

genuine kind hearts, whereas the heathen often make much pretence of a warm welcome, only to revile us as soon as we are out of hearing.

2. I was surprised, and I confess at times thoroughly ashamed of my own ignorance, when we came out to Formosa and found young men, some of whom had been students but a few years, referring in their preaching or in conversation to things that I knew absolutely nothing about. Their knowledge of the world, its kingdoms and their history, and of all the natural sciences — apart from the Bible and Bible history, and their own superstitions — is thoroughly practical and useful to them every day.

Their minds are kept fresh by constant study; though at distant stations all are continually taking notes of Dr. Mackay's teaching, borrowing copies from students present with the Doctor. Some time ago A Hôa showed me more than two hundred writing books that Dr. Mackay examined and marked one forenoon; this work, he said, had to be done monthly, many converts as well as preachers writing.

3. All are practised debaters. We have heard many a spirited discussion on both sides of the Pacific, and can only say whoever would meet these men should stand on sure ground and be well-armed. Sometimes I almost wish some stranger who could do sharp and heavy firing would try to put them down.

4. They keep themselves posted in general news from all over the world. Sometimes I pick up the papers, and purposely run over the latest items, lest a preacher ask me, as one did lately, of something I know nothing about.

They watch mission news, and I assure you take the deepest interest in the whole Canadian Church. They know when the General Assembly meets, and wait eagerly for reports. By newspaper accounts they know ministers and prominent public men in Great Britain and America, and, though with modesty, yet without hesitation, express their opinion on public questions of the day.

5. Everywhere we find that in public worship singing is lively, prayers as a rule are short, addresses shorter or longer just as the people seem eager to listen or not to, but they must never be too long, so as to weary those listening. Converts at each station meet for worship at hours suitable to themselves, much depending on the distance they have to come.

6. In preaching, not only the subject chosen, but the way of handling it, is adapted to the needs of the audience. This is