

## China.

*From MISS BROOKS, CHENTU, March 28th, 1899.*

MISS FOSTER and I planned to do some letter-writing last mail, but Dr. Hart arrived in the city the evening before, and when he called the next day arrangements were made for us to take as much of our examination as possible on Tuesday, so we dropped everything that we could conveniently and bent our minds on putting final touches to our studies. We came out fairly well, missing just one character each in the gospels of Matthew and John. We have still to be examined on some Touen lessons, before we will have completed the second section work, but will be ready by the first of May, when the annual meeting comes on. It has been arranged this year to hold it at Kiating, and Dr. Hart has invited us to go down and hold our union meeting there. Miss Foster, as the senior member of our "firm," will go, but Dr. Killam does not like to close the dispensary for so long (two weeks), and I hardly like to leave either. However, it has not been finally decided yet.

Dr. Hart has been so kind in giving us our examination. I am feeling a bit tired since. Miss Foster and I have just been confiding to each other that there is no royal road to learning this language with us—it's nothing but plod. Still, we must be getting on. I know I can talk better now than I could at Christmas. Since Miss Brackbill left I have been taking Chinese morning prayers, week about, with Miss Foster, a class on Sunday afternoon, and now have started a little Sunday morning class for the boarding girls alone, in their own room. In overseeing the school I can understand what the teacher says very much better than I could three months ago.

April 4th.—We have been having some very beautiful weather—warm and sunshiny, with cool days interspersed. We have been out to the market-fair again this year. Some of the climbing rose bushes that we got there last year are covered with double crimson roses, looking lovely just now. This year I got flowers enough to fill