

author's supplying fuller information about Formosa, its resources and people. The editor is responsible for much of the personal element found throughout the book, Dr. MacKay reluctantly consenting to the introduction, necessary to an understanding of a foreign missionary's life and work, of many incidents and personal experiences elicited in the course of conversation. While the book was being prepared the political relations of Formosa were being changed; these changes are referred to as likely to affect mission work materially, though not injuriously, but the Chinese view-point is retained.

For several months I was in constant and intimate association with Dr. MacKay, coming into closest touch with him, coming to know him as one is known only to the nearest and most sympathetic friends. To see the man of indomitable energy, unflinching courage, and iron will shrink from anything like self-assertion, and yield without dispute to another's judgment, would be a revelation for which they are not prepared who know him only as a man of speech and action. To see his modest self-effacement, and to know how real his faith is, how personal God is to him, is to grasp the secret of his success. Few men in any age of the church have had a vivid sense of the divine nearness. The God he serves is a pavilioning presence and a prevailing power in his soul. Such a prophet is Christ's greatest gift to his church. To him there can come no failure; whatever ought to be can be.

The publishers have spared no pains in the production of this book. Maps have been specially prepared, the three of North Formosa being reproduced from sketches made by Dr. MacKay, that of the island from the British Admiralty chart; illustrations have been made from photographs taken in Formosa by Koa Kau, Dr. MacKay's Chinese student; the cover design represents the flower of the rice-plant, the rice in the ear, and the method of rice harvesting described in Chapter XXII.; and the greatest care has been taken to avoid mechan-