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Light in the Darkness.

An Interesting Field of Missionary Enterprise

Under the Auspices of the Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Dr. Mackay Speaks of His Labors in Far-Away Formosa.

Rev. Dr. Mackay, whose efforts on behalf of Presbyterian missionary enterprise in Formosa have made his name universally known throughout that denomination, spoke in three different places yesterday. His remarks on each occasion, though constituting to a great extent a continuous narrative of his work from its inception to the present time in the island mentioned, were, taken severally, very engrossing and informing to the large congregations which gathered.

Dr. Mackay's labors among the heathen cover a period of over twenty years. He is now on furlough, accompanied by his Chinese wife, and is making a complete visitation of the whole Presbyterian Church throughout Canada. He has also brought with him on this trip a native convert and pupil, who addressed each of the three audiences. The young man speaks in an agreeable voice and with considerable fluency. His manner of delivery was unexpectedly pleasing.

MORNING—VICTORIA HALL.
Dr. Mackay addressed the congregation of the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church at Victoria Hall in the morning. His observations mainly related to early experiences, but he prefaced the narrative with a description of his field of endeavor. Mr. Mackay's work has been confined to the northern half of the island, which is 150 miles in length by about 70 miles in width, and is situated off the southeastern coast of China. The Formosan aborigines are of Malay origin, but the island is at present mostly inhabited by Mongolians. The latter drove the primal owners back into the hills, where they are now to be found in a complete state of savagery. They have degenerated into a hunting race (just as American Indians were formerly scalp-hunters) and wage perpetual war against their Chinese conquerors.

Dr. Mackay left San Francisco for the first time on Oct. 1, 1871. Before the commencement of the following year he had become settled at his inaugural station in the northwestern portion of Formosa. Four months saw him conducting a theological discussion with twenty distinguished native scholars, gathered from all parts of the island. One of these ultimately became his first convert, and has for over a decade been the minister at an inland station, which has been four times destroyed and rebuilt to accommodate the growing needs of the congregation.

AFTERNOON—ST. JAMES'.
A large union meeting of the Sabbath schools of St. Andrew's, First Presbyterian and St. James' Churches was held in the latter's edifice in the afternoon. Dr. Mackay's address was made to meet the requirements of his youthful auditors, and he succeeded admirably in holding their attention.

EVENING—ST. ANDREW'S.
To a crowded audience in St. Andrew's Church at night Mr. Mackay told the story of the French troubles in China and their effect on the mission in Formosa, across the channel from the main land. "The people in Formosa," said he, "began, like the surface of the ocean, to wave to and fro. Men ran north and south getting the people excited, telling all kinds of falsehoods, but at last word came that the French were actually going to bombard us, and we had not long to wait. Four French vessels steamed into port on the northeast side, and demanded that the Chinese should supply them with coal, and the result was that they retired and came back again with four more men-of-war and dropped anchor. I was in a little mission house at the time, and saw the French men-of-war enter the harbor. The Chinese had one large fort with a big gun in the center. As for the other two forts they were not worth mentioning. The French ran out their guns, and the Chinese did the same. The French hoisted their flag, and the Chinese did the same. That went on for several days, and at last word was given that on the morrow at 9 o'clock the bombardment will begin. The black flag was hoisted from the flag ship, and the Chinese replied by hoisting their flag. In a few moments the first shot was fired. In fifteen minutes the Chinese fort was silenced by shot and shell. Branches were cut, the fort silenced, and those within the fort killed or driven away. We got word that our headquarters were to be bombarded. We had not long to wait. The French war vessels moved along to where we have our colleges and the girls' school. They could not enter the river because of the torpedoes placed in the month, but they lay afar out, and the bombardment began. I was told to leave the mission house and go down the river and get on board a man-of-war for safety. I refused. I could not take my students with me, and I decided, right or wrong, to remain on the spot ready to live or die. When the firing began we put our three children down in the cellar, but they might not see the shot flying over us. They could hear, however, if they could not see. I passed to and fro on the veranda watching the shells break, and there are pieces which will be placed in the museum of Knox College, Toronto, in a few weeks. The shells burst and flew in all directions, and our mission work, as far as I am concerned, was nearly ended. A shot struck the college and took part of it away. A shell alighted in front of our house and broke a rock in two, and pieces flew into mid air. The girls' school was struck. Ten shells, two feet in length were picked up around our house after the bombardment. These had not exploded, and it was a very serious matter to get them removed. We had to be very careful in carrying them down to the river and placing them into the water. More Chinese lost their lives at that time trying to take the powder out of the shells than were actually killed during the engagement. The first shot that was fired caused the Chinese to pull down seven churches, and many others were partially destroyed and converts persecuted. Thus by this bombardment of lives, quarters we nearly lost our for the mainland of China and entering Hong Kong. On returning on board an English steamer our captain ran between two French men-of-war, who were standing over the island, and our steamer moved as if to pass through. All at once a shot whizzed in front of our bows, and in another moment the French ran out their guns, hoisting the flag at the mainmast, and got their boats ready to attack. The next shot would have struck the bottom, for we were nearly capsized. But

caused the steamer to move slowly and a little backwards, and that saved our lives. The captain was summoned on board the man-of-war and we were ordered to put to sea, and to sea we went in our little craft. We crossed the channel five times before we were able to enter the port of Tam-Sui again. But we did enter, and thus at the hands of the French we nearly lost our lives a second time."

Mr. Mackay exhibited a document and a flag of truce. The first stated that he was not a spy, and had been used by him when passing through disputed territory. The flag of truce saved the life of himself and party when even the Union Jack would not have saved him. They were obliged to travel blindfolded under armed escort and spend the night on board a French man-of-war so as not to see the fortifications. To an attentive audience the missionary described his trials, setbacks, insults, and afterwards his triumphs on the very spot where he had had his chapel torn down over his head three times.

A native student dressed in oriental costume addressed the audience in the native tongue at the close and Mr. Mackay interpreted.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

BRANT.
The 55th annual meeting of the Brantford Bible Society took place on Thursday night. The total number of books distributed since its incorporation has reached 33,821. The free contributions have been \$23,109. The funeral of the late John Hope at Brantford on Friday afternoon was one of the largest that has ever taken place in that section. The chief mourners were Messrs. R. Henry and J. Stratford, and the pallbearers Messrs. A. Robertson, Dr. Kelly, H. M. K. Wilson, Q.C., J. Hale, Hon. Thomas Bullantyne, W. Hunt, A. J. Wilkes and J. S. Hamilton.

ESSEX.
A horse driven by a boy named Dolan shied at an electric car on Sandwick street, Windsor, on Saturday and jumped in front of the car. The rig was smashed, and only the prompt work of the motorman saved the boy's life.

Lieut. P. B. Casgrain, of the Royal Engineers, stationed at Chatham, England, has been notified by the Imperial Government that he has passed the examination in the Russian language and is the recipient of the 550 prize. Lieut. Casgrain is a nephew of Senator Casgrain, of Windsor.

The town of Kingsville has decided to have a waterworks system. Engineer Newman, of Windsor, has been employed. The estimated cost is \$20,000.

The Farmers' Institute of North Essex met on Saturday in Lahr's Hall, Windsor, and was fairly well attended. Addresses were delivered by W. F. Fraser, Bradford; H. L. Hutt, B.S.A., Guelph; Prof. Harcourt, O. A. C., Guelph; Wm. McGregor, M.P., and others. The following officers were elected: President, John Hadden, Sandwick West; vice-president, George Norris, Stony Point; secretary-treasurer, N. J. Clinton, Windsor; vice-presidents in township: Sandwick West, J. B. Cousineau, Samuel Vallans, N. Dor; Sandwick South, Alex. O'Neil, Wm. Ure, W. Grieve; Sandwick East, F. Morand, A. Montreuil; Maidstone, W. H. Potter, Geo. Patello; Rochester, John Coda, F. E. Strong; Tilbury, D. McMillan; E. L. Holliday, R. Doolan; Belle River, F. B. Battellier; Windsor, William McGorman Findlay, A. McNeil. A resolution was passed protesting against the treaty with France in regard to the free importation of wine.

ELGIN.
Bold burglars ransacked the house of W. Saywell, a mile northwest of St. Thomas on Saturday morning, while Mrs. Saywell was at a neighbor's a few rods away. The doors being locked, entrance was made through the cellar. Everything was turned topsy-turvy and \$8 in cash taken.

J. C. Danee has purchased the Ballah farm, Ayrmer, consisting of 100 acres of land and good buildings, paying therefor \$4,700.

LAMBTON.
The withdrawal of Mr. Albert Duncan from the reevehip of Sarnia township, owing to his removal to Petrolia, where he is engaged in oil production, is a serious loss to the township.

Lambton's majority for prohibition will be about 3,500.

Two Sarnia lads, Melville Kelley and Herbert Vassand, were recently committed for trial at a High Court charged with burglarizing several houses. Kelley was in the reformatory for a similar offense two years ago, and was soon released because of a largely signed petition in his behalf.

The West Lambton Farmers' Institute met at Petrolia at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday. Mr. John McDonald, president, occupied the chair and gave a most address. He was followed by Mr. C. A. Zavitz on the subject of fodder and crops, followed by a discussion on silos. At the afternoon session the meeting was addressed by L. Patton on pig raising, and by the cheese factory according to the percentage of fat also on cheese factory management and the dairy cow. Mr. Zavitz spoke on experimental work on the Model Farm at Guelph; Mr. Beadle, on apple culture and how to destroy the codling moth. The evening meeting was dispensed with, the attendance being small on account of bad roads.

MIDDLESEX.
The Patrons of Industry at Pond Mills received 100 sacks of salt from Kincardine on Thursday, and it was of first-class quality. Some sportsmen on New Year's Day at Pond Mills shot one of A. Baillie's turkeys, and would have taken the turkey along only Mr. Baillie was near by, and it was well for them that he did not overtake them.

The young people about Stratford seem to be commencing the new year well. The last number of the Age has a record of eleven marriages.

Stratford gave a prohibition majority of 268 at the plebiscite. Seventy women voted, and of these but three were anti.

At the last regular meeting of Court Lambton, 149, J. O. F., at Lambeth, the following officers were elected for the coming year: C. R. David Bourne, V. C. R., Wesley Dingman; R. S. A. M. Hunt; P. S. Alex. Bannatyne; Chas. Wm. Finch; S. W. Wm. Sadler; J. W. Munro Scott; S. B. John Doyle; J. R. C. Foreman; court deputy, J. Foreman; delegate to High Court, A. Bannatyne.

OXFORD.
Rev. John Pickering, of Milton, has been invited to the Central Methodist Church, Woodstock, for next year, and has accepted subject to the usual conditions.

FERTHE.
It is said to be not unlikely that Reeve Hacking, of Listowel, will get the warden'ship this year. He made a good run for it last year, but was beaten.

WATERLOO.
The friends of George Huck, chief of the Bertha fire brigade, will regret to hear of his death on Wednesday, at the age of 46 years. The cause of his death was spinal disease after seven months' illness.

Purely Vegetable.
First the bud, then the blossom, then the perfect fruit. These are the several stages of some of the most important ingredients composing the painless and sure cure—Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor. The juices of plants greatly concentrated and purified, gums and balsams in harmonious union, all combined give the grand results. Putnam's Extractor makes no sore spot, does not lay a man up for a week, but goes on quietly doing its work until a perfect cure results. Beware of acid substitutes.

No Worm Medicine acts so nicely as PUTNAM'S WORM POWDERS; no physic reaches so far.

DON'T MISS IT!

This will be our last month in business. Our store is for rent, and during this month we must sell the balance of our stock regardless of price. We have yet in stock about 200 of those FINE FRIEZE ULSTERS for Men and Boys, and we are offering them at prices AWAY BELOW COST.

Our business will be closed on Feb. 1, so this will be the public's last opportunity of getting first-class goods at third-class prices.

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Purify the Blood, correct all Disorders of the LIVER, STOMACH, KIDNEYS, and BOWELS.

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Manufactured only at 78, NEW OXFORD STREET (Gate 53, CAVENDISH STREET), LONDON, and sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World. 25 purchasers should look to the Label on the Box, and note. If the address is not 78, Oxford Street, London, they are spurious.

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