

in Europe in a way that we have not done hitherto. We shall not be able to look down upon China—to tread upon it and to despise it—as we have done in the past, for the Chinese are becoming a very influential people. And how important it is that the Christian Church should rise to its mission, and seek now, while there is opportunity, to influence them at home for God and for Christ, so that their influence may be made a hopeful and not an evil influence wherever they go!

Dr. Maxwell of the English Presbyterian Church, Formosa, spoke of the opportunities now given to missionaries to proclaim the Gospel.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVANGELISTIC WORK.

In the year 1847 a large number of missionaries proceeded from this and other countries to China—perhaps more in that year than in most others. After the conclusion of the Treaty of Hong-kong in 1842, and the subsequent proclamation of religious freedom to the Roman Catholic and Protestant converts of China, the Churches in this country had got the impression that all China was then opened to the Gospel. This was undoubtedly a mistake, for the imperial edicts—the very edicts which followed the Treaty—distinctly debarred a foreign missionary from entering into the interior and preaching the Gospel there. However it was a happy mistake. It filled with missionaries those places which were already opened, and it showed what was quite as important—it showed that the Church of Christ was eager, in a measure at least, to take fuller possession of the land. And just as in the case of Morrison and his colleagues, after waiting for thirty-five years, the Lord crowned their faith and their prayers with His blessing in the opening up of those five ports which were opened in 1842; so the further labours of the Church of Christ in a still wider field in China were crowned with the divine blessing in the Treaty of Tien-tsin in 1860, which practically opened all China to the Gospel.

From the Pres. Record.

DEAR BRETHREN.—The crying Need of this island at present is another Missionary. *I think that with all my heart* for the success that attended our labors these six years on this dark Island, and considering the debased and savage state of the people, and the comparative insignificance of the human agency at work during that time, the success has not been small, nor unimportant. But while we know that a very great improvement has taken place, and visitors notice the change, still the work, to a large extent, has been preparatory in its nature and necessarily superficial.

And how can it be anything but preparatory and superficial when for the last six and a half years the whole burden of the work has come upon the shoulders of one feeble missionary! The island is about 95 miles in circumference and its inhabitants are very much scattered. Stretches of bare country and miles of coral coast over which we must pass have no population at all, but still take time and waste strength. We have always a fine boat, 'tis true, and there is perhaps no island of equal size in the New Hebrides which is more easily worked with a boat than Eromanga, as there are so many rivers, or large streams of water where we can run in and anchor for the night or in stress of weather, but then, very many districts must be visited overland and to overtake all of these is no small labour. The visits must be frequent or the work will suffer. A thousand petty dispute have to be quieted,—the sick and dying to look after, books to prepare and distribute, chief's childish whims to be smoothed down, and every man who goes out as a teacher instructed by the one missionary.

I have had also to build and keep up two mission stations, (at Dillon's Bay) owing to hurricanes, floods and tidal waves, and natural decay, (which is ex-