

# The Medical Missionary

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MEDICAL MISSIONS AND THE TORONTO MEDICAL STUDENTS' MISSION IN KOREA.

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## SALUTATORY.

THIS is the first issue of THE MEDICAL MISSIONARY. It is published by the Missionary Board of the Medical Students' Y.M.C.A. of Toronto, and it is hoped that it will accomplish the purpose for which it is issued—that is, to increase the interest of the medical men of this province in missionary effort.

The editors of this paper are not possessed of as much experience in this line of work as might be desirable, but they have undertaken the duty with the intention of doing their best to make it a success. We shall endeavor to fill its columns with matter both readable and valuable, and try to exclude everything unreliable, so that our readers may feel assured that the facts contained in it are worthy of consideration.

When the project was first broached it was intended to issue the paper monthly during the college term only; but our present hope is that it may be published throughout the entire year, so that it may the better accomplish one of its principal objects—that is, to keep all the contributors to the Medical Students' Mission Fund thoroughly acquainted with the progress of the work.

Every physician in Toronto will be entitled to a copy free, and it is hoped he will read its contents carefully and ponder them well. All outside of the medical profession will be supplied at the rates mentioned in the business notice (see next page) and it is very desirable that its circulation should be made as large as possible. We shall issue at least 3,000 copies monthly, and we hope many others

will subscribe so that its influence may be greatly extended.

Rev. Dr. Kellogg and Rev. Dr. Sutherland have kindly consented to become regular contributors, and other able writers will from time to time help to make the paper interesting. One of the most important features will be the reports from Dr. Hardie of his work in Korea. May its columns, through God's blessing, be a help and a stimulus to many.

## THE USE OF MEDICAL MISSIONARIES.

BY REV. S. H. KELLOGG, D.D.

Written expressly for THE MEDICAL MISSIONARY.

THAT the presence of one or more medical men on the staff of a mission in a foreign land adds very greatly to the efficiency of a mission is now one of the commonplaces of the theory of missions.

The history of modern missions is full of instances where the medical member of the staff, by his success in relieving human suffering, has not only procured for himself access to homes which had otherwise been sealed, but therewith a high degree of respect and consideration, for all the non-medical missionaries associated with him. The Chinaman discovers that the pale skin and the staring round eyes do not, after all, prove their possessor to be a "devil." The Hindoo wakes up to the fact that all of human wisdom is not, after all, contained in the sacred books which he has been taught to revere as containing the sum of all knowledge worth possessing.

But there is another aspect of the matter which, even if we should admit that it is of importance secondary to the former, is yet deserving of great consideration, especially in fields where the members of a missionary staff are remote from any European physician. Under such circumstances—which still exist in a very large part of the foreign mission field—the presence of one or more medical men on the mission staff seems little less than imperative in order to the preservation of the health and thus of the working vigour, or even sometimes of the lives of the missionaries. To send a number of missionaries, for instance, into Africa or

interior China, with not one among their number capable of recognizing and treating disease, seems a policy short-sighted and even cruel. It cannot be justified except by the most absolute necessity—a necessity which we are confident that the Christian young men studying in our Medical Colleges will not allow to arise when once the need of such service is brought fairly before them. Not wholly without reason have some thought that they might infer the recognition of this principle by the apostle Paul—a man, as we know, affected with some serious bodily infirmity—when we find among his very frequent companions in travel "Luke, the beloved physician," Col. iv.

14. Nor is it merely a question of treating any who may be sick. More important than the healing of sickness is it to keep a man well. Unfortunately, a large part of those who go out as young men and women from our various institutions to missionaries in climates to them new and strange, have little or no knowledge of those principles of hygiene which should regulate their life under the new conditions. Especially is this a serious matter in entering the tropics, where so often I have seen men and women in their ignorance taking needless risks, which, had they understood the risk as any intelligent physician would understand it, they would not have taken for a moment. Under such conditions, such too often think little of the advice of the unprofessional old missionary; but the medical member of a mission would be more regarded. He could keep a most efficient, practical guard against such needless imprudencies, and thereby do a most valuable service to the mission cause, which, nevertheless, could never appear in his reports. It is a high honor to die on the mission field; but there is one thing yet better, and that is to *live* there; and if our medical missionaries did nothing more than to preserve and prolong precious lives, their mission would still be more than justified.

"MEDICAL missionaries have been the instruments, wholly or in part, of opening up Siam, Korea, Jypore, Cashmere and portions of Burmah and China."—*W. J. W.*