

教 TO PREACHER 士

difficult to attend worship because of their bound feet. Opium is the fatal barrier to many an interesting inquirer's progress. Disease and death, so rampant in China, often sweep them away when interest is nicely developing. The power of demons over the people is also a real obstacle, so great is the popular fear of these.

There was a silk merchant from the county of "Heaven's Gate," who was attracted to us by Cheng's preaching. He must have been a man of some ability, for he was the leader of his trade guild, which numbered thirty-five men. Through him they every one decided to join our "Hall," and the necessary books were bought. Their leader in things temporal, he determined to be such in things spiritual. Thus, he read diligently his Bible and hymn-book, and became an eager inquirer after the truth.

My own recollection of him is slight. I was away so much that I seldom saw him. However, Cheng brought him to me on one occasion to get medicine for his child. I remember his grateful smile a day or two afterward, when he announced the baby's recovery. When I returned from my next