

CHUNG MAU SAM--THE RESULT OF PERSECUTION.

(R. E. Chambers.)

He was a carpenter, a man of scarcely average intelligence, but I was glad to see him join the little circle that met each evening in our dining-room at Wuchow to study a few paragraphs in Matthew's Gospel. The only interest he manifested was by regular attendance. Several months later, with nothing specially striking in his experience, he applied for baptism, and was accepted into our membership. Then his troubles commenced, and the pure gold began to be revealed. His clan was outraged because he had taken up with the foreign doctrine. He went on a visit to his native village, which is some fifteen miles back up in the mountains from Tak Hing, an important city on the West River, about fifty miles east of Wuchow. His relatives after using persuasion to no avail, tried force, but the truth had taken deep root in his heart and he chose expulsion from the clan in preference to giving up his new found Savior and Friend. I am not quite sure, but I think his own brothers beat him when he was driven from home. When he returned to Wuchow, he was in deep distress, not for himself, but for his relatives who had persecuted him. Before going home he had sent them some Christian tracts. He carried others with him. All this was eleven years ago.

A few days ago I learned the sequel. A year or more after he was driven from home two of his brothers went away some miles into the mountains to cultivate their hillside plots, remaining there several weeks. They took with them one of the Christian books that their brother had left. In the quiet evening hours after their day's work was done they read that book. Its title is "Truth and Error Concerning God." The Spirit sealed the message and finally they said, "We wronged our brother by forcing him to leave home. He is right," and so they became believers. Several years afterwards the Reformed Presbyterian Mission was started at Tak Hing and these two brothers learned that services were held in the chapel there. One Sunday they walked most of the fifteen miles to the chapel and ran, yes ran, the rest of the way. "We saw that it was getting late and so we ran lest we should get here too late." The missionary who was preaching that day noticed their keen interest, and as they remained after the service, he approached them. "We believe that doctrine" they said, and then told him the story of their brother's conversion, their persecution of him and their subsequent conversion by reading the book.

And now the visible results of one man's faithfulness are as follows: eighteen of the clan are professing Christians, and three are studying for the ministry, one of whom is the brother of the humble carpenter. He is now back in his clan and is held in high honor among them. It was my joy to talk with

him again of the days nearly twelve years ago when he first heard of Jesus. One such incident is priceless. But we hope that Eternity will reveal many others. God's Word, whether spoken or committed to the printed page, will not return to Him void. How sadly indifferent we are to the exhortation of our Lord: "Work while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work."—The Foreign Mission Journal.

MISS MARY REED AND HER WORK.

The year that has elapsed since Miss Reed resumed her work at Chandag, on her return from furlough, has been, in some respects, a time of trial and difficulty. During her absence the inmates of the asylum appear to have yielded to habits of deceit, and to have taken advantage of the comparative inexperience of the temporary Superintendent. On her return, Miss Reed found a lowered moral tone in the Institution, which, with her high ideals, was an especial trial to her. We are glad, however, to be able to report an improved condition, as the following brief extracts from recent letters will indicate:

Miss Reed writes:—

"Thank you and the dear friends, too, who have so faithfully continued to remember me and those for whom I live here in prayer. I am deeply grateful to be able to tell you that prayer is, in a measure, being answered, and changes are being wrought in the hearts, minds, and lives of a goodly number of these poor evil-doers. The women and girls have, for weeks past, set to work in downright earnest to 'bring forth fruits answerable to amendment of life.' The men and boys steadily and stubbornly resisted all efforts of various kinds, made for months past, to induce them to repent and reform, and not until the New Year began did they become willing to break an evil habit that was hampering and hindering them and keeping them in the bondage of the Evil One."

Miss Reed further writes: "It has been a battle during the past year, but all praise and thanks to Him in Whose strength, and by Whose grace, real victories have been won. He has triumphed over the power of the great enemy of souls, and a goodly number of my poor patients have been made free from a bondage that had deadened all spiritual life. It is such a relief to my heart to see them come out once again into the light and liberty of the children of God. Please pray that His saving power may be felt in a much greater degree in the hearts of those who are repentant. I

"I live and work out of doors as much as possible for months past for health reasons, as well as for the pleasure the outdoor life and work affords. I am sleeping more at night now, and in some ways my health is better than it was three months ago."