

We were very pleased to hear of the grant for an orphanage, and that it was to be called the "Jennie Ford Home." Miss Ford was so anxious that the Society should take up this work; "being dead she will yet speak" to future workers here through these children. We had a business meeting to-day, and Miss Foster was appointed chairman of the committee for building the orphanage. She has progressed very well with the language, and it will do her good to do this work. Of course, I will give any help necessary.

*February 14th.*—We are having beautiful weather at present—no rain since the 1st of September. Consequently, rice is very dear. We were out on the wall a few days ago to see the beggars fed. From there we could look right down in the enclosure and see the bowls of rice handed to them, and pitiful looking objects most of them were, many of them, even in the coldest days, having nothing in the way of clothing but a piece of matting tied around their shoulders.

The enclosure is divided—one side for the women and the other for the men, and when the gates were opened for them to leave, we watched them for twenty-five minutes crowding out and still could not perceive that the crowd inside had lessened very much. They are fed during the winter months at both the north and east gates, and at this east gate alone the number is estimated at anything from 5,000 to 10,000; and still I have recently seen in some of the home papers that there are no beggars in China. (Perhaps this referred to the Chinese in America.) In the streets of this city, any day in the year, we can show you some most pitiable looking creatures.

The annual meeting of the American Methodists of West China is being held this week, so we have many of the Chung-King friends with us at present. To reach here they had ten days overland journey in Sedan chairs, otherwise it would have meant a month or more by boat. Of course they had all the pleasure of resting at nights in Chinese inns with the company of chickens, pigs, opium-smoking chairmen, etc., etc., disagreeables too numerous to mention.

Bishop Joyce took this journey last year and said he