



Devoted to the interests of the Mission Circles and Bands of the Woman's Missionary Society, Methodist Church, Canada.

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LIFE AND DEATH.

"What is Life father?"

"A battle, my child
Where the strongest lance may fail,
Where the wariest eye may be beguiled,
And the stoutest heart may quail;
Where the foes are gathered on every hand,
And rest not day nor night,
And the feeble little ones must stand
In the thickest of the fight."

"What is Death, father?"

"The rest, my child,
When the strife and toils are o'er,
And the angel of God, who, calm and mild,
Says we need fight no more;
Who driveth away the demon band,
Bids the din of the battle cease,
Takes the banner and spear from our falling hand,
And proclaims an eternal peace."

"Let me die, father. I tremble, I fear
To yield in that terrible strife."

"The crown must be won for Heaven, dear,
In the battle-field of life;
My child, though thy foes are strong and tried
He loveth the weak and small;
The angels of Heaven are on thy side,
And God is over all."

MRS. HEWANS.

"OUR WORK IN CHINA."

CHINA is a wonderful country. Her history dates back more than 4,000 years, 303 years after the flood, before the death of Noah. Their great wall was built to keep out foreigners 220 years before Christ was born, and that is the secret of her idolatry and want of Christian civilization at the

present day. She had a literature of her own before David wrote the Psalms. She invented the art of printing and the mariner's compass, and taught us to make porcelain, silk and gunpowder. We are told that the population of China is four hundred millions, and that thirty three thousand die every day! Many great nations have lived and flourished and died, while China lives on. Why, unless it is that she may be filled with the knowledge of Christ!

There are about 1,400 missionaries in the empire, but what are they among so many? Even one to every 50,000 people would require 8,000 missionaries, nearly 2,000 more than the church now sends in the whole world! In 1891 the first missionaries of our Methodist church of Canada went out to the Province of Ts-Chuen, western China; Dr. and Mrs. Hart, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell, Dr. and Mrs. Kilburn, Dr. and Mrs. Stevenson. We all know the story of the recent riots and how they barely escaped with their lives, losing most, if not all, their mission and personal property. Some of them have gone back, as we read in the Field Study to-day, to begin again.

When they saw the great need of the work there they sent back an appeal for twenty-five more missionaries by the year 1900, but they cannot be sent because there is not enough money! Whose money is it? Ours or the Lord's? He wants to save China, do we?

The condition of women in China is degraded, as in all countries where Christ is not known. The birth of little girls, so loved and prized in our own Christian land, is looked on as a calamity—if there are more than one or two in a family they are sold or drowned! What would you think if a man came round every year to ask at your home if there were