

and train, the other by cart only. We chose the latter, partly because it was more direct, and partly because we wanted a real old-time experience. We got it.

We started at six o'clock on a cool misty morning in October. Our cart was similar to a lumber-waggon, but smaller, and had but two wheels. To it was fastened a bamboo frame on which were stretched straw mats to provide shelter. On the floor was a straw mattress, and for a back-rest our boxes and bedding were piled.

In a land of slow animals our three mules were the slowest. Vain were our efforts to hurry the driver, who sat comfortably drawling d-r-r (get up). By the time we reached the first city on our route we decided a change of animals must be made, but after a long search the men returned without success. In the meantime my native nurse and I had been seeking some one who would permit us to use her stove to heat my little daughter's food. Seeing a woman standing at an open gateway we approached, but were indignantly denied an entrance. My plain suit and small hat convinced her that I was a man, and only my nurse's emphatic assertions to the contrary gained us an entrance. By this time our cart was surrounded by a dense crowd, and with no relief in fresh animals we started again on our long journey.

At noon another halt was made for luncheon, and I saw the inside of a Chinese inn for the first time. A room opening off a little muddy lane-like court-yard was given to us, but after peering into the dark interior, where two men sat smoking, we changed our plan and returned to the cart. While I prepared my baby's food and our luncheon, a couple of hundred eyes watched the operation with amazement. Those who could not peep under the mat cover got the best view they could from the front and rear of the cart. We grown-ups are a curiosity, but a foreign baby is a marvel. The first question usually is, "Is it a scholar (a boy) or a guest (a girl)?" Vainly we urged our driver and mules throughout the afternoon. We had planned to spend the night with a native Christian family, but had still many miles to go, when toward evening we reached a river. A ferry was waiting, and after the frightened mules had been pushed and prodded and pulled, we were all dumped into the little flat boat. The usual crowd had gathered by the time we reached the opposite bank.

We despaired of reaching Hsin Tsun that night, but decided to push on as far as possible, when about nine o'clock deep rumbling thunder was heard and sharp lightning flashed across the northern sky. We were all very tired, and rather than face a storm in the open country, we decided to spend the night in the village we were then entering. The lights in the houses were all out; the streets were deserted, and the only sounds to break the stillness was the occasional bark of some watch-dog and the nearing peals of thunder. My husband and a servant went off to try to waken some one, but only succeeded in finding a man who would take in the men, but not the women of our party. At last another man offered us the choice of a tiny room or an open shed. I chose the shed. The servants were provided for on piles of straw, and our little family settled down on the cart to sleep, while all night the mules around us munched their hay and jingled their harness bells.

At dawn the curious household gathered about to gaze at the "foreign devils," but finding us friendly and harmless they became friendly, too, and invited us to come back. About three o'clock we arrived at Liu Yuan, having accomplished our seventy miles. Here we found the streets packed with people, as it was market-day. Canvas coverings were stretched across the street and had to be removed before our cart could pass. In the midst of the confusion Dr. Goforth appeared to welcome us. Inside the court-yard we found a crowd of swine and here, day by day, they came and went. Sometimes in the midst of the preaching a voice from the gate would call, "Come, the food is ready," and the bidden one would move off. Once a cruel-faced old woman came in and flung out of the yard a young girl who had been eagerly listening; but as they sat about one listening, some with mere curiosity, others with a deeper interest, one forgot the dust and discomfort