

THAT SHIPWRECK OFF FORMOSA.

AN INTERESTING SEQUEL TO IT.

HOW the shipwrecked crew of an American merchant ship was cared for by the natives of East Formosa, instead of being murdered as they would have been twenty-five years ago, was told in last RECORD.

A most interesting sequel to the story is in the following letter:—

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, U.S.A.

February 21, 1885.

Mr. Hamilton Cassels:

MY DEAR SIR,—One of my parishioners, Capt. William L. Gould, of this place, has lately returned from the Island of Formosa, with a very important testimony to the value of Foreign Missions.

His ship, the *Mary L. Stone*, from New York, bound for Hong Kong, was wrecked at a point on the northeast coast of that island, being driven on to a sandy shore in the night.

The following day the ship's company, twenty-four in number, rowed in their boats along the coast, and were taken through the surf to a little seaport by kind natives. Arriving there they were welcomed by Christians and sheltered in a comfortable church four or five days, until their messenger, one of the "Brethren" of the mission, delivered a letter from Capt. Gould "to any person who speaks English" forty miles away; and a Chinese war vessel came around to take the Americans to a place of safety.

The second day after their arrival on shore the native pastor came on his regular tour, healed the sick, distributed relief to the needy, baptized infants, administered the sacrament, and preached the Gospel. The Americans formed a high opinion of the sincerity and good principles of the Christian Islanders, and will never forget their kind, hospitable treatment.

The Chinese steward of the ship was interpreter for the party until they landed, when they found another of the same race, through whom they were able to converse some. But for the impressions of their Christians in life and worship they depended chiefly on their eyes.

Captain Gould went back to sell the remnants of ship cargo after some weeks, and paid the "teacher" and others liberally for their kind attentions, besides giving them articles of convenience. But our people has felt so much interest in the occurrence that we took a special collection for Foreign Missions, to be divided between our own society, "The American Board," and the society which support the mission of Dr. McKay. While at Tamsui, Captain Gould met a missionary who gave him some information about the matter, but not as definite as I wish.

Your address was given to me by the secretary

of our Congregational Society, and I write to ask for further facts as to the mission. Is it under the direction of the Presbyterian Church of Canada? Who is the treasurer of that society, or of the organization which maintain that work? Will you kindly give me something definite, perhaps some article in the missionary publication of the society. We have but a slight sum of money to send, but I want to know more about the work and to have my people also know.

CHARLES H. POPE,

Pastor Congregational Church.

An Incident "We have had another little experience with the Gi-lan magistrate," writes Rev. Mr. Gauld, our missionary. "There are on the East Coast two Chinese societies (of the secret kind I think) for both offensive and defensive purposes. The head man of the stronger society died recently, and the weaker took advantage of the other's headless state to pay off some old scores. As a result there were several broils and a number lost their lives. The district magistrate failed to arrest the murderers who had fled and therefore arrested more than twenty who were innocent, asking them why they did not endeavor to stop the bloody fights. Among those arrested were five Christians, Pepohoan.

On receipt of this information, Pastor Giam A-Hoa started for the Gi-lan district, to effect, if possible, the release of the Christians.

As his purpose was to interview the Gi-lan magistrate, a man whom he had never met, and who had aforetime been opposed to us and had tried all he could to hinder us, he went armed with a letter of introduction from the prefect of North Formosa.

Arriving one night at the magistrate's Yamen, he sent in his card and asked for an interview. The magistrate in answer asked him to remain till the morrow, which meant, the morrow's night; whereupon Giam sent him the prefect's letter. This had the desired effect; at once he was invited in, kindly received and asked to state his business. He gladly complied, and received the promise that next morning the men would be set at liberty. He was then invited to partake of tea and cake, and the magistrate requested that if we should in the future meet with any opposition from the citizens (he had himself been the chief opposer) to at once let him know, and he would be happy to do all he could to help.

Well, we are grateful, grateful to the Almighty Ruler over all, in whose good Providence this would-be enemy has been defeated by his own designs. Although the man has endeavored to hinder the Lord's work in the past, we are glad now to have his help if needed.

True to his promise he set at liberty the Christian prisoners above referred to by eight o'clock the following morning."