

Letter for Christ. "One man walks twenty miles on Sunday morning in time for our service at nine o'clock, quite frequently," writes Mrs. McKenzie, from Honan. "He has suffered a good deal of petty persecution, but it does not seem to have shaken his faith in the least. He is a coffin maker by trade, and was doing fairly well; but as soon as it became known that he was interested in the 'foreign doctrine' people would not buy his coffins, as they said he bewitched them, and whoever bought one would die before the year was out. This made it very difficult for him to get along this winter. He asked for a small loan, (but it would never do to begin that) and it was feared that the refusal of it might offend him, but it does not seem to have made any difference in him, and we feel that there is every reason to hope that he is earnest and sincere in his profession."

Rev. Mr. & Mrs. McLennan. An interesting letter from Rev. K. McLennan, our latest missionary to Honan, is given on this page. He and his wife are stopping for a few weeks, studying the language and methods of work, at Pan Chuang, a station of the American Board, part way inland towards our own field. His statement as to the acquisition of property for a third station in Honan is very cheering, as it was feared they might have to give up the purchase for a time, owing to prejudice and opposition, and the progress made in the mission station where he now is, should be to us all a stimulus to press the work more earnestly in our different Foreign Fields.

LETTER FROM HONAN.

BY REV. K. McLENNAN.

Pang Chuang, China,
June 25, 1894.

DEAR RECORD.—We have been here over a month, with the good brethren of the A.B.C.F.M. There is no physician at present at Chu Wang, and all the ladies are away for a little, and Mr. Grant writes that it was well we did not go in for the heat of the summer, as had been my purpose. Besides we have an excellent opportunity of observation and learning of the solid work going on here; how the sight of it strengthens one's faith and gives courage to labor on in patience, knowing that what God has done here, He will do in our own field in Honan. Our time is occupied in the study of the language. It is an arduous and tedious task, but so directly does it bear on our work that one does not find it irksome or in any way grudge it.

We thoroughly enjoy the change from Tientsin (where they landed) to this quiet country village. We were most kindly treated at the former city, and enjoyed meeting so many missionaries, especially those from Honan, who

cheered us by their encouraging reports about the work at our two stations, Hsin Chen and Chu Wang; yet in such a large place as Tientsin, one is brought at once face to face with sin and misery in every disgusting and sickening form, so that the effect is most depressing, and one verily needs to strengthen his heart in God. Our trip inland by the grand canal was pleasant and uneventful, except that as we passed along by a village, a number of people were fishing out a woman who had attempted suicide to spite her mother-in-law. This is a favorite mode of revenge in China.

About a week after our arrival here, Dr. Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm, and Miss Mac-Intosh, passed down on their way to the coast, but we did not see them. Mrs. Malcolm has quite recovered, and the last letters stated that Dr. Smith is steadily improving, for which we are all thankful.

Messrs. McGillivray and Grant are in good health and spirits, and are very mindful of us, sending letters by every carrier.

They have been negotiating for some time about the purchase of a property at Chang te Fu, and the transaction is now practically complete, as the deed has been officially stamped, and two thirds of the money paid. Possession will be taken of this place shortly, and we trust without much ado or trouble. The securing of this property is a matter of great importance, and will be more so as the years go by, and the work extends.

To-day, in the Church here, there must have been fully five hundred people, and such an attentive, intelligent, and attractive congregation I did not expect in China. Eighteen were baptized, and as many more received in probation. They have members in over one hundred villages, and a total of nearly four hundred. Dr. Porter remarked to me at the close of the service that it was a subject of quiet thought for me, and truly it was. One wonders after such a sight at the shallow carping of 'globe trotters' who either avoid seeing such, or are blind, and fail to appreciate the profound significance thereof.

The more I look at the Chinese, think of their needs, and see what the Gospel is doing for them, and from afar what it will do for them in an increasing ratio for the future, the more am I glad, and thankful to have turned aside from prospects more pleasant, in a more congenial clime and country, and to have come here in response to what was to me for years, a voice more than human. May God spare us all in Honan to see his work established, and spreading far and wide, striking deeper and deeper roots into the soil of heathenism; we ask no greater privilege and blessing here below.

In September the brethren now at the coast will return, and we purpose to go in with them.