

SOME HONAN ITEMS.

A neighbor to-day attempted suicide by drinking lamp oil.

Daily numbers of interested listeners come to the chapel at Chu Wang.

Mr. Grant is keeping Chu Wang in order, and is getting into the good graces of the nobility there.

Our school is now full to overflowing, but the school treasury does not look much like overflowing yet.

Watermelons of good quality are on the market. Peaches are abundant and good this year; five of them weighing a pound. Sweet apples are also in season.

Wednesday we received a visit from a visiting official living in the city and his wife. Their home is in Hunan. They were very friendly and willing to listen to the Gospel.

Mr. Mitchell of Hsin Chen has been touring to the South East, visiting inquirers and Christians. He has started on a short visit to a mission station of the A. P. M., about 400 li (130 miles) N.E. from this.

"Medical work is rapidly increasing at Hsin Chen station." One morning this week Dr. Malcolm operated on five cataracts in one hour and five minutes, and the Doctor lately has the pleasure of operating on one of the mission's worst enemies there.

How careless and ignorant the Chinese are about disease. The Medical Missionary at Hsin Chen reports that on his way home from the Mission hospital not long since, he "passed through a crowd of children, for the most part naked, six of whom had small pox in as many various stages."

John looks upon Hymen from a business standpoint. One of our missionaries writes recently of a marriage in the mission chapel, Hsin Chen, Honan, on June 25th, by Rev. J. A. Slimmon, of Mr. Ma (gate-keeper) to Mrs. Ho. "The bride is thirty-five years of age, tall, good looking, with very small feet, and yet the groom seems to think the money he paid for her is too much."

We are glad to learn that Dr. MacClure has been able to furnish the purchase of land for hospital buildings. The Dr. has been greatly hindered in his work by inadequate and wretched accommodations for his patients. We are glad to see by Dr. Menzie's recent letter in the Record that the Home friends have now a fair account of Dr. MacClure's medical work.

A young man who has been for a considerable length of time under treatment in the Hospital at Hsin Chen, Honan, attempted, during a fit of melancholy, to take away his life by opium poisoning. "The fact was soon discovered," writes a missionary, "and emetics were promptly administered and soon afterwards the would-be suicide concluded that the hospital is not the place in which to commit suicide."

On Saturday morning, at 5 a.m., we were called into the city to attend the wife of an official who had attempted suicide by taking a large amount of opium about 10 hours before. Native doctors had exhausted the Chinese Pharmacopoeia of nauseating drugs in vain attempts to induce vomiting. As she was well under the influence of the drug vigorous treatment was at once employed, and after some hours she was out of danger.

The *Hsin Pao*, the weekly newspaper of the Honan mission, written in manuscript and copied by the manifold process, does not always yield its treasures to the passing glance, but the following apology from its gifted editor will surely compensate for indistinct enirography.

The *Hsin Pao* has a place to fill.

All its subscribers need it.

Their pleasure would be greater still,

If they could only read it.

A phase of life in Honan is seen from the following item:—"This week has its share of money quarrels. Some time ago, a man named Jen A "borrowed" money from one King. Lately King borrowed from Jen's son. A few days ago, the latter wanted his money, and did not fall in with King's reasoning, that it should go against his father's debts, neither did he even after the thrashing King gave him; but got a number of men to meet King. The result was that some received knife wounds.

"Monday being the Queen's birthday, we celebrated it by giving the school boys a feast or 'treat.' In the evening Mr. Grant, of Chu Wang, who was with us, kindly took charge of the magic lantern, and about a hundred or more Chinese enjoyed the scenes as well as the fireworks which followed. It was a pleasant day for all, especially the children, native and foreign. The heat has been making itself felt for a few days. The highest was 102° in the shade. A cool change has come for which we are very glad.

We part with regret from Rev. K. McLennan, who is obliged to leave the Mission on account of his wife's ill-health. We look forward with hope to seeing Mr. Mackenzie back among us soon again. Lights and shadows, but the Lord is ever with us.