

and esteem for their possibilities in this life, providing they stand upon a high moral platform and fling the vices of their white brethren to the winds.

### THE CHINESE WORK.

**I**NFORMATION has come to hand of the opening of the new Chinese Church and Mission House in New Westminster, B. C. Bro. Robson writes somewhat briefly, being confined to his bed at the time, but some extracts from the letter will be read with interest. He first refers to the opportune arrival of the Rev. Mr. Bridie and wife, of the China Wesleyan Mission, and goes on:—

Hearing that Mr. B. was in San Francisco, Mr. Gardner and I arranged to have him visit Victoria and Westminster, and assist at the opening of our new Chinese premises, which took place on Sunday last. In this, as in other matters, Mr. and Mrs. Bridie were very serviceable to us. Mr. Bridie not only preached in the Chinese church, but in the Central Methodist Church of the city. They both addressed the monthly meeting of the W. M. S., and Mr. B. gave an instructive and inspiring address to the Epworth League.

The opening services of the Chinese church were full of interest. Besides Bro. Bridie and wife and the resident missionary, Mr. Ch'an, Bros. Gardner, from Victoria, and Liu, from Vancouver, Miss Orchard, Miss Crake, Mrs. D. Robson and Mrs. Monck were all present, and helped to make the occasion one long to be remembered in the history and development of the mission. The morning service was taken by Mr. Gardner, the afternoon by Dr. Liu, and the evening by Mr. Bridie. All the services were well attended, the evening one overflowing both church and school-room. Great attention was paid to the preaching of the Word, as well as to the other exercises. Collections were taken in aid of the furnishing fund. The Chinese members are also subscribing for this purpose. All unite in declaring the establishment, consisting of church, school-room, reading parlor, and complete residence for missionary, consisting of eight rooms in two flats, one of the most complete, comfortable, and well finished things of the kind on the coast.

On Monday, 7th, taking advantage of the presence of so many workers in the Chinese field, we held a missionary conference, at which there were ten persons present, including the President of the Conference, Rev. J. F. Betts, and Rev. S. J. Thompson, Secretary of the Board of Examiners. The conference had to be held in my bed-room, as I have been and still am confined to bed with a severe attack of la grippe, which was a great disappointment to myself and all concerned. In our informal discussion we dealt with almost every phase of our work (Chinese) and workers, touching upon principles and methods. I trust there will good come from the interview. Had we been favored with the presence and counsels of an experienced Chinese missionary when we first took up this work, it would have helped us much, and even now will, I trust, enable us to do our work more efficiently.

There will be some "extras" in addition to the contract price of the buildings. I will send you a full statement as soon as I can get about, and believe you will heartily approve of all we have done.

You will be pleased to know that the bell for the church is being provided by the Chinese mission in Victoria.

Interesting services were held Monday and last evening in the church, in which Mr. Gardner and Dr. Liu assisted.

### THE HOME WORK.

**Elmore**—(Manitoba Conference)—The spirituality of the people is not very profound, and owing to the extent of the field it is impossible to give that attention to the flock which is desirable. There are a few who are worthy to be called followers of the risen Christ. Were it not for these the field would be very discouraging. There are now seven appointments, and openings for three or four more which I am unable to take up now. Temporally the mission is advancing rapidly. Crops last year were good, and the people have supported connexional and local interests well. I think that Elmore, after this year, will have the honorable name of Circuit.

JOHN J. THOM.

### LAST LETTER FROM BISHOP TAYLOR.

FROM THE "AFRICAN NEWS" ADVANCE SHEETS.

**T**HE African Conference met at Careysburg on the 20th inst. No deaths of members of Conference during the past year; nor of our missionaries, except that of our dear old Captain Borella. We had an unusually large attendance of our lay people; preaching at early morn and night of each day; church thronged at all the services, and a deep, joyous, religious life pervaded the assemblies all through. The testimonies, about a hundred at love-feast, were short, clear and emphatic, and altogether we had a harmonious profitable session.

We got to seat of Conference by small boat, twenty-three miles up the St. Paul's River to White Plains, thence fifteen miles on foot to Careysburg, the most easterly Liberian town on that parallel, situated on a high ridge, bounded north and south by very steep sides and deep hollows. Most of the country round about, and on both sides of the path out from St. Paul's River is covered with orchards of coffee trees, now in full fruit, in appearance like red cherries, each cherry containing two grains of coffee. Properly cleaned, it is the "best coffee in the world," and a special boon to Liberia. The Liberian seed has been introduced into fifteen different coffee growing countries, in all of which it produces well, but inferior to its native flavor. A new industry has sprung up during the year 1891, which is now absorbing the attention of many thousands, comprising all classes of this coast. The product is called "bamboo fibre," but is really from a species of the palm, and is known by the name of "Piassava." The fibre is very coarse, and as tough as rattan, and is used in the manufacture of scrubbing brushes, brooms and chair bottoms. It abounds in African woods, and though often difficult of access, is easily prepared for the market, and is quoted in Europe at £70 per ton.

Our missionaries are all well, and the spiritual work on this coast more hopeful than ever before. I am in perfect health. Hallelujah!

WM. TAYLOR.

Muhlenburg Mission, Liberia, January 28th, '92.

REV. M. C. WILCOX writes from China that in a visit to one of the towns in the Yong-ping District he was much encouraged by receiving from one of the *literati* a note expressing approbation of a sermon he had heard the evening before, and promising in the future to befriend the Church. He had been the leader of the persecutors of the Methodist Mission in that locality.

THE Roman Catholic cathedral, in the city of Mexico, was ninety-four years in building, cost \$2,000,000, and has several candlesticks of gold, one of them too heavy for a man to lift. One statue was of gold, and cost \$1,090,000. One of the lamps was valued at \$70,000, and at one time it cost \$1,000 to clean it.