

Missionary Intelligence.

CHINA—LETTER FROM REV. G. L. MACKAY.

FORMOSA, TAMSUI, November 18, 1874.

REV. W. McLAREN.

MY DEAR BRO.—Last Sabbath we commemorated the dying love of Jesus at Chiw-nih. All my helpers and converts from the five stations amongst the Chinese were present. Many arrived on Saturday, and sat up till near midnight singing hymns. Sabbath morning, about 10 a.m., the Chapel was crowded, and many who could not get standing room inside remained at the door. I was delighted to see the dear little boys, several of whom walked ten miles with their fathers. I stated before that I have three young men of the literary class employed teaching these lads. Throughout the week they read their own classics, and write their own characters. Morning and evening they study the Bible, and on Sabbath attend worship. We should do all in our power to have *intelligent Christians*, and leave the result with our Blessed Redeemer. I spent a long time examining the enquirers, and found that the plan I adopted when entering this field, and my poor labors since, have not been in vain. From the very first, I have given every moment possible to the instruction of my helpers. In connection with the everlasting gospel, I went through Boston's "Four-Fold State" with them, because I think it contains the *sound doctrines* of the Bible. I have also been enabled to teach them the elements of Geography, and Astronomy. After one travels with me two or three months, then I take another, and send that one to one of the Chapels to instruct the people. Each writes down what he hears and forwards to the rest. All of them can read the character well, so with the books I bought for them they are enabled daily to increase in wisdom and knowledge. With God's blessing the result has been that all the questions I asked the enquirers were answered in a clear, decided manner. About the heart of course I don't know, we can only judge by the fruits, and leave all to our Blessed Master. We cannot convert one soul; our work is to proclaim the glad tidings, and instruct the ignorant; and the heathen here are deplorably in need of such instruction.

Perhaps some dear Christian at home will say, "no book save the Bible should be used in a heathen land;" I reply whatever is good for a Christian, or Church community in Canada, is good for the same in Formosa.

On this occasion I admitted ten on profession of faith, and noticed particular one old man who seemed to take great care of his Bible, which was enclosed in a corner made of leaves of the areca palm. He is an old man, 68 years of age, and heard the gospel first at Tamsui, soon after I began to preach. Afterwards he attended at Go-ko-khi, because nearer, and now as Chiw-nih is not very far from his home, he has been a regular hearer since the Chapel was opened. On account of the Japanese expedition, not a few Chinese officials here wished to make themselves prominent by opposing the Lord's work. Accordingly a petty officer told this old man if he wanted to save his life, to "cease going to the Barbarian's Chapel," because they intended to level every Chapel to