

our outfit; to enjoy the kind hospitality of Dr. Eitel, of the London Missionary Society; to have a *Sabbath*, and to join with the resident Christians in the public worship of God. We got a great deal of practical information from Dr. and Mrs. Eitel, who have been long in China, on such points as the Chinese character; the way in which to set about learning the language; the details of housekeeping, and the management of native servants; and such other points as we were in total ignorance of before. It is a very great advantage to us, who are now coming to China, to have been preceded by such men as were early in this field. All of the older missionaries whom I have yet met are really very superior men.

Monday forenoon found us on board the "*Kwang-tung*," a very small coast steamer, bound for Amoy. After an afternoon and night of tossing about, and grievous sea-sickness, we reached Swatow the next morning early, and I went at once on shore, to call on the missionaries of the English Presbyterian Church, who are stationed there, and met with a most cordial reception. They assured me that we would reach Tamsui just as soon by staying with them for a week, before going on to Amoy, as there was no likelihood of a steamer for Tamsui for two or three weeks; so we all went on shore. The week following was a most delightful and profitable one. The mission there is about fifteen years old, and has made most encouraging progress. There are thirteen native Churches, with an aggregate membership of about 400. This, of course, does not include all who have been turned from the service of Satan unto God, for many of the early converts, and some of the later ones, have gone before, rejoicing in the hope of eternal life. Many of those that remain have made considerable advancement in the Divine life; so that while there is much that is discouraging in the work, there is also something to cheer those who are ready to faint. In the little theological hall built on the mission premises there are at present SIX STUDENTS, who are regularly and diligently instructed, by way of fitting them better for becoming native pastors. Their course of instruction will necessarily and very properly be neither so long nor so complete as ours at home, but will be such as to enable them intelligently to set forth, in the hearing of their countrymen, the fundamental truths of Christianity. It is surely a most encouraging thing that so young a Church, with such a small membership, should furnish so many theological students. Morning and afternoon, every day, instructions are given by one or other of the missionaries, who take the young men in turn, and open up to them some passage of Scripture, or deliver a lecture in theology suited to the understanding and attainments of their class. I was present during one of the lecture hours, and was much interested, though I did not understand a word that was said either by professor or student. I thought of my fellow-students at Knox College, and wondered which of them would come out to be missionaries of the gospel, and in time *theological professors*, in this far-off land. God grant that many more of our young men may be constrained by the love of Christ to leave all, and come to the help of the Lord against the mighty! No fear of too many coming! There are vast regions where the sound of the gospel has not yet been heard, where the people sit in darkness and the shadow of death. When, oh when will the Church of Christ rouse itself to do ALL IT POSSIBLY CAN for the salvation of those who perish for lack of knowledge?

But to me by far the most interesting part of the work at Swatow was the medical mission of Dr. Gauld. He has been there for about