

This written language has been wholly constructed by missionaries. Although I have spoken of the ignorance of Chinese women, it does not prevent them attaining a full knowledge of the Gospel and is no barrier to their usefulness. They are usually great talkers. My dear friends, although I do not look upon myself as a missionary, I find it impossible to refrain from doing all I can to help these poor Chinese women to obtain a knowledge of the Gospel, for it is to that, that we or the women of Canada owe the difference in our lives. I hope it will not be long before I have help in this work. I might say a word or two about schools. There are at present schools for boys but not for girls, in fact, the poor little girls receive no instruction, but until eight or ten years of age are allowed to run about the streets on their little stumpy feet. After that age and until they are married, they are kept closely confined. The question of schools for girls in connection with our mission is one for the future, as Mr. Mackay thinks the time for them has not yet come. I am proposing, if spared and able, to take a trip into the country with Mr. Junor and Mr. McKay to see some of the chapels and people. If I am able to accomplish this I will send you an account of it. The time for the great gathering of converts is drawing near. I think you will have seen some mention of it in either Mr. Junor's or Mr. Mackay's letters. It is proposed sometime in November to have a kind of pic-nic or public gathering of the Church at some central place. The Chinese have a great many gatherings in connection with their idolatrous feasts, and such a gathering for the Church will, no doubt, stimulate and encourage them, by bringing them together and showing them their strength. Mr. Mackay and Mr. Junor are having great trouble in securing a piece of ground for the new hospital. You can scarcely imagine the trouble and annoyance they have in dealing with the Chinese. The people of the town have been stirred up by enemies and interested parties and they threaten to turn out armed to prevent the purchase of the most suitable piece of ground in Tamsui. They have had public meetings in their temples and so terrified the man who owns the ground, and is anxious to sell, that he is now afraid to do so. Mr. Mackay and Mr. Junor are, however, determined to purchase if possible. Since we came we have had a great deal of sickness in our mission circle. This has been one of the most sickly summers for many years. The Chinese have been dying by the hundreds. Some of the helpers and all the students, Mr. Mackay's cook and coolies, and our house-boy, as well as Mr. Mackay and Mr. Junor have all been down with malarial fever. Mr. Mackay's attack was one of the worst he has ever had. His sufferings were very great, and for some time we were in a state of great anxiety about him, but I am thankful to say that he is now better, though not entirely free from fever. He needs a change very much. Mr. Junor has had several attacks of fever, and seems to be, I am very sorry to say, very susceptible to it. While I write he is in bed with another attack, the fifth or sixth that he has had. Within the last three weeks we have had visits from two of the missionaries of the English Presbyterian Church in the South, Mr. Barclay and Mr. Campbell. The latter is still here. He and Mr. McKay are out visiting some of the chapels, as he wishes to see them before going home to England on his furlough. My dear friends, you will have heard before this reaches you of the death of our darling boy. He died on the 13th September, very suddenly. He died of fever, the exact nature of which we do not know. He had fever slightly the second day before his death, but the next day seemed as well as usual. Only about the middle of the night of the 12th did we observe any symptoms of fever, and then very slight. In the morning of the 13th it had increased a good deal, but we were not alarmed, because he was perspiring so freely and showed no serious symptoms. At ten o'clock his papa again felt his pulse, and found it was 178 beats in a minute. We were alarmed, and I went out to send for Dr. Ringer but met him at the door. I told him about Frank. He did not go in immediately, but waited to enquire for Mr. Junor and Mr. McKay, who were both in bed with fever. Then he went to Frank, and he had not been with him more than two or three minutes before he was seized with a convulsion from which he never recovered, but died at a quarter to two. Oh, it was so sudden. We had no conception that death was so near our dear one. He told us several days before

that if he took the fever he would ask God to help him to bear it patiently; and he did bear it patiently; he complained of nothing. For some time before he was taken sick he talked a great deal about Jesus and the love of Jesus, so much so, that Mr. McKay, as well as ourselves, was impressed. Indeed, we are filled with comfort in the remembrance of the many evidences he gave of an intelligent knowledge, as well as sincere love for Jesus as his Saviour; but while our hearts are thus full of precious memories, there is, oh such a blank. I never knew what it was to feel lonely until now. He was my constant companion with me everywhere. I cannot go anywhere or do anything without being reminded of and missing him. I miss him more than words can express, but I am satisfied it was my Heavenly Father who took him, and I know that He doeth all things well, in love and wisdom. Our grief for our precious boy is very great, but our joy is greater that he is safe in the arms of Jesus. He will be waiting and watching for us. And now dear friends, I must close, else my letter will be too heavy. With love and kindest wishes for each and all of you, believe me, very sincerely, your sister in Christ Jesus our Lord and Master,

ELIZA JUNOR.

Tamsui, Formosa, China, Oct. 7th, 1878.

KNOX COLLEGE STUDENTS' MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The February meeting was held on Wednesday, Feb. 12, the President, Mr. Tait, in the chair.

Mr. Carruthers presented a report of his work at Coboconk during the Christmas vacation, and Mr. Findlay, on behalf of the people of Wyebriidge and Minesing, near Penetanguishene, asked for a missionary. Petitions were received from Uphill in the Coboconk field, and from Commanda Creek, (Nipissing,) asking that Messrs. Carruthers and E. A. McDonald be sent again to those places as missionaries.

The General Committee recommended that the following fields be occupied: Coboconk, North Hastings, Nipissing (Muskoka), Katrine and Emsdale (Muskoka), Baysville (Muskoka), and Waubaushe. This report was adopted. Letters being read during the discussion from the Rev. D. Wishart of Madoc, and Allan Findlay of Bracebridge and from Mr. T. W. Buck of Waubaushe, a discussion followed on the choice of additional fields, and the matter was finally referred to the General Committee. Mr. Dobson, the Treasurer, gave a short financial statement showing the standing of the Society to be satisfactory.

This being the end of the business part of the meeting, the missionary hymn, "From Greenland's icy mountains," was sung and Mr. D. M. Beattie offered prayer; after which the Rev. G. M. Milligan, who was present by invitation, gave a spirited and practical address on the necessity of a thorough conviction of the truth for the efficient discharge of the preacher's duty. Principal Caven made a few remarks on the value of this Society for fostering a missionary spirit, and Professor McLaren spoke of the encouragement to be derived from the remarkable progress of Foreign Missions in India and China, giving the latest news from the missionaries of our own Church in those countries.

After a vote of thanks to Mr. Milligan and the Professors, the meeting adjourned with the doxology and benediction.

PRESBYTERY OF HURON. This Presbytery met at Clinton on the 14th of January. Mr. Ferguson was appointed Moderator for the ensuing six months. A call was sustained from the congregations of Thames Road and Kirkton in favour of Rev. Colin Fletcher, M. A. The call was unanimous—stipend promised \$900 payable half yearly in advance, with a manse. Mr. Fletcher has accepted the call since the meeting of Presbytery. Reports were given, setting forth that mission stations were organized at Gorrie and Fordyce. A deputation consisting of Messrs. Pritchard, Convener, Leask and Leitch, and Kernighan, elder, was appointed to visit Ashfield anent arrears. The deputation appointed to visit the congregation of Knox Church Brussels reported favourably respecting the removal of arrears in said congregation. The following minute was adopted anent Mr. McKae's resignation of Grand Bend. "The Presbytery, while accepting Mr. McKae's resignation, express their deep regret that the infirm state of his health rendered so brief a pastorate necessary, and their earn-

est prayer that their esteemed brother may soon be restored to health and enabled to resume the active duties of the ministry. The Presbytery also desire to express their deep sympathy with the congregation of Grand Bend, in the unexpected separation of the pastoral tie between them and their first pastor, and trust that under the gracious guidance of the Good Shepherd, they may soon again have a minister settled over them." The committee to arrange for the holding of a Conference on the state of religion was reappointed. The clerk addressed the Presbytery on behalf of the Foreign Mission. Messrs. McQuarrie and Cameron on behalf of the colleges, and Mr. Ferguson on behalf of the Home Mission. A resolution was passed, urging upon all the Kirk Sessions to see that the claims of said schemes be brought before the congregations of the bounds, in such manner as to them appears most likely to call forth special liberality. The extract of Assembly anent the formation of a new Presbytery was taken up, and it was unanimously agreed to recommend to the Assembly to grant the prayer of the petitioners. Thereafter there was taken up a "statement and protest" from the Session of Wroxeter, against the action of the Presbytery in separating Wroxeter congregation from that of Fordwich. The Presbytery while noting the irregularity in receiving such document three months after the action complained against took place, appointed a committee consisting of Messrs. McLean, Ferguson and Matheson, to bring in a deliverance on said document, and answer the reasons adduced. The Presbytery roll for the year was made up. Commissioners to the Assembly were elected by ballot, and are as follows: Dr. Ure, Messrs. McQuarrie, Ferguson, McLean, Wilkins, Pritchard, Cameron, ministers, and Matheson, Strachan, McNeill, Shaw, Dickson, Kernighan, and Maxwell, elders. A committee on the "State of Religion" was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Thomson, Convener, Dunby, Patterson, and Shaw, elders; Sessions were instructed to send answers to the queries on the state of religion to the convener not later than the middle of February; and the committee was instructed to prepare a report based on said answers, and submit it at next regular meeting of Presbytery. A deputation, consisting of Messrs. Pritchard, McQuarrie, Dr. Ure, and Matheson and Kernighan, elders, was appointed to visit the congregation of Exeter. The clerk was instructed to write to the congregation of Walton anent arrears dues to Mr. Ferguson their late minister. Mr. Musgrave was appointed to visit the congregation of Cranbrook respecting increase of stipend. The next regular meeting of Presbytery is to be held in Clinton on the third Tuesday of March at 11 a. m.—A. McLEAN, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—This Presbytery met at Drummondville on the afternoon of Monday, 4th Feb., for the settlement of Rev. R. Thomson, M. A. The Rev. Jas. Gordon, Clifton, presided as moderator. Rev. W. McIntyre, Beamsville, preached an able and appropriate sermon from 2 Tim. ii. 19, after which the moderator put to Mr. Thompson the usual questions, and inducted him minister of the united congregations of Chippawa and Drummondville, and declared him a member of the Presbytery of Hamilton. Rev. Mr. McEwan, Welland, addressed some weighty and judicious counsels to the minister on the proper fulfilment of his important duties, while Rev. Mr. Murray, Grimsby, spoke a word of exhortation to the congregation as to their relative duties. A numerous congregation was present for both sections of the charge, and besides the members of the Presbytery of Hamilton, Rev. Mr. Swan of Wesleyan Methodist Church, Drummondville; Rev. Mr. Acheson, Stamford; and Rev. Mr. Bacon of the American Presbyterian Church, Niagara Falls, were present and associated with the Presbytery. A social meeting of a most agreeable kind was held in the evening in the Town Hall, Drummondville, presided over by Rev. Mr. Gordon, when telling speeches were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Burson, St. Catharines; Swan, Bacon, McIntyre, Macdonald of Thorold, and Thomson. On motion of Mr. Law, Deputy-Rec. of Drummondville, the cordial thanks of the meeting were awarded to the Rev. Mr. Gordon, for his valued services to the congregation during the vacancy, and to the ladies and friends whose united exertions had produced so successful an entertainment. The best feeling everywhere prevailed, and the new minister began his labours with every token of encouragement among an intelligent, united and hearty people.