

Jesus one need never fear falling into sin. He said that was what he wanted, to have no fear of falling into sin. I showed him Romans viii. 1, 'There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus,' at which he was rather astonished, and asked if it was really true."

His questions were often very clever, and showed his deepening interest in the religion of his pupil. After studying with him for some time, Elsie writes, with great joy: "I do think my teacher is beginning to believe, he is so much nicer in every way, and so much more gentle. I feel so thankful we have got to St. Paul in the Bible; it seems just to suit him. He follows all the arguments in his epistles with such delight. St. Paul having been such a clever, well-read man, very much appeals to him. He is specially struck by his humility, and by his being willing to give up so much, position, etc., for Christ. He belongs to a very good family in Foochow, and expects to be a mandarin some day. His wife and family were very bigoted, and it was a hard struggle for him to give up his religion, but at last Elsie had the joy of knowing him to be a Christian.

Though her teacher was possessed of so much intelligence and ability, Elsie writes of the Chinese generally: "Do pray very earnestly for these poor Chinese. I feel now that when I was at home I did not half realize the depth of degradation and superstition in which the Chinese are sunk. Every fresh revelation of the darkness makes one rejoice more and more at the thought of being allowed to come. 'Darkness' seems such a very real, practical word to apply here, especially to the women. Some of them are so utterly ignorant they seem almost incapable of taking in any new idea." Again she says: "I think one finds out more and more

the ignorance and superstition of the people, even of the educated men. It is dreadfully sad that the Chinese think so little of their baby girls. It is not so sad in every part of China, but here (in Ku-cheng) they throw any number of children into the river, which we cross every time we go into the city, and they are often seen floating in the river."

But amid all this darkness the light was growing, and our brave little missionary never found her courage fail. "All the catechists and Christians, or most of them," she writes, "came in from the different stations round Ku-cheng on Friday night. I went to church, and I think one look inside that church would have silenced forever any more questions, 'Are missions any good?' Here, out in a heathen land, in a place where there has not been a mission very long, was a church literally packed (it holds about 600), hardly standing room. But Sunday was a more wonderful day still. In the morning the church was more packed than ever. Our hearts were very full, but, oh! how I wish you could have been with us as we knelt with these Chinese round the Lord's table. Two hundred communicants there were—so earnest! But the crown of all was Tuesday night, when eighty-seven people were baptized."

At another time she writes: "I never like to say much as to results, but I think I may tell you a little more about a woman who makes my heart rejoice every time I see her. There is no doubt about her now; she is believing in, rejoicing in Christ. She told me that more than ten years ago she heard some one preaching once, and ever since then had been longing to hear more. She did not understand a bit; and then one day last year, soon after I came to Ku-cheng the Lord sent