

peror long since dead. The streets were decorated with continuous strings of flags and paper lanterns. Street cars, entirely covered with artificial flowers, occasionally passed by. Then the annual chrysanthemum show was on. One could scarcely imagine such variety of form and color, and such size and perfection. On each plant one flower only had been allowed to develop. Some blossoms with their long soft curly petals reminded one of most beautiful ostrich plumes.

Yes, we had heard of the smiling, bowing, polite Japanese, but, speaking for myself, we had not fully realized it. It occurred to me as unfortunate that we Canadians do not take a little more time just to be courteous. If one were to mistake civilization for Christianization Japan might be thought to require little more mission aid, but we had been warned not to make that mistake.

Our next stop was Manila. Its foliage made us realize we were truly back in the East. Within the new modern American city stands the old walled Spanish town with its narrow streets and strange dark old cathedrals. In Manila we saw wonderful embroidery and very fine panama and hemp hats. We were not at all sorry to get away from the hot moist atmosphere which proved especially uncomfortable at the docks.

In a couple of days we were back in a cooler clime and had reached Hong Kong. Here we made our adieux to the Asia. We soon discovered that we were due to sail, after four days, by the "Dilwara." The time spent in this part was most enjoyable. We had a couple of trips up and down the wonderful Incline Railway. Here we had our first experience in riding in a Sedan chair, and found it not at all unpleasant. Silk and many Oriental novelties seemed so cheap comparatively, that holding our purse strings tight was a great problem.

The dull, rainy day on which we left Hong Kong was prophetic of the kind of journey we were to experience from there on. Second-class on an old "British India" tub is anything but desirable.

There was some kind of steering gear at our end of the boat that kept up such a rumbling noise day and night, that one had to fairly shout in order to be heard. The dining-salon, flanked on either side as it was by bath-rooms and cabins was not a place to tempt the appetite. Day by day the number at meals grew less. Miss Munro and I won the distinction of being the only two ladies who did not miss answering the gong.

More and more like India seemed Singapore. The delight when we came across a money-changer with whom we could converse in the beloved Telugu! Some of us had a fine motor-ride through rubber and coconut plantations and through the beautiful Botanical Gardens. The purchase of some delicious pine-apples helped us out on the rest of our journey, when intense heat, unpleasant odors, rough seas and close quarters, made travel—not a dream—but a nightmare. "We have solid comfort in our beds!" remarked one gentleman. Those mattresses for solidity! And the pillows—I smell them yet.

All troubles passed, we reached Colombo November 29th, having, in point of time, made quite a record journey. Floods in South India had washed out the railway in three places, so we were delayed a week before proceeding to our stations.

It is nothing short of wonderful to be back again. The work has progressed splendidly. I feel most unequal to it. I never needed your prayers more. "Who will come over and help us?"

S. Hinman.

The ability of God is beyond our prayers, beyond our largest prayers! I have been thinking of some of the petitions that have entered into my supplications innumerable times. What have I asked for? I have asked for a cupful, and the ocean remains! I have asked for a sun-beam, and the sun abides! My best asking falls immeasurably short of my Father's giving; it is beyond all that we can ask.—J. H. Jowett.

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