

fidence among all interested, which would make the holding of a responsible office much more pleasant.

LETTER FROM DR. SMITH.

The following is part of a letter from Dr. Smith, dated December 29th, 1891: "You will be glad to know that are we in our own home at last. Mrs. Smith came as far as Ch'u Wang with the McClures and McKenzies and I went there to meet her, and we arrived here Dec. 20th, and all has been peaceful thus far. I tell you what, it is nice to be home.

We have one room comfortably fitted up which serves for bedroom, dining-room and all. A little room at one end which is intended for a bath-room is a temporary kitchen with the stove pipe adorning the window. Sad to say the said stove does not burn first-class, and we have to be contented with Chinese bread or 'Momo.'

I have a very nice room on the street which is used as a street chapel and waiting-room, while right behind this is a small room, 10x12, which serves for a dispensary. I am very much in need of a place for patients, and I hope before very long that we will succeed in renting another compound.

I opened the dispensary Nov. 20th, and am glad to say that we have had good crowds to listen to the preaching and a fair number of patients.

You have no idea of the terrible stories the people seem to circulate about us, and the more ignorant ones believe all they hear and imagine twice as much more.

It is so hard for the people to believe that we will go to all this trouble and not expect to gain wealth. Then they think we are made of money, and that we are able to find hidden treasures, and every little mound or heap of dirt in the neighborhood is carefully guarded from the 'foreign devils' for fear they will take silver out of them. Then the fools after all will say the foreigner has taken silver from some of them in the night although not a particle of earth has been disturbed.

The old man Chou (pronounced Joe) has been here now for over a month studying very faithfully, and his son has been back and forth several times for a few days at a time.

Mr. McGillivray and Mrs. Smith and I with our boy, Cameron, are the only foreigners at

Hsin Chen. We expect the McVicar's will move in early in March. Mr. McGillivray goes out to the surrounding villages every day and sometimes is away for four or five days at a time. At such times I have to teach, preach and dispense as well as do all the squabbling myself. Don't be alarmed—every little bargain that is made is the cause of a great amount of talk and wrangling, and what would be settled in five minutes at home often takes five hours here.

I am happy to be at work. This leaves us in good health. May you all have a very happy new year."

Y. M. C. A.

Last Friday evening the chair was taken by Mr. T. J. Thompson, who introduced to the students Mr. H. W. Frost, of the China Inland Mission. Mr. Frost's subject was the testimony of scripture with regard to the future state of the heathen. By quotation of several passages he endeavoured to show that those who did not hear of the gospel as it is known to us are hopelessly lost. Mr. Frost enforced the deductions which he drew from scripture by narrating some of his experiences in China, where he had come in contact with the darkness of heathenism. He had not met any heathen who lived up to his highest light.

The address was pointed and earnest, and from the speaker's point of view was no doubt convincing. Men like Mr. Frost who are thoroughly consecrated to the great work of evangelizing the world are doing very great good. We must thankfully acknowledge that. Still the address of last Friday evening failed to arouse very much enthusiasm among the students present. The cause must be sought, not as some would be inclined to say, in spiritual hardness, but in the very different point of view taken by those who found themselves unable to say 'Amen' to the sweeping and awful conclusions which the speaker drew from quotations from scripture.

We are naturally slow learners of scriptural truths. It takes us a long time to see that we do not get at the truth by wrenching a sentence from the context and forcing it to support a theory which is too often arbitrarily forced from another text. By this "narrow and uncritical method" the most contradictory