

prayer is ended, and await further developments. One woman with a baby, whose control of the mother was about perfect, as is too often the case in this land, had to carry the child back and forth throughout all the proceedings, and could give but little thought to anything else. The rest sat and listened with varying degrees of attention. Before beginning the lesson proper a few questions are asked the two who have been attending regularly to test their recollection of the previous Sabbath's lesson, and it is encouraging to hear how promptly and accurately the responses come, the others meanwhile listening in surprise, for, as a usual thing, the Chinese woman who exhibits a knowledge of anything outside of her own home and the ordinary village gossip, certainly is a marvel. A miracle is then read and explained, and all listen with deepening interest as they are told of some of the marvellous things done by the Saviour so long ago. I, too, found myself not teaching as a year ago, but having to pay the closest attention to all that was said in order to catch the meaning, for, as yet, it requires considerable effort to understand this difficult language. The lesson over, another hymn sung, and another short prayer offered up, concluding by the repetition in concert of the Lord's Prayer, and then proceedings take a more irregular form and are of such a nature that I at last can have a share, for the little company forms into groups around the room, while each of us takes one or two and tries teaching them the characters of a hymn, one of the commandments or a short prayer. This is a feature of the work which is interesting as well as discouraging; interesting, in that we have the privilege of seeing the first expansions of minds that have hitherto been entirely undeveloped, for almost none of the women who come about us have received instruction of any kind before; discouraging, because there is such a long