

## World of Missions.

### Letter From China.

Tientsin, China, 29th Sept. 1900.

Dear Mr. MacKay; Letter writing has been at more or less of a discount with me for some time because of the unsettled condition in which I have been living. There is no good my going over the story of our escape from Honan, seeing that you have it in detail from those of our number who have gone home.

You also know that my reasons for taking a position as interpreter with the British force, were: That I might render all the help I could in restoring order in China; that I might remain as near as possible to our own field in Honan, and if possible, help to care for our people there and relieve the Board of the expense of keeping me in China pro tem. I shall at least be able to pay back into the Church funds my full salary for the time that I shall be employed as interpreter.

I find the work most enjoyable. My post is at headquarters in Tientsin, under General Campbell. My duties here have been examination of prisoners—presumably Boxers; translating Chinese documents; making contracts with builders, etc. Occasionally I go out on an expedition. Three weeks ago I was out as guide and interpreter on the Tulin expedition, and had some exciting work in the way of riding ahead with dispatches to Chinese Mandarins, and work of that kind that could only be done by one who not only knew the language, but understood the Chinese themselves.

When some of the officers expressed surprise that I should dare to take such solitary rides, I tell them that missionaries are always accustomed to taking rides like that and think nothing about it.

One officer declares that I tried my best to get him shot, because when we were out scouting with half a dozen Indian Cavalry, I led him right into a fortified town, and then pointed out the mounted guns which he had not noticed. I assured him that I had been quite accustomed rushing positions much more dangerous than the one we had just taken.

I am writing this at head quarters while waiting for orders; and have just been told that I am wanted to go out on another expedition that starts west in three or four days. We are certainly going as far as Sheng-fang, a wealthy town ten miles west from here, and I expect that we will go on as far as Pao-Tingtor, Sheng-fang was a strong Boxer centre at one time, and they fully expect to be punished. By the way it was Sheng-fang that I led the officer into, who thought I had done a rash thing. The people of that town are offering to pay one hundred and twenty-five thousand taels to have their town spared, and would probably pay twice as much if we pressed them at all, but there is great difficulty in accepting fines from these towns, as we would not know how to dispose of the money seeing that there are so many nations interested in the affair. This fact is leading to all sorts of confusion, and China stands a good chance of escaping proper punishment. Li Hung Chang is taking full advantage of that fact and is publishing proclamations throughout the country that create the impression that the allies have been defeated. The last proclamation I heard of is to be found in all the towns and cities between Poo-tung fu and Peking, stating, 1st: No foreigners are to be allowed into the interior. They must all reside at Treaty ports, such as Shanghai.

2nd. All native Christians are to be seized and made to recant, or be killed. 3rd. The Boxer movement is to be suppressed.

If the authorities here realized the effect these proclamations will have, they would immediately place Li Hung Chang under arrest in spite of any possible protest by Russia.

Remember me kindly to all friends,  
Yours truly,  
(Signed) J. A. SLIMMON.

### Rome in China.

According to the last volume of the *Missiones Catholice*, published in 1898, there were 609,360 Chinese Catholics. In the province of Pechili, where the main troubles now are, there were 112,790; in Manchuria, 51,830; and in Shar-tung, the province where the murder of German Catholic missionaries led to the seizure of Kiaochau, there were 31,410. This same church claims a strong mission in the Peking district of China. Ten years ago the stations numbered 322, now there are 577. In the same time the number of Christians has increased from 34,417 to 46,894. The number of baptisms for the year is reported as 2,321, with 6,505 catechumens. Statistics are even provided of the annual number of confessions, these having risen from 23,464 to 31,417.

### Service.

Lord, though within the golden harvest-field,  
Binding the sheaves and joining in the song,  
Amid the anxious workers I may never be,  
Too weak to follow with the busy throng—  
Still, in the quiet when the throng has passed,  
"Mong standing sheaves, Lord, may I ever be,  
To gather where the fuller hands have dropped,  
And bring the gleanings gladly home to Thee."  
Maggie Swan.

A writer about mission work among lepers makes some quite appalling statements about the extent of the disease in the East. He says: India has about half a million, China probably as many, and Japan 200,000 registered cases. The moment leprosy appears in a man, woman, or child, banishment is irrevocably decreed. There is no pity or compassion for lepers. Young or old are turned adrift as unclean things on the highways or byways, and are dependent for subsistence on the casual doles of food thrown to them. In India the leper loses caste, which is regarded the worst doom. In Japan he is treated with the greatest cruelty. The same is true in China. The leper there is often put to death by fire without compunction, and religion has not a ray of hope for him in the next world.

The missionaries in China are doing this good thing, says Dr. Robert E. Speer, secretary of the Presbyterian Board of F. M. work: They are creating character in thousands of men and women who have been lifted, by faith in Christ, out of weak, sinful lives, to lives of uprightness and power. "I can witness," says Dr. Corbett of Chefoo, whose testimony is worth that of all the globe-trotters of the world, "in behalf of hundreds, to their childlike faith in the power and willingness of God to fulfil every promise in the Bible; to their unshaken prayer in the efficacy of prayer, their love of the Scriptures, and their honest and faithful effort to live blameless lives."

Eight mission stations in Burma had increase in membership in the last ten years ranging from 214 to 600 per cent.

## Pale and Bloodless.

### Thousands of Anaemic Girls Hurrying ing to the Grave.

A Young Lady at Cobourg, Ont., Whose Case was  
Pronounced Hopeless, Tells how she Regained  
Health and Strength—A Lesson to Mothers.

Anæmia is the term used by doctors to indicate poverty of the blood. The prevalence of this trouble is most alarming, especially among young girls, and a large percentage of the altogether too numerous cases of consumption which annually ravage the country have their origin in this trouble. The first indication of anæmia is a pale, sallow, or waxy complexion. This is followed by loss of appetite, frequent headaches, indisposition to exertion, swelling of the limbs, violent heart palpitation and frequently fainting fits. These symptoms may not all be present, but the more there are the greater the urgency for prompt and effective treatment, which should be persisted in until all traces of the trouble have vanished. Among the thousands who have been brought near to the brink of the grave from this trouble, and ultimately restored to health through the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, is Miss Bella Boyd, an estimable young lady whose home is at Cobourg. Miss Boyd gives her experience as follows:—

"It is nearly ten years since my illness first commenced, and although I was doctoring more or less I received little or no benefit, as the doctors did not seem to understand my trouble. Two years ago my health became so bad that another doctor was called in, and he stated that my case was a severe type of anæmia, and that while he could help me the trouble had progressed to such a stage that he could hold out little hopes of a cure. At this time I was as pale as chalk, my eyelids were swollen and would hang down over my eyes like sacks of water. My feet and limbs would swell and were always cold. I was subject to violent headaches, severe palpitation of the heart, and if I stooped over I would be so dizzy that I could scarcely regain an upright position. My appetite failed me almost entirely, and I grew so weak that I was a mere wreck. While in this condition I read in the newspaper of the cure of a young girl whose case was much like mine, through the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I determined to try them. Those who knew me did not think any medicine could do me any good, or that I would ever get better, but I determined at all events to give the pills a fair trial. I have used them for nearly a year with the result that I feel like a new person. The swelling in my eyelids and limbs has disappeared; my appetite is good and my face is regaining the color which left it years ago. I can sew and do work about the house, and this great change in my condition is due solely to the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. It is not too little to say that they have saved my life and I strongly urge girls who are similarly afflicted to give them a thorough trial.

The number of pupils who have passed through Lovedale from its beginning is 640. Of these 66 have become ministers or missionaries; 52 evangelists; 710 teachers, 352 tradesmen, 22 magistrates, 5 journalists and 44 clerks. Indeed, Lovedale pupils are found in all walks of life—in law, literature, medicine, science, and in the colonial administration.