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"SPEAK UNTO THE CHILDREN OF ISEAEL, THAT THEY GO FORWARD."-Exodus xiv., 15.

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Religious Intelligence.

CHINA-MEDICAL MISSIONS AT CANTON.

The Rev. A. T. Happer, in a paper on the subject of medical missions at Canton, presents information of much interest concerning the people of that city, and their need of medical aid as a matter of christian charry

This city is situated just within the tropics, and is the largest, and I think the most healthy of the cities open to foreign intercourse and residence in China. Here, within a space of seven inites in length, by four dence in China. Here, within a space of seven miles in length, by Cour miles in breadth, is collected a population of one million of human beings, of all ranks, classes, and conditions! as great a number as the population of the clitics of New York and Philadelphia, at the present sime. While there are a great many very wealthy inhabitions, and many more who live in ease and comfort, yet there are a great, a very great number, who live in potenty, crowded in narrow lanes and alleys, in filth and wretched the process of the most common diseases are affections of the eye and shin, ulcers, dyspepsia, and fevers. There is no provision in the great city, so far as I have heard, the native physicians never prescribe for the poor gratuitously. If you recknow the them the process of add to this amount the numbers that are gratuitously prescribed for by the and to the amount of the numbers of the presence of the control of the multitude of physicians who are in private practice in these cities, and still swell this aggregate number, by reckoning that a vasily greater number suffer here in consequence of the greater powerty and improper food, you will have some conception of the unrelieved stekness and suffering in this one city, which appeals to your humanity and skill for some refief from these ills, and surely it will not appeal in rain.

Method of proceeding at a Missionary Hospital.

The mode of conducting an hospital here, is as follows a house being rented and medicines and instruments being ready, the physician fixes his days and hours for attending to patients, and notice is given out and circalated. The door of the hospital is opened early in the morning of the receiving days, and a man gives a numbered ticket to each one as he enters, and in ordinary cases they are attended to in the order of their arrival. At ten o'clock religious service is held with those who have arrived, making known to them that there is "Balm in Gilead" for the more mveterate malady of sin, and that there is an Almighty " Physician" there. At eleven o'clock the physician commences his labours. Near to the general reception and preaching room, there is a prescribing room, where all kinds of medicines, in great quantities, have been prepared, and where several native assistants are waiting. A certain number of males and females in the order of their arrival, are called in alternately into the premates in the order on their arrival, are caused in attendancy into the pre-scribing room. They are each one examined in succession and presemble for, and given over to an assistant to give the medicines or apply the remedy. By tact and despatch in this way, Dr. Hobson is enabled to get through from two hundred and fifty to three hundred in a day, after five hours hard work. Of course the nine-tenths of all the cases are very

simple ones, and those cases that require operation or special treatment, are requested to remain in the house or come back the next day.

During all this time, two or three native Christians are conversing with the patients in the reception-room, explaining some point of Christian dec-tring or reading a Christian tract to a circle of heaters. And some days when the Doctor takes a little recess at one o'clock, a second public service is held. The diseases of nineteen-twentieths are not such as to incapacitate them from attending to the presentation of divine truth, and they wait most patiently for their turn to come. For in-door patients a place is given to optead their bed, which they provide for themselves, and some relative comes with them to wait on them and cook their rice.—
This is a great security against any incorrect elatements being made as This is a great security against any incorrect statements being made as to the treatment, as there is always a relative to see that the man was properly taken care of, and it saves the physician of a great deal of anti-city, which he would lare, if they were to be attended to by paid cereants. The entry fire thousand and much sector persons were prescribed for at Dr. Hobson's hospital during the year 1850. The whole expense of the Hospital, including medicines, rent of building, assistants, &c., not laptable. ing the Doctor's salary, was under \$1000, or in the proportion of forty cents for each patient attended to.

cents for each patient attenued on.

As a matter of mere humanity, in what way could such an amount of human suffering have been relocated, at such a small expense. But when we consider that this good is only the means to an end, that end being to bring poor benighted men under the sound of the "blessed gosted of the glottous God," what an untold interest gathers round such an institution! It becomes really a subtime subject for contemplation. What finite mind It becomes really a subtime subject for contempation. What finite mind can estimate the consequences attendant upon spich a work continued for a number of years, or the amount of good witch, by the blewing of God, may be accomplished by it! More persons heard the geopel last years, at this place, than at four chapels in Canton, where there was no hospital. The circumstances under which the persons hear the goopel there, are more favourable for some truth being fixed in their minds, than naywhere more favourable for some truth being fixed in their minds, than anywhere more lawouranie for some truin oring nace in must minus, and may never clee. Most of those who come into our chapels, come in not of canonity, at a little while, and then go out; very few at throughout the whole service. They are coming and going all the time. Sometimes before the close of the service, the hearers are nearly all gone. At the hospital they not only remain during all the service, but many are conversed with individually, or in clusters, in familiar explanation of the truth, and they have full opportunity of asking an explanation of any point of interest or what they do not comprehend. This use of medical aid, to bring people under the droppings of the sanctuary, is important and desirable at Canton especially, where the people hate foreigners and our holy religion, and have very little currosity, which brings so many to hear the gospel at other places in China, to induce them to come.

Some might be disposed to question the expediency of using such consuferations to bring men under the means of grace. But surely there is nothing in it contrary to the example and precepts of our blessed Saviour. It is impossible for those who are utterly ignorant of the gospel, to have a desire to hear it for its own eake. It is absolutely necessary that there should be some degree of spiritual enlightenment before it will be sooght for as a good. In our own happy country, custom, the pleasant associations of childhood, the persuasion of friends, its respectability, the action of the religious feeling natural to man, all combine to lead many to the sanctuary who do not go from any love to the truth. And being thus led there the Spirit of God makes its own precious truth the means of their conversion. But here everything is just the reverse. The vast majority of the crowds that thronged to our Saviour during his public ministry, came not from a simple desire to hear his teachings, though "he taught as never man taught," but to be healed of their diseases, and to see the wonderful miracles which he performed Our compassionate Redeemer did not reprove them for being accounted by these mere earthly feetings, He readily healed all their maladies, and embraced the opportunity to preach to them the glad news of the kingdom.

There are two hospitals in Canton supported by foreigners, and which are ably conducted. They are literally thronged, and many go away from one of them, at least, that cannot be attended to. And yet I do not suppose that one half of the population have ever heard of them. There is plenty of room for several more.

There estatements clearly show that medical missionary efforts are a

means of doing great good at a city like Canton, and also that there is