

A missionary of the Presbyterian Church of England writes hopefully of the future of Southern Formosa. Missionary prospects are brighter than ever before. The Chinese and Japanese alike are sensible of the value of the mediatory services of the missionaries in the interests of peace and goodwill.

The Presbyterian Church of England has 50 stations in Amoy, 29 at Swatow, and 36 in Formosa, with others also in Hak-ka and Singapore, with a total Christian native membership of 7,780.

HONAN.

Crowds of Women Daily.

FROM MRS. GOFORTH.

Chang-te-fu, Feb. 25.

The Chinese woman who comes to help me with the children and sewing, has passed through a very sad time. She is a widow, and within eighteen months she has lost, first, her elder son very suddenly, and, shortly after, his wife; then, a few months before she came to me, her second and only remaining son, upon whom she depended, died after a few hours' illness. This son had only been married a short time. Shortly after she came here her only brother died. I urged her to tell him the only way of salvation while he yet lived, but when she went to see him she was not allowed to, as he would break out in grief over the loss of her two sons, to whom he was specially attached. It makes my heart ache to see the hopeless look in her face when she speaks of her sons and brother, but what hope or comfort can I give her? Oh, that God may enable us to realize our blessings and to try and put ourselves in the place of these poor, hopeless heathen.

One of the greatest contrasts between our condition and that of the Chinese strikes me in connection with our hope after death. When one we love dies and we have the assurance of his being redeemed and glorified, the anguish of death and parting seems to be all taken away and only a sweet peace and added hope remains; but, oh! how different if one whom we cannot but hold dear is taken, with little or no hope of everlasting life, the heart feels as if it would burst with anguish. How much of this latter state do we see in China: women and children weeping and crying aloud by the graves, which are not confined to graveyards, but are scattered anywhere by the roadside or in the fields.

In the opening of a new station, for the first few months opportunities of preaching to both men and women come which can never come again. It has been so with us here. Many hundreds of women came during the first two months, and it is of the utmost importance that every effort