

have of the strength of Great Britain. A few weeks ago a military official of high rank moved into the compound opposite ours. He is a sample of the majority of them and is so ignorant that he cannot recognize a character and it is said that he drinks about six pounds of wine every day. One day he called at our compound when some of the brethren were having a committee meeting in Mr. Smith's study. He took a fancy to Mr. McKenzie's soft felt hat which fitted his head and suited his taste so well that he went off wearing it, to the great amusement of all the people on the street. It was an odd-looking headgear to crown his gorgeous costume of silk and fur. We thought he would send it back at once, but he found it so comfortable that he did not do so until he had returned from a long trip in a cart. When the hat was returned the man who brought it said that the "great gentleman" had no more use for it at present, but that he would like if Mr. Smith would kindly send him the pewter teapot which he had admired so much on his visit. Mr. Smith did not comply with his request, but I don't want him to visit us again for fear he may take the said teapot, and leave me without one. When those who hold positions in high places are so stupid and act so strangely what must the condition of the poor women be! Everytime my husband returns from his trips into Honan he has so many sad stories to tell of the poor women and little girls who have come to him for treatment, that our heart yearns to help them. But in order to help them we must be able to talk to them in their own language, and it is so different from what we learn in the books. Some of the women can pick up characters very readily, but others are very slow and stupid and learn with difficulty. My Amah in four months has not managed to master two dozen characters. When they are able to read they are scarcely able to understand a single idea. This is the soil we have to work upon, but those who have been longest in the country say that time and patient effort under the blessing of God will bring women such as these to a knowledge of the truth. This being the case we take encouragement and press on. We know from the experience of the past, as well as from God's Word, that the people will fight against us. But we will endeavor to "Gird up our loins and speak unto them all that God has commanded us," assured that they shall not prevail against us, seeing that the Lord Jehovah is with us to deliver us.