

Along the roadsides one often sees the graves of so-called holy men strangely decorated with rags. These are bits torn from the clothing of the sick and left there in the hope of leaving the disease also.—Children's Work in Mission Studies.

### THE STORY OF UN-HO, A CHINESE LEPER GIRL.

"How fair a lot to fill  
Is left to each one still!"

The story begins in the year 1893, when a blind singing girl was led into the Canton Hospital by her mistress, a woman who owned her, body and soul, and caused her to lead a life of sin and shame. But a diseased foot brought her to the hospital, and God was now to use this lame foot to set the captive free—free in both body and soul. For her disease, amputation of the leg was the only treatment that would avail. But her mistress objected, declaring she would be useless then. She would rather the girl died. The doctor in charge of the women's department said of this blind girl: "As to her spiritual nature, a more unpromising case I had seldom seen. She seemed benumbed, and for a time responded to no appeal. After long waiting she was induced to study a little; kind treatment softened her heart and gradually but slowly she yielded to the influences of the Spirit. She applied for baptism, but was put off because her mistress still claimed her. But God had other plans for her. The foot refused to heal, the mistress grew tired of waiting, and finally deserted her. Again she applied for baptism and was accepted. Being freed from her mistress, the amputation could be performed. This was done in the spring of 1894, and she made a good recovery. The true light had entered her soul, but what an object for sympathy!"

Blind and with one leg! What could be more hopeless! However, she was given work about the hospital. She scrubbed, washed, and cleaned windows; called the patients to prayers and to church services, and in this way earned her rice. During her spare time she continued to study in the school, and before she left the hospital in 1897 she had memorized the whole of the New Testament, with the exception of a few chapters in Revelation. But now we have to add one more to her long and heavy list of afflictions. In 1897 it was discovered that she was a leper.

Could anything more be added? Of what use

could such a person be? Allow her to live? Certainly, the Lord had need of her.

Encouraged by the example of some workers in India, she was induced to go to the leper village, and there tell of the Saviour she had found. If we were to let the curtain fall now, her story would be that of a wonderfully sad life, full of suffering, but saved from sin and cheered by the hope of a happy hereafter. But the curtain does not fall yet. Scarcely a year had passed before news came from the leper village, "Many have believed, and asked for baptism."

In 1898 a meeting was held at the entrance to the village, and out of many applicants, twenty were baptized, and took the Lord's Supper. Since then twenty others have followed their example. Nor is this all. The villagers near by heard about the lepers receiving the gospel, and many came to see what it was. They too heard and many believed. In all, not less than seventy persons have been baptized as a result of the work of this leper woman! And now we have our new chapel for growing work.

Surely the name she took when she was baptized is significant—Un-Ho, exchanged for the good, that is, put off the old and put on the new. In the spirit of this she has gone about her work. What an opportunity she had to say, "Lord, I cannot work, I am useless." Was there ever a more tremendously handicapped life? Any one of her afflictions seemed enough to debar almost any one from great usefulness. Blind, lame, and a leper, but withal an honored worker in the Master's vineyard! When the Master shall call her hence, and she shall cast off this diseased body, what a joy it will be to her to enter into that rest that remaineth to the people of God; that home above where there is no more pain or suffering, and where she will hear the welcome words, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." It will not be long before the summons comes, the leprosy is making rapid strides to set the imprisoned spirit free.—Rev. Andrew Beattie, in "Without the Camp."

Use thy youth so that thou mayest have comfort to remember it when it hath forsaken thee, and not sigh and grieve at the account thereof. Use it as the springtime, which soon departeth, and wherein thou oughtest to plant and sow all provisions for a long and happy life.—Sir Walter Raleigh.