

that two men full of faith and the Holy Ghost have been sent to Pyeng Yang—a *living* church cannot be deficient in living men for such a purpose—a dead church may—I wish I had a pen of fire to urge this plea. May He whose spirit is so manifestly stirring those dry bones in Korea stir the heart of your Board and Church, for now seems indeed the day of salvation.

KOREA—ITS OPPORTUNITIES.

(*Testimony of Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop, copied from Independent, Dec. 24th 1896.*)

There is no more intelligent writer on Mission Fields than Mrs. Bishop. For forty years she has been a traveller. The out-of-the-way places have in particular received her attentions for the last twenty years of her life. She has written about the Pacific Islands, Japan, Persia and more lately of Korea. Her earlier books do not shew much interest in missions, but the later ones show that she has become a most enthusiastic *convert*, and her testimony of the value and character of mission work is most interesting. We have received, through the courtesy of Dr. Ellinwood, of Presbyterian Board of Missions, the following letter, which we are glad to print and urge upon the attention of our readers, not merely for its description but for its appeal. It is dated Seoul, Korea, Nov. 2nd., and is addressed to Dr. Ellinwood, personally.

"I thank you very much for your kind letter. In it you did not mention to what extent you would be able to grant the prayer of the earnest petition in Pyeng Yang for further instructors to be sent. I *had hoped* that the Church on which you depend for your money and men would have been so deeply stirred by the news of an open door to Western Korea, that it would have sent not

only *two* men but *four*. Therefore it was a great disappointment to me on going on board the Geukar Maru that Mr. Whittemor was the sole result of the earnest prayers of Pyeng Yang one year ago.

I came to Korea a fortnight earlier than I had intended in order to attend the Presbytery's annual meeting, and I am very thankful that I did so; for I have not elsewhere seen such an earnest, cheerful, whole-hearted body of men and women, with so completely one aim in view, and so much harmony as to the way in carrying it out. The difference of opinion on a few points which did emerge only accentuated the substantial agreement.

The account of work, especially that in the Pyeng Yang district was absorbingly interesting. The harvest so far has fulfilled the promise of which I wrote to you on the spot nearly a year ago. The hearts of all present burned within them as we heard those reports, and the feeling of gratitude found fitting expression in the hearty singing of the Doxology, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

But I confess I feel very sad about the prospects of Korean work, unless the Church awakes to a sense of what the situation really is. I have no special interest in Korea, and in these years of travel now drawing to a close I have visited over 100 mission stations, and am not conscious of having felt a greater interest in the work at one than another. To your Board the needs of all the stations under your care are equally present and claimant.

But I am bound to say that the needs of Korea, or rather the openings in Korea have come to occupy a very outstanding place in my thoughts, and I should not be justified in withholding my view of them from your Board.

The Pyeng Yang work which I