

### Letter from Mr. Goforth.

MR. GOFORTH, in a private letter, dated Lin Ching, July 31, says: "Gertrude Madeline is dead. Ours is an awful loss. Less than two weeks ago she was well, but on the 4th inst. she died, only six days after she was taken ill with dysentery.

"There is no burying place here for foreigners, so I took her body in a cart to Pang Chuang. It is fifty miles away. I left here at eleven o'clock at night and reached there at five next day. We had only left Pang Chuang three weeks before. Little Gertrude was the only baby in the mission there, and had won the love of all, old and young. They were all sorry to see her go away, but when she came back so soon dead every one felt it so very much. A Chinese service was conducted by the missionary. Then the rude coffin, covered with flowers, was borne by four Chinamen outside the village wall. There, in the dusk of evening, with scores of curious heathen looking on, we laid our darling to rest beside two other dear little foreigners, who were laid to sleep there before her. Later on in the evening sixteen foreigners met in one of the parlors, and the missionary, Rev. A. H. Smith, spoke from "Suffer little children to come unto me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." He told the children, who had cried so because baby was dead, that it was only her body which was resting in the grave outside the wall, for her soul was now in heaven at rest in the arms of Jesus. That she could not come back to us, but that we could go where she is. Then he urged each of the children to give their hearts to Jesus now, for they knew not when death would come to call them away. Next morning I went out early to see the grave, but two of the little girls, Flora and Carrie Sheffield, were there before me, and had the grave all decorated with wild flowers; besides they had traced with their fingers in the soft clay of the grave, "G. G," the initials of our darling. The two dear girls told me that their mother had consented to their coming out every morning to place fresh flowers on the grave.

"None but those who have lost a precious treasure can understand our feelings, but the loss seems to be greater because we are far away in a strange land.

"All things work together for good.' The Lord has a purpose in taking our loved one away. We pray that this loss will fit us more fully to tell these dying millions of Him who has gained the victory over death."