of their knowledge to discern the Lord's Body, of their faith to feed upon Him, of their repentance, love, and new obedience; lest, coming unworthily, they eat and drink judgment to themselves."

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truth, and especially of the difficulties respecting the Divine perfections and human freedom, agency, and responsibility that occur to every one whose intellect is at work. And from what has since transpired, no one can doubt that his appreciation of the Shorter Catechism and its teachings was of an early date, and that he never ceased, all his life, to value it. As little, the writer thinks, will any one be disposed to doubt that to this early training, of which a fuller account than is given in his biography could not fail to be interesting and useful, the fact is in a good measure to be ascribed, that JAMES CLERK MAXWELL, the boy referred to, was, in life and death, a firm believer in the distinctive verities of Christianity and a saintly Christian.

It need not be said that it is only in very rare cases that young people can have the care bestowed upon them that was bestowed in this case. It is not necessary, as we all know, that a child should have any unusual advantages, in order to his becoming eminent either intellectually or morally. Thousands, placed in the ordinary circumstances in which boys are placed, acquire, with other excellent attainments, a perfect knowledge of the Shorter Catechism. The one thing necessary is that parents should realize their responsibility, and that they should feel the importance of the early storing of their children's minds with Christian knowledge. There are parents who are careful that no day passes without the occupation of some portion of its time in the communication of Christian instruction to their children, whether by themselves or by another. Many parents who are not neglectful in this respect have their minds and their hands as fully occupied with other necessary things, as are the minds and the hands of parents who give no attention to the religious interests of their children. These, for the most part, readily find time for amusements, and for other occupations of time that are no way serviceable in the promotion of any important interest. Judging from what is not rarely accomplished under great disadvantages, we are persuaded that almost any parent, whose mind is rightly impressed, could so arrange his household affairs as to have a little time every morning or evening

Mission Work.

THE CHINA INLAND MISSION.

WITH REV. HUDSON TAYLOR'S BAND OF MISSIONARIES FROM VANCOUVER, B.C., TO SHANGHAI—INCIDENTS BY THE WAY—DONNING THE NATIVE DRESS—BEGINNING THE WORK OF PREPARATION.

DEAR SIR,—According to promise I again write you as to the further progress of the Canadian and American Bands which left Toronto for China on Sept. 25. I wrote you last from Vancouver, and I shall now give you briefly the details of our journeyings from there. Our passages were taken per C. P. S. S. *Patara*. She is a splendid tea-boat, but small—1,662 tons. Was laden with a light cargo, flour and cotton and is, I understand, "the worst trolley on the line." We were detained two or three days after the advertised date of sailing, and we were very glad, indeed, of it. A reception was given our missionaries by the Mayor, and another meeting was held, both of which were very profitable.

ON THE PACIFIC.

Having on Oct. 5, we all made a good stop, and greatly enjoyed a Bible reading by Mr. Taylor on the Song of Songs. But there! as I write, I almost begin to feel the increasing motion of the ship as we get out into the sea. Next day, and the next day, and the next day, and a few more days, I shall attempt to describe. I presume many of your readers know full well the many delights of *mal de mer*. So far as I know, we did have a rough passage all the way to Japan. One day, especially, the sea was very "dirty." A billow washed over the fan-light of the cabin, where the passengers sat at dinner. What general effect it produced I cannot say, as I was at that time bent on the pursuit of knowledge. I was in a recumbent position—in other words, lying in "Blanket Bay," as Mr. Taylor came in looking for me. The wave had washed away my shoes, and considerably cooled

A REAL C. I. M. WELCOME.

To the land of our adoption, wish you could have heard the joyful testimonies given by each one at the meeting after tea. You might have thought we were a branch of that rather excitable body, the Salvation Army if you had heard the ejaculations of praise that came from one and another. It was indeed a remarkable story from beginning to end—that of each one of the missionaries, and specially that of Mr. Taylor himself—going to America at Mr. Moody's request "to visit Northfield and possibly a few other conferences, and then proceed to China;" that was our intention, and no papers of qualifications for candidates or schedules of application or anything of the sort had been brought. But the Lord Himself came with us, and commencing with the Niagara Believers' Meetings, He raised up first the funds and then the men and women to use them, and He went on perfecting that which concerned us till fourteen missionaries for needy China accompanied Mr. Taylor and myself to that land. Eight more were accepted to follow, and a tentative Auxiliary Council was formed to assist in the work of sending candidates already accepted and to accept and send others as God might lead, and providential circumstances indicate. What hath God wrought!

DONNING THE NATIVE DRESS.

We found in our Shanghai Home one of our ladies dangerously ill, and needing perfect quiet and much attention. This, added to the fact that a steamer left the next night, and missing that we should have to wait some time for another, made us decide to leave the next night after arrival. So the work of transformation began early on our first day in China. The ladies were attired in the skirt and long, wide-sleeved, loose gown, had their hair "fixed up" at the back, and in a short time each one was quite *au fait*. With us poor fellows it was a longer business. I can personally testify to the thorough change we have to undergo from boots to pigtail. The shaving of the head is such a funny sensation, you wouldn't

treaclic (native) and honey. This together with tea, was indeed a treat. Sunday was spent very happily at the Chinese and English services, for we have a nice little chapel attached to the Home; and on Monday the study of the language was commenced in real earnest. As many of your readers are friends and relatives of our dear ones, I may append

THE PROGRAMME OF STUDY.

Rise, 6.00; private devotions, 6.30; breakfast, 7.30-8.00; English prayers, 8.00-8.30; geography, 8.30-9.00; class, Mr. Wood, 9.00-1.00; native class, 10.00-12.00, reading 12.00-12.30; dinner 12.30-1.00; noon prayers, 1.00-1.30; exercise, 1.30-2.00; native class, 2.00-4.00; the Word, 4.00-4.30; outing, 4.30-5.30; tea 5.30-6.00; review, 6.00-7.00; promiscuous reading, 7.00-8.00; Bible study, 8.00-9.00. "Looking unto Jesus," all day. I might mention that "native class" means a native teacher for each of the young men, dividing the time, part taking the afternoon and the other part the morning. A Chinese teacher can give one in two hours quite as much as one can digest and assimilate in a day. They had their Chinese names given them, and you may be interested to see them:

Mr. Souter, Hamilton, "Su-tch Ts'uen," a species of time that refreshes and revives the weary spirit; Mr. Racey, Hamilton, "Rui Kai Ren," small plants budding; Mr. Duff, Hamilton, "Tu Loh Shan," elegant in manners; Mr. Meikle, Toronto, "Mi Hsioh Shuen," dissolved by the action of fire or water; Mr. Horne, Belleville, "Ho Chi Tao," harmony; Mr. Lawson, Parkdale, "Loh Tai Shi," water-bird, as king-fisher.

Gan-king is a city of some 70,000 inhabitants, and is one of the poorest capitals in China. The people know us pretty well, and are not hostile. There is very much room for evangelistic work, and I would ask the good brethren who may distribute our sentences they may spare a few lines may be used of God.

Mr. Taylor and myself are in Gan-king on Wednesday, Nov. 7. We proceeded

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