

Missionary World.

FORMOSA: QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

3. How do missionaries travel in Formosa?

In North Formosa, General Loo, when governor of the island, built a very short railway; but few of the mission stations—then only five—were situated on the railway, and it is really of little practical value for mission work.

In China the style of conveyance used differs much in different parts of the Empire. In Formosa the sedan chair is most convenient, one of them being carried by two or more men, according to circumstances, the kind of path to be travelled, etc. But the most common way to travel overland is for a man to make the best use of his two feet that he knows how. No wide roads or carriage drives in Formosa, and no delightful whirling along through the country behind fast horses; but up and down over the mountains, along the sea shore, between fields of rice and sugar-cane, in and out in all directions over winds the busy stream of pedestrians along the narrow paths. Among these travellers are our missionaries, one foreigner followed by two or three, or more, native evangelists, not the female missionaries, who do most of their teaching within doors, but the long-trying soldiers of Christ who have been given physical strength to weather many a storm, struggle through many a weary hot day, and conquer many a fever. Presently their now rugged path leads through surging streams, waist-deep and deeper, that must be crossed without either boat or ferry. I will not try on paper to describe how such streams are crossed. Canadian girls, with pretty skirts daintily held away from the mud, I sometimes wonder how you would face a Formosa mountain torrent. With courage enough—trust you Canadian ladies for courage—but that commendable virtue will not bridge you roaring torrent.

For travel by water, wherever practicable, on the streams through Formosa valleys ply the flat-bottomed river boats, not the "house-boat" so common on the mainland, but long, narrow boats, small enough to run the rapids, and partly covered with bamboo matting, under which one creeps to sit down or lie protected from the sun, while one or at most two men work the oars, in shallow water move the boat, like a raft, with a bamboo pole, or if wind be favorable, run up a small sail to catch the breeze. Often must the men labor at the oars, keeping the boat crawling along by inches against all three forces, wind and tide and the current of the stream—an illustration of the life of Christian converts against opposing forces in a heathen land.

The answer to this question is already too long, so no more about travelling, though I have not mentioned the steam-launch, etc., etc.—Yours,

ANNIE STRAITH JAMIESON.

LETTER FROM INDIA.

The W. F. M. Society of the American Presbyterian Church has received the following communication from Mrs. S. H. Kellogg, formerly of this city. We reproduce it here because we feel certain many of our readers will be pleased to hear from the writer, even by way of Philadelphia. Besides, the letter is very interesting:—

Our idea in going among the villages for the winter was that Dr. Kellogg might revive his Hindi-speaking powers, after a seventeen years' absence, before engaging in Bible revision. He was delighted to find that he could understand and use the Hindi as well as ever, and, what he did not expect, that he could also understand the barbarous patois of the villagers. He also preached extempore in Hindustani in Allahabad, and some of his friends said that one would never know that he had been out of the country.

We shall be glad to get ourselves and our belongings settled once more into a home. I foresaw that living in trunks

and in perpetual motion, with four children, for seven months, would be no light matter, but we have survived.

The saddest of all sad things that one finds here, on the physical side, is that in every group of nine or ten people that you see there is sure to be at least one or two with cataract, or white growths over the eyes, or great bulging, sightless eyeballs, or no eye-ball at all. I never knew that there were so many physical ailments here—deformed, afflicted with dreadful sores, lepers, etc. I ache in my heart all the time for these poor people.

Out in the villages, to see the poor naked babies, when the thermometer is down to thirty-nine degrees, as it was this "unusual" winter, with no means of getting any warmth except when they are held astride the mother's hip, under the shelter of the single cotton rag that pretends to cover her! I longed for factories of clothing to give to the poor little shivering things. At the same time I could not help wondering why the mothers could not dispense with their hideous nose and toe-rings, earrings, anklets and bracelets, cheap though these were, to buy a rag for their children.

The farming population seems to be so very poor in this "third wheat-growing country in the world"! They are taxed by the government, and highly too, of necessity; but in addition, they have more extorted from them, as private gain, by every native under-official that has anything to do with them, until their taxes amount, in some cases, to seventy or seventy-five per cent. However, other classes may feel about English rule, these ignorant villagers (not knowing that they would be out of the frying-pan into the fire) profess themselves ready to welcome Russia and war, as there would be, at least, "hope of plunder," and they say they can't be worse off. They lay all the blame on England, not knowing that much of the blame is due to the heathenish dishonesty of their own countrymen. They do not know what Russia's iron hand is like, and how much better off they are now than if they were under native rule, until Christ takes hold of the hearts of this people, and His righteousness can rule in the land.

The crying need for India to-day is for a trained native preacher and a Christian schoolmaster for each village or group of villages, who shall live with the people, and teach and shepherd them, and show forth to them the life of the Christian family. The villagers are ready. Many will say that they have left off the worship of idols, and they are open to the truth; but they cannot read, and there is no one to teach them. The boys in the schools and colleges, who might do this work, are so in demand for government and other positions, that they are off to more lucrative work as soon as they get their education.

In the school here, at the Katra Mission, there are thirty of the boys Christians. It does seem a pity if some of them, at least, should not lay themselves on the altar for this work. Of course, a true Christian will be useful wherever he is; but in India, as at home, there is great danger of "the lust of other things" choking the Word, that it becomes unfruitful.

Ten or eleven years ago it would have been death for any foreigner to have set foot in Korea, and death to any Korean harbouring a foreigner. In a letter from a Korean regent to the Emperor in China, Korea was mentioned as "an insignificant handful of earth at the end of creation." Now American army officers drill the palace guard and the battalions that will form the beginning of the reorganized army. Steamers owned by the Government now ply between the various ports, and the places opened by treaty, not only bringing the tribute rice to the treasury and to market, but foreshadowing the day when rapid transit will make famines a thing of the past. Before

this, when crops failed in certain districts, sure death by starvation smote down tens of thousands. It was impossible to transport grain long distances when pack-horses would eat their loads before advancing half way.

The Moravians went to Africa in 1737. George Schmidt established a mission 120 miles north of the Cape of Good Hope. Here he worked for nine years and gathered a company of converts numbering forty-seven families. He went back to Holland to induce others to join, but was not allowed to return to Africa. In 1792 the Moravians obtained permission to resume their labours. Three humble artisans were sent out, and among the first to welcome them was a poor blind woman who had been a pupil and convert of Schmidt's. She brought with her the New Testament that he had given her fifty years before.

When a physician accompanies a missionary on a tour, scores of people wait at every village, asking to be treated, and the crowds are so dense that the strangers can only proceed by rising early in the morning and leaving the city before it is known that they are going away. Hundreds of Christian books are sold, and the giving of medicines and looking after the sick are interspersed with earnest talks and prayers.

It is now 33 years since the first mission was established in Japan, and during that time all the Protestant Churches have succeeded in gathering in 40,000 converts. That seems like a small part of 40,000,000, but the good seed has been sown. Great difficulties have been overcome and 10 years from now a great change will be seen.

The Korean alphabet of fourteen consonants and eleven vowels, is one of the best alphabets in the world. It was invented by one of the noblemen of the country ten centuries or more ago. It will be a fine vehicle for Christian literature to the masses.

No Korean door has seemed to be impossible to open, and the extent of the work has been limited only by the time and the ability of the few workers on the field.

THE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE.

AN INTERESTING CHAT WITH THE SECRETARY OF ST. MARY'S.

She Explains why the Sisters and their Pupils are so Healthy—Due to Strict Rules of Hygiene and the Medicine used in the Home—Information of Value to Everybody.

From the Terre Haute, Ind., Express.

Four miles to the northwest of Terre Haute, lies the beautiful and picturesque village of St. Mary's. This is a Roman Catholic Institution which has attained something more than national celebrity. Fifty years ago it was established by six Sisters of Providence, who came from the shores of France to lay the foundation for this great charitable order. It now consists of the home of the Sisters of Providence, known as the Providence House; a large female seminary, one of the finest chapels in the United States, and a Rectory in which the priests make their home.

A reporter of the Express, while being shown through the establishment recently, asked Sister Mary Ambrose if there was any apparent reason for the good health with which the sisters and their pupils are blessed.

The answer was that particular attention is paid by the sisters in charge to the health and happiness of the students. "Bodily ailment," she said, "cannot help but have its effect on the mind. In order to keep the mind bright and active and perfectly clear at all times, the student's condition must be as nearly perfect

as possible. Some time ago there was more or less ailment noticeable among the sisters and students, which was probably due to atmospheric causes, though of course I do not know just what its origin really was. Shortly after this became noticeable a friend highly recommended a medicine called Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and so urged upon me to give them a trial that I ordered some of them, and they have been used in the institution ever since. A few days ago the manufacturers wrote me for an opinion of Pink Pills, and my reply was as follows:—

"Respected Sirs,—In answer to your kind request for our opinion of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, are pleased to say that these pills were so highly recommended to us that we were induced to try them, and we think our repeated orders for them are sufficient evidence that we find them all they are represented, a good blood-builder and an excellent nerve tonic.

Yours very respectfully,

Sister M. Ambrose,

Secretary for Sisters of Providence."

Medical scientists concede that weak blood and shattered nerves are the fruitful cause of nearly every disease to which human flesh is heir, and Dr. Williams' Pills are, as Sister Ambrose says they have found them, "a good blood-builder and an excellent tonic" the source of good health at St. Mary's is easily traced.

Sister Ambrose said they are never without Pink Pills, and that now they order a gross at a time.

This is certainly a very high recommendation for the medicine, for there is probably no class of people that gives more attention to the physical health and welfare of its members than the Sisters of Providence, and they would not use anything in which they did not have unbounded faith.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are truly one of the greatest medical discoveries of the age. They are the beginning of a more healthful era. Every day brings reports of remarkable cures that have resulted from the use of this wonderful medicine. In many cases the good work has been accomplished after eminent physicians had failed and pronounced the patient beyond the hope of human aid. An analysis proves that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain in a condensed form all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood, and restore shattered nerves. They are an unfailing specific for such diseases as locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus's dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after-effects of la grippe, palpitation of the heart, that tired feeling resulting from nervous prostration; all diseases depending upon vitiated humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. They are also a specific for troubles peculiar to females, such as suppressions, irregularities, and all forms of weakness. They build up the blood, and restore the glow of health to pale or sallow cheeks. In the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork or excesses of whatever nature.

These pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, of Brockville, Ont., and Schenectady, N. Y., and are sold in boxes (never in loose form) by the dozen or hundred) at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists, or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, from either address. The price at which these pills are sold makes a course of treatment inexpensive as compared with other remedies or medical treatment.

ALL MIRACLES DO NOT OCCUR AT HAMILTON.

The whole town of Glamis, Ont., knows of a cure, by the application of MINARD'S LINIMENT, to a partially paralyzed arm, that equals anything that has transpired at Hamilton.

R. W. HARRISON.