

once to ascertain the facts and face the enemy. When after two days' journey he reached the spot, he soon learned that the report was true. "A party," he writes, "who hated us from the beginning, forced the door in, tore maps, broke tiles, carried away baskets, and threatened the life of the teacher in charge. There are several in prison already, but we don't know what the end will be. I know this, however, the enemy there is beginning to feel that the gospel of Jesus is a *stern reality*, and therefore bestir themselves to trample it under their feet, if possible, but that they cannot do, though hell should be emptied to assist them. I believe there is a day of bitter persecution in store for the Church in Formosa. Let us beseech Jehovah to help each one in darkness or sunshine, to shout, "God is our refuge and our strength, in straits a present aid."

A site for the hospital at Tamsui has not yet been secured. Almost innumerable difficulties have baffled the efforts of the missionaries up to the present time, but they hope in the end to be able to erect on some suitable site an edifice more adapted for the purpose. They have, however, rented a commodious house which they use in the meantime for an hospital and chapel. Mr. McKay preached five Sabbaths in succession in the new chapel, and the attendance was better than it has been for the past four or five years.

Mr. Junor since his arrival in Formosa has been chiefly engaged in the study of the language, but he has already been able in various ways to render effective service to the cause of the mission. He has met a very cordial welcome from Mr. McKay and his helpers, and has entered on his work with zeal and energy. Both he and Mrs. Junor are making such progress in the language as will enable them soon to communicate freely with the people. Mr. McKay writes, "You will doubtless be glad to learn that my dear colleague is getting on very well studying the language. One of the helpers is his teacher, and though necessarily there are many interruptions, Mr. Junor is making marked progress, and ere long will be proclaiming the gospel of peace in Chinese. Mrs. Junor comes every day to study the language with Mrs. McKay, and she too is making decided progress, and in due time will be able to help on the great work of our adorable Redeemer, Christ Jesus." Mr. and Mrs. Junor have sustained a severe trial since they reached Formosa, in the sudden death of their only child, an interesting boy. Early as he was taken from them, it was not before he had learned to love the Saviour and look forward joyfully to the better country. Your committee feel assured that the afflicted parents have had the hearty sympathy of the Church in their bereavement.

Dr. Ringer, who from the beginning of the mission has rendered it such generous service, has during the year continued to take charge of the hospital at Tamsui gratuitously. In the absence of the Annual Report, which has not come to hand, we cannot give details of work accomplished. But from the incidental notices which have come to hand during the year, we infer that the hospital work has kept up to its usual amount. It is to be hoped that, when a more suitable building has been secured, its usefulness will extend. To Dr. Ringer the Church is under a debt of gratitude for his long continued gratuitous services, well deserving of some special recognition. An interesting feature of the work in China which is full of promise for the future is the steps now being taken to reach the women more effectively. Five Bible Women are undergoing a training to fit them for usefulness among their sisters in Formosa. Mrs. McKay has done excellent service in leading the Chinese women to attend more largely the various gatherings and avail themselves more freely of the public means of grace. At a festive gathering held at Ton-liang-pong in December last, where some five hundred Christians were assembled, it is mentioned by Mr. Junor as a fact especially noteworthy that not fewer than one hundred women were present.

This portion of the report may be suitably closed with a few gleanings from a deeply interesting letter from Mr. McKay, of the 24th March, which arrived after this part of it was nearly completed. He writes, "the 3rd instant was a day of joy mingled with feelings of the deepest sadness to me. I finished my work of teaching the remaining five students, who have been travelling with me for the past two, three and four years. They are now helpers, waiting for openings to go forth and preach salvation through a crucified Redeemer.

Thus you see that, in all, there are twenty trained native preachers here in Northern Formosa all of whom I taught during the past seven years. In many places, and under various circumstances, I endeavoured to teach them the Bible, geography, church history, astronomy, anatomy, physiology, etc." . . . "You need not wonder that when I think of *twenty trained native preachers* here, I rejoice above measure, and when I think of the *glorious* time I had travelling with them being at an end, I feel as no words can express. *God bless them for ever more!*" Mr. McKay has been cheered by the baptism of a large number of members at Lun-a-teng Chapel, Saturday the 22nd of March, until noon, he spent examining the converts, Mrs. McKay also visiting them in their houses. "About mid-day Mr. and Mrs. Junor arrived by boat from Tamsui. In the evening we had a good meeting. Yesterday, converts began to assemble early in the morning, but some from a distance did not arrive until 10 or 11 o'clock a.m. All being seated, the services began, according to the plan I pursued since beginning work here. Myself and several helpers preached. Mr. Junor read a hymn and administered the ordinance of baptism. Twenty-seven were baptized, making a total of 255 members living. Judging from Mr. Junor's first attempt in public, I think it will not be long till he will be able to preach in Chinese. In the afternoon eighty persons sat down at the Lord's table."

It is little more than seven years since Mr. McKay landed in Northern Formosa, where unbroken heathenism then reigned, and when he last wrote he could report, "there are seven schools here, with about one hundred and fifty children in all studying daily. There are fifteen