

driving off or exterminating the white people. Over night I was alone. My interpreter's time was up; and he felt that he should go home to his family who were afraid. The night was dark, and I was twenty miles from the nearest white settler. Looking up the valley, I saw a signal fire about ten miles away. I thought of taking my tent, and going up among the hills, and encamping for the night, lest a band should come to kill and plunder. I asked the guidance of Him who ruleth over all. This word was impressed upon my heart, 'The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them.' Then I felt with David, when he said, 'I laid me down and slept, for the Lord sustained me.' The morning dawned fair and bright, and all was well. The path of duty was clear. It seemed to me as if I could hear the direction, 'Stay: There are scattered along the line of railway many unprotected homes of the white man. What could these families do, if the Indians near them should rise in rebellion? They would only be an easy prey to the scalping knife of the savage. These Indians are ignorant, they have little idea of what is right, and they have no one to advise them but those who are their greatest enemies. Stay, and exert the little influence you have in persuading them to remain at home.'

In accordance with the deliverance of last General Assembly, a High School was opened at Prince Albert a few weeks before the rebellion broke out, but of course all school-work had then to be stopped, but it will be resumed as soon as circumstances permit. Messrs. McWilliam and Sinclair, both experienced teachers, have generously offered to give a portion of their time daily to the work of instruction until some more permanent arrangement can be made.

II. MISSION TO FORMOSA.

In consequence of the interruption to the work in Formosa, occasioned by the war, your Committee have not received the usual reports from the Mission there. In a letter from Hong-Kong, 22nd of October, 1883, Mr. Jamieson writes: Since Dr. Mackay's return from Canada to Formosa, he has superintended, from the foundation to the head-stone of the corner, the erection of Oxford College, fourteen new churches on the east coast, and two new large stone buildings on the west; as well as the necessary repairs to Mackay Hospital and all the churches in North Formosa. He has had also the teaching of twenty-six students (thirty-six, including some who have gone to pastoral work) and as many girls, besides his work of travelling, preaching, and *healing*. Then the care of all the churches, especially after the bombardment of Kelung and Formosa, was, as he himself said, as a burden laid upon his soul which only He who knows all can ever know. After his prostration by the fever, it became absolutely necessary for him, as soon as he could move, to seek for a little while a change

of air. He accordingly left for a short sea-voyage, hoping to get back by the steamer on her return trip. But before the looked for opportunity came, return was impossible. Tamsui was blockaded, and he could not either by argument or by persuasion induce those in authority to allow him to return. He joined Mrs. Mackay and the Jamiesons at Hong-Kong, and was obliged to remain there for months.

In the *Hong-Kong Daily Press*, March 25th, Dr. Mackay gave the following statement for the information of friends in that part of the world: "The work was never in such a prosperous condition as in 1884, before the French bombardment of Kelung. There were thirty-five chapels, with as many trained native preachers; twenty-six students in the college, and thirty-seven girls in the school at Tamsui. Upwards of one thousand had been baptized; and on the whole the people were never more friendly and well disposed. The arrival of the French changed the whole aspect of affairs. At once converts became objects of suspicion and hatred. Headmen who had concealed hatred came to the front and stirred up the masses. Villains living on the borderland near the savages combined to plunder; and almost with the first outbreak levelled seven chapels to the ground, looted the houses of converts, and beat many of them. All this took place in one district, being the one in which Tamsui and Kelung lay. According to latest accounts, the other two districts were still quiet. At Kelung, where there was a large congregation, there is desolation all around. Converts are scattered and hounded from place to place."

How careful Dr. Mackay had been in giving instruction to the converts before setting out in his voyage, we learn from this: "From the very first symptoms of uneasiness," says he, "I had the conviction that there would be trouble with the French. I acted accordingly. Literally day and night I was engaged sending messengers at all hours, with instructions and to get information. Twenty times I sent my instructions in envelopes partly burnt, to show the urgency of the case, according to the Chinese custom." And how cheering to find that he can say, writing from Hong-Kong, "A-Hôa received my instructions in every particular. He asks for more." Letters from Dr. Mackay, Hong-Kong, March 12th and April 6th, give details as fully as in the circumstances they could be given: "March 12th. The day before yesterday I got a letter from A-Hôa, my first convert, at Tamsui.... State of affairs in North Formosa. 1. No more destruction of chapels or interference with converts. 2. The few foreigners that are there are treated kindly by the Chinese. 3. About 8,000 French at Kelung, and nearly twice the number of Chinese harassing them. 4. Otherwise all quiet; but no mission work could be done at present. If I were in Formosa now, and beginning to go among the soldiers at Tamsui and Kelung it would occasion excitement and