

CONDITIONS IN CHINA.

The awakening of the great Empire of the East and consequent unrest, manifesting itself in anti-foreign rioting and assaults on missionaries and mission property naturally occasion solicitude among the friends of missions. There are many causes for these manifestations of hostility. The contemptuous treatment of the Chinese by the Western nations, the exclusion laws and their undiscriminating enforcement by our nation, the apparent disposition to dismember the empire on the part of European nations have contributed to arouse antagonism to all foreigners. As respects missions and missionaries, there is another and special ground of dissatisfaction, particularly when it becomes the occasion of rapacious demands for territorial concessions. The source of this was with Roman Catholic rather than Protestant missionaries. A review of this impolitic measure will be of interest and a partial explanation of the latest uprising against the missions at Nan-Chang.

Some years ago the Chinese government requested the missionaries of Christian churches to sit as judges in the local courts, corresponding to our Justices' courts, with the Chinese local judge. Seemingly the desire of the Chinese government was to increase the intelligence and character of the Chinese judges by association with the missionaries. The proposition was respectfully declined by all of the Protestant missions. This was the proper reply.

The Roman Catholic missions, however, acceded to the proposition of the Chinese government and appointed priests for the positions named. There were two Roman Catholic priests in Kiaochow, not far south of Shanghai, and they accepted the invitation of the Chinese authorities. These two German priests received into what would be generally called the Church of the Roman Catholic Mission a considerable number of disreputable characters. When these dissolute and criminal persons were arrested, as they deserved, the two Roman priests acting as judges, and disregarding the opinion and expostulations of the Chinese judge, decided these criminals to be not guilty, and claiming them as members of their churches, gave them freedom from arrest and punishment.

The evil effects increased continually until the Chinese community became so indignant that they seized and killed the German priests. At once the government of Germany demanded the punishment of the leaders of the mob which had killed the priests, and compensation for what was called a crime. The Chinese government refused to yield to the demand, and Germany improved the opportunity to seize territory. Some resistance was made by the troops of the Chinese government, but they were easily overcome and subdued, Germany demanded and obtained Kiaochow and two hundred square miles of adjacent territory, and holds it to this day.

At the time of the Boxer outbreak, when the ministers of foreign powers were assaulted in Peking, Great Britain seized Weihaiwei, commanding the entrance to the Bay of Pe-chih, built up an earthwork and crowned it with cannon. Now the Bay of Pe-chih includes Tientsin, the port of Peking, the capital of China, where the royal palaces are. China is paying off the debt imposed by the powers as remuneration for the destruction of life and property during the Boxer outbreak, but Great Britain does not relinquish Weihaiwei. Great Britain has no sort of right to be there. The presence of the military force, which can be increased by troops from Hong Kong and India within a few days, irritates the Chinamen, as it would any other self-respecting people, and a patriotic outbreak may be excited at any time.

These facts go far to explain the hostile sentiment toward foreigners so prevalent in many portions of the empire. The government may not share or encourage this feeling and may try to restrain its mani-

festation, but it permeates the masses, and the disorderly element find in it an opportunity for looting and murder.

The very reforms inaugurated by the government, the introduction of Western ideas and civilization in the midst of institutions and customs hoary with age and hallowed by centuries of changeless observance, have created a ferment which must be expected to produce local, if not general, outbreaks of violence. The new order will only be established by costly sacrifices, and we of the West must expect to bear some of the violence so radical a change will provoke.

There is no doubt that much of the anti-foreign sentiment has been induced by the humiliating treatment accorded to this oldest and most civilized nation of the East. An appeal to force is not likely now to bring about, as at other times, better relations. Awakened China will not as easily submit to military demonstrations as before it went to school to Japan.

The real solution of the problem presented by existing conditions will be found alone in a mutual better understanding of one another. Only when we of the West come to regard the East with respectful appreciation and apply in our intercourse with the Chinese the golden rule, treating them as we would be treated, can we hope for permanently improved conditions.

IF! IF!

If every boy and every girl,
Arising with the sun,
Should plan this day to do alone
The good deeds to be done;
Should scatter smiles and kindly words,
Strong, helpful hands should lend;
And to each other's wants and cries
Attentive ears should lend;
If every man, and women, too,
Should join these workers small—
Oh, what a flood of happiness
Upon our earth would fall!
How many homes would sunny be,
Which no were filled with care
And joyous, smiling faces too,
Would greet us everywhere.
I do believe the very sun
Would shine more clear and bright,
And every little twinkling star
Would shed a softer light.
But we, instead, oft watch to see
If other folks are true;
And thus neglect so much that God
Intends for us to do.—Exchange.

INNOVATION ON MUSKOKA LAKES.

Those who patronize the Muskoka Lakes in the "Highlands of Ontario" during the summer season will be glad to know that the Muskoka Navigation Company have added to their fleet a fine new steel twin-screw steamer, 152 feet long, with a carrying capacity of 800 people. The new boat is called the "Sagamo." Her design is known as the day boat observation type, her deck space and cabins being so constructed as to afford passengers an opportunity of seeing the scenery from all sides.

Steamer will be fitted out in the most modern style, having a dining-room on main deck, which will accommodate ninety people.

Steamer is electrically lighted, steered by steam, and will have a speed of sixteen miles per hour.

This new boat will run in connection with the Grand Trunk Railway System's "Midnight Special" from Buffalo, which arrives Muskoka wharf early in the morning, the boat leaving there at 7 a. m. every day for Port Cockburn via Beaumaris, Port Carling, Windermere, Royal Muskoka, Morinus, Minett, Port Sandfield and the principal points on Lake Joseph, returning to Muskoka Wharf about 7:45 p. m. to connect with the south-bound train.

It is expected that the steamer will be put into commission about June 15th and the Muskoka "Midnight Special" of the Grand Trunk will go into service on June 29th.

STURDY BABIES.

In every home where Baby's Own Tablets are used you will find rosy, sturdy, good-natured babies because these Tablets cleanse the stomach and bowels, aid digestion and thus bring perfect health. Ask any mother who has used the Tablets and she will tell you there is no other medicine so good. Mrs. James Hall, Beach Hill, N.S., says: "My baby was peevish with indigestion, was cross and peevish and rapidly losing flesh. I got Baby's Own Tablets and less than a box cured him and he has ever since enjoyed good health and is growing splendidly." Mothers should remember that this medicine is absolutely safe and can be given to the weakest, tenderest baby, or to the sturdy well-grown boy or girl with equally good effect. Sold by all medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

THE APOSTLE DOWIE.

As the Rev. John Alexander Dowie and his late subjects in Zion City, Ill., have been making "a whole country's talk of themselves" lately, the following description of the appearance and surroundings of the man who gives himself forth as the apostle of the Lord Jesus, the Christ of the Christ in the Christian Apostolic Church of Zion, will prove interesting. A correspondent of the Echo, who visited Dr. Dowie in his home in Shiloh House, last fall, after describing the good order prevailing and the entire absence of serious crimes or abject poverty in this industrious community, where alcoholic beverages and tobacco are strictly prohibited, goes on to describe Shiloh House. "Dowie's house is a castle. Luxury meets the eye on every hand. His bathroom alone must have cost \$10.00. Clocks made in Switzerland sound the Westminster chimes; carpets from the looms of the Old World are streached upon his floors; statuary, pictures, bronze works of art, and priceless books in mahogany cases combine in giving an air of grandeur to his surroundings. Finally the ruler of Zion entered in a flowing silk costume of almost indescribable elegance. . . . On his head the apostle wore a spotless white silk turban, with two ribbons of purple velvet running over the top. His robe was in three parts, a sleeveless box coat, an overskirt of royal purple velvet, and an under robe of heavy white silk. The box coat was a most elaborate piece of work, composed of three-inch squares, each containing a different fantastic design in a raised embroidery. Purple predominated in this coat, and two inch panels of purple silk ran from the armpits to the bottom. His shirt sleeves were of crinkly white silk, while across his chest there was a great breastplate of purple bearing a glowing red cross." The man of the house he described as being "about 55 or 60 years old, with long white beard—the latter groomed to perfection. His forehead was high, his skin soft and white, his features regular. There was a slight hollowness in his cheeks, and suggestions of lines extending from the sides of his nose to the corners of his mouth. His forehead contained wrinkles. But his eye lacked neither lustre nor strength. In my opinion the almost supernatural power of the old man in ruling men is explained in his eyes. His gaze is strong, powerful, convincing."

The jarrow, a tree which grows in Australia, supplies practically the only wood known to the lumbermen which effectively resists the depredations of insects.

On the Congo, which in some parts is twenty-five miles across, small ships may pass without sighting one another. The Congo is considered the most wonderful waterway in the world.