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A RETROSPECT

BY

J. HUDSON TAYLOR

*Thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy  
God led thee.*

THIRD EDITION

TORONTO  
CHINA INLAND MISSION  
507 CHURCH STREET

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94 photographs and sketches are hereby tendered to Rev.  
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101

102

103

104

105 [Illustration]

106

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110

## 111 CHAPTER I

112

### 113 THE POWER OF PRAYER

114

115

116 THE following account of some of the experiences  
117 which eventually led to the formation of the CHINA  
118 INLAND MISSION, and to its taking the form in  
119 which it has been developed, first appeared in the pages  
120 of China's Millions. Many of those who read it there  
121 asked that it might appear in separate form. Miss  
122 Guinness incorporated it in the Story of the China  
123 Inland Mission, a record which contained the account  
124 of GOD'S goodness to the beginning of 1894. But  
125 friends still asking for it in pamphlet form, for wider  
126 distribution, this edition is brought out.

127

128 Much of the material was taken from notes of addresses  
129 given in China during a conference of our missionaries;  
130 this will account for the direct and narrative form of the  
131 papers, which it has not been thought necessary to  
132 change.

133

134 It is always helpful to us to fix our attention on the  
135 GOD-ward aspect of Christian work; to realise that the  
136 work of GOD does not mean so much man's work for  
137 GOD, as GOD'S own work through man. Furthermore,  
138 in our privileged position of fellow-workers with Him,  
139 while fully recognising all the benefits and blessings to  
140 be bestowed on a sin-stricken world through the  
141 proclamation of the Gospel and spread of the Truth, we  
142 should never lose sight of the higher aspect of our  
143 work—that of obedience to GOD, of bringing glory to  
144 His Name, of gladdening the heart of our GOD and  
145 FATHER by living and serving as His beloved  
146 children.

147

148 Many circumstances connected with my own early life  
149 and service presented this aspect of work vividly to me;  
150 and as I think of some of them, I am reminded of how  
151 much the cause of missions is indebted to many who  
152 are never themselves permitted to see the mission  
153 field—many, it may be, who are unable to give largely  
154 of their substance, and who will be not a little surprised  
155 in the Great Day to see how much the work has been  
156 advanced by their love, their sympathy, and their  
157 prayers.

158

159 For myself, and for the work that I have been permitted  
160 to do for GOD, I owe an unspeakable debt of gratitude  
161 to my beloved and honoured parents, who have passed  
162 away and entered into rest, but the influence of whose  
163 lives will never pass away.

164

165 Many years ago, probably about 1830, the heart of my  
166 dear father, then himself an earnest and successful  
167 evangelist at home, was deeply stirred as to the  
168 spiritual state of China by reading several books, and  
169 especially an account of the travels of Captain Basil  
170 Hall. His circumstances were such as to preclude the  
171 hope of his ever going to China for personal service,  
172 but he was led to pray that if GOD should give him a  
173 son, he might be called and privileged to labour in the  
174 vast needy empire which was then apparently so sealed  
175 against the truth. I was not aware of this desire or  
176 prayer myself until my return to England, more than  
177 seven years after I had sailed for China; but it was very  
178 interesting then to know how prayer offered before my  
179 birth had been answered in this matter.

180

181 All thought of my becoming a missionary was  
182 abandoned for many years by my dear parents on  
183 account of the feebleness of my health. When the time  
184 came, however, GOD gave increased health, and my  
185 life has been spared, and strength has been given for  
186 not a little toilsome service both in the mission field  
187 and at home, while many stronger men and women  
188 have succumbed.

189

190 I had many opportunities in early years of learning the  
191 value of prayer and of the Word of GOD; for it was the  
192 delight of my dear parents to point out that if there  
193 were any such Being as GOD, to trust Him, to obey  
194 Him, and to be fully given up to His service, must of  
195 necessity be the best and wisest course both for myself  
196 and others. But in spite of these helpful examples and  
197 precepts my heart was unchanged. Often I had tried to  
198 make myself a Christian; and failing of course in such  
199 efforts, I began at last to think that for some reason or  
200 other I could not be saved, and that the best I could do  
201 was to take my fill of this world, as there was no hope  
202 for me beyond the grave.

203

204 While in this state of mind I came in contact with  
205 persons holding sceptical and infidel views, and  
206 accepted their teaching, only too thankful for some  
207 hope of escape from the doom which, if my parents  
208 were right and the Bible true, awaited the impenitent. It  
209 may seem strange to say it, but I have often felt  
210 thankful for the experience of this time of scepticism.  
211 The inconsistencies of Christian people, who while  
212 professing to believe their Bibles were yet content to  
213 live just as they would if there were no such book, had  
214 been one of the strongest arguments of my sceptical  
215 companions; and I frequently felt at that time, and said,  
216 that if I pretended to believe the Bible I would at any  
217 rate attempt to live by it, putting it fairly to the test, and  
218 if it failed to prove true and reliable, would throw it  
219 overboard altogether. These views I retained when the  
220 LORD was pleased to bring me to Himself; and I think  
221 I may say that since then I \_have\_ put GOD'S Word to

222 the test. Certainly it has never failed me. I have never  
223 had reason to regret the confidence I have placed in its  
224 promises, or to deplore following the guidance I have  
225 found in its directions.

226

227 Let me tell you how GOD answered the prayers of my  
228 dear mother and of my beloved sister, now Mrs.  
229 Broomhall, for my conversion. On a day which I shall  
230 never forget, when I was about fifteen years of age, my  
231 dear mother being absent from home, I had a holiday,  
232 and in the afternoon looked through my father's library  
233 to find some book with which to while away the  
234 unoccupied hours. Nothing attracting me, I turned over  
235 a little basket of pamphlets, and selected from amongst  
236 them a Gospel tract which looked interesting, saying to  
237 myself, "There will be a story at the commencement,  
238 and a sermon or moral at the close: I will take the  
239 former and leave the latter for those who like it."

240

241 I sat down to read the little book in an utterly  
242 unconcerned state of mind, believing indeed at the time  
243 that if there were any salvation it was not for me, and  
244 with a distinct intention to put away the tract as soon as  
245 it should seem prosy. I may say that it was not  
246 uncommon in those days to call conversion "becoming  
247 serious"; and judging by the faces of some of its  
248 professors, it appeared to be a very serious matter  
249 indeed. Would it not be well if the people of GOD had  
250 always tell-tale faces, evincing the blessings and  
251 gladness of salvation so clearly that unconverted people  
252 might have to call conversion "becoming joyful"  
253 instead of "becoming serious"?

254

255 Little did I know at the time what was going on in the  
256 heart of my dear mother, seventy or eighty miles away.  
257 She rose from the dinner-table that afternoon with an  
258 intense yearning for the conversion of her boy, and  
259 feeling that—absent from home, and having more  
260 leisure than she could otherwise secure—a special  
261 opportunity was afforded her of pleading with GOD on  
262 my behalf. She went to her room and turned the key in  
263 the door, resolved not to leave that spot until her  
264 prayers were answered. Hour after hour did that dear  
265 mother plead for me, until at length she could pray no  
266 longer, but was constrained to praise GOD for that  
267 which His SPIRIT taught her had already been  
268 accomplished—the conversion of her only son.

269

270 I in the meantime had been led in the way I have  
271 mentioned to take up this little tract, and while reading  
272 it was struck with the sentence, “The finished work of  
273 CHRIST.” The thought passed through my mind,  
274 “Why does the author use this expression? why not say  
275 the atoning or propitiatory work of CHRIST?”  
276 Immediately the words “It is finished” suggested  
277 themselves to my mind. What was finished? And I at  
278 once replied, “A full and perfect atonement and  
279 satisfaction for sin: the debt was paid by the Substitute;  
280 CHRIST died for our sins, and not for ours only, but  
281 also for the sins of the whole world.” Then came the  
282 thought, “If the whole work was finished and the whole  
283 debt paid, what is there left for me to do?” And with  
284 this dawned the joyful conviction, as light was flashed  
285 into my soul by the HOLY SPIRIT, that there was

286 nothing in the world to be done but to fall down on  
287 one's knees, and accepting this SAVIOUR and His  
288 salvation, to praise Him for evermore. Thus while my  
289 dear mother was praising GOD on her knees in her  
290 chamber, I was praising Him in the old warehouse to  
291 which I had gone alone to read at my leisure this little  
292 book.

293

294 Several days elapsed ere I ventured to make my  
295 beloved sister the confidante of my joy, and then only  
296 after she had promised not to tell any one of my soul  
297 secret. When our dear mother came home a fortnight  
298 later, I was the first to meet her at the door, and to tell  
299 her I had such glad news to give. I can almost feel that  
300 dear mother's arms around my neck, as she pressed me  
301 to her bosom and said, "I know, my boy; I have been  
302 rejoicing for a fortnight in the glad tidings you have to  
303 tell me." "Why," I asked in surprise, "has Amelia  
304 broken her promise? She said she would tell no one."  
305 My dear mother assured me that it was not from any  
306 human source that she had learned the tidings, and  
307 went on to tell the little incident mentioned above. You  
308 will agree with me that it would be strange indeed if I  
309 were not a believer in the power of prayer.

310

311 Nor was this all. Some little time after, I picked up a  
312 pocket-book exactly like one of my own, and thinking  
313 that it was mine, opened it. The lines that caught my  
314 eye were an entry in the little diary, which belonged to  
315 my sister, to the effect that she would give herself daily  
316 to prayer until GOD should answer in the conversion of

317 her brother. Exactly one month later the LORD was  
318 pleased to turn me from darkness to light.

319

320 Brought up in such a circle and saved under such  
321 circumstances, it was perhaps natural that from the  
322 commencement of my Christian life I was led to feel  
323 that the promises were very real, and that prayer was in  
324 sober matter of fact transacting business with GOD,  
325 whether on one's own behalf or on behalf of those for  
326 whom one sought His blessing.

327

328 [Illustration]

329

330

331

332

## 333 CHAPTER II

334

### 335 THE CALL TO SERVICE

336

337

338 THE first joys of conversion passed away after a time,  
339 and were succeeded by a period of painful deadness of  
340 soul, with much conflict. But this also came to an end,  
341 leaving a deepened sense of personal weakness and  
342 dependence on the LORD as the only KEEPER as well  
343 as SAVIOUR of His people. How sweet to the soul,  
344 wearied and disappointed in its struggles with sin, is  
345 the calm repose of trust in the SHEPHERD of Israel.

346

347 Not many months after my conversion, having a leisure  
348 afternoon, I retired to my own chamber to spend it

349 largely in communion with GOD. Well do I remember  
350 that occasion. How in the gladness of my heart I poured  
351 out my soul before GOD; and again and again  
352 confessing my grateful love to Him who had done  
353 everything for me—who had saved me when I had  
354 given up all hope and even desire for salvation—I  
355 besought Him to give me some work to do for Him, as  
356 an outlet for love and gratitude; some self-denying  
357 service, no matter what it might be, however trying or  
358 however trivial; something with which He would be  
359 pleased, and that I might do for Him who had done so  
360 much for me. Well do I remember, as in unreserved  
361 consecration I put myself, my life, my friends, my all,  
362 upon the altar, the deep solemnity that came over my  
363 soul with the assurance that my offering was accepted.  
364 The presence of GOD became unutterably real and  
365 blessed; and though but a child under sixteen, I  
366 remember stretching myself on the ground, and lying  
367 there silent before Him with unspeakable awe and  
368 unspeakable joy.

369

370 For what service I was accepted I knew not; but a deep  
371 consciousness that I was no longer my own took  
372 possession of me, which has never since been effaced.  
373 It has been a very practical consciousness. Two or three  
374 years later propositions of an unusually favourable  
375 nature were made to me with regard to medical study,  
376 on the condition of my becoming apprenticed to the  
377 medical man who was my friend and teacher. But I felt  
378 I dared not accept any binding engagement such as was  
379 suggested. I was not my own to give myself away; for I  
380 knew not when or how He whose alone I was, and for

381 whose disposal I felt I must ever keep myself free,  
382 might call for service.

383

384 Within a few months of this time of consecration the  
385 impression was wrought into my soul that it was in  
386 China the LORD wanted me. It seemed to me highly  
387 probable that the work to which I was thus called might  
388 cost my life; for China was not then open as it is now.  
389 But few missionary societies had at that time workers  
390 in China, and but few books on the subject of China  
391 missions were accessible to me. I learned, however,  
392 that the Congregational minister of my native town  
393 possessed a copy of Medhurst's China, and I called  
394 upon him to ask a loan of the book. This he kindly  
395 granted, asking me why I wished to read it. I told him  
396 that GOD had called me to spend my life in missionary  
397 service in that land. "And how do you propose to go  
398 there?" he inquired. I answered that I did not at all  
399 know; that it seemed to me probable that I should need  
400 to do as the Twelve and the Seventy had done in  
401 Juda—go without purse or scrip, relying on Him who  
402 had called me to supply all my need. Kindly placing his  
403 hand upon my shoulder, the minister replied, "Ah, my  
404 boy, as you grow older you will get wiser than that.  
405 Such an idea would do very well in the days when  
406 CHRIST Himself was on earth, but not now."

407

408 I have grown older since then, but not wiser. I am more  
409 than ever convinced that if we were to take the  
410 directions of our MASTER and the assurances He gave  
411 to His first disciples more fully as our guide, we should

412 find them to be just as suited to our times as to those in  
413 which they were originally given.

414

415 Medhurst's book on China emphasised the value of  
416 medical missions there, and this directed my attention  
417 to medical studies as a valuable mode of preparation.

418

419 My beloved parents neither discouraged nor  
420 encouraged my desire to engage in missionary work.

421 They advised me, with such convictions, to use all the  
422 means in my power to develop the resources of body,  
423 mind, heart, and soul, and to wait prayerfully upon  
424 GOD, quite willing, should He show me that I was  
425 mistaken, to follow His guidance, or to go forward if in  
426 due time He should open the way to missionary  
427 service. The importance of this advice I have often  
428 since had occasion to prove. I began to take more  
429 exercise in the open air to strengthen my physique. My  
430 feather bed I had taken away, and sought to dispense  
431 with as many other home comforts as I could, in order  
432 to prepare myself for rougher lines of life. I began also  
433 to do what Christian work was in my power, in the way  
434 of tract distribution, Sunday-school teaching, and  
435 visiting the poor and sick, as opportunity afforded.

436

437 After a time of preparatory study at home, I went to  
438 Hull for medical and surgical training. There I became  
439 assistant to a doctor who was connected with the Hull  
440 school of medicine, and was surgeon also to a number  
441 of factories, which brought many accident cases to our  
442 dispensary, and gave me the opportunity of seeing and  
443 practising the minor operations of surgery.

444

445 And here an event took place that I must not omit to  
446 mention. Before leaving home my attention was drawn  
447 to the subject of setting apart the firstfruits of all one's  
448 increase and a proportionate part of one's possessions  
449 to the LORD'S service. I thought it well to study the  
450 question with my Bible in hand before I went away  
451 from home, and was placed in circumstances which  
452 might bias my conclusions by the pressure of  
453 surrounding wants and cares. I was thus led to the  
454 determination to set apart not less than one-tenth of  
455 whatever moneys I might earn or become possessed of  
456 for the LORD'S service. The salary I received as  
457 medical assistant in Hull at the time now referred to  
458 would have allowed me with ease to do this. But owing  
459 to changes in the family of my kind friend and  
460 employer, it was necessary for me to reside out of  
461 doors. Comfortable quarters were secured with a  
462 relative, and in addition to the sum determined on as  
463 remuneration for my services I received the exact  
464 amount I had to pay for board and lodging.

465

466 Now arose in my mind the question, Ought not this  
467 sum also to be tithed? It was surely a part of my  
468 income, and I felt that if it had been a question of  
469 Government income tax it certainly would not have  
470 been excluded. On the other hand, to take a tithe from  
471 the whole would not leave me sufficient for other  
472 purposes; and for some little time I was much  
473 embarrassed to know what to do. After much thought  
474 and prayer I was led to leave the comfortable quarters  
475 and happy circle in which I was now residing, and to

476 engage a little lodging in the suburbs—a sitting-room  
477 and bedroom in one—undertaking to board myself. In  
478 this way I was able without difficulty to tithes the whole  
479 of my income; and while I felt the change a good deal,  
480 it was attended with no small blessing.

481

482 More time was given in my solitude to the study of the  
483 Word of GOD, to visiting the poor, and to evangelistic  
484 work on summer evenings than would otherwise have  
485 been the case. Brought into contact in this way with  
486 many who were in distress, I soon saw the privilege of  
487 still further economising, and found it not difficult to  
488 give away much more than the proportion of my  
489 income I had at first intended.

490

491 About this time a friend drew my attention to the  
492 question of the personal and pre-millennial coming of  
493 our LORD JESUS CHRIST, and gave me a list of  
494 passages bearing upon it, without note or comment,  
495 advising me to ponder the subject. For a while I gave  
496 much time to studying the Scriptures about it, with the  
497 result that I was led to see that this same JESUS who  
498 left our earth in His resurrection body was so to come  
499 again, that His feet were to stand on the Mount of  
500 Olives, and that He was to take possession of the  
501 temporal throne of His father David which was  
502 promised before His birth. I saw, further, that all  
503 through the New Testament the coming of the LORD  
504 was the great hope of His people, and was always  
505 appealed to as the strongest motive for consecration  
506 and service, and as the greatest comfort in trial and  
507 affliction. I learned, too, that the period of His return

508 for His people was not revealed, and that it was their  
509 privilege, from day to day and from hour to hour, to  
510 live as men who wait for the LORD; that thus living it  
511 was immaterial, so to speak, whether He should or  
512 should not come at any particular hour, the important  
513 thing being to be so ready for Him as to be able,  
514 whenever He might appear, to give an account of one's  
515 stewardship with joy, and not with grief.

516

517 The effect of this blessed hope was a thoroughly  
518 practical one. It led me to look carefully through my  
519 little library to see if there were any books there that  
520 were not needed or likely to be of further service, and  
521 to examine my small wardrobe, to be quite sure that it  
522 contained nothing that I should be sorry to give an  
523 account of should the MASTER come at once. The  
524 result was that the library was considerably diminished,  
525 to the benefit of some poor neighbours, and to the far  
526 greater benefit of my own and that I found I had  
527 articles of clothing also which might be put to better  
528 advantage in other directions.

529

530 It has been very helpful to me from time to time  
531 through life, as occasion has served, to act again in a  
532 similar way; and I have never gone through my house,  
533 from basement to attic, with this object in view,  
534 without receiving a great accession of spiritual joy and  
535 blessing. I believe we are all in danger of  
536 accumulating—it may be from thoughtlessness, or from  
537 pressure of occupation—things which would be useful  
538 to others, while not needed by ourselves, and the  
539 retention of which entails loss of blessing. If the whole

540 resources of the Church of GOD were well utilised,  
541 how much more might be accomplished! How many  
542 poor might be fed and naked clothed, and to how many  
543 of those as yet unreached the Gospel might be carried!  
544 Let me advise this line of things as a constant habit of  
545 mind, and a profitable course to be practically adopted  
546 whenever circumstances permit.

547

548 [Illustration]

549

550

551

552

553 CHAPTER III

554

555 PREPARATION FOR SERVICE

556

557

558 HAVING now the twofold object in view of  
559 accustoming myself to endure hardness, and of  
560 economising in order to be able more largely to assist  
561 those amongst whom I spent a good deal of time  
562 labouring in the Gospel, I soon found that I could live  
563 upon very much less than I had previously thought  
564 possible. Butter, milk, and other such luxuries I soon  
565 ceased to use; and I found that by living mainly on  
566 oatmeal and rice, with occasional variations, a very  
567 small sum was sufficient for my needs. In this way I  
568 had more than two-thirds of my income available for  
569 other purposes; and my experience was that the less I  
570 spent on myself and the more I gave away, the fuller of  
571 happiness and blessing did my soul become.

572 Unspeakable joy all the day long, and every day, was  
573 my happy experience. GOD, even my GOD, was a  
574 living, bright Reality; and all I had to do was joyful  
575 service.

576

577 It was to me a very grave matter, however, to  
578 contemplate going out to China, far away from all  
579 human aid, there to depend upon the living GOD alone  
580 for protection, supplies, and help of every kind. I felt  
581 that one's spiritual muscles required strengthening for  
582 such an undertaking. There was no doubt that if faith  
583 did not fail, GOD would not fail; but, then, what if  
584 one's faith should prove insufficient? I had not at that  
585 time learned that even "if we believe not, He abideth  
586 faithful, He cannot deny Himself"; and it was  
587 consequently a very serious question to my mind, not  
588 whether He was faithful, but whether I had strong  
589 enough faith to warrant my embarking in the enterprise  
590 set before me.

591

592 I thought to myself, "When I get out to China, I shall  
593 have no claim on any one for anything; my only claim  
594 will be on GOD. How important, therefore, to learn  
595 before leaving England to move man, through GOD, by  
596 prayer alone."

597

598 At Hull my kind employer, always busily occupied,  
599 wished me to remind him whenever my salary became  
600 due. This I determined not to do directly, but to ask that  
601 GOD would bring the fact to his recollection, and thus  
602 encourage me by answering prayer. At one time, as the  
603 day drew near for the payment of a quarter's salary, I

604 was as usual much in prayer about it. The time arrived,  
605 but my kind friend made no allusion to the matter. I  
606 continued praying, and days passed on, but he did not  
607 remember, until at length, on settling up my weekly  
608 accounts one Saturday night, I found myself possessed  
609 of only a single coin—one half-crown piece. Still I had  
610 hitherto had no lack, and I continued in prayer.

611

612 That Sunday was a very happy one. As usual my heart  
613 was full and brimming over with blessing. After  
614 attending Divine service in the morning, my afternoons  
615 and evenings were filled with Gospel work, in the  
616 various lodging-houses I was accustomed to visit in the  
617 lowest part of the town. At such times it almost seemed  
618 to me as if heaven were begun below, and that all that  
619 could be looked for was an enlargement of one's  
620 capacity for joy, not a truer filling than I possessed.  
621 After concluding my last service about ten o'clock that  
622 night, a poor man asked me to go and pray with his  
623 wife, saying that she was dying. I readily agreed, and  
624 on the way to his house asked him why he had not sent  
625 for the priest, as his accent told me he was an Irishman.  
626 He had done so, he said, but the priest refused to come  
627 without a payment of eighteenpence, which the man  
628 did not possess, as the family was starving.  
629 Immediately it occurred to my mind that all the money  
630 I had in the world was the solitary half-crown, and that  
631 it was in one coin; moreover, that while the basin of  
632 water gruel I usually took for supper was awaiting me,  
633 and there was sufficient in the house for breakfast in  
634 the morning, I certainly had nothing for dinner on the  
635 coming day.

636

637 Somehow or other there was at once a stoppage in the  
638 flow of joy in my heart; but instead of reproving myself  
639 I began to reprove the poor man, telling him that it was  
640 very wrong to have allowed matters to get into such a  
641 state as he described, and that he ought to have applied  
642 to the relieving officer. His answer was that he had  
643 done so, and was told to come at eleven o'clock the  
644 next morning, but that he feared that his wife might not  
645 live through the night. "Ah," thought I, "if only I had  
646 two shillings and a sixpence instead of this half-crown,  
647 how gladly would I give these poor people one shilling  
648 of it!" But to part with the half-crown was far from my  
649 thoughts. I little dreamed that the real truth of the  
650 matter simply was that I could trust in GOD plus one-  
651 and-sixpence, but was not yet prepared to trust Him  
652 only, without any money at all in my pocket.

653

654 My conductor led me into a court, down which I  
655 followed him with some degree of nervousness. I had  
656 found myself there before, and at my last visit had been  
657 very roughly handled, while my tracts were torn to  
658 pieces, and I received such a warning not to come again  
659 that I felt more than a little concerned. Still, it was the  
660 path of duty, and I followed on. Up a miserable flight  
661 of stairs, into a wretched room, he led me; and oh what  
662 a sight there presented itself to our eyes! Four or five  
663 poor children stood about, their sunken cheeks and  
664 temples all telling unmistakably the story of slow  
665 starvation; and lying on a wretched pallet was a poor  
666 exhausted mother, with a tiny infant thirty-six hours  
667 old, moaning rather than crying at her side, for it too

668 seemed spent and failing. “Ah!” thought I, “if I had two  
669 shillings and a sixpence instead of half-a-crown, how  
670 gladly should they have one-and-sixpence of it!” But  
671 still a wretched unbelief prevented me from obeying  
672 the impulse to relieve their distress at the cost of all I  
673 possessed.

674

675 It will scarcely seem strange that I was unable to say  
676 much to comfort these poor people. I needed comfort  
677 myself. I began to tell them, however, that they must  
678 not be cast down, that though their circumstances were  
679 very distressing, there was a kind and loving FATHER  
680 in heaven; but something within me said, “You  
681 hypocrite! telling these unconverted people about a  
682 kind and loving FATHER in heaven, and not prepared  
683 yourself to trust Him without half-a-crown!” I was  
684 nearly choked. How gladly would I have compromised  
685 with conscience if I had had a florin and a sixpence! I  
686 would have given the florin thankfully and kept the  
687 rest; but I was not yet prepared to trust in GOD alone,  
688 without the sixpence.

689

690 To talk was impossible under these circumstances; yet,  
691 strange to say, I thought I should have no difficulty in  
692 praying. Prayer was a delightful occupation to me in  
693 those days; time thus spent never seemed wearisome,  
694 and I knew nothing of lack of words. I seemed to think  
695 that all I should have to do would be to kneel down and  
696 engage in prayer, and that relief would come to them  
697 and to myself together. “You asked me to come and  
698 pray with your wife,” I said to the man, “let us pray.”  
699 And I knelt down. But scarcely had I opened my lips

700 with “Our FATHER who art in heaven” than  
701 conscience said within, “Dare you mock GOD? Dare  
702 you kneel down and call Him FATHER with that half-  
703 crown in your pocket?” Such a time of conflict came  
704 upon me then as I have never experienced before or  
705 since. How I got through that form of prayer I know  
706 not, and whether the words uttered were connected or  
707 disconnected I cannot tell; but I arose from my knees in  
708 great distress of mind.

709

710 The poor father turned to me and said, “You see what a  
711 terrible state we are in, sir; if you can help us, for  
712 GOD’S sake do!” Just then the word flashed into my  
713 mind, “Give to him that asketh of thee,” and in the  
714 word of a KING there is power. I put my hand into my  
715 pocket, and slowly drawing forth the half-crown, gave  
716 it to the man, telling him that it might seem a small  
717 matter for me to relieve them, seeing that I was  
718 comparatively well off, but that in parting with that  
719 coin I was giving him my all; what I had been trying to  
720 tell him was indeed true—GOD really was a FATHER,  
721 and might be trusted. The joy all came back in full  
722 flood-tide to my heart; I could say anything and feel it  
723 then, and the hindrance to blessing was gone—gone, I  
724 trust, for ever.

725

726 Not only was the poor woman’s life saved, but I  
727 realised that my life was saved too! It might have been  
728 a wreck—would have been a wreck probably, as a  
729 Christian life—had not grace at that time conquered,  
730 and the striving of GOD’S SPIRIT been obeyed. I well  
731 remember how that night, as I went home to my

732 lodgings, my heart was as light as my pocket. The  
733 lonely, deserted streets resounded with a hymn of  
734 praise which I could not restrain. When I took my basin  
735 of gruel before retiring, I would not have exchanged it  
736 for a prince's feast. I reminded the LORD as I knelt at  
737 my bedside of His own Word, that he who giveth to the  
738 poor lendeth to the LORD: I asked Him not to let my  
739 loan be a long one, or I should have no dinner next day;  
740 and with peace within and peace without, I spent a  
741 happy, restful night.

742

743 Next morning for breakfast my plate of porridge  
744 remained, and before it was consumed the postman's  
745 knock was heard at the door. I was not in the habit of  
746 receiving letters on Monday, as my parents and most of  
747 my friends refrained from posting on Saturday; so that  
748 I was somewhat surprised when the landlady came in  
749 holding a letter or packet in her wet hand covered by  
750 her apron. I looked at the letter, but could not make out  
751 the handwriting. It was either a strange hand or a  
752 feigned one, and the postmark was blurred. Where it  
753 came from I could not tell. On opening the envelope I  
754 found nothing written within; but inside a sheet of  
755 blank paper was folded a pair of kid gloves, from  
756 which, as I opened them in astonishment, half-a-  
757 sovereign fell to the ground. "Praise the LORD!" I  
758 exclaimed; "400 per cent for twelve hours investment;  
759 that is good interest. How glad the merchants of Hull  
760 would be if they could lend their money at such a rate!"  
761 I then and there determined that a bank which could not  
762 break should have my savings or earnings as the case

763 might be—a determination I have not yet learned to  
764 regret.

765

766 I cannot tell you how often my mind has recurred to  
767 this incident, or all the help it has been to me in  
768 circumstances of difficulty in after-life. If we are  
769 faithful to GOD in little things, we shall gain  
770 experience and strength that will be helpful to us in the  
771 more serious trials of life.

772

773 [Illustration]

774

775

776

777

## 778 CHAPTER IV

779

### 780 FURTHER ANSWERS TO PRAYER

781

782

783 THE remarkable and gracious deliverance I have  
784 spoken of, was a great joy to me, as well as a strong  
785 confirmation of faith; but of course ten shillings,  
786 however economically used, will not go very far, and it  
787 was none the less necessary to continue in prayer,  
788 asking that the larger supply which was still due might  
789 be remembered and paid. All my petitions, however,  
790 appeared to remain unanswered; and before a fortnight  
791 had elapsed I found myself pretty much in the same  
792 position that I had occupied on the Sunday night  
793 already made so memorable. Meanwhile, I continued  
794 pleading with GOD, more and more earnestly, that He

795 would graciously remind my employer that my salary  
796 was overdue. Of course it was not the want of the  
797 money that distressed me—that could have been had at  
798 any time for the asking—but the question uppermost in  
799 my mind was this: “Can I go to China? or will my want  
800 of faith and power with GOD prove to be so serious an  
801 obstacle as to preclude my entering upon this much-  
802 prized service?”

803

804 As the week drew to a close I felt exceedingly  
805 embarrassed. There was not only myself to consider; on  
806 Saturday night a payment would be due to my Christian  
807 landlady which I knew she could not well dispense  
808 with. Ought I not, for her sake, to speak about the  
809 matter of the salary? Yet to do so would be, to myself  
810 at any rate, the admission that I was not fitted to  
811 undertake a missionary enterprise. I gave nearly the  
812 whole of Thursday and Friday—all the time not  
813 occupied in my necessary employment—to earnest  
814 wrestling with GOD in prayer. But still on Saturday  
815 morning I was in the same position as before. And now  
816 my earnest cry was for guidance as to whether it was  
817 my duty to break silence and speak to my employer, or  
818 whether I should still continue to wait the FATHER’s  
819 time. As far as I could judge, I received the assurance  
820 that to wait His time was best; and that GOD in some  
821 way or other would interpose on my behalf. So I  
822 waited, my heart being now at rest and the burden  
823 gone.

824

825 About five o’clock that Saturday afternoon, when the  
826 doctor had finished writing his prescriptions, his last

827 circuit for the day being taken, he threw himself back  
828 in his arm-chair, as he was wont, and began to speak of  
829 the things of GOD. He was a truly Christian man, and  
830 many seasons of very happy spiritual fellowship we  
831 had together. I was busily watching, at the time, a pan  
832 in which a decoction was boiling that required a good  
833 deal of attention. It was indeed fortunate for me that it  
834 was so, for without any obvious connection with what  
835 had been going on, all at once he said, "By-the-bye,  
836 Taylor, is not your salary due again?" My emotion may  
837 be imagined! I had to swallow two or three times  
838 before I could answer. With my eye fixed on the pan  
839 and my back to the doctor, I told him as quietly as I  
840 could that it was overdue some little time. How  
841 thankful I felt at that moment! GOD surely had heard  
842 my prayer, and caused him, in this time of my great  
843 need, to remember the salary without any word or  
844 suggestion from me. He replied, "Oh, I am so sorry you  
845 did not remind me! You know how busy I am; I wish I  
846 had thought of it a little sooner, for only this afternoon  
847 I sent all the money I had to the bank, otherwise I  
848 would pay you at once." It is impossible to describe the  
849 revulsion of feeling caused by this unexpected  
850 statement. I knew not what to do. Fortunately for me  
851 my pan boiled up, and I had a good reason for rushing  
852 with it from the room. Glad indeed I was to get away,  
853 and keep out of sight until after the doctor had returned  
854 to his house, and most thankful that he had not  
855 perceived my emotion.

856

857 As soon as he was gone I had to seek my little sanctum,  
858 and pour out my heart before the LORD for some time,

859 before calmness—and more than calmness—  
860 thankfulness, and joy were restored to me. I felt that  
861 GOD had His own way, and was not going to fail me. I  
862 had sought to know His will early in the day, and as far  
863 as I could judge had received guidance to wait  
864 patiently; and now GOD was going to work for me in  
865 some other way.

866

867 That evening was spent, as my Saturday evenings  
868 usually were, in reading the Word and preparing the  
869 subjects on which I expected to speak in the various  
870 lodging-houses on the morrow. I waited, perhaps, a  
871 little longer than usual. At last, about ten o'clock, there  
872 being no interruption of any kind, I put on my overcoat,  
873 and was preparing to leave for home, rather thankful to  
874 know that by that time I should have to let myself in  
875 with the latch-key, as my landlady retired early to rest.  
876 There was certainly no help for that night; but perhaps  
877 GOD would interpose for me by Monday, and I might  
878 be able to pay my landlady early in the week the money  
879 I would have given her before, had it been possible.

880

881 Just as I was preparing to turn down the gas, I heard the  
882 doctor's step in the garden which lay between the  
883 dwelling-house and surgery. He was laughing to  
884 himself very heartily, as though greatly amused by  
885 something. Entering the surgery, he asked for the  
886 ledger, and told me that, strange to say, one of his  
887 richest patients had just come to pay his doctor's bill—  
888 was it not an odd thing to do? It never struck me that it  
889 might have any bearing on my own particular case, or I  
890 might have felt embarrassed; but looking at it simply

891 from the position of an uninterested spectator, I also  
892 was highly amused that a man who was rolling in  
893 wealth should come after ten o'clock at night to pay a  
894 doctor's bill, which he could any day have met by a  
895 cheque with the greatest ease. It appeared that  
896 somehow or other he could not rest with this on his  
897 mind, and had been constrained to come at that unusual  
898 hour to discharge his liability.

899

900 The account was duly receipted in the ledger, and the  
901 doctor was about to leave, when suddenly he turned,  
902 and handing me some of the bank notes just received,  
903 said, to my surprise and thankfulness, "By the way,  
904 Taylor, you might as well take these notes; I have not  
905 any change, but can give you the balance next week."  
906 Again I was left—my feelings undiscovered—to go  
907 back to my own little closet and praise the LORD with  
908 a joyful heart that after all I might go to China.

909

910 To me this incident was not a trivial one; and to recall  
911 it sometimes, in circumstances of great difficulty, in  
912 China or elsewhere, has proved no small comfort and  
913 strength.

914

915 By-and-by the time drew near when it was thought  
916 desirable that I should leave Hull to attend the medical  
917 course of the London Hospital. A little while spent  
918 there, and then I had every reason to believe that my  
919 life-work in China would commence. But much as I  
920 had rejoiced at the willingness of GOD to hear and  
921 answer prayer and to help His half-trusting, half-timid  
922 child, I felt that I could not go to China without having

923 still further developed and tested my power to rest upon  
924 His faithfulness; and a marked opportunity for doing so  
925 was providentially afforded me.

926

927 My dear father had offered to bear all the expense of  
928 my stay in London. I knew, however, that, owing to  
929 recent losses, it would mean a considerable sacrifice for  
930 him to undertake this just when it seemed necessary for  
931 me to go forward. I had recently become acquainted  
932 with the Committee of the Chinese Evangelisation  
933 Society, in connection with which I ultimately left for  
934 China, and especially with its secretary, my esteemed  
935 and much-loved friend Mr. George Pearse, then of the  
936 Stock Exchange, but now<sup>[1]</sup> and for many years  
937 himself a missionary. Not knowing of my father's  
938 proposition, the Committee also kindly offered to bear  
939 my expenses while in London. When these proposals  
940 were first made to me, I was not quite clear as to what I  
941 ought to do, and in writing to my father and the  
942 secretaries, told them that I would take a few days to  
943 pray about the matter before deciding any course of  
944 action. I mentioned to my father that I had had this  
945 offer from the Society, and told the secretaries also of  
946 his proffered aid.

947

948 Subsequently, while waiting upon GOD in prayer for  
949 guidance, it became clear to my mind that I could  
950 without difficulty decline both offers. The secretaries of  
951 the Society would not know that I had cast myself  
952 wholly on GOD for supplies, and my father would  
953 conclude that I had accepted the other offer. I therefore  
954 wrote declining both propositions, and felt that without

955 any one having either care or anxiety on my account I  
956 was simply in the hands of GOD, and that He, who  
957 knew my heart, if He wished to encourage me to go to  
958 China, would bless my effort to depend upon Him  
959 alone at home.

960

961 [Illustration]

962

963 FOOTNOTE:

964

965 [1] Since the above was written Mr. George Pearse has  
966 died.

967

968

969

970

971 CHAPTER V

972

973 LIFE IN LONDON

974

975

976 I MUST not now attempt to detail the ways in which  
977 the LORD was pleased—often to my surprise, as well  
978 as to my delight—to help me from time to time. I soon  
979 found that it was not possible to live quite as  
980 economically in London as in Hull. To lessen expenses  
981 I shared a room with a cousin, four miles from the  
982 hospital, providing myself with board; and after various  
983 experiments I found that the most economical way was  
984 to live almost exclusively on brown bread and water.  
985 Thus I was able to make the means that GOD gave me  
986 last as long as possible. Some of my expenses I could

987 not diminish, but my board was largely within my own  
988 control. A large twopenny loaf of brown bread,  
989 purchased daily on my long walk from the hospital,  
990 furnished me with supper and breakfast; and on that  
991 diet, with a few apples for lunch, I managed to walk  
992 eight or nine miles a day, besides being a good deal on  
993 foot while attending the practice of the hospital and the  
994 medical school.

995

996 One incident that occurred just about this time I must  
997 refer to. The husband of my former landlady in Hull  
998 was chief officer of a ship that sailed from London, and  
999 by receiving his half-pay monthly and remitting it to  
1000 her I was able to save her the cost of a commission.  
1001 This I had been doing for several months, when she  
1002 wrote requesting that I would obtain the next payment  
1003 as early as possible, as her rent was almost due, and she  
1004 depended upon that sum to meet it. The request came at  
1005 an inconvenient time. I was working hard for an  
1006 examination in the hope of obtaining a scholarship  
1007 which would be of service to me, and felt that I could  
1008 ill afford the time to go during the busiest part of the  
1009 day to the city and procure the money. I had, however,  
1010 sufficient of my own in hand to enable me to send the  
1011 required sum. I made the remittance therefore,  
1012 purposing, as soon as the examination was over, to go  
1013 and draw the regular allowance with which to refund  
1014 myself.

1015

1016 Before the time of examination the medical school was  
1017 closed for a day, on account of the funeral of the Duke  
1018 of Wellington, and I had an opportunity of going at

1019 once to the office, which was situated in a street on  
1020 Cheapside, and applying for the due amount. To my  
1021 surprise and dismay the cleric told me that he could not  
1022 pay it, as the officer in question had run away from his  
1023 ship and gone to the gold diggings. “Well,” I remarked,  
1024 “that is very inconvenient for me, as I have already  
1025 advanced the money, and I know his wife will have no  
1026 means of repaying it.” The clerk said he was sorry, but  
1027 could of course only act according to orders; so there  
1028 was no help for me in that direction. A little more time  
1029 and thought, however, brought the comforting  
1030 conclusion to my mind, that as I was depending on the  
1031 LORD for everything, and His means were not limited,  
1032 it was a small matter to be brought a little sooner or  
1033 later into the position of needing fresh supplies from  
1034 Him; and so the joy and the peace were not long  
1035 interfered with.

1036

1037 Very soon after this, possibly the same evening, while  
1038 sewing together some sheets of paper on which to take  
1039 notes of the lectures, I accidentally pricked the first  
1040 finger of my right hand, and in a few moments forgot  
1041 all about it. The next day at the hospital I continued  
1042 dissecting as before. The body was that of a person  
1043 who had died of fever, and was more than usually  
1044 disagreeable and dangerous. I need scarcely say that  
1045 those of us who were at work upon it dissected with  
1046 special care, knowing that the slightest scratch might  
1047 cost us our lives. Before the morning was far advanced  
1048 I began to feel very weary, and while going through the  
1049 surgical wards at noon was obliged to run out, being  
1050 suddenly very sick—a most unusual circumstance with

1051 me, as I took but little food and nothing that could  
1052 disagree with me. After feeling faint for some time, a  
1053 draught of cold water revived me, and I was able to  
1054 rejoin the students. I became more and more unwell,  
1055 however, and ere the afternoon lecture on surgery was  
1056 over found it impossible to hold the pencil and continue  
1057 taking notes. By the time the next lecture was through,  
1058 my whole arm and right side were full of severe pain,  
1059 and I was both looking and feeling very ill.

1060

1061 Finding that I could not resume work, I went into the  
1062 dissecting-room to bind up the portion I was engaged  
1063 upon and put away my apparatus, and said to the  
1064 demonstrator, who was a very skilful surgeon, "I  
1065 cannot think what has come over me," describing the  
1066 symptoms. "Why," said he, "what has happened is  
1067 clear enough: you must have cut yourself in dissecting,  
1068 and you know that this is a case of malignant fever." I  
1069 assured him that I had been most careful, and was quite  
1070 certain that I had no cut or scratch. "Well," he replied,  
1071 "you certainly must have had one;" and he very closely  
1072 scrutinised my hand to find it, but in vain. All at once it  
1073 occurred to me that I had pricked my finger the night  
1074 before, and I asked him if it were possible that a prick  
1075 from a needle, at that time, could have been still  
1076 unclosed. His opinion was that this was probably the  
1077 cause of the trouble, and he advised me to get a  
1078 hansom, drive home as fast as I could, and arrange my  
1079 affairs forthwith. "For," he said, "you are a dead man."

1080

1081 My first thought was one of sorrow that I could not go  
1082 to China; but very soon came the feeling, "Unless I am

1083 greatly mistaken, I have work to do in China, and shall  
1084 not die.” I was glad, however, to take the opportunity  
1085 of speaking to my medical friend, who was a confirmed  
1086 sceptic as to things spiritual, of the joy that the prospect  
1087 of perhaps soon being with my MASTER gave me;  
1088 telling him at the same time that I did not think I should  
1089 die, as, unless I were much mistaken, I had work to do  
1090 in China; and if so, however severe the struggle, I must  
1091 be brought through. “That is all very well,” he  
1092 answered, “but you get a hansom and drive home as  
1093 fast as you can. You have no time to lose, for you will  
1094 soon be incapable of winding up your affairs.”

1095

1096 I smiled a little at the idea of my driving home in a  
1097 hansom, for by this time my means were too exhausted  
1098 to allow of such a proceeding, and I set out to walk the  
1099 distance if possible. Before long, however, my strength  
1100 gave way, and I felt it was no use to attempt to reach  
1101 home by walking. Availing myself of an omnibus from  
1102 Whitechapel Church to Farringdon Street, and another  
1103 from Farringdon Street onwards, I reached, in great  
1104 suffering, the neighbourhood of Soho Square, behind  
1105 which I lived. On going into the house I got some hot  
1106 water from the servant, and charging her very  
1107 earnestly—literally as a dying man—to accept eternal  
1108 life as the gift of GOD through JESUS CHRIST, I  
1109 bathed my head and lanced the finger, hoping to let out  
1110 some of the poisoned blood. The pain was very severe;  
1111 I fainted away, and was for some time unconscious, so  
1112 long that when I came to myself I found that I had been  
1113 carried to bed.

1114

1115 An uncle of mine who lived near at hand had come in,  
1116 and sent for his own medical man, an assistant surgeon  
1117 at the Westminster Hospital. I assured my uncle that  
1118 medical help would be of no service to me, and that I  
1119 did not wish to go to the expense involved. He,  
1120 however, quieted me on this score, saying that he had  
1121 sent for his own doctor, and that the bill would be  
1122 charged to himself. When the surgeon came and  
1123 learned all the particulars, he said, "Well, if you have  
1124 been living moderately, you may pull through; but if  
1125 you have been going in for beer and that sort of thing,  
1126 there is no manner of chance for you." I thought that if  
1127 sober living was to do anything, few could have a  
1128 better chance, as little but bread and water had been my  
1129 diet for a good while past. I told him I had lived  
1130 abstemiously, and found that it helped me in study.  
1131 "But now," he said, "you must keep up your strength,  
1132 for it will be a pretty hard struggle." And he ordered  
1133 me a bottle of port wine every day, and as many chops  
1134 as I could consume. Again I smiled inwardly, having  
1135 no means for the purchase of such luxuries. This  
1136 difficulty, however, was also met by my kind uncle,  
1137 who sent me at once all that was needed.

1138

1139 I was much concerned, notwithstanding the agony I  
1140 suffered, that my dear parents should not be made  
1141 acquainted with my state. Thought and prayer had  
1142 satisfied me that I was not going to die, but that there  
1143 was indeed a work for me to do in China. If my dear  
1144 parents should come up and find me in that condition, I  
1145 must lose the opportunity of seeing how GOD was  
1146 going to work for me, now that my money had almost

1147 come to an end. So, after prayer for guidance, I  
1148 obtained a promise from my uncle and cousin not to  
1149 write to my parents, but to leave me to communicate  
1150 with them myself. I felt it was a very distinct answer to  
1151 prayer when they gave me this promise, and I took care  
1152 to defer all communication with them myself until the  
1153 crisis was past and the worst of the attack over. At  
1154 home they knew that I was working hard for an  
1155 examination, and did not wonder at my silence.

1156

1157 Days and nights of suffering passed slowly by; but at  
1158 length, after several weeks, I was sufficiently restored  
1159 to leave my room; and then I learned that two men,  
1160 though not from the London Hospital, who had had  
1161 dissection wounds at the same time as myself, had both  
1162 succumbed, while I was spared in answer to prayer to  
1163 work for GOD in China.

1164

1165 [Illustration]

1166

1167 [Illustration]

1168

1169

1170

1171

1172 CHAPTER VI

1173

1174 STRENGTHENED BY FAITH

1175

1176

1177 ONE day the doctor coming in found me on the sofa,  
1178 and was surprised to learn that with assistance I had

1179 walked downstairs. “Now,” he said, “the best thing you  
1180 can go is to get off to the country as soon as you feel  
1181 equal to the journey. You must rusticate until you have  
1182 recovered a fair amount of health and strength, for if  
1183 you begin your work too soon the consequences may  
1184 still be serious.” When he had left, as I lay very  
1185 exhausted on the sofa, I just told the LORD all about it,  
1186 and that I was refraining from making my  
1187 circumstances known to those who would delight to  
1188 meet my need, in order that my faith might be  
1189 strengthened by receiving help from Himself in answer  
1190 to prayer alone. What was I to do? And I waited for His  
1191 answer.

1192

1193 It seemed to me as if He were directing my mind to the  
1194 conclusion to go again to the shipping office, and  
1195 inquire about the wages I had been unable to draw. I  
1196 reminded the LORD that I could not afford to take a  
1197 conveyance, and that it did not seem at all likely that I  
1198 should succeed in getting the money, and asked  
1199 whether this impulse was not a mere clutching at a  
1200 straw, some mental process of my own, rather than His  
1201 guidance and teaching. After prayer, however, and  
1202 renewed waiting upon GOD, I was confirmed in my  
1203 belief that He Himself was teaching me to go to the  
1204 office.

1205

1206 The next question was, “How am I to go?” I had had to  
1207 seek help in coming downstairs, and the place was at  
1208 least two miles away. The assurance was brought  
1209 vividly home to me that whatever I asked of GOD in  
1210 the name of CHRIST would be done, that the FATHER

1211 might be glorified in the SON; that what I had to do  
1212 was to seek strength for the long walk, to receive it by  
1213 faith, and to set out upon it. Unhesitatingly I told the  
1214 LORD that I was quite willing to take the walk if He  
1215 would give me the strength. I asked in the name of  
1216 CHRIST that the strength might be immediately given;  
1217 and sending the servant up to my room for my hat and  
1218 stick, I set out, not to attempt to walk, but TO  
1219 WALK to Cheapside.

1220

1221 Although undoubtedly strengthened by faith, I never  
1222 took so much interest in shop windows as I did upon  
1223 that journey. At every second or third step I was glad to  
1224 lean a little against the plate glass, and take time to  
1225 examine the contents of the windows before passing  
1226 on. It needed a special effort of faith when I got to the  
1227 bottom of Farringdon Street to attempt the toilsome  
1228 ascent of Snow Hill: there was no Holborn Viaduct in  
1229 those days, and it had to be done. GOD did  
1230 wonderfully help me, and in due time I reached  
1231 Cheapside, turned into the by-street in which the office  
1232 was found, and sat down much exhausted on the steps  
1233 leading to the first floor, which was my destination. I  
1234 felt my position to be a little peculiar—sitting there on  
1235 the steps, so evidently spent—and the gentlemen who  
1236 rushed up and downstairs looked at me with an  
1237 inquiring gaze. After a little rest, however, and a  
1238 further season of prayer, I succeeded in climbing the  
1239 staircase, and to my comfort found in the office the  
1240 clerk with whom I had hitherto dealt in the matter.  
1241 Seeing me looking pale and exhausted, he kindly  
1242 inquired as to my health, and I told him that I had had a

1243 serious illness, and was ordered to the country, but  
1244 thought it well to call first, and make further inquiry,  
1245 lest there should have been any mistake about the mate  
1246 having run off to the gold diggings. "Oh," he said, "I  
1247 am so glad you have come, for it turns out that it was  
1248 an able seaman of the same name that ran away. The  
1249 mate is still on board; the ship has just reached  
1250 Gravesend, and will be up very soon. I shall be glad to  
1251 give you the half-pay up to date, for doubtless it will  
1252 reach his wife more safely through you. We all know  
1253 what temptations beset the men when they arrive at  
1254 home after a voyage."

1255

1256 Before, however, giving me the sum of money, he  
1257 insisted upon my coming inside and sharing his lunch. I  
1258 felt it was the LORD indeed who was providing for  
1259 me, and accepted his offer with thankfulness. When I  
1260 was refreshed and rested, he gave me a sheet of paper  
1261 to write a few lines to the wife, telling her of the  
1262 circumstances. On my way back I procured in  
1263 Cheapside a money order for the balance due to her,  
1264 and posted it; and returning home again, felt myself  
1265 now quite justified in taking an omnibus as far as it  
1266 would serve me.

1267

1268 Very much better the next morning, after seeing to  
1269 some little matters that I had to settle, I made my way  
1270 to the surgery of the doctor who had attended me,  
1271 feeling that, although my uncle was prepared to pay the  
1272 bill, it was right for me, now that I had some money in  
1273 hand, to ask for the account myself. The kind surgeon  
1274 refused to allow me, as a medical student, to pay

1275 anything for his attendance: but he had supplied me  
1276 with quinine, which he allowed me to pay for to the  
1277 extent of eight shillings. When that was settled, I saw  
1278 that the sum left was just sufficient to take me home;  
1279 and to my mind the whole thing seemed a wonderful  
1280 interposition of GOD on my behalf.

1281

1282 I knew that the surgeon was sceptical, and told him that  
1283 I should very much like to speak to him freely, if I  
1284 might do so without offence; that I felt that under GOD  
1285 I owed my life to his kind care, and wished very  
1286 earnestly that he himself might become a partaker of  
1287 the same precious faith that I possessed. So I told him  
1288 my reason for being in London, and about my  
1289 circumstances, and why I had declined the help of both  
1290 my father and the officers of the Society in connection  
1291 with which it was probable that I should go to China. I  
1292 told him of the recent providential dealings of GOD  
1293 with me, and how apparently hopeless my position had  
1294 been the day before, when he had ordered me to go to  
1295 the country, unless I would reveal my need, which I  
1296 had determined not to do. I described to him the mental  
1297 exercises I had gone through; but when I added that I  
1298 had actually got up from the sofa and walked to  
1299 Cheapside, he looked at me incredulously, and  
1300 “Impossible! Why, I left you lying there more like a  
1301 ghost than a man.” And I had to assure him again and  
1302 again that, strengthened by faith, the walk had really  
1303 been taken. I told him also what money was left to me,  
1304 and what payments there had been to make, and  
1305 showed him that just sufficient remained to take me

1306 home to Yorkshire, providing for needful refreshment  
1307 by the way and the omnibus journey at the end.

1308

1309 My kind friend was completely broken down, and said  
1310 with tears in his eyes, “I would give all the world for a  
1311 faith like yours.” I, on the other hand, had the joy of  
1312 telling him that it was to be obtained without money  
1313 and without price. We never met again. When I came  
1314 back to town, restored to health and strength, I found  
1315 that he had had a stroke, and left for the country; and I  
1316 subsequently learned that he never rallied. I was able to  
1317 gain no information as to his state of mind when taken  
1318 away; but I have always felt very thankful that I had the  
1319 opportunity, and embraced it, of bearing that testimony  
1320 for GOD. I cannot but entertain the hope that the  
1321 MASTER Himself was speaking to him through His  
1322 dealings with me, and that I shall meet him again in the  
1323 Better Land. It would be no small joy to be welcomed  
1324 by him, when my own service is over.

1325

1326 The next day found me in my dear parents’ home. My  
1327 joy in the LORD’s help and deliverance was so great  
1328 that I was unable to keep it to myself, and before my  
1329 return to London my dear mother knew the secret of  
1330 my life for some time past. I need scarcely say that  
1331 when I went up again to town I was not allowed to  
1332 live—as, indeed, I was not fit to live—on the same  
1333 economical lines as before my illness. I needed more  
1334 now, and the LORD did provide.

1335

1336 [Illustration]

1337

1338 [Illustration]

1339

1340

1341

1342

1343 CHAPTER VII

1344

1345 MIGHTY TO SAVE

1346

1347

1348 RETURNING to London when sufficiently recovered  
1349 to resume my studies, the busy life of hospital and  
1350 lecture-hall was resumed; often relieved by happy  
1351 Sundays of fellowship with Christian friends,  
1352 especially in London or Tottenham. Opportunities for  
1353 service are to be found in every sphere, and mine was  
1354 no exception. I shall only mention one case now that  
1355 gave me great encouragement in seeking conversion  
1356 even when it seemed apparently hopeless.

1357

1358 GOD had given me the joy of winning souls before, but  
1359 not in surroundings of such special difficulty. With  
1360 GOD all things are possible, and no conversion ever  
1361 takes place save by the almighty power of the HOLY  
1362 GHOST. The great need, therefore, of every Christian  
1363 worker is to know GOD. Indeed, this is the purpose  
1364 for which He has given us eternal life, as our  
1365 SAVIOUR Himself says, in the oft misquoted verse,  
1366 John xvii. 3: "This is [the object of] life eternal, [not  
1367 to know but] that they might know Thee the only  
1368 true GOD, and JESUS CHRIST, whom Thou hast  
1369 sent." I was now to prove the willingness of GOD to

1370 answer prayer for spiritual blessing under most  
1371 unpromising circumstances, and thus to gain an  
1372 increased acquaintance with the prayer-answering  
1373 GOD as One “mighty to save.”

1374

1375 A short time before leaving for China, it became my  
1376 duty daily to dress the foot of a patient suffering from  
1377 senile gangrene. The disease commenced, as usual,  
1378 insidiously, and the patient had little idea that he was a  
1379 doomed man, and probably had not long to live. I was  
1380 not the first to attend to him, but when the case was  
1381 transferred to me, I naturally became very anxious  
1382 about his soul. The family with whom he lived were  
1383 Christians, and from them I learned that he was an  
1384 avowed atheist, and very antagonistic to anything  
1385 religious. They had, without asking his consent, invited  
1386 a Scripture reader to visit him, but in great passion he  
1387 had ordered him from the room. The vicar of the  
1388 district had also called, hoping to help him; but he had  
1389 spit in his face, and refused to allow him to speak to  
1390 him. His passionate temper was described to me as  
1391 very violent, and altogether the case seemed to be as  
1392 hopeless as could well be imagined.

1393

1394 Upon first commencing to attend him I prayed much  
1395 about it; but for two or three days said nothing to him  
1396 of a religious nature. By special care in dressing his  
1397 diseased limb I was able considerably to lessen his  
1398 sufferings, and he soon began to manifest grateful  
1399 appreciation of my services. One day, with a trembling  
1400 heart, I took advantage of his warm acknowledgments  
1401 to tell him what was the spring of my action, and to

1402 speak of his own solemn position and need of GOD's  
1403 mercy through CHRIST. It was evidently only by a  
1404 powerful effort of self-restraint that he kept his lips  
1405 closed. He turned over in bed with his back to me, and  
1406 uttered no word.

1407

1408 I could not get the poor man out of my mind, and very  
1409 often through each day I pleaded with GOD, by His  
1410 SPIRIT, to save him ere He took him hence. After  
1411 dressing the wound and relieving his pain, I never  
1412 failed to say a few words to him, which I hoped the  
1413 LORD would bless. He always turned his back to me,  
1414 looking annoyed, but never spoke a word in reply.

1415

1416 After continuing this for some time, my heart sank. It  
1417 seemed to me that I was not only doing no good, but  
1418 perhaps really hardening him and increasing his guilt.  
1419 One day, after dressing his limb and washing my  
1420 hands, instead of returning to the bedside to speak to  
1421 him, I went to the door, and stood hesitating for a few  
1422 moments with the thought in my mind, "Ephraim is  
1423 joined to his idols; let him alone." I looked at the man  
1424 and saw his surprise, as it was the first time since  
1425 speaking to him that I had attempted to leave without  
1426 going up to his bedside to say a few words for my  
1427 MASTER. I could bear it no longer. Bursting into tears,  
1428 I crossed the room and said, "My friend, whether you  
1429 will hear or whether you will forbear, I must deliver  
1430 my soul," and went on to speak very earnestly to  
1431 him, telling him with many tears how much I wished  
1432 that he would let me pray with him. To my unspeakable  
1433 joy he did not turn away, but replied, "If it will be a

1434 relief to you, do.” I need scarcely say that I fell on my  
1435 knees and poured out my whole soul to GOD on his  
1436 behalf. I believe the LORD then and there wrought a  
1437 change in his soul.

1438

1439 He was never afterwards unwilling to be spoken to and  
1440 prayed with, and within a few days he definitely  
1441 accepted CHRIST as his SAVIOUR. Oh the joy it was  
1442 to me to see that dear man rejoicing in hope of the  
1443 glory of GOD! He told me that for forty years he had  
1444 never darkened the door of church or chapel, and that  
1445 then—forty years ago—he had only entered a place of  
1446 worship to be married, and could not be persuaded to  
1447 go inside when his wife was buried. Now, thank GOD,  
1448 his sin-stained soul, I had every reason to believe, was  
1449 washed, was sanctified, was justified, in the Name of  
1450 the LORD JESUS CHRIST and in the SPIRIT of our  
1451 GOD. Oftentimes, when in my early work in China  
1452 circumstances rendered me almost hopeless of success,  
1453 I have thought of this man’s conversion, and have been  
1454 encouraged to persevere in speaking the Word, whether  
1455 men would hear or whether they would forbear.

1456

1457 The now happy sufferer lived for some time after this  
1458 change, and was never tired of bearing testimony to the  
1459 grace of GOD. Though his condition was most  
1460 distressing, the alteration in his character and behaviour  
1461 made the previously painful duty of attending him one  
1462 of real pleasure. I have often thought since, in  
1463 connection with this case and the work of GOD  
1464 generally, of the words, “He that goeth forth  
1465 \_weeping\_, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless

1466 come again rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”  
1467 Perhaps if there were more of that intense distress for  
1468 souls that leads to tears, we should more frequently see  
1469 the results we desire. Sometimes it may be that while  
1470 we are complaining of the hardness of the hearts of  
1471 those we are seeking to benefit, the hardness of our  
1472 own hearts, and our own feeble apprehension of the  
1473 solemn reality of eternal things, may be the true cause  
1474 of our want of success.

1475

1476 [Illustration]

1477

1478 [Illustration]

1479

1480

1481

1482

## 1483 CHAPTER VIII

1484

### 1485 VOYAGE TO CHINA

1486

1487

1488 SOON after this the time so long looked forward to  
1489 arrived—the time that I was to leave England for  
1490 China. After being set apart with many prayers for the  
1491 ministry of GOD’s Word among the heathen Chinese I  
1492 left London for Liverpool; and on the 19th of  
1493 September 1853 a little service was held in the stern  
1494 cabin of the Dumfries, which had been secured for  
1495 me by the Committee of the Chinese Evangelisation  
1496 Society, under whose auspices I was going to China.

1497

1498 My beloved, now sainted, mother had come to see me  
1499 off from Liverpool. Never shall I forget that day, nor  
1500 how she went with me into the little cabin that was to  
1501 be my home for nearly six long months. With a  
1502 mother's loving hand she smoothed the little bed. She  
1503 sat by my side, and joined me in the last hymn that we  
1504 should sing together before the long parting. We knelt  
1505 down, and she prayed—the last mother's prayer I was  
1506 to hear before starting for China. Then notice was  
1507 given that we must separate, and we had to say good-  
1508 bye, never expecting to meet on earth again.

1509

1510 For my sake she restrained her feelings as much as  
1511 possible. We parted; and she went on shore, giving me  
1512 her blessing; I stood alone on deck, and she followed  
1513 the ship as we moved towards the dock gates. As we  
1514 passed through the gates, and the separation really  
1515 commenced, I shall never forget the cry of anguish  
1516 wrung from that mother's heart. It went through me  
1517 like a knife. I never knew so fully, until then, what  
1518 GOD \_so\_ loved the world meant. And I am quite sure  
1519 that my precious mother learned more of the love of  
1520 GOD to the perishing in that hour than in all her life  
1521 before.

1522

1523 Oh, how it must grieve the heart of GOD when He sees  
1524 His children indifferent to the needs of that wide world  
1525 for which His beloved, His only begotten SON died!

1526

1527 Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine  
1528 ear; Forget also thine own people, and thy father's  
1529 house; So shall the KING desire thy beauty:

1530 For He is thy LORD; and worship thou Him.

1531

1532 Praise GOD, the number is increasing who are finding  
1533 out the exceeding joys, the wondrous revelations of His  
1534 mercies, vouchsafed to those who follow Him, and  
1535 emptying themselves, leave all in obedience to His  
1536 great commission.

1537

1538 It was on 19th September 1853 that the Dumfries  
1539 sailed for China; and not until 1st March, in the spring  
1540 of the following year, did I arrive in Shanghai.

1541

1542 Our voyage had a rough beginning, but many had  
1543 promised to remember us in constant prayer. No small  
1544 comfort was this; for we had scarcely left the Mersey  
1545 when a violent equinoctial gale caught us, and for  
1546 twelve days we were beating backwards and forwards  
1547 in the Irish Channel, unable to get out to sea. The gale  
1548 steadily increased, and after almost a week we lay to  
1549 for a time; but drifting on a lee coast, we were  
1550 compelled again to make sail, and endeavoured to beat  
1551 on to windward. The utmost efforts of the captain and  
1552 crew, however, were unavailing; and Sunday night,  
1553 25th September, found us drifting into Carnarvon Bay,  
1554 each tack becoming shorter, until at last we were within  
1555 a stone's-throw of the rocks. About this time, as the  
1556 ship, which had refused to stay, was put round in the  
1557 other direction, the Christian captain said to me, "We  
1558 cannot live half an hour now: what of your call to  
1559 labour for the LORD in China?" I had previously  
1560 passed through a time of much conflict, but that was  
1561 over, and it was a great joy to feel and to tell him that I

1562 would not for any consideration be in any other  
1563 position; that I strongly expected to reach China; but  
1564 that, if otherwise, at any rate the Master would say it  
1565 was well that I was found seeking to obey His  
1566 command.

1567

1568 Within a few minutes after wearing ship the captain  
1569 walked, up to the compass, and said to me, “The wind  
1570 has freed two points; we shall be able to beat out of the  
1571 bay.” And so we did. The bowsprit was sprung and the  
1572 vessel seriously strained; but in a few days we got out  
1573 to sea, and the necessary repairs were so thoroughly  
1574 effected on board that our journey to China was in due  
1575 time satisfactorily accomplished.

1576

1577 One thing was a great trouble to me that night. I was a  
1578 very young believer, and had not sufficient faith in  
1579 GOD to see Him in and through the use of means. I had  
1580 felt it a duty to comply with the earnest wish of my  
1581 beloved and honoured mother, and for her sake to  
1582 procure a swimming-belt. But in my own soul I felt as  
1583 if I could not simply trust in GOD while I had this  
1584 swimming-belt; and my heart had no rest until on that  
1585 night, after all hope of being saved was gone, I had  
1586 given it away. Then I had perfect peace; and, strange to  
1587 say, put several light things together, likely to float at  
1588 the time we struck, without any thought of  
1589 inconsistency or scruple. Ever since, I have seen clearly  
1590 the mistake I made—a mistake that is very common in  
1591 these days, when erroneous teaching on faith-healing  
1592 does much harm, misleading some as to the purposes of  
1593 GOD, shaking the faith of others, and distressing the

1594 minds of many. The use of means ought not to lessen  
1595 our faith in GOD; and our faith in GOD ought not to  
1596 hinder our using whatever means He has given us for  
1597 the accomplishment of His own purposes.

1598

1599 For years after this I always took a swimming-belt with  
1600 me, and never had any trouble about it; for after the  
1601 storm was over, the question was settled for me,  
1602 through the prayerful study of the Scriptures. GOD  
1603 gave me then to see my mistake, probably to deliver me  
1604 from a great deal of trouble on similar questions now  
1605 so constantly raised. When in medical or surgical  
1606 charge of any case, I have never thought of neglecting  
1607 to ask GOD's guidance and blessing in the use of  
1608 appropriate means, nor yet of omitting to give Him  
1609 thanks for answered prayer and restored health. But to  
1610 me it would appear as presumptuous and wrong to  
1611 neglect the use of those measures which He Himself  
1612 has put within our reach, as to neglect to take daily  
1613 food, and suppose that life and health might be  
1614 maintained by prayer alone.

1615

1616 The voyage was a very tedious one. We lost a good  
1617 deal of time on the equator from calms; and when we  
1618 finally reached the Eastern Archipelago, were again  
1619 detained from the same cause. Usually a breeze would  
1620 spring up soon after sunset, and last until about dawn.  
1621 The utmost use was made of it, but during the day we  
1622 lay still with flapping sails, often drifting back and  
1623 losing a good deal of the advantage we had gained  
1624 during the night.

1625

1626 This happened notably on one occasion, when we were  
1627 in dangerous proximity to the north of New Guinea.  
1628 Saturday night had brought us to a point some thirty  
1629 miles off the land; but during the Sunday morning  
1630 service, which was held on deck, I could not fail to  
1631 notice that the captain looked troubled, and frequently  
1632 went over to the side of the ship. When the service was  
1633 ended, I learnt from him the cause—a four-knot current  
1634 was carrying us rapidly towards some sunken reefs,  
1635 and we were already so near that it seemed improbable  
1636 that we should get through the afternoon in safety.  
1637 After dinner the long-boat was put out, and all hands  
1638 endeavoured, without success, to turn the ship's head  
1639 from the shore. As we drifted nearer we could plainly  
1640 see the natives rushing about the sands and lighting  
1641 fires every here and there. The captain's horn-book  
1642 informed him that these people were cannibals, so that  
1643 our position was not a little alarming.

1644

1645 After standing together on the deck for some time in  
1646 silence, the captain said to me, "Well, we have done  
1647 everything that can be done; we can only await the  
1648 result." A thought occurred to me, and I replied, "No,  
1649 there is one thing we have not done yet." "What is it?"  
1650 he queried. "Four of us on board are Christians," I  
1651 answered (the Swedish carpenter and our coloured  
1652 steward, with the captain and myself); "let us each  
1653 retire to his own cabin, and in agreed prayer ask the  
1654 LORD to give us immediately a breeze. He can as  
1655 easily send it now as at sunset."

1656

1657 The captain complied with this proposal. I went and  
1658 spoke to the other two men, and after prayer with the  
1659 carpenter we all four retired to wait upon GOD. I had a  
1660 good but very brief season in prayer, and then felt so  
1661 satisfied that our request was granted that I could not  
1662 continue asking, and very soon went up again on deck.  
1663 The first officer, a godless man, was in charge. I went  
1664 over and asked him to let down the clews or corners of  
1665 the mainsail, which had been drawn up in order to  
1666 lessen the useless flapping of the sail against the  
1667 rigging. He answered, "What would be the good of  
1668 that?" I told him we had been asking a wind from  
1669 GOD, that it was coming immediately, and we were so  
1670 near the reef by this time that there was not a minute to  
1671 lose. With a look of incredulity and contempt, he said  
1672 with an oath that he would rather see a wind than hear  
1673 of it! But while he was speaking I watched his eye, and  
1674 followed it up to the royal (the topmost sail), and there,  
1675 sure enough, the corner of the sail was beginning to  
1676 tremble in the coming breeze. "Don't you see the wind  
1677 is coming? Look at the royal!" I exclaimed. "No, it is  
1678 only a cat's-paw," he rejoined (a mere puff of wind).  
1679 "Cat's-paw or not," I cried, "pray let down the  
1680 mainsail, and let us have the benefit!"

1681

1682 This he was not slow to do. In another minute the  
1683 heavy tread of the men on the deck brought up the  
1684 captain from his cabin to see what was the matter; and  
1685 he saw that the breeze had indeed come. In a few  
1686 minutes we were ploughing our way at six or seven  
1687 knots an hour through the water, and the multitude of  
1688 naked savages whom we had seen on the beach had no

1689 wreckage that night. We were soon out of danger; and  
1690 though the wind was sometimes unsteady, we did not  
1691 altogether lose it until after passing the Pelew Islands.

1692

1693 Thus GOD encouraged me, ere landing on China's  
1694 shores, to bring every variety of need to Him in prayer,  
1695 and \_to expect that He would honour the Name\_ of the  
1696 LORD JESUS, and give the help which each  
1697 emergency required.

1698

1699 [Illustration]

1700

1701 [Illustration]

1702

1703

1704

1705

## 1706 CHAPTER IX

1707

### 1708 EARLY MISSIONARY EXPERIENCES

1709

1710

1711 ON landing in Shanghai on 1st March 1854, I found  
1712 myself surrounded with difficulties that were wholly  
1713 unexpected. A band of rebels, known as the "Red  
1714 Turbans," had taken possession of the native city,  
1715 against which was encamped an Imperial army of from  
1716 forty to fifty thousand men, who were a much greater  
1717 source of discomfort and danger to the little European  
1718 community than were the rebels themselves. Upon  
1719 landing, I was told that to live outside the Settlement  
1720 was impossible, while within the foreign concession

1721 apartments were scarcely obtainable at any price. The  
1722 dollar, now worth about three shillings, had risen to a  
1723 value of eight-and-ninepence, and the prospect for one  
1724 with only a small income of English money was dark  
1725 indeed. However, I had three letters of introduction,  
1726 and counted on counsel and help, especially from one  
1727 of those to whom I had been commended, whose  
1728 friends I well knew and highly valued. Of course I  
1729 sought him out at once, but only to learn that he had  
1730 been buried a month or two before, having died from  
1731 fever during the time of my voyage.

1732

1733 Saddened by these tidings, I inquired for a missionary  
1734 to whom another of my letters of introduction was  
1735 addressed; but a further disappointment awaited me—  
1736 he had left for America. The third letter remained; but  
1737 as it had been given by a comparative stranger, I had  
1738 expected less from it than from the other two. It  
1739 proved, however, to be GOD's channel of help. The  
1740 Rev. Dr. Medhurst, of the London Mission, to whom it  
1741 was addressed, introduced me to Dr. Lockhart, who  
1742 kindly allowed me to live with him for six months. Dr.  
1743 Medhurst procured my first Chinese teacher; and he,  
1744 Dr. Edkins, and the late Mr. Alexander Wylie gave me  
1745 considerable help with the language.

1746

1747 Those were indeed troublous times, and times of  
1748 danger. Coming out of the city one day with Mr. Wylie,  
1749 he entered into conversation with two coolies, while we  
1750 waited a little while at the East Gate for a companion  
1751 who was behind us. Before our companion came up an  
1752 attack upon the city from the batteries on the opposite

1753 side of the river commenced, which caused us to hurry  
1754 away to a place of less danger, the whiz of the balls  
1755 being unpleasantly near. The coolies, unfortunately,  
1756 stayed too long, and were wounded. On reaching the  
1757 Settlement we stopped a few minutes to make a  
1758 purchase, and then proceeded at once to the London  
1759 Mission compound, where, at the door of the hospital,  
1760 we found the two poor coolies with whom Mr. Wylie  
1761 had conversed, their four ankles terribly shattered by a  
1762 cannon ball. The poor fellows declined amputation, and  
1763 both died. We felt how narrow had been our escape.

1764

1765 At another time, early in the morning, I had joined one  
1766 of the missionaries on his verandah to watch the battle  
1767 proceeding, at a distance of perhaps three-quarters of a  
1768 mile, when suddenly a spent ball passed between us  
1769 and buried itself in the verandah wall. Another day my  
1770 friend Mr. Wylie left a book on the table after  
1771 luncheon, and returning for it about five minutes later,  
1772 found the arm of the chair on which he had been sitting  
1773 shot clean away. But in the midst of these and many  
1774 other dangers GOD protected us.

1775

1776 After six months' stay with Dr. Lockhart, I rented a  
1777 native house outside the Settlement, and commenced a  
1778 little missionary work amongst my Chinese neighbours,  
1779 which for a few months continued practicable. When  
1780 the French joined the Imperialists in attacking the city,  
1781 the position of my house became so dangerous that  
1782 during the last few weeks, in consequence of nightly  
1783 recurring skirmishes, I gave up attempting to sleep  
1784 except in the daytime. One night a fire appeared very

1785 near, and I climbed up to a little observatory I had  
1786 arranged on the roof of the house, to see whether it was  
1787 necessary to attempt escape. While there a ball struck  
1788 the ridge of the roof on the opposite side of the  
1789 quadrangle, showering pieces of broken tile all around  
1790 me, while the ball itself rolled down into the court  
1791 below. It weighed four or five pounds; and had it come  
1792 a few inches higher, would probably have spent its  
1793 force on me instead of on the building. My dear mother  
1794 kept the ball for many years. Shortly after this I had to  
1795 abandon the house and return to the Foreign  
1796 Settlement—a step that was taken none too soon, for  
1797 before the last of my belongings were removed, the  
1798 house was burnt to the ground.

1799

1800 Of the trials of this early period it is scarcely possible  
1801 to convey any adequate idea. To one of a sensitive  
1802 nature, the horrors, atrocities, and misery connected  
1803 with war were a terrible ordeal. The embarrassment  
1804 also of the times was considerable. With an income of  
1805 only eighty pounds a year, I was compelled, upon  
1806 moving into the Settlement, to give one hundred and  
1807 twenty for rent, and sublet half the house; and though  
1808 the Committee of the Chinese Evangelisation Society  
1809 increased my income when, after the arrival of Dr.  
1810 Parker, they learned more of our circumstances, many  
1811 painful experiences had necessarily been passed  
1812 through. Few can realise how distressing to so young  
1813 and untried a worker these difficulties seemed, or the  
1814 intense loneliness of the position of a pioneer who  
1815 could not even hint at many of his circumstances, as to  
1816 do so would have been a tacit appeal for help.

1817

1818 The great enemy is always ready with his oft-repeated  
1819 suggestion, "All these things are against me." But oh,  
1820 how false the word! The cold, and even the hunger, the  
1821 watchings and sleeplessness of nights of danger, and  
1822 the feeling at times of utter isolation and helplessness,  
1823 were well and wisely chosen, and tenderly and lovingly  
1824 meted out. What circumstances could have rendered  
1825 the Word of GOD more sweet, the presence of GOD  
1826 more real, the help of GOD more precious? They were  
1827 times, indeed, of emptying and humbling, but were  
1828 experiences that made not ashamed, and that  
1829 strengthened purpose to go forward as GOD might  
1830 direct, with His proved promise, "I will not fail thee,  
1831 nor forsake thee." One can see, even now, that as for  
1832 GOD, His way is perfect, and yet can rejoice that the  
1833 missionary path of to-day is comparatively a smooth  
1834 and an easy one.

1835

1836 Journeying inland was contrary to treaty arrangements,  
1837 and attended with much difficulty, especially for some  
1838 time after the battle of Muddy Flat, in which an Anglo-  
1839 American contingent of about three hundred marines  
1840 and seamen, with a volunteer corps of less than a  
1841 hundred residents, attacked the Imperial camp, and  
1842 drove away from thirty to fifty thousand Chinese  
1843 soldiers, the range of our shot and shell making the  
1844 native artillery useless. Still, in the autumn of 1854 a  
1845 journey of perhaps a week's duration was safely  
1846 accomplished with Dr. Edkins, who of course did the  
1847 speaking and preaching, while I was able to help in the  
1848 distribution of books.

1849

1850 [Illustration]

1851

1852

1853

1854

1855 CHAPTER X

1856

1857 FIRST EVANGELISTIC EFFORTS

1858

1859

1860 A JOURNEY taken in the spring of 1855 with the Rev.  
1861 J. S. Burden of the Church Missionary Society (now  
1862 the Bishop of Victoria, Hong-kong) was attended with  
1863 some serious dangers.

1864

1865 In the great mouth of the river Yang-tse, distant some  
1866 thirty miles to the north of Shanghai, lies the group of  
1867 islands of which Ts'ung-ming and Hai-men are the  
1868 largest and most important; and farther up the river,  
1869 where the estuary narrows away from the sea, is  
1870 situated the influential city of T'ung-chau, close to  
1871 Lang-shan, or the Wolf Mountains, famous as a resort  
1872 for pilgrim devotees. We spent some time in  
1873 evangelising on those islands, and then proceeded to  
1874 Lang-shan, where we preached and gave books to  
1875 thousands of the devotees who were attending an  
1876 idolatrous festival. From thence we went on to T'ung-  
1877 chau, and of our painful experiences there the  
1878 following journal will tell:—

1879

1880

1881 \_Thursday, April 26th, 1855.\_

1882

1883 After breakfast we commended ourselves to the care of  
1884 our Heavenly FATHER, and sought His Blessing  
1885 before proceeding to this great city. The day was dull  
1886 and wet. We felt persuaded that Satan would not allow  
1887 us to assail his kingdom, as we were attempting to do,  
1888 without raising serious opposition; but we were also  
1889 fully assured that it was the will of GOD that we  
1890 should preach CHRIST in this city, and distribute the  
1891 Word of Truth among its people. We were sorry that  
1892 we had but few books left for such an important place:  
1893 the result, however, proved that this also was  
1894 providential.

1895

1896 Our native teachers did their best to persuade us not to  
1897 go into the city; but we determined that, by GOD'S  
1898 help, nothing should hinder us. We directed them,  
1899 however, to remain in one of the boats; and if we did  
1900 not return, to learn whatever they could respecting our  
1901 fate, and make all possible haste to Shanghai with the  
1902 information. We also arranged that the other boat  
1903 should wait for us, even if we could not get back that  
1904 night, so that we might not be detained for want of a  
1905 boat in case of returning later. We then put our books  
1906 into two bags, and with a servant who always  
1907 accompanied us on these occasions, set off for the city,  
1908 distant about seven miles. Walking was out of the  
1909 question, from the state of the roads, so we availed  
1910 ourselves of wheel-barrows, the only conveyance to be  
1911 had in these parts. A wheel-barrow is cheaper than a

1912 sedan, only requiring one coolie; but is by no means an  
1913 agreeable conveyance on rough, dirty roads.

1914

1915 We had not gone far before the servant requested  
1916 permission to go back, as he was thoroughly frightened  
1917 by reports concerning the native soldiery. Of course we  
1918 at once consented, not wishing to involve another in  
1919 trouble, and determined to carry the books ourselves,  
1920 and look for physical as well as spiritual strength to  
1921 Him who had promised to supply all our need.

1922

1923 At this point a respectable man came up, and earnestly  
1924 warned us against proceeding, saying that if we did we  
1925 should find to our sorrow what the T'ung-chau militia  
1926 were like. We thanked him for his kindly counsel, but  
1927 could not act upon it, as our hearts were fixed, whether  
1928 it were to bonds, imprisonment, and death, or whether  
1929 to distribute our Scriptures and tracts in safety, and  
1930 return unhurt, we knew not; but we were determined,  
1931 by the grace of GOD, not to leave T'ung-chau any  
1932 longer without the Gospel, nor its teeming thousands to  
1933 die in uncared-for ignorance of the Way of life.

1934

1935 After this my wheel-barrow man would proceed no  
1936 farther, and I had to seek another, who was fortunately  
1937 not difficult to find. As we went on, the ride in the mud  
1938 and rain was anything but agreeable, and we could not  
1939 help feeling the danger of our position, although  
1940 wavering not for a moment. At intervals we encouraged  
1941 one another with promises from the Scripture and  
1942 verses of hymns. That verse—

1943

1944 “The perils of the sea, the perils of the land, Should not  
1945 dishearten thee: thy LORD is nigh at hand. But should  
1946 thy courage fail, when tried and sore oppressed, His  
1947 promise shall avail, and set thy soul at rest.”

1948

1949 seemed particularly appropriate to our circumstances,  
1950 and was very comforting to me.

1951

1952 On our way we passed through one small town of about  
1953 a thousand inhabitants; and here, in the Mandarin  
1954 dialect, I preached JESUS to a good number of people.  
1955 Never was I so happy in speaking of the love of GOD  
1956 and the atonement of JESUS CHRIST. My own soul  
1957 was richly blessed, and filled with joy and peace; and I  
1958 was able to speak with unusual freedom and ease. And  
1959 how rejoiced I was when, afterwards, I heard one of  
1960 our hearers repeating to the newcomers, in his own  
1961 local dialect, the truths upon which I had been  
1962 dwelling! Oh, how thankful I felt to hear a Chinaman,  
1963 of his own accord, telling his fellow-countrymen that  
1964 GOD loved them; that they were sinners, but that  
1965 JESUS died instead of them, and paid the penalty of  
1966 their guilt. That one moment repaid me for all the trials  
1967 we had passed through; and I felt that if the LORD  
1968 should grant HIS HOLY SPIRIT to change the heart of  
1969 that man, we had not come in vain.

1970

1971 We distributed a few Testaments and tracts, for the  
1972 people were able to read, and we could not leave them  
1973 without the Gospel. It was well that we did so, for  
1974 when we reached T’ung-chau we found we had quite as  
1975 many left as we had strength to carry.

1976

1977 Nearing the end of our journey, as we approached the  
1978 western suburb of the city, the prayer of the early  
1979 Christians, when persecution was commencing, came  
1980 to my mind: “And now, LORD, behold their  
1981 threatenings, and grant unto Thy servants that with all  
1982 boldness they may speak Thy Word.” In this petition  
1983 we most heartily united. Before entering the suburb we  
1984 laid our plans, so as to act in concert, and told our  
1985 wheel-barrow men where to await us, that they might  
1986 not be involved in any trouble on our account. Then  
1987 looking up to our Heavenly FATHER, we committed  
1988 ourselves to His keeping, took our books, and set on for  
1989 the city.

1990

1991 For some distance we walked along the principal street  
1992 of the suburb leading to the West Gate unmolested, and  
1993 were amused at the unusual title of Heh-kwei-tsi  
1994 (black devils) which was applied to us. We wondered  
1995 about it at the time, but afterwards found that it was our  
1996 clothes, and not our skin, that gave rise to it. As we  
1997 passed several of the soldiers, I remarked to Mr.  
1998 Burdon that these were the men we had heard so much  
1999 about, and that they seemed willing to receive us  
2000 quietly enough. Long before we reached the gate,  
2001 however, a tall powerful man, made tenfold fiercer by  
2002 partial intoxication, let us know that all the militia were  
2003 not so peaceably inclined, by seizing Mr. Burdon by  
2004 the shoulders. My companion endeavoured to shake  
2005 him off. I turned to see what was the matter, and at  
2006 once we were surrounded by a dozen or more brutal  
2007 men, who hurried us on to the city at a fearful pace.

2008

2009 My bag now began to feel very heavy, and I could not  
2010 change hands to relieve myself. I was soon in a profuse  
2011 perspiration, and was scarcely able to keep pace with  
2012 them. We demanded to be taken before the chief  
2013 magistrate, but were told that they knew where to take  
2014 us, and what to do with such persons as we were, with  
2015 the most insulting epithets. The man who first seized  
2016 Mr. Burdon soon afterwards left him for me, and  
2017 became my principal tormentor; for I was neither so tall  
2018 nor so strong as my friend, and was therefore less able  
2019 to resist him. He all but knocked me down again and  
2020 again, seized me by the hair, took hold of my collar so  
2021 as to almost choke me, and grasped my arms and  
2022 shoulders, making them black and blue. Had this  
2023 treatment continued much longer, I must have fainted.  
2024 All but exhausted, how refreshing was the  
2025 remembrance of a verse quoted by my dear mother in  
2026 one of my last home letters—

2027

2028 “We speak of the realms of the blest,  
2029 That country so bright and so fair,  
2030 And oft are its glories confessed;  
2031 But what must it be to be there!”

2032

2033 To be absent from the body! to be present with the  
2034 LORD! to be free from sin! And this is the end of the  
2035 worst that man’s malice can ever bring upon us.

2036

2037 As we were walking along Mr. Burdon tried to give  
2038 away a few books that he was carrying, not knowing  
2039 whether we might have another opportunity of doing

2040 so; but the fearful rage of the soldier, and the way he  
2041 insisted on manacles being brought, which fortunately  
2042 were not at hand, convinced us that in our present  
2043 position we could do no good in attempting book-  
2044 distribution. There was nothing to be done but quietly  
2045 to submit, and go along with our captors.

2046

2047 Once or twice a quarrel arose as to how we should be  
2048 dealt with; the more mild of our conductors saying that  
2049 we ought to be taken to the magistrate's office, but  
2050 others wishing to kill us at once without appeal to any  
2051 authority. Our minds were kept in perfect peace; and  
2052 when thrown together on one of these occasions, we  
2053 reminded each other that the Apostles rejoiced that they  
2054 were counted worthy to suffer in the cause of  
2055 CHRIST. Having succeeded in getting my hand into  
2056 my pocket, I produced a Chinese card (if the large red  
2057 paper, bearing one's name, may be so called), and after  
2058 this was treated with more respect. I demanded it  
2059 should be given to the chief official of the place, and  
2060 that we should be led to his office. Before this we had  
2061 been unable, say what we would, to persuade them that  
2062 we were foreigners, although we were both in English  
2063 attire.

2064

2065 Oh the long weary streets that we were dragged  
2066 through! I thought they would never end; and seldom  
2067 have I felt more thankful than when we stopped at a  
2068 place where we were told a mandarin resided. Quite  
2069 exhausted, bathed in perspiration, and with my tongue  
2070 cleaving to the roof of my mouth, I leaned against the  
2071 wall, and saw that Mr. Burdon was in much the same

2072 condition. I requested them to bring us chairs, but they  
2073 told us to wait; and when I begged them to give us  
2074 some tea, received only the same answer. Round the  
2075 doorway a large crowd had gathered; and Mr. Burdon,  
2076 collecting his remaining strength, preached CHRIST  
2077 JESUS to them. Our cards and books had been taken in  
2078 to the mandarin, but he proved to be one of low rank,  
2079 and after keeping us waiting for some time he referred  
2080 us to his superiors in office.

2081

2082 Upon hearing this, and finding that it was their purpose  
2083 to turn us out again into the crowded streets, we  
2084 positively refused to move a single step, and insisted on  
2085 chairs being brought. After some demur this was done;  
2086 we seated ourselves in them, and were carried on. On  
2087 the road we felt so glad of the rest which the chairs  
2088 afforded us, and so thankful at having been able to  
2089 preach JESUS in spite of Satan's malice, that our joy  
2090 was depicted on our countenances; and as we passed  
2091 along we heard some say that we did not look like bad  
2092 men, while others seemed to pity us. When we arrived  
2093 at the magistrate's office, I wondered where we were  
2094 being taken; for though we passed through some great  
2095 gates that looked like those of the city wall, we were  
2096 still evidently within the city. A second pair of gates  
2097 suggested the idea that it was a prison into which we  
2098 were being carried; but when we came in sight of a  
2099 large tablet, with the inscription “\_Ming ch fu mu\_”  
2100 (the father and mother of the people), we felt that we  
2101 had been conveyed to the right place; this being the  
2102 title assumed by the mandarins.

2103

2104 Our cards were again sent in, and after a short delay we  
2105 were taken into the presence of Ch'en Ta Lao-ie (the  
2106 Great Venerable Father Ch'en), who, as it proved, had  
2107 formerly been Tao-tai of Shanghai, and consequently  
2108 knew the importance of treating foreigners with  
2109 courtesy. Coming before him, some of the people fell  
2110 on their knees and bowed down to the ground, and my  
2111 conductor motioned for me to do the same, but without  
2112 success. This mandarin, who seemed to be the highest  
2113 authority of T'ung-chau, and wore an opaque blue  
2114 button on his cap, came out to meet us, and treated us  
2115 with every possible token of respect. He took us to an  
2116 inner apartment, a more private room, but was followed  
2117 by a large number of writers, runners, and other semi-  
2118 officials. I related the object of our visit, and begged  
2119 permission to give him copies of our books and tracts,  
2120 for which he thanked me. As I handed him a copy of  
2121 the New Testament with part of the Old (from Genesis  
2122 to Ruth) and some tracts, I tried to explain a little about  
2123 them, and also to give him a brief summary of our  
2124 teachings. . . . He listened very attentively, as of course  
2125 did all the others present. He then ordered some  
2126 refreshments to be brought in, which were very  
2127 welcome, and himself partook of them with us.

2128

2129 After a long stay, we asked permission to see  
2130 something of the city, and to distribute the books we  
2131 had brought, before our return. To this he kindly  
2132 consented. We then mentioned that we had been most  
2133 disrespectfully treated as we came in, but that we did  
2134 not attach much importance to the fact, being aware  
2135 that the soldiers knew no better. Not desiring, however,

2136 to have such an experience repeated, we requested him  
2137 to give orders that we were not to be further molested.  
2138 This also he promised to do, and with every possible  
2139 token of respect accompanied us to the door of his  
2140 official residence, sending several runners to see that  
2141 we were respectfully treated. We distributed our books  
2142 well and quickly, and left the city quite in state. It was  
2143 amusing to us to see the way in which the runners made  
2144 use of their tails. When the street was blocked by the  
2145 crowd, they turned them into whips, and laid them  
2146 about the people's shoulders to right and left!

2147

2148 We had a little trouble in finding our wheel-barrows;  
2149 but eventually succeeding, we paid off the chair  
2150 coolies, mounted our humble vehicles, and returned to  
2151 the river, accompanied for fully half the distance by an  
2152 attendant from the magistrate's office. Early in the  
2153 evening we got back to the boats in safety, sincerely  
2154 thankful to our Heavenly FATHER for His gracious  
2155 protection and aid.

2156

2157 [Illustration]

2158

2159

2160

2161

2162 CHAPTER XI

2163

2164 WITH THE REV. WILLIAM BURNS

2165

2166

2167 AFTER the retaking of Shanghai by the Imperialists, in  
2168 February 1855, I was enabled to rent a house within the  
2169 walls of the native city, and gladly availed myself of  
2170 this opportunity to reside amidst the crowded  
2171 population left to inhabit the ruins that had survived the  
2172 war. Here I made my headquarters, though often absent  
2173 on more or less prolonged itinerations.

2174

2175 At the suggestion of the Rev. Dr. Medhurst, the veteran  
2176 leader of the London Mission, I was led at about this  
2177 period to adopt the native costume in preference to  
2178 foreign dress, to facilitate travel and residence inland.  
2179 The Chinese had permitted a foreign firm to build a silk  
2180 factory some distance inland, with the proviso that the  
2181 style of building must be purely Chinese, and that there  
2182 should be nothing external to suggest that it was  
2183 foreign. Much benefit was found to result from this  
2184 change of costume; and I, and most of those associated  
2185 with me, have continued to use native dress.

2186

2187 The T'ai-p'ing rebellion, commenced in 1851, had by  
2188 this time reached the height of its ephemeral success.  
2189 The great city of Nan-king had fallen before the  
2190 invading host; and there, within two hundred miles of  
2191 Shanghai, the rebels had established their headquarters,  
2192 and proceeded to fortify themselves for further  
2193 conquests. During the summer of 1855 various  
2194 attempts were made to visit the leaders of the  
2195 movement, in order to bring to bear some decidedly  
2196 Christian influence upon them; but so little success was  
2197 met with, that these efforts were abandoned.

2198

2199 I, amongst others, had sought to reach Nan-king; but  
2200 finding it impossible to do so, turned my attention  
2201 again to evangelistic work on the island of Ts'ung-  
2202 ming. After some time I was enabled so far to  
2203 overcome the prejudice and fears of the people as to  
2204 rent a little house and settle down in their midst. This  
2205 was a great joy and encouragement to me; but before  
2206 many weeks were over complaints were made by the  
2207 local authorities to the British Consul, who compelled  
2208 me to retire; though the French Consul had himself  
2209 secured to the Romish missionaries a property within  
2210 three or four miles of the house I had to vacate. Sorely  
2211 tried and disappointed by this unexpected hindrance, I  
2212 reluctantly returned to Shanghai, little dreaming of the  
2213 blessing that GOD had in store for me there.

2214

2215 A few months previously the Rev. William Burns, of  
2216 the English Presbyterian Mission, had arrived in that  
2217 port on his return journey from home; and before  
2218 proceeding to his former sphere of service in the  
2219 southern province of FU-KIEN, he had endeavoured,  
2220 like myself, without success, to visit the T'ai-p'ing  
2221 rebels at Nan-king. Failing in this attempt, he made his  
2222 headquarters in Shanghai for a season, devoting  
2223 himself to the evangelisation of the surrounding  
2224 populous regions. Thus in the autumn of the year I was  
2225 providentially led into association with this beloved  
2226 and honoured servant of GOD.

2227

2228 We journeyed together, evangelising cities and towns  
2229 in southern KIANG-SU and north CHEH-KIANG,  
2230 living in our boats, and following the course of the

2231 canals and rivers which here spread like a network over  
2232 the whole face of the rich and fertile country. Mr.  
2233 Burns at that time was wearing English dress; but saw  
2234 that while I was the younger and in every way less  
2235 experienced, I had the quiet hearers, while he was  
2236 followed by the rude boys, and by the curious but  
2237 careless; that I was invited to the homes of the people,  
2238 while he received an apology that the crowd that would  
2239 follow precluded his being invited. After some weeks  
2240 of observation he also adopted the native dress, and  
2241 enjoyed the increased facilities which it gave.

2242

2243 Those happy months were an unspeakable joy and  
2244 privilege to me. His love for the Word was delightful,  
2245 and his holy, reverential life and constant communings  
2246 with GOD made fellowship with him satisfying to the  
2247 deep cravings of my heart. His accounts of revival  
2248 work and of persecutions in Canada, and Dublin, and in  
2249 Southern China were most instructive, as well as  
2250 interesting; for with true spiritual insight he often  
2251 pointed out GOD's purposes in trial in a way that made  
2252 all life assume quite a new aspect and value. His views  
2253 especially about evangelism as the great work of the  
2254 Church, and the order of lay evangelists as a lost order  
2255 that Scripture required to be restored, were seed-  
2256 thoughts which were to prove fruitful in the subsequent  
2257 organisation of the China Inland Mission.

2258

2259 Externally, however, our path was not always a smooth  
2260 one; but when permitted to stay for any length of time  
2261 in town or city, the opportunity was well utilised. We  
2262 were in the habit of leaving our boats, after prayer for

2263 blessing, at about nine o'clock in the morning, with a  
2264 light bamboo stool in hand. Selecting a suitable station,  
2265 one would mount the stool and speak for twenty  
2266 minutes, while the other was pleading for blessing; and  
2267 then changing places, the voice of the first speaker had  
2268 a rest. After an hour or two thus occupied, we would  
2269 move on to another point at some distance from the  
2270 first, and speak again. Usually about midday we  
2271 returned to our boats for dinner, fellowship, and prayer,  
2272 and then resumed our out-door work until dusk. After  
2273 tea and further rest, we would go with our native  
2274 helpers to some tea-shop, where several hours might be  
2275 spent in free conversation with the people. Not  
2276 infrequently before leaving a town we had good reason  
2277 to believe that much truth had been grasped; and we  
2278 placed many Scriptures and books in the hands of those  
2279 interested. The following letter was written by Mr.  
2280 Burns to his mother at home in Scotland about this  
2281 time:—

2282

2283

2284 “TWENTY-FIVE MILES FROM SHANGHAI,  
2285 \_January 26th, 1856\_.

2286

2287 “Taking advantage of a rainy day which confines me to  
2288 my boat, I pen a few lines, in addition to a letter to  
2289 Dundee, containing particulars which I need not repeat.  
2290 It is now forty-one days since I left Shanghai on this  
2291 last occasion. A young English missionary, Mr. Taylor,  
2292 of the Chinese Evangelisation Society, has been my  
2293 companion during these weeks—he in his boat, and I in

2294 mine—and we have experienced much mercy, and on  
2295 some occasions considerable assistance in our work.

2296

2297 “I must once more tell the story I have had to tell  
2298 already more than once—how four weeks ago, on  
2299 December 29th, I put on the Chinese dress, which I am  
2300 now wearing. Mr. Taylor had made this change a few  
2301 months before, and I found that he was, in  
2302 consequence, so much less incommoded in preaching,  
2303 etc., by the crowd, that I concluded it was my duty to  
2304 follow his example. We were at that time more than  
2305 double the distance from Shanghai that we are now,  
2306 and would still have been at as great a distance had we  
2307 not met at one place with a band of lawless people,  
2308 who demanded money and threatened to break our  
2309 boats if their demands were refused. The boatmen were  
2310 very much alarmed, and insisted on returning to some  
2311 place nearer home. These people had previously broken  
2312 in, violently, a part of Mr. Taylor’s boat, because their  
2313 unreasonable demand for books was not complied with.

2314

2315 “We have a large, very large, field of labour in this  
2316 region, though it might be difficult in the meantime for  
2317 one to establish himself in any particular place; the  
2318 people listen with attention, but we need the Power  
2319 from on High to convince and convert. Is there any  
2320 spirit of prayer on our behalf among GOD’s people in  
2321 Kilsyth? or is there any effort to seek this spirit? How  
2322 great the need is, and how great the arguments and  
2323 motives for prayer in this case. The harvest here is  
2324 indeed great, and the labourers are few, and imperfectly  
2325 fitted without much grace for such a work. And yet

2326 grace can make the few and feeble instruments the  
2327 means of accomplishing great things—things greater  
2328 than we can even conceive.”

2329

2330 The incident referred to in this letter, which led to our  
2331 return to Shanghai more speedily than we had at first  
2332 intended, took place on the northern border of CHEH-  
2333 KIANG. We had reached a busy market town known  
2334 by the name of Wu-chen, or Black Town, the  
2335 inhabitants of which, we had been told, were the  
2336 wildest and most lawless people in that part of the  
2337 country. Such indeed we found them to be: the town  
2338 was a refuge for salt smugglers and other bad  
2339 characters. The following extracts are taken from my  
2340 journal, written at the time:—

2341

2342

2343 \_January 8th, 1856.\_

2344

2345 Commenced our work in Wu-chen this morning by  
2346 distributing a large number of tracts and some  
2347 Testaments. The people seemed much surprised, and  
2348 we could not learn that any foreigner had been here  
2349 before. We preached twice—once in the temple of the  
2350 God of War, and afterwards in an empty space left by a  
2351 fire, which had completely destroyed many houses. In  
2352 the afternoon we preached again to a large and attentive  
2353 audience on the same site; and in the evening adjourned  
2354 to a tea-shop, where we had a good opportunity of  
2355 speaking until it got noised abroad that we were there,  
2356 when, too many people coming in, we were obliged to  
2357 leave. Our native assistants, Tsien and Kuei-hua, were

2358 able, however, to remain. Returning to our boats, we  
2359 spoke to a number of people standing on a bridge, and  
2360 felt we had abundant reason to be thankful and  
2361 encouraged by the result of our first day's labour.

2362

2363

2364 \_January 10th.\_

2365

2366 First sent Tsien and Kuei-hua to distribute some sheet  
2367 tracts. After their return we went with them, and in a  
2368 space cleared by fire we separated, and addressed two  
2369 audiences. On our return to the boats for lunch, we  
2370 found people waiting, as usual, and desiring books.  
2371 Some were distributed to those who were able to read  
2372 them; and then asking them kindly to excuse us while  
2373 we took our midday meal, I went into my boat and shut  
2374 the door.

2375

2376 Hardly was there time to pour out a cup of tea when a  
2377 battering began, and the roof was at once broken in. I  
2378 went out at the back, and found four or five men taking  
2379 the large lumps of frozen earth turned up in a field  
2380 close by—weighing, I should suppose, from seven to  
2381 fourteen pounds each—and throwing them at the boat.  
2382 Remonstrance was of no avail, and it was not long ere a  
2383 considerable part of the upper structure of the boat was  
2384 broken to pieces, and a quantity of earth covered the  
2385 things inside. Finally, Tsien got a boat that was passing  
2386 to land him at a short distance, and by a few tracts drew  
2387 away the attention of the men, thus ending the assault.

2388

2389 We now learned that of those who had done the  
2390 mischief only two were natives of the place, the others  
2391 being salt smugglers, and that the cause was our not  
2392 having satisfied their unreasonable demand for books.  
2393 Most providentially no one was injured; and as soon as  
2394 quiet was somewhat restored, we all met in Mr. Burns's  
2395 boat and joined in thanksgiving that we had been  
2396 preserved from personal harm, praying also for the  
2397 perpetrators of the mischief, and that it might be over-  
2398 ruled for good to us and to those with us. We then took  
2399 our lunch and went on shore, and but a few steps from  
2400 the boats addressed a large multitude that soon  
2401 assembled. We were specially assisted; never were we  
2402 heard with more attention, and not one voice was found  
2403 to sympathise with the men who had molested us. In  
2404 the evening, at the tea-shops, the same spirit was  
2405 manifested, and some seemed to hear with joy the glad  
2406 tidings of salvation through a crucified and risen  
2407 SAVIOUR.

2408

2409 As we came home we passed a barber's shop still open,  
2410 and I went in, and while getting my head shaved had an  
2411 opportunity of speaking to a few people, and  
2412 afterwards pasted a couple of sheet tracts on the wall  
2413 for the benefit of future customers.

2414

2415

2416 \_January 11th.\_

2417

2418 A respectable shop-keeper of the name of Yao, who on  
2419 the first or second day of our stay at Wu-chen had  
2420 received portions of the New Testament and a tract,

2421 came yesterday, when our boat was broken, to beg for  
2422 some more books. At that time we were all in  
2423 confusion from the damage done, and from the earth  
2424 thrown into the boat, and so invited him to come again  
2425 in a day or two's time, when we would gladly supply  
2426 him. This morning he appeared and handed in the  
2427 following note:—

2428

2429 “On a former day I begged Burns and Taylor, the two  
2430 ‘\_Rabbis\_,’ to give me good books. It happened at that  
2431 time those of our town whose hearts were deceived by  
2432 \_Satan\_, not knowing the \_Son of David\_, went so far  
2433 as to dare to ‘\_raca\_’ and ‘\_moreh\_’ and injure your  
2434 respected boat. I thank you for promising afterwards to  
2435 give the books, and beg the following: Complete New  
2436 Testament, ‘Discourse of a Good Man when near his  
2437 Death,’ ‘Important Christian Doctrines,’ an Almanack,  
2438 ‘Principles of Christianity,’ ‘Way to make the World  
2439 happy,’—of each one copy. Sung and Tsien, and all  
2440 teachers I hope are well. Further compliments are  
2441 unwritten.”

2442

2443 This note is interesting, as showing that he had been  
2444 reading the New Testament attentively, as the italicised  
2445 words were all taken from it. His use of “raca” and  
2446 “moreh” for reviling, shows their meaning was not lost  
2447 upon him.

2448

2449 After supplying this man, we went out with Tsien and  
2450 Kuei-hua to the east of the town, and spoke in the street  
2451 for a short time. Upon returning to the boats, I was  
2452 visited by two CHIH-LI men, who are in the

2453 magistrate's office here. I was greatly helped in  
2454 speaking to them of a crucified SAVIOUR in the  
2455 Mandarin dialect; and though one of them did not pay  
2456 much attention, the other did, and made inquiries that  
2457 showed the interest he was feeling. When they had left,  
2458 I went on shore and spoke to the people collected there,  
2459 to whom Kuei-hua had been preaching. The setting sun  
2460 afforded a parable, and reminded one of the words of  
2461 JESUS, "The night cometh, when no man can work;"  
2462 and as I spoke of the uncertain duration of this life, and  
2463 of our ignorance as to the time of CHRIST'S return, a  
2464 degree of deep seriousness prevailed that I had never  
2465 previously witnessed in China. I engaged in prayer, and  
2466 the greatest decorum was observed. I then returned to  
2467 my boat with a Buddhist priest who had been in the  
2468 audience, and he admitted that Buddhism was a system  
2469 of deceit that could give no hope in death.

2470

2471

2472 \_January 12th.\_

2473

2474 In the afternoon we addressed the people on shore close  
2475 to our boats, also in one of the streets of the city, and in  
2476 a tea-shop, books being distributed on each occasion.  
2477 In the evening we went as usual to speak in the tea-  
2478 shops, but determined to go to the opposite end of the  
2479 town, in order to afford those who lived there a better  
2480 opportunity of meeting with us. It was a long straggling  
2481 place, nearly two English miles in length. As Mr. Burns  
2482 and I were accustomed to talk together in Chinese, this  
2483 conclusion was known to those in the boats.

2484

2485 After we had proceeded a short distance we changed  
2486 our minds, and went instead to the usual tea-shop,  
2487 thinking that persons might have gone there expecting  
2488 to meet us. But this was not the case; and we did not  
2489 find such serious hearers as we had done on previous  
2490 occasions. On this account Mr. Burns proposed leaving  
2491 earlier than usual, and we did so, telling Tsien and  
2492 Kuei-hua that they might remain a little longer.  
2493 Returning to the boats, we gave away a few books; but,  
2494 singularly enough, were left to go alone, no one  
2495 accompanying us, as is so generally the case. Instead of  
2496 being a clear night, as it was when we started, we found  
2497 that it had become intensely dark. On our way we met  
2498 the boatman, whose manner seemed very strange, and  
2499 without giving us any explanation he blew out the  
2500 candle of our lantern; we relighted the lantern, telling  
2501 him not to put it out again, when to our surprise he  
2502 deliberately removed the candle and threw it into the  
2503 canal. He then walked down along a low wall jutting  
2504 out to the river's edge, and gazed into the water.

2505

2506 Not knowing what was the matter with him, I ran  
2507 forward to hold him, fearful lest he were going to  
2508 drown himself; but to my great relief he came quietly  
2509 back. In answer to our repeated questions he told us not  
2510 to speak, for some bad men were seeking to destroy the  
2511 boats, and they had moved away to avoid them. He  
2512 then led us to the place where one of them was lying.  
2513 Before long Tsien and Kuei-hua came and got safely on  
2514 board, and soon after we were joined by the teacher  
2515 Sung, and the boat moved away.

2516

2517 The cause of all this disturbance was then explained. A  
2518 man professing to be the constable had come to the  
2519 boats in our absence, with a written demand for ten  
2520 dollars and a quantity of opium. He stated that there  
2521 were more than fifty country people (salt smugglers)  
2522 awaiting our reply in an adjoining tea-shop; and if we  
2523 gave them what they wanted, and three hundred cash to  
2524 pay for their tea, we might remain in peace; but that if  
2525 not, they would come at once and destroy our boats.  
2526 Sung told them that we could not comply with their  
2527 demand; for, not being engaged in trade, but only in  
2528 preaching and book-distribution, we had not an atom of  
2529 opium, and that our money was nearly all expended.  
2530 The man, however, told him plainly that he did not  
2531 believe him, and Sung had no alternative but to seek us  
2532 out, desiring the man to await our reply. Not knowing  
2533 that we had changed our plans, he sought us in the  
2534 wrong direction, and of course in vain.

2535

2536 In the meanwhile the boatmen had succeeded in  
2537 moving off. They were very much alarmed; and having  
2538 so recently had proof of what these men would do in  
2539 open daylight, felt no desire to experience what they  
2540 might attempt by night. Moving away, therefore, they  
2541 had separated, so that if one boat should be injured the  
2542 other might afford us a refuge. It was after this that we  
2543 had providentially met the boatman, and had been  
2544 safely led on board. As Sung repassed the place where  
2545 we were previously moored, he saw between the trees a  
2546 dozen or more men, and heard them inquiring where  
2547 the boats had gone to; but no one could tell. Fortunately  
2548 they sought in vain.

2549

2550 After a while the two boats joined, and rowed together  
2551 for some time. It was already late, and to travel by  
2552 night in that part of the country was not the way to  
2553 avoid danger from evil men; so the question arose as to  
2554 what should be done. This we left for the boatmen to  
2555 decide; they had moved off of their own accord, and we  
2556 felt that whatever we personally might desire we could  
2557 not constrain others to remain in a position of danger  
2558 on our account. We urged them, however, to do quickly  
2559 whatever they intended to do, as the morrow was the  
2560 LORD'S DAY, when we should not wish to travel. We  
2561 also informed them that wherever we were we must  
2562 fulfil our mission, and preach the Gospel; it therefore  
2563 made but little difference where we might stay, for  
2564 even if we passed the night unperceived, we were sure  
2565 to be found out on the following morning. The men  
2566 consequently concluded that we might as well return to  
2567 the place from which we had started; to this we fully  
2568 agreed, and they turned back accordingly. But—  
2569 whether by accident or no we could not tell—they got  
2570 into another stream, and rowed for some time they  
2571 knew not whither. At last, as it was very dark, they  
2572 moored for the night.

2573

2574 We then called all the boatmen together, with our  
2575 native assistants, and read to them the ninety-first  
2576 Psalm. It may be imagined how appropriate to our  
2577 position and need and how sweetly consoling was this  
2578 portion of GOD'S Word:—

2579

2580 “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the MOST  
2581 HIGH Shall abide under the shadow of the  
2582 ALMIGHTY. I will say of the LORD, He is my  
2583 refuge and my fortress: My GOD; in Him will I trust.

2584

2585 “Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the  
2586 fowler, And from the noisome pestilence.

2587

2588 He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His  
2589 wings shalt thou trust:

2590 His truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not  
2591 be afraid for the terror by night; Nor for the arrow that  
2592 flieth by day.

2593

2594 “Because he hath set his love upon Me, therefore will I  
2595 deliver him. I will set him on high, because he hath  
2596 known My Name. He shall call upon Me, and I will  
2597 answer him; I will be with him in trouble;—I will  
2598 deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I  
2599 satisfy him,—and show him My salvation.”

2600

2601 Committing ourselves in prayer to His care and  
2602 keeping Who had covered us with thick darkness and  
2603 permitted us to escape from the hand of the violent, we  
2604 retired for the night; which—thanks to the kind  
2605 protection of the WATCHMAN OF ISRAEL, who  
2606 neither slumbers nor forgets His people—we passed in  
2607 peace and quietness, and were enabled, in some  
2608 measure, to realise the truth of that precious word,  
2609 “Thou art my Hiding-place, and my Shield.”

2610

2611

2612 \_Sunday, January 13th.\_

2613

2614 This morning I was awakened about 4 A.M. by violent  
2615 pain in the knee-joint. I had bruised it the day before,  
2616 and severe inflammation was the result. To my great  
2617 surprise I heard the rain pouring down in torrents, the  
2618 weather having previously been particularly fine. On  
2619 looking out, we found ourselves so near our former  
2620 stopping-place, that, had nothing happened to prevent  
2621 it, we should not have felt justified in neglecting to go  
2622 into the town to preach as usual; but the rain was so  
2623 heavy all day that no one could leave the boats. Thus  
2624 we enjoyed a delightful day of rest, such as we had not  
2625 had for some time; and the weather prevented much  
2626 inquiry being made for us. Had the day been fine we  
2627 should most likely have been discovered, even if we  
2628 had not left the boats. As it was, we were allowed to  
2629 think in peace, with wonder and gratitude, of the  
2630 gracious dealings of our GOD, who had thus led us  
2631 apart into “a desert place” to rest awhile.

2632

2633

2634 \_Monday, January 14th.\_

2635

2636 A cloudless morning. One of the native assistants went  
2637 before daybreak to get some clothes which had been  
2638 given out for washing. He came back with the tidings  
2639 that, notwithstanding the drenching rain of yesterday,  
2640 men had been seeking us in all directions. We had been  
2641 kept, however, in peace and safety “under the shadow  
2642 of the Almighty.”

2643

2644 The boatmen were now so thoroughly alarmed that  
2645 they would stay no longer, and moved off at dawn. I  
2646 was confined to my quarters by lameness, and had no  
2647 alternative but to go with them. In the afternoon we  
2648 reached Ping-wang, on the way to Shanghai.

2649

2650 “Ill that GOD blesses is our good,  
2651 And unblest good is ill;  
2652 And all is right that seems most wrong,  
2653 If it be His sweet will.”

2654

2655 [Illustration]

2656

2657 [Illustration]

2658

2659

2660

2661

2662 CHAPTER XII

2663

2664 CALLED TO SWATOW

2665

2666

2667 HAVING to leave the neighbourhood of Black Town  
2668 thus unexpectedly was a real disappointment to us, as  
2669 we had hoped to spend some time evangelising in that  
2670 district. We were to prove, however, that no unforeseen  
2671 mischance had happened, but that these circumstances  
2672 which seemed so trying were necessary links in the  
2673 chain of a divinely ordered providence, guiding to other  
2674 and wider spheres.

2675

2676 GOD does not permit persecution to arise without  
2677 sufficient reason. . . . He was leading us by a way that  
2678 we knew not; but it was none the less His way.

2679

2680 “O LORD, how happy should we be  
2681 If we would cast our care on Thee,  
2682 If we from self would rest;  
2683 And feel at heart that One above,  
2684 In perfect wisdom, perfect love,  
2685 Is working for the best!”

2686

2687 When we reached Shanghai, thinking to return inland  
2688 in a few days with fresh supplies of books and money,  
2689 we met a Christian captain who had been trading at  
2690 Swatow, and he put very strongly before us the need of  
2691 that region, and the fact that there were British  
2692 merchants living on Double Island, selling opium and  
2693 engaged in the coolie trade (practically a slave traffic),  
2694 while there was no British missionary to preach the  
2695 Gospel. The SPIRIT OF GOD impressed me with the  
2696 feeling that this was His call, but for days I felt that I  
2697 could not obey it. I had never had such a spiritual father  
2698 as Mr. Burns; I had never known such holy, happy  
2699 fellowship; and I said to myself that it could not be  
2700 GOD’S will that we should separate.

2701

2702 In great unrest of soul I went one evening, with Mr.  
2703 Burns, to take tea at the house of the Rev. R. Lowrie, of  
2704 the American Presbyterian Mission, at the South Gate  
2705 of Shanghai. After tea Mrs. Lowrie played over to us  
2706 “The Missionary Call.”[2] I had never heard it before,  
2707 and it greatly affected me. My heart was almost broken

2708 before it was finished, and I said to the LORD, in the  
2709 words that had been sung—

2710

2711 “And I will go!

2712 I may no longer doubt to give up friends, and idol  
2713 hopes, And every tie that binds my heart. . . .

2714 Henceforth, then, it matters not, if storm or sunshine be  
2715 my earthly lot, bitter or sweet my cup; I only pray,  
2716 GOD, make me holy,

2717 And my spirit nerve for the stern hour of strife.”

2718

2719 Upon leaving I asked Mr. Burns to come home with me  
2720 to the little house that was still my headquarters in the  
2721 native city, and there, with many tears, told him how  
2722 the LORD had been leading me, and how rebellious I  
2723 had been and unwilling to leave him for this new  
2724 sphere of labour. He listened with a strange look of  
2725 surprise, and of pleasure rather than pain; and answered  
2726 that he had determined that very night to tell me that he  
2727 had heard the LORD’S call to Swatow, and that his one  
2728 regret had been the prospect of the severance of our  
2729 happy fellowship. We went together; and thus was  
2730 recommenced missionary work in that part of China,  
2731 which in later years has been so abundantly blessed.

2732

2733 Long before this time the Rev. R. Lechler, of the Basel  
2734 Missionary Society, had widely itinerated in the  
2735 neighbourhood of Swatow and the surrounding regions.  
2736 Driven about from place to place, he had done work  
2737 that was not forgotten, although ultimately he was  
2738 obliged to retire to Hong-kong. For more than forty  
2739 years this earnest-hearted servant of GOD has

2740 continued in “labours more abundant”; and quite  
2741 recently he has left Hong-kong, with his devoted wife,  
2742 to return again inland, and spend the strength of his  
2743 remaining years amongst the people he has so long and  
2744 truly loved.

2745

2746 Captain Bowers, the Christian friend who had been  
2747 used of GOD in bringing the needs of Swatow before  
2748 Mr. Burns and myself, was overjoyed when he heard of  
2749 our decision to devote ourselves to the evangelisation  
2750 of that busy, important, and populous mart. Being  
2751 about to sail himself on his return journey, he gladly  
2752 offered us free passages on board the Geelong, in  
2753 which we left Shanghai early in the month of March  
2754 1856.

2755

2756 A favourable journey of six days brought us to Double  
2757 Island, where we found ourselves landed in the midst  
2758 of a small but very ungodly community of foreigners,  
2759 engaged in the opium trade and other commercial  
2760 enterprises. Unwilling to be in any way identified with  
2761 these fellow-countrymen, we were most desirous of  
2762 obtaining quarters at once within the native city,  
2763 situated on a promontory of the mainland, five miles  
2764 farther up, at the mouth of the Han river. Great  
2765 difficulty was experienced in this attempt to obtain a  
2766 footing amongst the people. Indeed, it seemed as  
2767 though we should fail altogether, and we were  
2768 helplessly cast upon the LORD in prayer. Our GOD  
2769 soon undertook for us. Meeting one day with a  
2770 Cantonese merchant, a relative of the highest official in  
2771 the town, Mr. Burns addressed him in the Cantonese

2772 dialect; this gentleman was so pleased at being spoken  
2773 to by a foreigner in his own tongue that he became our  
2774 friend, and secured us a lodging. We had only one little  
2775 room, however, and not easily shall I forget the long  
2776 hot summer months in that oven-like place, where  
2777 towards the eaves one could touch the heated tiles with  
2778 one's hand. More room or better accommodation it was  
2779 impossible to obtain.

2780

2781 We varied our stay by visits to the surrounding  
2782 country; but the difficulties and dangers that  
2783 encountered us here were so great and constant, that  
2784 our former work in the North began to appear safe and  
2785 easy in comparison. The hatred and contempt of the  
2786 Cantonese was very painful, "foreign devil," "foreign  
2787 dog," or "foreign pig" being the commonest  
2788 appellations; but all this led us into deeper fellowship  
2789 than I had ever known before with Him who was  
2790 "despised and rejected of men."

2791

2792 In our visits to the country we were liable to be seized  
2793 at any time and held to ransom; and the people  
2794 commonly declared that the whole district was  
2795 "without emperor, without ruler, and without law."  
2796 Certainly, might was right in those days. On one  
2797 occasion we were visiting a small town, and found that  
2798 the inhabitants had captured a wealthy man of another  
2799 clan. A large ransom was demanded for his release, and  
2800 on his refusing to pay it they had smashed his ankle-  
2801 bones, one by one, with a club, and thus extorted the  
2802 promise they desired. There was nothing but GOD'S  
2803 protection to prevent our being treated in the same way.

2804 The towns were all walled, and one such place would  
2805 contain ten or twenty thousand people of the same clan  
2806 and surname, who were frequently at war with the  
2807 people living in the next town. To be kindly received in  
2808 one place was not uncommonly a source of danger in  
2809 the next. In circumstances such as these the preserving  
2810 care of our GOD was often manifested.

2811

2812 After a time the local mandarin became ill, and the  
2813 native doctors were unable to relieve him. He had  
2814 heard from some who had been under my treatment of  
2815 the benefit derived, and was led to seek our help. GOD  
2816 blessed the medicines given, and grateful for relief, he  
2817 advised our renting a house for a hospital and  
2818 dispensary. Having his permission, we were able to  
2819 secure the entire premises, one room of which we had  
2820 previously occupied. I had left my stock of medicine  
2821 and surgical instruments under the care of my friend,  
2822 the late Mr. Wylie, in Shanghai, and went back at once  
2823 to fetch them.

2824

2825 Mr. Burns came down from a town called Am-po, that  
2826 we had visited together several times, to see me off,  
2827 and returned again when I had sailed, with two native  
2828 evangelists sent up from Hong-kong by the Rev. J.  
2829 Johnson, of the American Baptist Missionary Union.  
2830 The people were willing to listen to their preaching,  
2831 and to accept their books as a gift, but they would not  
2832 buy them. One night robbers broke in and carried off  
2833 everything they had, with the exception of their stock  
2834 of literature, which was supposed to be valueless. Next  
2835 morning, very early, they were knocked up by persons

2836 wishing to buy books, and the sales continued; so that  
2837 by breakfast time they had not only cash enough to  
2838 procure food, but to pay also for the passage of one of  
2839 the men to Double Island, below Swatow, with a letter  
2840 to Mr. Burns's agent to supply him with money.  
2841 Purchasers continued coming during that day and the  
2842 next, and our friends lacked nothing; but on the third  
2843 day they could not sell a single book. Then, however,  
2844 when the cash from their sales was just exhausted, the  
2845 messenger returned with supplies.

2846

2847 It was early in July, after about four months' residence  
2848 in Swatow, that I left for Shanghai, intending to return  
2849 in the course of a few weeks, bringing with me my  
2850 medical apparatus, for further work in association with  
2851 the Rev. William Burns. A new and promising field  
2852 seemed to be opening before us, and it was with much  
2853 hopeful anticipation that we looked forward to the  
2854 future of the work. Marked blessing was indeed in store  
2855 for the city and neighbourhood of Swatow; but it was  
2856 not the purpose of GOD that either of us should remain  
2857 to reap the harvest. Mr. Burns while in the interior was  
2858 taken up and imprisoned by the Chinese authorities  
2859 soon after I left, and was sent to Canton. And though  
2860 he returned to Swatow after the war had broken out, he  
2861 was called away for other service, which prevented his  
2862 subsequent return; while my journey to Shanghai  
2863 proved to be the first step in a diverging pathway  
2864 leading to other spheres.

2865

2866 FOOTNOTE:

2867

2868 [2] For words and music see the end of this chapter.

2869

2870

2871 [Illustration: Music: The Missionary Call]

2872

2873 “THE MISSIONARY CALL”

2874

2875 1. My soul is not at rest.

2876 There comes a strange

2877 and secret whisper to

2878 my. . . .

2879 spirit, like a dream of night,

2880 that tells me

2881 I am on enchanted

2882 ground.

2883

2884

2885 CHORUS FOR FIRST FOUR VERSES.

2886

2887 *\_Vivace.\_* The voice of my departed LORD, “Go, teach  
2888 all nations,”

2889

2890 Comes on the night air and awakes mine ear.

2891

2892

2893 CHORUS FOR LAST VERSE.

2894

2895 Through ages of eternal years,

2896 My spirit never shall repent,

2897 that toil and suffering once were mine . . . below.

2898

2899

2900 2. Why live I here? the vows of GOD are | on me; | and  
2901 I may not stop to play with shadows or pluck earthly  
2902 flowers, | till I my work have done, and | rendered up ac  
2903 | count.

2904

2905 3. And I will | go! | I may no longer doubt to give up  
2906 friends, and idol | hopes, | and every tie that binds my  
2907 heart to | thee, my | country.

2908

2909 4. Henceforth, then, it matters not, if storm or sunshine  
2910 be my | earthly lot, | bitter or sweet my | cup; | I only  
2911 pray: "GOD make me holy, and my spirit nerve for the  
2912 stern | hour of strife!"

2913

2914 5. And when one for whom Satan hath struggled as he  
2915 hath for | me, | has gained at last that blessed | shore, |  
2916 Oh! how this heart will glow with | gratitude and | love.

2917

2918 [Illustration]

2919

2920

2921

2922

2923 CHAPTER XIII

2924

2925 MAN PROPOSES, GOD DISPOSES

2926

2927

2928 IT is interesting to notice the various events which  
2929 united, in the providence of GOD, in preventing my  
2930 return to Swatow, and ultimately led to my settling in

2931 Ningpo, and making that the centre for the  
2932 development of future labours.

2933

2934 Upon reaching Shanghai, great was my dismay to find  
2935 that the premises in which my medicines and  
2936 instruments had been stored were burnt down, and that  
2937 all the medicines and many of the instruments were  
2938 entirely destroyed. To me this appeared a great  
2939 calamity, and I fear I was more disposed with faithless  
2940 Jacob to say, "All these things are against me," than to  
2941 recognise that "All things work together for good." I  
2942 had not then learned to think of GOD as the One Great  
2943 Circumstance "in Whom we live, and move, and have  
2944 our being"; and of all lesser, external circumstances,  
2945 as necessarily the kindest, wisest, best, because either  
2946 ordered or permitted by Him. Hence my  
2947 disappointment and trial were very great.

2948

2949 Medicines were expensive in Shanghai, and my means  
2950 were limited. I therefore set out on an inland journey to  
2951 Ningpo, hoping to obtain a supply from Dr. William  
2952 Parker, a member of the same mission as myself. I took  
2953 with me my few remaining possessions, the principal  
2954 being my watch, a few surgical instruments, a  
2955 concertina, books for the study of Chinese, which in  
2956 those days were very expensive; but left behind in  
2957 Shanghai a portion of my money.

2958

2959 The country through which I had to pass was suffering  
2960 much from drought; it was the height of summer; and  
2961 the water in the Grand Canal was very low, having  
2962 been largely drawn upon for the neighbouring rice

2963 fields, as well as evaporated by the intense heat. I had  
2964 determined to make the journey as much of a mission  
2965 tour as possible, and set out well supplied with  
2966 Christian tracts and books. After fourteen days spent in  
2967 travelling slowly through the populous country,  
2968 preaching and distributing books, etc., we reached a  
2969 large town called Shih-mun-wan, and here, finding that  
2970 my supply of literature was exhausted, I determined not  
2971 to linger over the rest of the journey, but to reach  
2972 Ningpo as speedily as possible, vi the city of Hai-  
2973 ning.

2974

2975

2976 August 4th, 1856.

2977

2978 There was no water beyond Shih-mun-wan, so I paid  
2979 off my boat, hired coolies to carry my things as far as  
2980 to Chang-gan, and ere sunrise we were on the way. I  
2981 walked on alone, leaving my servant to follow with the  
2982 men, who made frequent stoppages to rest; and on  
2983 reaching a city through which we had to pass, I waited  
2984 for them in a tea-shop just outside the North Gate. The  
2985 coolies came on very slowly, and seemed tired when  
2986 they arrived. I soon found that they were both opium-  
2987 smokers, so that, although they had only carried a load  
2988 that one strong man would think nothing of taking  
2989 three times the distance, they really seemed wearied.

2990

2991 After some rice and tea and an hour's rest—including, I  
2992 doubt not, a smoke of the opium pipe—they were a  
2993 little refreshed, and I proposed moving on, that we  
2994 might get to Chang-gan before the sun became too

2995 powerful. My servant, however, had a friend in the  
2996 city, and he desired to spend the day there, and to go on  
2997 next morning. But to this I objected, wishing to reach  
2998 Hai-ning that night if possible. . . . We therefore set off,  
2999 entered the North Gate, and had passed through about a  
3000 third of the city, when the coolies stopped to rest, and  
3001 said they should be unable to carry the burden on to  
3002 Chang-gan. Finally, they agreed to take it to the South  
3003 Gate, where they were to be paid in proportion to the  
3004 distance they had carried it; and the servant undertook  
3005 to call other coolies and come along with them.

3006

3007 I walked on before as in the first instance, and the  
3008 distance being only about four miles, soon reached  
3009 Chang-gan, and waited their arrival, meanwhile  
3010 engaging coolies for the rest of the journey to Hai-ning.  
3011 Having waited a long time, I began to wonder at the  
3012 delay; and at length it became too late to finish the  
3013 journey to Hai-ning that night. I felt somewhat  
3014 annoyed; and but that my feet were blistered, and the  
3015 afternoon very hot, I should have gone back to meet  
3016 them and urge them on. At last I concluded that my  
3017 servant must have gone to his friend's, and would not  
3018 appear until evening. But evening came, and still there  
3019 was no sign of them.

3020

3021 Feeling very uneasy, I began diligently to inquire  
3022 whether they had been seen. At last a man responded,  
3023 "Are you a guest from Shih-mun-wan?" I answered in  
3024 the affirmative. "Are you going to Hai-ning?" "That is  
3025 my destination." "Then your things have gone on  
3026 before you; for I was sitting in a tea-shop when a coolie

3027 came in, took a cup of tea, and set off for Hai-ning in a  
3028 great hurry, saying that the bamboo box and bed he  
3029 carried, which were just such as you describe yours to  
3030 have been, were from Shih-mun-wan, and he had to  
3031 take them to Hai-ning to-night, where he was to be paid  
3032 at the rate of ten cash a pound.” From this I concluded  
3033 that my goods were on before me; but it was  
3034 impossible to follow them at once, for I was too tired to  
3035 walk, and it was already dark.

3036

3037 Under these circumstances all I could do was to seek a  
3038 lodging for the night; and no easy task I found it. After  
3039 raising my heart to GOD to ask His aid, I walked  
3040 through to the farther end of the town, where I thought  
3041 the tidings of a foreigner’s being in the place might not  
3042 have spread, and looked out for an inn. I soon came to  
3043 one, and went in, hoping that I might pass  
3044 unquestioned, as it was already dark. Asking the bill of  
3045 fare, I was told that cold rice—which proved to be  
3046 more than “rather burnt”—and snakes, fried in lamp-  
3047 oil, were all that could be had. Not wishing any  
3048 question to be raised as to my nationality, I was  
3049 compelled to order some, and tried to make a meal, but  
3050 with little success.

3051

3052 While thus engaged I said to the landlord, “I suppose I  
3053 can arrange to spend the night here?”

3054

3055 To which he replied in the affirmative; but bringing out  
3056 his book, he added—

3057

3058 “In these unsettled times we are required by the  
3059 authorities to keep a record of our lodgers: may I ask  
3060 your respected family name?”

3061

3062 “My unworthy family name is Tai,” I responded.

3063

3064 “And your honourable second name?”

3065

3066 “My humble name is Ia-koh” (James).

3067

3068 “What an extraordinary name! I never heard it before.  
3069 How do you write it?”

3070

3071 I told him, and added, “It is a common name in the  
3072 district from which I come.”

3073

3074 “And may I ask whence you come and whither you are  
3075 going?”

3076

3077 “I am journeying from Shanghai to Ningpo, by way of  
3078 Hang-chau.”

3079

3080 “What may be your honourable profession?”

3081

3082 “I heal the sick.”

3083

3084 “Oh! you are a physician,” the landlord remarked; and  
3085 to my intense relief closed the book. His wife,  
3086 however, took up the conversation.

3087

3088 “You are a physician, are you?” said she; “I am glad of  
3089 that, for I have a daughter afflicted with leprosy. If you

3090 will cure her, you shall have your supper and bed for  
3091 nothing.”

3092

3093 I was curious enough to inquire what my supper and  
3094 bed were to cost, if paid for; and to my amusement  
3095 found they were worth less than three-halfpence of our  
3096 money!

3097

3098 Being unable to benefit the girl, I declined to prescribe  
3099 for her, saying that leprosy was a very intractable  
3100 disease, and that I had no medicines with me.

3101

3102 The mother, however, brought pen and paper, urging,  
3103 “You can at least write a prescription, which will do no  
3104 harm, if it does no good.”

3105

3106 But this also I declined to do, and requested to be  
3107 shown my bed. I was conducted to a very miserable  
3108 room on the ground-floor, where, on some boards  
3109 raised upon two stools, I passed the night, without bed  
3110 or pillow, save my umbrella and shoe, and without any  
3111 mosquito netting. Ten or eleven other lodgers were  
3112 sleeping in the same room, so I could not take anything  
3113 off, for fear of its being stolen; but I was, I found, by  
3114 no means too warm as midnight came on.

3115

3116

3117 \_August 5th.\_

3118

3119 As may be supposed, I arose but little rested or  
3120 refreshed, and felt very far from well. I had to wait a  
3121 long time ere breakfast was obtainable, and then there

3122 was another delay before I could get change for the  
3123 only dollar I had with me, in consequence of its being  
3124 chipped in one or two places. More than three hundred  
3125 cash also were deducted from its price on this account,  
3126 which was a serious loss to me in my trying position.

3127

3128 I then sought throughout the town for tidings of my  
3129 servant and coolies, as I thought it possible that they  
3130 might have arrived later, or have come on in the  
3131 morning. The town is large, long, and straggling, being  
3132 nearly two miles from one end to the other, so this  
3133 occupied some time. I gained no information, however;  
3134 and, footsore and weary, set out for Hai-ning in the full  
3135 heat of the day. The journey—about eight miles—took  
3136 me a long time; but a halfway village afforded a  
3137 resting-place and a cup of tea, both of which I gladly  
3138 availed myself of. When about to leave again, a heavy  
3139 shower of rain came on, and the delay thus occasioned  
3140 enabled me to speak a little to the people about the  
3141 truths of the Gospel.

3142

3143 The afternoon was far spent before I approached the  
3144 northern suburb of Hai-ning, where I commenced  
3145 inquiries, but could hear no tidings of my servant or  
3146 things. I was told that outside the East Gate I should be  
3147 more likely to hear of them, as it was there the sea-  
3148 junks called. I therefore proceeded thither, and sought  
3149 for them outside the Little East Gate, but in vain. Very  
3150 weary, I sat down in a tea-shop to rest; and while there  
3151 a number of persons from one of the mandarin's offices  
3152 came in, and made inquiries as to who I was, where I  
3153 had come from, etc. On learning the object of my

3154 search, one of the men in the tea-shop said, "A bamboo  
3155 box and a bed, such as you describe, were carried past  
3156 here about half an hour ago. The bearer seemed to be  
3157 going towards either the Great East Gate or the South  
3158 Gate; you had better go to the hong's there and inquire."  
3159 I asked him to accompany me in the search, and  
3160 promised to reward him for his trouble, but he would  
3161 not. Another man offered to go with me, so we set off  
3162 together, and both inside and outside the two gates  
3163 made diligent inquiries, but all in vain. I then engaged a  
3164 man to make a thorough search, promising him a  
3165 liberal reward if he should be successful. In the  
3166 meantime I had some dinner, and addressed a large  
3167 concourse of people who had gathered together.

3168  
3169 When he returned, having met with no success, I said  
3170 to him, "I am now quite exhausted: will you help me to  
3171 find quarters for the night, and then I will pay you for  
3172 your trouble?" He was willing to befriend me, and we  
3173 set off in search of lodgings. At the first place or two  
3174 the people would not receive me; for though on our  
3175 first going in they seemed willing to do so, the presence  
3176 of a man who followed us, and who, I found, was  
3177 engaged in one of the Government offices, seemed to  
3178 alarm them, and I was refused. We now went to a third  
3179 place, and being no longer followed by the mandarin's  
3180 messenger, we were promised quarters; some tea was  
3181 brought, and I paid the man who had accompanied me  
3182 for his trouble.

3183  
3184 Soon after he was gone some official people came in;  
3185 they soon went away, but the result of their visit was

3186 that I was told I could not be entertained there that  
3187 night. A young man present blamed them for their  
3188 heartless behaviour, and said, "Never mind, come with  
3189 me; and if we cannot get better lodgings for you, you  
3190 shall sleep at our house." I went with him, but we  
3191 found the people of his house unwilling to receive me.  
3192 Weary and footsore, so that I could scarcely stand, I  
3193 had again to seek quarters, and at length got promise of  
3194 them; but a little crowd collecting about the door, they  
3195 desired me to go to a tea-shop and wait there till the  
3196 people had retired, or they would be unable to  
3197 accommodate me. There was no help for it, so I went,  
3198 accompanied still by the young man, and waited till  
3199 past midnight. Then we left for the promised resting-  
3200 place; but my conductor would not find it, and he led  
3201 me about to another part of the city; and finally,  
3202 between one and two o'clock, he left me to pass the  
3203 rest of the night as best I could.

3204

3205 I was opposite a temple, but it was closed; so I lay  
3206 down on the stone steps in front of it, and putting my  
3207 money under my head for a pillow, should soon have  
3208 been asleep in spite of the cold had I not perceived a  
3209 person coming stealthily towards me. As he  
3210 approached I saw he was one of the beggars so  
3211 common in China, and had no doubt his intention was  
3212 to rob me of my money. I did not stir, but watched his  
3213 movements, and looked to my FATHER not to leave  
3214 me in this hour of trial. The man came up, looked at me  
3215 for some time to assure himself that I was asleep (it  
3216 was so dark that he could not see my eyes fixed on  
3217 him), and then began to feel about me gently. I said to

3218 him in the quietest tone, but so as to convince him that  
3219 I was not, nor had been, sleeping, “What do you want?”  
3220 He made no answer, but went away.

3221

3222 I was very thankful to see him go, and when he was out  
3223 of sight put as much of my cash as would not go into  
3224 my pocket safely up my sleeve, and made my pillow of  
3225 a stone projection of the wall. It was not long ere I  
3226 began to doze, but I was aroused by the all but  
3227 noiseless footsteps of two persons approaching; for my  
3228 nervous system was rendered so sensitive by  
3229 exhaustion that the slightest noise startled me. Again I  
3230 sought protection from Him who alone was my stay,  
3231 and lay still as before, till one of them came up and  
3232 began to feel under my head for the cash. I spoke again,  
3233 and they sat down at my feet. I asked them what they  
3234 were doing; they replied that they, like me, were going  
3235 to pass the night there. I then requested them to take the  
3236 opposite side, as there was plenty of room, and leave  
3237 this side to me; but they would not move from my feet,  
3238 so I raised myself up and set my back against the wall.

3239

3240 They said, “You had better lie down and sleep; if you  
3241 do not, you will be unable to walk to-morrow. Do not  
3242 be afraid; we shall not leave you, and will see that no  
3243 one hurts you.”

3244

3245 “Listen to me,” I replied. “I do not want your  
3246 protection; I need it not; I am not a Chinese; I do not  
3247 worship your senseless, helpless idols. I worship GOD;  
3248 He is my FATHER; I trust in Him. I know well what

3249 you are, and what your intentions are, and shall keep  
3250 my eye on you, and shall not sleep.”

3251

3252 On this, one of them went away, but soon returned with  
3253 a third companion. I felt very uneasy, but looked to  
3254 GOD for help. Once or twice one of them got up to see  
3255 if I was asleep. I only said, “Do not be mistaken; I am  
3256 not sleeping.” Occasionally my head dropped, and this  
3257 was a signal for one of them to rise; but I at once  
3258 roused myself and made some remark. As the night  
3259 slowly passed on, I felt very weary; and to keep myself  
3260 awake, as well as to cheer my mind, I sang several  
3261 hymns, repeated aloud some portions of Scripture, and  
3262 engaged in prayer in English, to the great annoyance of  
3263 my companions, who seemed as if they would have  
3264 given anything to get me to desist. After that they  
3265 troubled me no more; and shortly before dawn of day  
3266 they left me, and I got a little sleep.

3267

3268

3269 \_August 6th.\_

3270

3271 I was awakened by the young man who had so misled  
3272 me on the previous evening. He was very rude, and  
3273 insisted on my getting up and paying him for his  
3274 trouble, and even went so far as to try to accomplish by  
3275 force what he wanted. This roused me; and in an  
3276 unguarded moment, with very improper feeling, I  
3277 seized his arm with such a grasp as he little expected I  
3278 was capable of, and dared him to lay a finger upon me  
3279 again or to annoy me further. This quite changed his  
3280 manner; he let me quietly remain till the guns

3281 announced the opening of the gates of the city, and then  
3282 he begged me to give him some money to buy opium  
3283 with. It is needless to say this was refused. I gave him  
3284 the price of two candles, that he said he had burnt while  
3285 with me last night and no more. I learned he was  
3286 connected with one of the mandarin's offices.

3287

3288 As soon as possible, I bought some rice gruel and tea  
3289 for breakfast, and then once more made a personal  
3290 search after my things. Some hours thus spent proving  
3291 unavailing, I set out on the return journey, and after a  
3292 long, weary, and painful walk reached Chang-gan  
3293 about noon. Here also my inquiries failed to give me  
3294 any trace of the missing goods; so I had a meal cooked  
3295 in a tea-shop, got a thorough wash and bathed my  
3296 inflamed feet, and after dinner rested and slept till four  
3297 in the afternoon.

3298

3299 Much refreshed, I then set on to return to the city, at the  
3300 South Gate of which I had parted with my servant and  
3301 coolies two days before. On the way I was led to reflect  
3302 on the goodness of GOD, and recollected that I had not  
3303 made it a matter of prayer that I might be provided with  
3304 lodgings last night. I felt condemned, too, that I should  
3305 have been so anxious for my few things, while the  
3306 many precious souls around me had caused so little  
3307 emotion. I came as a sinner and pleaded the blood of  
3308 JESUS, realising that I was accepted in Him—  
3309 pardoned, cleansed, sanctified—and oh the love of  
3310 JESUS, how great I felt it to be! I knew something  
3311 more than I had ever previously known of what it was  
3312 to be despised and rejected, and to have nowhere to lay

3313 one's head; and I felt more than ever I had done before  
3314 the greatness of that love which induced Him to leave  
3315 His home in glory and suffer thus for me; nay, to lay  
3316 down His very life upon the Cross. I thought of Him as  
3317 "despised and rejected of men, a Man of sorrows, and  
3318 acquainted with grief"; I thought of Him at Jacob's  
3319 well, weary, hungry, and thirsty, yet finding it His meat  
3320 and drink to do His Father's will; and contrasted this  
3321 with my littleness of love. I looked to Him for pardon  
3322 for the past, and for grace and strength to do His will in  
3323 the future, to tread more closely in His footsteps, and  
3324 be more than ever wholly His. I prayed for myself, for  
3325 friends in England, and for my brethren in the work.  
3326 Sweet tears of mingled joy and sorrow flowed freely,  
3327 the road was almost forgotten, and before I was aware  
3328 of it I had reached my destination. Outside the South  
3329 Gate I took a cup of tea, asked about my lost luggage,  
3330 and spoke of the love of JESUS. Then I entered the  
3331 city, and after many vain inquiries left it by the North  
3332 Gate.

3333

3334 I felt so much refreshed both in mind and body by the  
3335 communion I had on my walk to the city that I thought  
3336 myself able to finish the remaining six miles back to  
3337 Shih-mun-wan that evening. First I went into another  
3338 tea-shop to buy some native cakes, and was making a  
3339 meal of them when who should come in but one of the  
3340 identical coolies who had carried my things the first  
3341 stage. From him I learned that after I left them they had  
3342 taken my luggage to the South Gate; there my servant  
3343 went away, saying on his return that I had gone on, that  
3344 he did not intend to start at once, but would spend the

3345 day with his friend, and then rejoin me; they carried the  
3346 things to this friend's house, and left them there. I got  
3347 him to go with me to the house, and there learned that  
3348 the man had spent the day and night with them, and  
3349 next morning had called other coolies, and set off for  
3350 Hang-chau. This was all I could gather; so, unable to  
3351 do anything but proceed on my return journey to  
3352 Shanghai with all expedition, I left the city again. It  
3353 was now too late to go on to Shih-mun-wan. I looked to  
3354 my FATHER as able to supply all my need, and  
3355 received another token of His ceaseless love and care,  
3356 being invited to sleep on a hong-boat, now dry in the  
3357 bed of the river. The night was again very cold and the  
3358 mosquitoes troublesome. Still, I got a little rest, and at  
3359 sunrise was up and continued my journey.

3360

3361

3362 \_August 7th.\_

3363

3364 I felt very ill at first, and had a sore throat, but reflected  
3365 on the wonderful goodness of GOD in enabling me to  
3366 bear the heat by day and the cold by night so long. I felt  
3367 also that quite a load was now taken off my mind. I had  
3368 committed myself and my affairs to the LORD, and  
3369 knew that if it was for my good and for His glory my  
3370 things would be restored; if not, all would be for the  
3371 best. I hoped that the most trying part of my journey  
3372 was now drawing to a close, and this helped me, weary  
3373 and footsore, on the way. When I got to Shih-mun-wan  
3374 and had breakfasted, I found I had still eight hundred  
3375 and ten cash in hand; and I knew that the hong-boat  
3376 fare to Kia-hing Fu was one hundred and twenty cash,

3377 and thence to Shanghai three hundred and sixty,  
3378 leaving me just three hundred and thirty cash—or  
3379 twelve pence and a fraction—for three or four days  
3380 provisions. I went at once to the boat office, but to my  
3381 dismay found that from the dry state of the river goods  
3382 had not come down, so that no boat would leave to-day  
3383 and perhaps none to-morrow. I inquired if there were  
3384 no letter-boats for Kia-hing Fu, and was told that they  
3385 had already left. The only remaining resource was to  
3386 ascertain if any private boats were going in which I  
3387 could get a passage. My search, however, was in vain;  
3388 and I could get no boat to undertake to go all the way to  
3389 Shanghai, or my difficulty would have been at an end.

3390

3391 Just at this juncture I saw before me, at a turn in the  
3392 canal, a letter-boat going in the direction of Kia-hing  
3393 Fu This, I concluded, must be one of the Kia-hing boats  
3394 that had been unexpectedly detained, and I set off after  
3395 it as fast as hope and the necessities of the case would  
3396 carry me. For the time being weariness and sore feet  
3397 were alike forgotten. After a chase of about a mile I  
3398 overtook it.

3399

3400 “Are you going to Kia-hing Fu?” I called out.

3401

3402 “No,” was the only answer.

3403

3404 “Are you going in that direction?”

3405

3406 “No.”

3407

3408 "Will you give me a passage as far as you do go that  
3409 way?"

3410

3411 Still "No," and nothing more.

3412

3413 Completely dispirited and exhausted, I sank down on  
3414 the grass and fainted away.

3415

3416 As consciousness returned some voices reached my  
3417 ear, and I found they were talking about me. One said,  
3418 "He speaks pure Shanghai dialect," and from their own  
3419 speech I knew them to be Shanghai people. Raising  
3420 myself, I saw that they were on a large hong-boat on  
3421 the other side of the canal, and after a few words they  
3422 sent their small boat to fetch me, and I went on board  
3423 the junk. They were very kind, and gave me some tea;  
3424 and when I was refreshed and able to partake of it,  
3425 some food also. I then took my shoes and stockings off  
3426 to ease my feet, and the boatman kindly provided me  
3427 with hot water to bathe them. When they heard my  
3428 story, and saw the blisters on my feet, they evidently  
3429 pitied me, and hailed every boat that passed to see if it  
3430 was going my way. Not finding one, by and by, after a  
3431 few hours' sleep, I went ashore with the captain,  
3432 intending to preach in the temple of Kwan-ti.

3433

3434 Before leaving the junk I told the captain and those on  
3435 board that I was now unable to help myself; that I had  
3436 not strength to walk to Kia-hing Fu, and having been  
3437 disappointed in getting a passage to-day, I should no  
3438 longer have sufficient means to take me there by letter-  
3439 boat, which was an expensive mode of travelling; that I

3440 knew not how the GOD whom I served would help me,  
3441 but that I had no doubt He would do so; and that my  
3442 business now was to serve Him where I was. I also told  
3443 them that the help which I knew would come ought to  
3444 be an evidence to them of the truth of the religion  
3445 which I and the other missionaries at Shanghai  
3446 preached.

3447

3448 On our way to the town, while engaged in conversation  
3449 with the captain, we saw a letter-boat coming up. The  
3450 captain drew my attention to it; but I reminded him that  
3451 I had no longer the means of paying my passage by it.  
3452 He hailed it, nevertheless, and found that it was going  
3453 to a place about nine English miles from Shanghai,  
3454 whence one of the boatmen would carry the mails  
3455 overland to the city. He then said, "This gentleman is a  
3456 foreigner from Shanghai, who has been robbed, and has  
3457 no longer the means of returning. If you will take him  
3458 with you as far as you go, and then engage a sedan  
3459 chair to carry him the rest of the way, he will pay you  
3460 in Shanghai. You see my boat is lying aground yonder  
3461 for want of water, and cannot get away. Now, I will  
3462 stand surety; and if this gentleman does not pay when  
3463 you get to Shanghai, I will do so on your return." This  
3464 unsolicited kindness on the part of a Chinaman, a  
3465 perfect stranger, will appear the more remarkable to  
3466 any one acquainted with the character of the Chinese,  
3467 who are generally most reluctant to risk their money.  
3468 Those on the letter-boat agreeing to the terms, I was  
3469 taken on board as a passenger. Oh, how thankful I felt  
3470 for this providential interposition, and to be once more  
3471 on my way to Shanghai!

3472

3473 Letter-boats such as the one on which I was now  
3474 travelling are of a long narrow build, and very limited  
3475 as to their inside accommodation. One has to lie down  
3476 all the time they are in motion, as a slight movement  
3477 would easily upset them. This was no irksome  
3478 condition to me, however; on the contrary, I was only  
3479 too glad to be quiet. They are the quickest boats I have  
3480 seen in China. Each one is worked by two men, who  
3481 relieve one another continuously night and day. They  
3482 row with their feet, and paddle with their hands; or if  
3483 the wind is quite favourable, row with their feet, and  
3484 with one hand manage a small sail, while steering with  
3485 the other.

3486

3487 After a pleasant and speedy journey, I reached  
3488 Shanghai in safety on August 9th, through the help of  
3489 Him who has said, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake  
3490 thee;" "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of  
3491 the world."

3492

3493 [Illustration]

3494

3495 [Illustration]

3496

3497

3498

3499

3500 CHAPTER XIV

3501

3502 PROVIDENTIAL GUIDANCE

3503

3504

3505 IT now seemed very clear that the lost property—  
3506 including everything I possessed in China, with the  
3507 exception of a small sum of money providentially left  
3508 in Shanghai—had been deliberately stolen by my  
3509 servant, who had gone off with it to Hang-chau. The  
3510 first question, of course, was how best to act for the  
3511 good of the man who had been the cause of so much  
3512 trouble. It would not have been difficult to take steps  
3513 that would have led to his punishment; though the  
3514 likelihood of any reparation being made for the loss  
3515 sustained was very small. But the consideration which  
3516 weighed most heavily was that the thief was a man for  
3517 whose salvation I had laboured and prayed; and I felt  
3518 that to prosecute him would not be to emphasise the  
3519 teaching of the Sermon on the Mount, in which we had  
3520 read together, “Resist not evil,” and other similar  
3521 precepts. Finally, concluding that his soul was of more  
3522 value than the 40 worth of things I had lost, I wrote and  
3523 told him this, urging upon him his need of repentance  
3524 and faith in the LORD JESUS CHRIST. The course I  
3525 took commended itself to my Christian friends in  
3526 England, one of whom was afterwards led to send me a  
3527 cheque for 40—the first of many subsequently received  
3528 from the same kind helper.

3529

3530 Having obtained the little money left in Shanghai, I  
3531 again set out for Ningpo, to seek assistance from Dr.  
3532 Parker in replacing the medicines I had previously lost  
3533 by fire. This being satisfactorily accomplished, I  
3534 returned once more to Shanghai, en route for  
3535 Swatow, hoping soon to rejoin my much-loved friend,

3536 Mr. Burns, in the work in that important centre. GOD  
3537 had willed it otherwise, however; and the delay caused  
3538 by the robbery was just sufficient to prevent me from  
3539 starting for the South as I had intended.

3540

3541 Over the political horizon storm-clouds had long been  
3542 gathering, precursors of coming war; and early in  
3543 October of this year (1856) the affair of the Lorcha  
3544 Arrow at Canton led to the definite commencement  
3545 of hostilities. Very soon China was deeply involved in  
3546 a second prolonged struggle with foreign powers; and  
3547 missionary operations, in the South at any rate, had to  
3548 be largely suspended. Tidings of these events, together  
3549 with letters from Mr. Burns, arrived just in time to meet  
3550 me in Shanghai as I was leaving for Swatow; and thus  
3551 hindered, I could not but realise the hand of GOD in  
3552 closing the door I had so much desired to enter.

3553

3554 While in Ningpo, I had made the acquaintance of Mr.  
3555 John Jones, who, with Dr. Parker, represented the  
3556 Chinese Evangelisation Society in that city. Hindered  
3557 from returning to Swatow, I now decided to join these  
3558 brethren in the Ningpo work, and set out at once upon  
3559 the journey. On the afternoon of the second day, when  
3560 already about thirty miles distant from Shanghai, Mr.  
3561 Jones and I drew near the large and important city of  
3562 Sung-kiang, and I spoke of going ashore to preach the  
3563 Gospel to the thronging multitudes that lined the banks  
3564 and crowded the approaches to the city gates.

3565

3566 Among the passengers on board the boat was one  
3567 intelligent man, who in the course of his travels had

3568 been a good deal abroad, and had even visited England,  
3569 where he went by the name of Peter. As might be  
3570 expected, he had heard something of the Gospel, but  
3571 had never experienced its saving power. On the  
3572 previous evening I had drawn him into earnest  
3573 converse about his soul's salvation. The man listened  
3574 with attention, and was even moved to tears, but still no  
3575 definite result was apparent. I was pleased, therefore,  
3576 when he asked to be allowed to accompany me, and to  
3577 hear me preach.

3578

3579 I went into the cabin of the boat to prepare tracts and  
3580 books for distribution on landing with my Chinese  
3581 friend, when suddenly I was startled by a splash and a  
3582 cry from without. I sprang on deck, and took in the  
3583 situation at a glance. Peter was gone! The other men  
3584 were all there, on board, looking helplessly at the spot  
3585 where he had disappeared, but making no effort to save  
3586 him. A strong wind was carrying the junk rapidly  
3587 forward in spite of a steady current in the opposite  
3588 direction, and the low-lying, shrubless shore afforded  
3589 no landmark to indicate how far we had left the  
3590 drowning man behind.

3591

3592 I instantly let down the sail and leapt overboard in the  
3593 hope of finding him. Unsuccessful, I looked around in  
3594 agonising suspense, and saw close to me a fishing-boat  
3595 with a peculiar drag-net furnished with hooks, which I  
3596 knew would bring him up.

3597

3598 “Come!” I cried, as hope revived in my heart. “Come  
3599 and drag over this spot directly; a man is drowning just  
3600 here!”

3601

3602 “Veh bin” (It is not convenient), was the unfeeling  
3603 answer.

3604

3605 “Don’t talk of convenience!” cried I in an agony; “a  
3606 man is drowning, I tell you!”

3607

3608 “We are busy fishing,” they responded, “and cannot  
3609 come.”

3610

3611 “Never mind your fishing,” I said, “I will give you  
3612 more money than many a day’s fishing will bring; only  
3613 come—come at once!”

3614

3615 “How much money will you give us?”

3616

3617 “We cannot stay to discuss that now! Come, or it will  
3618 be too late. I will give you five dollars” (then worth  
3619 about thirty shillings in English money).

3620

3621 “We won’t do it for that,” replied the men. “Give us  
3622 twenty dollars, and we will drag.”

3623

3624 “I do not possess so much: do come quickly, and I will  
3625 give you all I have!”

3626

3627 “How much may that be?”

3628

3629 “I don’t know exactly, about fourteen dollars.”

3630

3631 At last, but even then slowly enough, the boat was  
3632 paddled over, and the net let down. Less than a minute  
3633 sufficed to bring up the body of the missing man. The  
3634 fishermen were clamorous and indignant because their  
3635 exorbitant demand was delayed while efforts at  
3636 resuscitation were being made. But all was in vain—  
3637 life was extinct.

3638

3639 To myself this incident was profoundly sad and full of  
3640 significance, suggesting a far more mournful reality.  
3641 Were not those fishermen actually guilty of this poor  
3642 Chinaman's death, in that they had the means of saving  
3643 him at hand, if they would but have used them?  
3644 Assuredly they were guilty. And yet, let us pause ere  
3645 we pronounce judgment against them, lest a greater  
3646 than Nathan answer, “\_Thou art the man\_.” Is it so  
3647 hard-hearted, so wicked a thing to neglect to save the  
3648 body? Of how much sorer punishment, then, is he  
3649 worthy who leaves the soul to perish, and Cain-like  
3650 says, “Am I my brother's keeper?” The LORD JESUS  
3651 commands, commands \_me\_, commands \_you\_, my  
3652 brother, and \_you\_, my sister. “Go,” says He, “go ye  
3653 into \_all\_ the world, and preach the Gospel to \_every\_  
3654 creature.” Shall we say to \_Him\_, “No, it is not  
3655 convenient”? shall we tell \_Him\_ that we are busy  
3656 fishing and cannot go? that we have bought a piece of  
3657 ground and cannot go? that we have purchased five  
3658 yoke of oxen, or have married, or are engaged in other  
3659 and more interesting pursuits, and cannot go? Ere long  
3660 “we must all appear before the judgment seat of  
3661 CHRIST; that every one may receive the things done in

3662 his body.” Let us remember, let us pray for, let us  
3663 labour for the unevangelised Chinese; \_or we shall sin  
3664 against our own souls\_. Let us consider \_Who\_ it is  
3665 that has said, “If thou \_forbear\_ to deliver them that are  
3666 drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain;  
3667 if thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not He that  
3668 pondereth the heart consider it? and He that keepeth  
3669 \_thy\_ soul, doth not he know it? and shall not He  
3670 render to every man according to his works?”

3671

3672 Through midnight gloom from Macedon,  
3673 The cry of myriads as of one;  
3674 The voiceful silence of despair  
3675 Is eloquent in awful prayer:  
3676 The soul’s exceeding bitter cry,  
3677 “Come o’er and help us, or we die.”

3678

3679 How mournfully it echoes on,  
3680 For half the earth is Macedon;  
3681 These brethren to their brethren call,  
3682 And by the Love which loves them all,  
3683 And by the whole world’s Life they cry,  
3684 “O ye that live, behold we die!”

3685

3686 By other sounds the world is won  
3687 Than that which wails from Macedon;  
3688 The roar of gain is round it rolled,  
3689 Or men unto themselves are sold,  
3690 And cannot list the alien cry,  
3691 “O hear and help us, lest we die!”

3692

3693 Yet with that cry from Macedon

3694 The very car of CHRIST rolls on:  
3695 “\_I come; who would abide My day,\_  
3696 \_In yonder wilds prepare My way;\_  
3697 \_My voice is crying in their cry,\_  
3698 \_Help ye the dying, lest ye die\_.”

3699

3700 JESU, for men of Man the SON,  
3701 Yea, THINE the cry from Macedon;  
3702 Oh, by the kingdom and the power  
3703 And glory of Thine advent hour,  
3704 Wake heart and will to hear their cry:  
3705 Help us to help them, lest we die.

3706

3707 [Illustration]

3708

3709 [Illustration]

3710

3711

3712

## 3713 CHAPTER XV

3714

### 3715 SETTLEMENT IN NINGPO

3716

3717

3718 THE autumn of 1856 was well advanced before I  
3719 reached Ningpo, one of the most ancient and influential  
3720 cities on the coast of China. Opened to the residence of  
3721 foreigners in 1842 by the treaty of Nan-king, it had  
3722 long been the scene of missionary labours. Within its  
3723 thronging thoroughfares the busy tide of life runs high.  
3724 Four hundred thousand human beings dwell within or

3725 around the five miles circuit of its ancient wall, every  
3726 one a soul that JESUS loves, for whom He died.

3727

3728 As winter drew on I rented a native house in Wu-gyiao-  
3729 deo, or Lake Head Street. It was not then a very  
3730 comfortable residence. I have a very distinct  
3731 remembrance of tracing my initials on the snow which  
3732 during the night had collected upon my coverlet in the  
3733 large barn-like upper room, now subdivided into four  
3734 or five smaller ones, each of which is comfortably  
3735 ceiled. The tiling of an unceiled Chinese house may  
3736 keep off the rain—if it happens to be sound—but it  
3737 does not afford so good a protection against snow,  
3738 which will beat up through crannies and crevices, and  
3739 find its way within. But however unfinished may have  
3740 been its fittings, the little house was well adapted for  
3741 work amongst the people; and there I thankfully settled  
3742 down, finding ample scope for service,—morning,  
3743 noon, and night.

3744

3745 During the latter part of this year my mind was greatly  
3746 exercised about continued connection with my Society,  
3747 it being frequently in debt. Personally I had always  
3748 avoided debt, and kept within my salary, though at  
3749 times only by very careful economy. Now there was no  
3750 difficulty in doing this, for my income was larger, and  
3751 the country being in a more peaceful state, things were  
3752 not so dear. But the Society itself was in debt. The  
3753 quarterly bills which I and others were instructed to  
3754 draw were often met by borrowed money, and a  
3755 correspondence commenced which terminated in the

3756 following year by my resigning from conscientious  
3757 motives.

3758

3759 To me it seemed that the teaching of GOD’S Word was  
3760 unmistakably clear: “Owe no man any thing.” To  
3761 borrow money implied, to my mind, a contradiction of  
3762 Scripture—a confession that GOD had withheld some  
3763 good thing, and a determination to get for ourselves  
3764 what He had not given. Could that which was wrong  
3765 for one Christian to do be right for an association of  
3766 Christians? Or could any amount of precedents make a  
3767 wrong course justifiable? If the Word taught me  
3768 anything, it taught me to have no connection with debt.  
3769 I could not think that GOD was poor, that He was short  
3770 of resources, or unwilling to supply any want of  
3771 whatever work was really His. It seemed to me that if  
3772 there were lack of funds to carry on work, then to that  
3773 degree, in that special development, or at that time, it  
3774 could not be the work of GOD. To satisfy my  
3775 conscience I was therefore compelled to resign  
3776 connection with the Society which had hitherto  
3777 supplied my salary.

3778

3779 It was a great satisfaction to me that my friend and  
3780 colleague, Mr. Jones, also of the Chinese  
3781 Evangelisation Society, was led to take the same step;  
3782 and we were both profoundly thankful that the  
3783 separation took place without the least breach of  
3784 friendly feeling on either side. Indeed, we had the joy  
3785 of knowing that the step we took commended itself to  
3786 several members of the Committee, although as a  
3787 whole the Society could not come to our position.

3788 Depending upon GOD alone for supplies, we were  
3789 enabled to continue a measure of connection with our  
3790 former supporters, sending home journals, etc., for  
3791 publication as before, so long as the Society continued  
3792 to exist.

3793

3794 The step we had taken was not a little trying to faith. I  
3795 was not at all sure what GOD would have me do, or  
3796 whether He would so meet my need as to enable me to  
3797 continue working as before. I had no friends whatever  
3798 from whom I expected supplies. I did not know what  
3799 means the LORD might use; but I was willing to give  
3800 up all my time to the service of evangelisation among  
3801 the heathen, if by any means He would supply the  
3802 smallest amount on which I could live; and if He were  
3803 not pleased to do this, I was prepared to undertake  
3804 whatever work might be necessary to supply myself,  
3805 giving all the time that could be spared from such a  
3806 calling to more distinctly missionary efforts. But GOD  
3807 blessed and prospered me; and how glad and thankful I  
3808 felt when the separation was really effected! I could  
3809 look right up into my FATHER'S face with a satisfied  
3810 heart, ready, by His grace, to do the next thing as He  
3811 might teach me, and feeling very sure of His loving  
3812 care.

3813

3814 And how blessedly He did lead me on and provide for  
3815 me I can never, never tell. It was like a continuation of  
3816 some of my earlier home experiences. My faith was not  
3817 untried; it often, often failed, and I was so sorry and  
3818 ashamed of the failure to trust such a FATHER. But  
3819 oh! I was learning to know Him. I would not even then

3820 have missed the trial. He became so near, so real, so  
3821 intimate. The occasional difficulty about funds never  
3822 came from an insufficient supply for personal needs,  
3823 but in consequence of ministering to the wants of  
3824 scores of the hungry and dying ones around us. And  
3825 trials far more searching in other ways quite eclipsed  
3826 these difficulties; and being deeper, brought forth in  
3827 consequence richer fruits. How glad one is now, not  
3828 only to know, with dear Miss Havergal, that——

3829

3830 “They who trust Him wholly  
3831 Find Him wholly true,”

3832

3833 but also that when we fail to trust fully He still remains  
3834 unchangingly faithful. He is wholly true whether we  
3835 trust or not. “If we believe not, He abideth faithful; He  
3836 cannot deny Himself.” But oh, how we dishonour our  
3837 LORD whenever we fail to trust Him, and what peace,  
3838 blessing, and triumph we lose in thus sinning against  
3839 the Faithful One! May we never again presume in  
3840 anything to doubt Him!

3841

3842 The year 1857 was a troublous time, and closed with  
3843 the notorious bombardment of Canton by the British,  
3844 and the commencement of our second Chinese war.  
3845 Rumours of trouble were everywhere rife, and in many  
3846 places the missionaries passed through not a little  
3847 danger. In Ningpo this was especially the case, and the  
3848 preserving care of GOD in answer to prayer was  
3849 consequently most marked. When the awful news of  
3850 the bombardment of Canton reached the Cantonese in  
3851 Ningpo their wrath and indignation knew no bounds,

3852 and they immediately set to work to plot the destruction  
3853 of all the foreigners resident in the city and  
3854 neighbourhood. It was well known that many of the  
3855 foreigners were in the habit of meeting for worship  
3856 every Sunday evening at one of the missionary houses,  
3857 and the plan was to surround the place on a given  
3858 occasion and make short work of all present, cutting off  
3859 afterwards any who might not be present.

3860

3861 The sanction of the Tao-t'ai, or chief civil magistrate of  
3862 the city, was easily obtained; and nothing remained to  
3863 hinder the execution of the plot, of which the foreigners  
3864 were of course entirely in ignorance. (A similar plot  
3865 against the Portuguese a few months later was carried  
3866 out, and between fifty and sixty were massacred in  
3867 open daylight.) It so happened, however, that one of  
3868 those acquainted with the conspiracy had a friend  
3869 engaged in the service of the missionaries; and anxious  
3870 for his safety, he was led to warn him of the coming  
3871 danger, and urge his leaving foreign employ. The  
3872 servant made the matter known to his master, and thus  
3873 the little community became aware of their peril.  
3874 Realising the gravity of the situation, they determined  
3875 to meet together at the house of one of their number to  
3876 seek the protection of the Most High, and to hide under  
3877 the shadow of His wings. Nor did they thus meet in  
3878 vain.

3879

3880 At the very time we were praying the LORD was  
3881 working. He led an inferior mandarin, the  
3882 Superintendent of Customs, to call upon the Tao-t'ai,  
3883 and remonstrate with him upon the folly of permitting

3884 such an attempt, which he assured him would rouse the  
3885 foreigners in other places to come with armed forces to  
3886 avenge the death of their countrymen and raze the city  
3887 to the ground. The Tao-t'ai replied that, when the  
3888 foreigners came for that purpose, he should deny all  
3889 knowledge of or complicity in the plot, and so direct  
3890 their vengeance against the Cantonese, who would in  
3891 their turn be destroyed; "and thus," said he, "we shall  
3892 get rid of both Cantonese and foreigners by one stroke  
3893 of policy." The Superintendent of Customs assured him  
3894 that all such attempts at evasion would be useless; and,  
3895 finally, the Tao-t'ai sent to the Cantonese, withdrawing  
3896 his permission, and prohibiting the attack. This took  
3897 place at the very time when we were asking protection  
3898 of the LORD, though we did not become acquainted  
3899 with the facts until some weeks later. Thus again we  
3900 were led to prove that—

3901  
3902 "Sufficient is His arm alone,  
3903 And our defence is sure."

3904  
3905 I cannot attempt to give any historical record of the  
3906 events of this period, but ere 1857 terminated Mr. Jones  
3907 and I were cheered by tokens of blessing. It is  
3908 interesting to recall the circumstances connected with  
3909 the first profession of faith in Christ, which encouraged  
3910 us.

3911  
3912 On one occasion I was preaching the glad tidings of  
3913 salvation through the finished work of CHRIST, when  
3914 a middle-aged man stood up, and testified before his

3915 assembled countrymen to his faith in the power of the  
3916 Gospel.

3917

3918 “I have long sought for the Truth,” said he earnestly,  
3919 “as my fathers did before me; but I have never found it.  
3920 I have travelled far and near, but without obtaining it. I  
3921 have found no rest in Confucianism, Buddhism, or  
3922 Taoism; but I do find rest in what I have heard here to-  
3923 night. Henceforth I am a believer in JESUS.”

3924

3925 This man was one of the leading officers of a sect of  
3926 reformed Buddhists in Ningpo. A short time after his  
3927 confession of faith in the SAVIOUR there was a  
3928 meeting of the sect over which he had formerly  
3929 presided. I accompanied him to that meeting, and there,  
3930 to his former co-religionists, he testified of the peace he  
3931 had obtained in believing. Soon after, one of his former  
3932 companions was converted and baptized. Both now  
3933 sleep in JESUS. The first of these two long continued  
3934 to preach to his countrymen the glad tidings of great  
3935 joy. A few nights after his conversion he asked how  
3936 long this Gospel had been known in England. He was  
3937 told that we had known it for some hundreds of years.

3938

3939 “What!” said he, amazed; “is it possible that for  
3940 hundreds of years you have had the knowledge of these  
3941 glad tidings in your possession, and yet have only now  
3942 come to preach it to us? My father sought after the  
3943 Truth for more than twenty years, and died without  
3944 finding it. Oh, why did you not come sooner?”

3945

3946 A whole generation has passed away since that  
3947 mournful inquiry was made; but how many, alas! might  
3948 repeat the same question to-day? More than two  
3949 hundred millions in the meanwhile have been swept  
3950 into eternity, without an offer of salvation. How long  
3951 shall this continue, and the MASTER’S words, “To  
3952 every creature,” remain unheeded?

3953

3954 [Illustration]

3955

3956 [Illustration]

3957

3958

3959

3960

3961 CHAPTER XVI

3962

3963 TIMELY SUPPLIES

3964

3965

3966 NOT infrequently our GOD brings His people into  
3967 difficulties on purpose that they may come to know  
3968 Him as they could not otherwise do. Then He reveals  
3969 Himself as “a very present help in trouble,” and makes  
3970 the heart glad indeed at each fresh revelation of a  
3971 FATHER’S faithfulness. We who only see so small a  
3972 part of the sweet issues of trial often feel that we would  
3973 not for anything have missed them; how much more  
3974 shall we bless and magnify His Name when all the  
3975 hidden things are brought to light!

3976

3977 In the autumn of 1857, just one year after I came to  
3978 settle in Ningpo, a little incident occurred that did  
3979 much to strengthen our faith in the loving-kindness and  
3980 ever-watchful care of GOD.

3981

3982 A brother in the LORD, the Rev. John Quarterman, of  
3983 the American Presbyterian Mission North, was taken  
3984 with virulent small-pox, and it was my mournful  
3985 privilege to nurse him through his suffering illness to  
3986 its fatal close. When all was over, it became necessary  
3987 to lay aside the garments worn while nursing, for fear  
3988 of conveying the infection to others. Not having  
3989 sufficient money in hand to purchase what was needful  
3990 in order to make this change, prayer was the only  
3991 resource. The LORD answered it by the unexpected  
3992 arrival of a long-lost box of clothing from Swatow, that  
3993 had remained in the care of the Rev. William Burns  
3994 when I left him for Shanghai, in the early summer of  
3995 the previous year. The arrival of the things just at this  
3996 juncture was as appropriate as it was remarkable, and  
3997 brought a sweet sense of the FATHER'S own  
3998 providing.

3999

4000 About two months later the following was penned:—

4001

4002

4003 \_November 18th, 1857.\_

4004

4005 Many seem to think that I am very poor. This certainly  
4006 is true enough in one sense, but I thank GOD it is “as  
4007 poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet  
4008 possessing all things.” And my GOD shall supply \_all\_

4009 my need; to Him be all the glory. I would not, if I  
4010 could, be otherwise than I am—entirely dependent  
4011 myself upon the LORD, and used as a channel of help  
4012 to others.

4013

4014 On Saturday, the 4th inst., our regular home mail  
4015 arrived. That morning we supplied, as usual, a  
4016 breakfast to the destitute poor, who came to the number  
4017 of seventy. Sometimes they do not reach forty, at others  
4018 again exceeding eighty. They come to us every day,  
4019 LORD'S Day excepted, for then we cannot manage to  
4020 attend to them and get through all our other duties too.  
4021 Well, on that Saturday morning we paid all expenses,  
4022 and provided ourselves for the morrow, after which we  
4023 had not a single dollar left between us. How the LORD  
4024 was going to provide for Monday we knew not; but  
4025 over our mantelpiece hung two scrolls in the Chinese  
4026 character—\_Ebenezer\_, “Hitherto hath the LORD  
4027 helped us”; and \_Jehovah-Jireh\_, “The LORD will  
4028 provide”—and He kept us from doubting for a  
4029 moment. That very day the mail came in, \_a week  
4030 sooner than was expected\_, and Mr. Jones received a  
4031 bill for two hundred and fourteen dollars. We thanked  
4032 GOD and took courage. The bill was taken to a  
4033 merchant, and although there is usually a delay of  
4034 several days in getting the change, this time he said,  
4035 “Send down on Monday.” We sent, and though he had  
4036 not been able to buy all the dollars, he let us have  
4037 seventy on account; so all was well. Oh, it is sweet to  
4038 live thus directly dependent upon the LORD, who  
4039 never fails us!

4040

4041 On Monday the poor had their breakfast as usual, for  
4042 we had not told them not to come, being assured that it  
4043 was the LORD’S work, and that the LORD would  
4044 provide. We could not help our eyes filling with tears  
4045 of gratitude when we saw not only our own needs  
4046 supplied, but the widow and the orphan, the blind and  
4047 the lame, the friendless and the destitute, together  
4048 provided for by the bounty of Him who feeds the  
4049 ravens. “O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt  
4050 His Name together. . . . Taste and see that the LORD is  
4051 good: blessed is the man that trusteth in Him. O fear  
4052 the LORD, ye His saints: for there is no want to them  
4053 that fear Him. The young lions do lack, and suffer  
4054 hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any  
4055 good thing”—and if not good, why want it?

4056

4057 But even two hundred dollars cannot last for ever, and  
4058 by New Year’s Day supplies were again getting low.  
4059 At last, on January 6th, 1858, only one solitary cash  
4060 remained—the twentieth part of a penny—in the joint  
4061 possession of Mr. Jones and myself; but though tried  
4062 we looked to GOD once again to manifest His gracious  
4063 care. Enough provision was found in the house to  
4064 supply a meagre breakfast; after which, having neither  
4065 food for the rest of the day, nor money to buy any, we  
4066 could only betake ourselves to Him who was able to  
4067 supply all our need with the petition, “Give us this day  
4068 our daily bread.”

4069

4070 After prayer and deliberation we thought that perhaps  
4071 we ought to dispose of something we possessed in  
4072 order to meet our immediate requirements. But on

4073 looking round we saw nothing that we could well  
4074 spare, and little that the Chinese would purchase for  
4075 ready money. Credit to any extent we might have had,  
4076 could we conscientiously have availed ourselves of it,  
4077 but this we felt to be unscriptural in itself, as well as  
4078 inconsistent with the position we were in. We had,  
4079 indeed, one article—an iron stove—which we knew the  
4080 Chinese would readily purchase; but we much regretted  
4081 the necessity of parting with it. At length, however, we  
4082 set out to the founder's, and after a walk of some  
4083 distance came to the river, which we had intended to  
4084 cross by a floating bridge of boats; but here the LORD  
4085 shut up our path. The bridge had been carried away  
4086 during the preceding night, and the river was only  
4087 passable by means of a ferry, the fare for which was  
4088 two cash each person. As we only possessed one cash,  
4089 our course clearly was to return and await GOD'S own  
4090 interposition on our behalf.

4091

4092 Upon reaching home, we found that Mrs. Jones had  
4093 gone with the children to dine at a friend's house, in  
4094 accordance with an invitation accepted some days  
4095 previously. Mr. Jones, though himself included in the  
4096 invitation, refused now to go and leave me to fast  
4097 alone. So we set to work and carefully searched the  
4098 cupboards; and though there was nothing to eat, we  
4099 found a small packet of cocoa, which, with a little hot  
4100 water, somewhat revived us. After this we again cried  
4101 to the LORD in our trouble, and the LORD heard and  
4102 saved us out of all our distresses. For while we were  
4103 still upon our knees a letter arrived from England  
4104 containing a remittance.

4105

4106 This timely supply not only met the immediate and  
4107 urgent need of the day; for in the assured confidence  
4108 that GOD, whose we were and whom we served, would  
4109 not put to shame those whose whole and only trust was  
4110 in Himself. My marriage had been previously arranged  
4111 to take place just fourteen days after this date. And this  
4112 expectation was not disappointed; for “the mountains  
4113 shall depart, and the hills be removed, but My kindness  
4114 shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of  
4115 My peace be removed.” And although during  
4116 subsequent years our faith was often exercised, and  
4117 sometimes severely, He ever proved faithful to His  
4118 promise, and never suffered us to lack any good thing.

4119

4120 Never, perhaps, was there a union that more fully  
4121 realised the blessed truth, “Whoso findeth a wife  
4122 findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the  
4123 LORD.” My dear wife was not only a precious gift to  
4124 me; GOD blessed her to many others during the twelve  
4125 eventful years through which she was spared to those  
4126 that loved her and to China.

4127

4128 Hers had been a life connection with missionary work  
4129 in that great empire; for her father, the loved and  
4130 devoted Samuel Dyer, was amongst the very earliest  
4131 representatives of the London Mission in the East. He  
4132 reached the Straits as early as 1827, and for sixteen  
4133 years laboured assiduously amongst the Chinese in  
4134 Penang and Singapore, completing at the same time a  
4135 valuable fount of Chinese metallic type, the first of the  
4136 kind that had then been attempted. Dying in 1843, it

4137 was never Mr. Dyers privilege to realise his hopes of  
4138 ultimately being able to settle on Chinese soil; but his  
4139 children lived to see the country opened to the Gospel,  
4140 and to take their share in the great work that had been  
4141 so dear to his heart. At the time of her marriage, my  
4142 dear wife had been already living for several years in  
4143 Ningpo with her friend, Miss Aldersey, in whose varied  
4144 missionary operations she was well qualified to render  
4145 valuable assistance.

4146

4147 [Illustration]

4148

4149

4150

4151

4152 CHAPTER XVII

4153

4154 GOD A REFUGE FOR US

4155

4156

4157 A SOMEWHAT different though not less manifest  
4158 answer to prayer was vouchsafed early in the year  
4159 1859. My dear wife was brought very low by illness,  
4160 and at last all hope of recovery seemed gone. Every  
4161 remedy tried had proved unavailing; and Dr. Parker,  
4162 who was in attendance, had nothing more to suggest.  
4163 Life was ebbing fast away. The only ground of hope  
4164 was that GOD might yet see fit to raise her up, in  
4165 answer to believing but submissive prayer.

4166

4167 The afternoon for the usual prayer meeting among the  
4168 missionaries had arrived, and I sent in a request for

4169 prayer, which was most warmly responded to. Just at  
4170 this time a remedy that had not yet been tried was  
4171 suggested to my mind, and I felt that I must hasten to  
4172 consult Dr. Parker as to the propriety of using it. It was  
4173 a moment of anguish. The hollow temples, sunken  
4174 eyes, and pinched features denoted the near approach  
4175 of death; and it seemed more than questionable as to  
4176 whether life would hold out until my return. It was  
4177 nearly two miles to Dr. Parker's house, and every  
4178 moment appeared long. On my way thither, while  
4179 wrestling mightily with GOD in prayer, the precious  
4180 words were brought with power to my soul, "Call upon  
4181 Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou  
4182 shall glorify Me." I was at once enabled to plead them  
4183 in faith, and the result was deep, deep, unspeakable  
4184 peace and joy. All consciousness of distance was gone.  
4185 Dr. Parker cordially approved of the use of the means  
4186 suggested, but upon arriving at home I saw at a glance  
4187 that the desired change had taken place in the absence  
4188 of this or any other remedy. The pinched aspect of the  
4189 countenance had given place to the calmness of  
4190 tranquil slumber, and not one unfavourable symptom  
4191 remained to retard recovery to health and strength.

4192

4193 Spared thus in answer to prayer the loss of my own  
4194 loved one, it was with added sympathy and sorrow that  
4195 I felt for Dr. Parker, when, in the autumn of the same  
4196 year, his own wife was very suddenly removed. It  
4197 being necessary for the doctor to return at once with his  
4198 motherless children to Glasgow, temporary  
4199 arrangements had to be made for the conduct of the  
4200 Mission Hospital in Ningpo, for which he alone had

4201 been responsible. Under these circumstances he  
4202 requested me to take up the work, at least so far as the  
4203 dispensary was concerned. After a few days' waiting  
4204 upon the LORD for guidance, I felt constrained to  
4205 undertake not only the dispensary work, but also that of  
4206 the hospital; relying solely upon the faithfulness of a  
4207 prayer-hearing GOD to furnish the means required for  
4208 its support.

4209

4210 The funds for the maintenance of the hospital had  
4211 hitherto been supplied by the proceeds of the doctor's  
4212 foreign medical practice; and with his departure these  
4213 ceased. But had not GOD said that whatever we ask in  
4214 the Name of the LORD JESUS shall be done? And are  
4215 we not told to seek first the kingdom of GOD, not  
4216 means to advance it, and that all these things shall be  
4217 added to us? Such promises were surely sufficient.  
4218 Eight days before entering upon this responsibility I  
4219 had not the remotest idea of ever doing so; still less  
4220 could friends at home have anticipated it. But the  
4221 LORD had foreseen the need, and already funds were  
4222 on the way to supply it.

4223

4224 At times there were not less than fifty in-patients in the  
4225 hospital, besides a large number who daily attended the  
4226 out-patient department. Thirty beds were ordinarily  
4227 allotted to free patients and their attendants; and about  
4228 as many to opium-smokers, who paid for their board  
4229 while being cured of the habit. As all the wants of the  
4230 sick in the wards were supplied gratuitously, in  
4231 addition to the remedial appliances needed for the out-  
4232 patient work, the daily expenses were considerable;

4233 besides which, a number of native attendants were  
4234 required, involving their support.

4235

4236 When Dr. Parker handed the hospital over to me he was  
4237 able to leave money that would meet the salaries and  
4238 working expenses of the current month, and little more.  
4239 Being unable to guarantee their support, his native staff  
4240 retired; and then I mentioned the circumstances to the  
4241 members of our little church, some of whom  
4242 volunteered to help me, depending, like myself, upon  
4243 the LORD; and they with me continued to wait upon  
4244 GOD that in some way or other He would provide for  
4245 His own work. Day by day the stores diminished, and  
4246 they were all but exhausted when one day a remarkable  
4247 letter reached me from a friend in England which  
4248 contained a cheque for 50. The letter stated that the  
4249 sender had recently lost his father, and had inherited his  
4250 property; that not desiring to increase his personal  
4251 expenditure, he wished to hold the money which had  
4252 now been left to him to further the LORD'S work. He  
4253 enclosed the 50, saying that I might know of some  
4254 special need for it; but leaving me free to use it for my  
4255 own support, or in any way that the LORD might lead  
4256 me; only asking to know how it was applied, and  
4257 whether there was need for more.

4258

4259 After a little season of thanksgiving with my dear wife,  
4260 I called my native helpers into our little chapel, and  
4261 translated to them the letter. I need not say how  
4262 rejoiced they were, and that we together praised GOD.  
4263 They returned to their work in the hospital with  
4264 overflowing hearts, and told out to the patients what a

4265 GOD was ours; appealing to them whether their idols  
4266 had ever helped them so. Both helpers and patients  
4267 were blessed spiritually through this remarkable  
4268 provision, and from that time the LORD provided all  
4269 that was necessary for carrying on the institution, in  
4270 addition to what was needed for the maintenance of my  
4271 own family, and for sustaining other branches of  
4272 missionary work under my care. When, nine months  
4273 later, I was obliged through failure of health to  
4274 relinquish this charge, I was able to leave more funds in  
4275 hand for the support of the hospital than were  
4276 forthcoming at the time I undertook it.

4277

4278 But not only were pecuniary supplies vouchsafed in  
4279 answer to prayer—many lives were spared; persons  
4280 apparently in hopeless stages of disease were restored,  
4281 and success was given in cases of serious and  
4282 dangerous operations. In the case of one poor man,  
4283 whose legs were amputated under very unfavourable  
4284 circumstances, healthy action took place with such  
4285 rapidity that both wounds were healed in less than two  
4286 weeks. And more permanent benefits than these were  
4287 conferred. Many were convinced of the truth of  
4288 Christianity; not a few sought the LORD in faith and  
4289 prayer, and experienced the power of the Great  
4290 Physician to cure the sin-sick soul. During the nine  
4291 months above alluded to sixteen patients from the  
4292 hospital were baptized, and more than thirty others  
4293 became candidates for admission into one or other of  
4294 the Christian churches in the city.

4295

4296 Thus the year 1860 began with openings on all hands,  
4297 but time and strength were sadly too limited to admit of  
4298 their being used to the best advantage. For some time  
4299 the help of additional workers had been a much-felt  
4300 need; and in January very definite prayer was made to  
4301 the LORD of the harvest that He would thrust forth  
4302 more labourers into this special portion of the great  
4303 world-field. Writing to relatives at home in England,  
4304 under date of January 16th, 1860, I thus expressed the  
4305 deep longing of our hearts:—

4306

4307 Do you know any earnest, devoted young men desirous  
4308 of serving GOD in China, who—not wishing for more  
4309 than their actual support—would be willing to come  
4310 out and labour here? Oh, for four or five such helpers!  
4311 They would probably begin to preach in Chinese in six  
4312 months time; and in answer to prayer the necessary  
4313 means for their support would be found.

4314

4315 But no one came to help us then; and under the  
4316 incessant physical and mental strain involved, in the  
4317 care of the hospital during Dr. Parker's absence, as well  
4318 as the continued discharge of my other missionary  
4319 duties, my own health began rapidly to fail, and it  
4320 became a serious question as to whether it would not be  
4321 needful to return to England for a time.

4322

4323 It was hard to face this possibility. The growing church  
4324 and work seemed to need our presence, and it was no  
4325 small trial to part from those whom we had learned so  
4326 truly to love in the LORD. Thirty or forty native  
4327 Christians had been gathered into the recently

4328 organised church; and the well-filled meetings, and the  
4329 warm-hearted earnestness of the converts, all bespoke a  
4330 future of much promise. At last, however, completely  
4331 prostrated by repeated attacks of illness, the only hope  
4332 of restoration seemed to lie in a voyage to England and  
4333 a brief stay in its more bracing climate; and this  
4334 necessity, painful though it seemed at the time, proved  
4335 to be only another opportunity for the manifestation of  
4336 the faithfulness and loving care of Him “who worketh  
4337 all things after the counsel of His own will.”

4338

4339 As heretofore, the LORD was present with His aid. The  
4340 means for our journey were supplied, and that so  
4341 liberally that we were able to bring with us a native  
4342 Christian to assist in translation or other literary work,  
4343 and to instruct in the language such helpers as the  
4344 LORD might raise up for the extension of the Mission.  
4345 That He would give us fellow-labourers we had no  
4346 doubt; for we had been enabled to seek them from Him  
4347 in earnest and believing prayer for many months  
4348 previously.

4349

4350 The day before leaving China we wrote as follows to  
4351 our friend W. T. Berger, Esq., whom we had known in  
4352 England, and who had ever strengthened our hands in  
4353 the LORD while in that distant land:—

4354

4355 “We are bringing with us a young Chinese brother to  
4356 assist in literary work, and I hope also in teaching the  
4357 dialect to those whom the LORD may induce to return  
4358 with us.”

4359

4360 And throughout the voyage our earnest cry to GOD  
4361 was that He would overrule our stay at home for good  
4362 to China, and make it instrumental in raising up at least  
4363 five helpers to labour in the province of CHEH-  
4364 KIANG.

4365

4366 The way in which it pleased the LORD to answer these  
4367 earnest and believing prayers, and the “exceeding  
4368 abundantly” with which He crowned them, we shall  
4369 now sketch in brief outline.

4370

4371 [Illustration]

4372

4373

4374

4375

4376 CHAPTER XVIII

4377

4378 A NEW AGENCY NEEDED

4379

4380

4381 “My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your  
4382 ways My ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are  
4383 higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your  
4384 ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”[3] How  
4385 true are these words! When the LORD is bringing in  
4386 great blessing in the best possible way, how oftentimes  
4387 our unbelieving hearts are feeling, if not saying, like  
4388 Jacob of old, “All these things are against me.” Or we  
4389 are filled with fear, as were the disciples when the  
4390 LORD, walking on the waters, drew near to quiet the  
4391 troubled sea, and to bring them quickly to their desired

4392 haven. And yet mere common-sense ought to tell us  
4393 that He, whose way is perfect, can make no  
4394 mistakes; that He who has promised to “perfect that  
4395 which concerneth” us, and whose minute care counts  
4396 the very hairs of our heads, and forms for us our  
4397 circumstances, must know better than we the way to  
4398 forward our truest interests and to glorify His own  
4399 Name.

4400

4401 “Blind unbelief is sure to err  
4402 And scan His work in vain;  
4403 GOD is His own Interpreter,  
4404 And He will make it plain.”

4405

4406 To me it seemed a great calamity that failure of health  
4407 compelled my relinquishing work for GOD in China,  
4408 just when it was more fruitful than ever before; and to  
4409 leave the little band of Christians in Ningpo, needing  
4410 much care and teaching, was a great sorrow. Nor was  
4411 the sorrow lessened when, on reaching England,  
4412 medical testimony assured me that return to China, at  
4413 least for years to come, was impossible. Little did I  
4414 then realise that the long separation from China was a  
4415 necessary step towards the formation of a work which  
4416 GOD would bless as He has blessed the CHINA  
4417 INLAND MISSION. While in the field, the pressure of  
4418 claims immediately around me was so great that I could  
4419 not think much of the still greater needs of the regions  
4420 farther inland; and, if they were thought of, could do  
4421 nothing for them. But while detained for some years in  
4422 England, daily viewing the whole country on the large  
4423 map on the wall of my study, I was as near to the vast

4424 regions of Inland China as to the smaller districts in  
4425 which I had laboured personally for GOD; and prayer  
4426 was often the only resource by which the burdened  
4427 heart could gain any relief.

4428

4429 As a long absence from China appeared inevitable, the  
4430 next question was how best to serve China while in  
4431 England, and this led to my engaging for several years,  
4432 with the late Rev. F. F. Gough of the C. M. S., in the  
4433 revision of a version of the New Testament in the  
4434 colloquial of Ningpo for the British and Foreign Bible  
4435 Society. In undertaking this work, in my short-  
4436 sightedness I saw nothing beyond the use that the  
4437 Book, and the marginal references, would be to the  
4438 native Christians; but I have often seen since that,  
4439 without those months of feeding and feasting on the  
4440 Word of GOD, I should have been quite unprepared to  
4441 form, on its present basis, a mission like the CHINA  
4442 INLAND MISSION.

4443

4444 In the study of that Divine Word I learned that, to  
4445 obtain successful labourers, not elaborate appeals for  
4446 help, but, \_first\_, earnest \_prayer\_ to GOD to thrust  
4447 forth labourers, and, \_second\_, the deepening of the  
4448 spiritual life of the church, so that \_men\_ should be  
4449 unable to stay at home, were what was needed. I saw  
4450 that the Apostolic plan was not to raise ways and  
4451 means, but \_to go and do the work\_, trusting in His  
4452 sure Word who has said, “Seek ye \_first\_ the Kingdom  
4453 of GOD and His righteousness, and all these things  
4454 shall be added unto you.”

4455

4456 In the meantime the prayer for workers for CHEH-  
4457 KIANG was being answered. The first, Mr. Meadows,  
4458 sailed for China with his young wife in January 1862,  
4459 through the kind co-operation and aid of our friend Mr.  
4460 Berger. The second left England in 1864, having her  
4461 passage provided by the Foreign Evangelisation  
4462 Society. The third and fourth reached Ningpo on July  
4463 24th, 1865. A fifth soon followed them, reaching  
4464 Ningpo in September 1865. Thus the prayer for the five  
4465 workers was fully answered; and we were encouraged  
4466 to look to GOD for still greater things.

4467

4468 Months of earnest prayer and not a few abortive efforts  
4469 had resulted in a deep conviction that a special agency  
4470 was essential for the evangelisation of Inland China.  
4471 At this time I had not only the daily help of prayer and  
4472 conference with my beloved friend and fellow-worker  
4473 the late Rev. F. F. Gough, but also invaluable aid and  
4474 counsel from Mr. and Mrs. Berger, with whom I and  
4475 my dear wife (whose judgment and piety were of  
4476 priceless value at this juncture) spent many days in  
4477 prayerful deliberation. The grave difficulty of possibly  
4478 interfering with existing missionary operations at home  
4479 was foreseen; but it was concluded that, by simple trust  
4480 in GOD, suitable agency might be raised up and  
4481 sustained without interfering injuriously with any  
4482 existing work. I had also a growing conviction that  
4483 GOD would have me to seek from Him the needed  
4484 workers, and to go forth with them. But for a long time  
4485 unbelief hindered my taking the first step.

4486

4487 How inconsistent unbelief always is! I had no doubt  
4488 that, if I prayed for workers, “\_in\_ the Name” of the  
4489 LORD JESUS CHRIST, they would be given me. I had  
4490 no doubt that, in answer to such prayer, the means for  
4491 our going forth would be provided, and that doors  
4492 would be opened before us in unreached parts of the  
4493 Empire. But I had not then learned to trust GOD for  
4494 \_keeping\_ power and grace for myself, so no wonder  
4495 that I could not trust Him to keep others who might be  
4496 prepared to go with me. I feared that in the midst of the  
4497 dangers, difficulties, and trials which would necessarily  
4498 be connected with such a work, some who were  
4499 comparatively inexperienced Christians might break  
4500 down, and bitterly reproach me for having encouraged  
4501 them to undertake an enterprise for which they were  
4502 unequal.

4503

4504 Yet, what was I to do? The feeling of blood-guiltiness  
4505 became more and more intense. Simply because I  
4506 refused to ask for them, the labourers did not come  
4507 forward—did not go out to China—and every day tens  
4508 of thousands were passing away to Christless graves!  
4509 Perishing China so filled my heart and mind that there  
4510 was no rest by day, and little sleep by night, till health  
4511 broke down. At the invitation of my beloved and  
4512 honoured friend, Mr. George Pearse (then of the Stock  
4513 Exchange), I went to spend a few days with him in  
4514 Brighton.

4515

4516 On Sunday, June 25th, 1865, unable to bear the sight of  
4517 a congregation of a thousand or more Christian people  
4518 rejoicing in their own security, while millions were

4519 perishing for lack of knowledge, I wandered out on the  
4520 sands alone, in great spiritual agony; and there the  
4521 LORD conquered my unbelief, and I surrendered  
4522 myself to GOD for this service. I told Him that all the  
4523 responsibility as to issues and consequences must rest  
4524 with Him; that as His servant, it was mine to obey and  
4525 to follow Him—His, to direct, to care for, and to guide  
4526 me and those who might labour with me. Need I say  
4527 that peace at once flowed into my burdened heart?  
4528 There and then I asked Him for twenty-four fellow-  
4529 workers, two for each of eleven inland provinces which  
4530 were without a missionary, and two for Mongolia; and  
4531 writing the petition on the margin of the Bible I had  
4532 with me, I returned home with a heart enjoying rest  
4533 such as it had been a stranger to for months, and with  
4534 an assurance that the LORD would bless His own work  
4535 and that I should share in the blessing. I had previously  
4536 prayed, and asked prayer, that workers might be raised  
4537 up for the eleven then unoccupied provinces, and thrust  
4538 forth and provided for, but had not surrendered myself  
4539 to be their leader.

4540

4541 About this time, with the help of my dear wife, I wrote  
4542 the little book, China's Spiritual Need and Claims.  
4543 Every paragraph was steeped in prayer. With the help  
4544 of Mr. Berger, who had given valued aid in the revision  
4545 of the manuscript, and who bore the expense of  
4546 printing an edition of 3000 copies, they were soon put  
4547 in circulation. I spoke publicly of the proposed work as  
4548 opportunity permitted, specially at the Perth and  
4549 Mildmay Conferences of 1865, and continued in prayer  
4550 for fellow-workers, who were soon raised up, and after

4551 due correspondence were invited to my home, then in  
4552 the East of London. When one house became  
4553 insufficient, the occupant of the adjoining house  
4554 removed, and I was able to rent it; and when that in its  
4555 turn became insufficient, further accommodation was  
4556 provided close by. Soon there were a number of men  
4557 and women under preparatory training, and engaging in  
4558 evangelistic work which tested in some measure their  
4559 qualifications as soul-winners.

4560

4561 [Illustration]

4562

4563 FOOTNOTES:

4564

4565 [3] Isaiah lv. 8, 9.

4566

4567

4568

4569

4570 CHAPTER XIX

4571

4572 THE FORMATION OF THE C. I. M.

4573

4574

4575 IT was thus that in the year 1865 the CHINA INLAND  
4576 MISSION was organised; and the workers already in  
4577 the field were incorporated into it. W. T. Berger, Esq.,  
4578 then residing at Saint Hill, near East Grinstead, without  
4579 whose help and encouragement I could not have gone  
4580 forward, undertook the direction of the home  
4581 department of the work during my anticipated absence  
4582 in China; and I proposed, as soon as arrangements

4583 could be completed, to go out with the volunteers and  
4584 take the direction of the work in the field. For the  
4585 support of the workers already in China, our friends at  
4586 home were sending in unsolicited contributions from  
4587 time to time, and every need was met.

4588

4589 We had now, however, to look forward to the outgoing  
4590 of a party of sixteen or seventeen, and estimated that  
4591 from 1500 to 2000 might be required to cover outfits,  
4592 passage-money, and initial expenses. I wrote a little  
4593 pamphlet, calling it "Occasional Paper, No. I."  
4594 (intending in successive numbers to give to donors and  
4595 friends accounts of the work wrought through us in  
4596 China), and in that paper stated the anticipated needs  
4597 for floating the enterprise. I expected that GOD would  
4598 incline the hearts of some of the readers to send  
4599 contributions: I had determined never to use personal  
4600 solicitation, or to make collections, or to issue  
4601 collecting-books. Missionary-boxes were thought  
4602 unobjectionable, and we had a few prepared for those  
4603 who might ask for them, and have continued to use  
4604 them ever since.

4605

4606 It was February 6th, 1866, when I sent my manuscript  
4607 of "Occasional Paper, No. I.," with a design for the  
4608 cover, to the printer. From delays in engraving and  
4609 printing, it was March 12th when the bales of  
4610 pamphlets were delivered at my house. Now on  
4611 February 6th a daily prayer-meeting, from 12 to 1  
4612 o'clock, had been commenced, to ask for the needed  
4613 funds. And that we had not asked in vain, the following  
4614 extract from "Occasional Paper, No. II." will show:—

4615

4616 “The receipts for 1864 were 51:14s.; for 1865, from  
4617 January to June, 221:12:6, besides two free passages;  
4618 from June to December, 923:12:8. Hindrances having  
4619 occurred, the MS. of the “Occasional Paper, No. I.”  
4620 was not completed till February 6th, 1866. Up to this  
4621 time we had received (from December 30th) 170:8:3.

4622

4623 “We felt much encouraged by the receipt of so much  
4624 money in little more than a month, as it was entirely  
4625 unsolicited by us—save from GOD. But it was also  
4626 evident that we must ask the LORD to do yet greater  
4627 things for us, or it would be impossible for a party of  
4628 from ten to sixteen to leave in the middle of May.  
4629 \_Daily united prayer was therefore offered to\_ GOD  
4630 for the funds needful for the outfits and passages of as  
4631 many as He would have to go out in May.

4632

4633 “Owing to the delays mentioned above in the printing  
4634 of the ‘Occasional Paper,’ it was not ready for the  
4635 publisher until March 12th. On this day I again  
4636 examined my mission cash-book, and the comparison  
4637 of the result of the two similar periods of one month  
4638 and six days each, one before and one after special  
4639 prayer for 1500 to 2000, was very striking:—

4640

4641 “Receipts from December 30th to February 6th, 170 8  
4642 3 “ Feb. 6th to Mar. 12th 1774 5 11

4643 “Funds advised, since received 200 0 0

4644 ————— 1974 5 11

4645

4646 “This, it will be noticed, was previous to the  
4647 circulation of the ‘Occasional Paper,’ and,  
4648 consequently, was not the result of it. It was the  
4649 response of a faithful GOD to the united prayers of  
4650 those whom He had called to serve Him in the Gospel  
4651 of His dear SON.

4652

4653 “We can now compare with these two periods a third of  
4654 the same extent. From March 12th to April 18th the  
4655 receipts were 529, showing that when GOD had  
4656 supplied the special need, the special supply also  
4657 ceased. Truly there is a LIVING GOD, and HE is the  
4658 hearer and answerer of prayer.”

4659

4660 But this gracious answer to prayer made it a little  
4661 difficult to circulate “Occasional Paper, No. I.,” for it  
4662 stated as a need that which was already supplied. The  
4663 difficulty was obviated by the issue with each copy of a  
4664 coloured inset stating that the funds for outfit and  
4665 passage were already in hand in answer to prayer. We  
4666 were reminded of the difficulty of Moses—not a very  
4667 common one in the present day—and of the  
4668 proclamation he had to send through the camp to the  
4669 people to prepare no more for the building of the  
4670 Tabernacle, as the gifts in hand were already too much.  
4671 We are convinced that if there were less solicitation  
4672 for money and more dependence upon the power of  
4673 the HOLY GHOST and upon the deepening of spiritual  
4674 life, the experience of Moses would be a common one  
4675 in every branch of Christian work.

4676

4677 Preparations for sailing to China were at once  
4678 proceeded with. About this time I was asked to give a  
4679 lecture on China in a village not very far from London,  
4680 and agreed to do so on condition that there should be  
4681 no collection, and that this should be announced on the  
4682 bills. The gentleman who invited me, and who kindly  
4683 presided as chairman, said he had never had that  
4684 condition imposed before. He accepted it, however, and  
4685 the bills were issued accordingly for the 2nd or 3rd of  
4686 May. With the aid of a large map, something of the  
4687 extent and population and deep spiritual need of China  
4688 was presented, and many were evidently impressed.

4689

4690 At the close of the meeting the chairman said that by  
4691 my request it had been intimated on the bills that there  
4692 would be no collection; but he felt that many present  
4693 would be distressed and burdened if they had not the  
4694 opportunity of contributing something towards the  
4695 good work proposed. He trusted that as the proposition  
4696 emanated entirely from himself, and expressed, he felt  
4697 sure, the feelings of many in the audience, I should not  
4698 object to it. I begged, however, that the condition  
4699 agreed to might be carried out; pointing out among  
4700 other reasons for making no collection, that the very  
4701 reason adduced by our kind chairman was, to my mind,  
4702 one of the strongest for not making it. My wish was,  
4703 not that those present should be relieved by making  
4704 such contribution as might there and then be  
4705 convenient, under the influence of a present emotion;  
4706 but that each one should go home burdened with the  
4707 deep need of China, and ask of GOD what He would  
4708 have them to do. If, after thought and prayer, they were

4709 satisfied that a pecuniary contribution was what He  
4710 wanted of them, it could be given to any Missionary  
4711 Society having agents in China; or it might be posted to  
4712 our London office; but that perhaps in many cases what  
4713 GOD wanted was not a money contribution, but  
4714 personal consecration to His service abroad; or the  
4715 giving up of son or daughter—more precious than  
4716 silver or gold—to His service. I added that I thought  
4717 the tendency of a collection was to leave the impression  
4718 that the all-important thing was money, whereas no  
4719 amount of money could convert a single soul; that what  
4720 was needed was that men and women filled with the  
4721 HOLY GHOST should give themselves to the work:  
4722 for the support of such there would never be a lack of  
4723 funds. As my wish was evidently very strong, the  
4724 chairman kindly yielded to it, and closed the meeting.  
4725 He told me, however, at the supper-table, that he  
4726 thought it was a mistake on my part, and that,  
4727 notwithstanding all I had said, a few persons had put  
4728 some little contributions into his hands.

4729

4730 Next morning at breakfast, my kind host came in a little  
4731 late, and acknowledged to not having had a very good  
4732 night. After breakfast he asked me to his study, and  
4733 giving me the contributions handed to him the night  
4734 before, said, “I thought last night, Mr. Taylor, that you  
4735 were in the wrong about a collection; I am now  
4736 convinced you were quite right. As I thought in the  
4737 night of that stream of souls in China ever passing  
4738 onward into the dark, I could only cry as you  
4739 suggested, ‘LORD, what wilt Thou have me to do?’  
4740 I think I have obtained the guidance I sought, and here

4741 it is.” He handed me a cheque for 500, adding that if  
4742 there had been a collection he would have given a few  
4743 pounds to it, but now this cheque was the result of  
4744 having spent no small part of the night in prayer.

4745

4746 I need scarcely say how surprised and thankful I was  
4747 for this gift. I had received at the breakfast-table a letter  
4748 from Messrs. Killick, Martin and Co., shipping agents,  
4749 in which they stated that they could offer us the whole  
4750 passenger accommodation of the ship Lammermuir.  
4751 I went direct to the ship, found it in every way suitable,  
4752 and paid the cheque on account. As above stated, the  
4753 funds deemed needed had been already in hand for  
4754 some time; but the coincidence of the simultaneous  
4755 offer of the ship accommodation and this munificent  
4756 gift—GOD’S “exceeding abundantly”—greatly  
4757 encouraged my heart.

4758

4759 On the 26th of May we sailed for China in the  
4760 Lammermuir, a missionary party of 16 (besides my  
4761 four children and their nurse, and Miss Bausum  
4762 (afterwards Mrs. Barchet)); in all 22 passengers. Mr.  
4763 Berger took charge of the home department, and thus  
4764 the C. I. M. was fully inaugurated.

4765

4766 [Illustration]

4767

4768

4769

4770

4771 CHAPTER XX

4772

4773 THE MISSION IN 1894

4774

4775

4776 THE events sketched in the last two chapters have been  
4777 more fully delineated by Miss Guinness in her  
4778 interesting Story of the China Inland Mission, which  
4779 continues its history to the present date. It is indeed a  
4780 record of the goodness of GOD, every remembrance of  
4781 which calls for gratitude and praise. We can only here  
4782 briefly mention a few facts, referring our readers to  
4783 Miss Guinness's work for all details.

4784

4785 After a voyage of many mercies the Lammermuir  
4786 party safely reached China, and during the first ten  
4787 years stations and out-stations were opened in many  
4788 cities and towns in four provinces which hitherto had  
4789 been unreached by the Gospel. At home Mr. and Mrs.  
4790 Berger continued their devoted service until March  
4791 19th, 1872, I having returned to England the year  
4792 before. Shortly after this the London Council was  
4793 formed, which has now for several years been assisted  
4794 by an auxiliary Council of ladies. A Scotch Council  
4795 was also formed in Glasgow a few years ago.

4796

4797 A visit to America in 1888 issued in the formation of  
4798 the Council for North America, and a similar Council  
4799 for Australasia was commenced in Melbourne two  
4800 years later. In the field a China Council was organised  
4801 in 1886, composed of senior missionaries who meet  
4802 quarterly in Shanghai.

4803

4804 Closely associated with the C. I. M. are seven  
4805 Committees—in England, Norway, Sweden (two),  
4806 Finland, Germany, and the United States—which send  
4807 out and support their own missionaries, who in China  
4808 have the assistance of the educational and other  
4809 advantages of the C. I. M., and who work under its  
4810 direction.

4811

4812 The staff of the Mission, in May 1893, consisted of 552  
4813 missionaries (including wives and associates). There  
4814 were also 326 native helpers (95 of whom were  
4815 unpaid), working as pastors, evangelists, teachers,  
4816 colporteurs, Bible-women, etc., in 14 different  
4817 provinces.

4818

4819 Duly qualified candidates for missionary labour are  
4820 accepted without restriction as to denomination,  
4821 provided they are sound in the faith in all fundamental  
4822 truths: these go out in dependence upon GOD for  
4823 temporal supplies, with the clear understanding that the  
4824 officers of the Mission do not guarantee any income  
4825 whatever; and knowing that as they will not go into  
4826 debt, they can only minister to them as the funds sent in  
4827 from time to time will allow. But we praise GOD that  
4828 during the past twenty-eight years such ministry has  
4829 always been possible; our GOD has supplied all our  
4830 need, and has withheld no good thing.

4831

4832 All the expenses of the Mission at home and abroad are  
4833 met by voluntary contributions, sent to the offices of  
4834 the Mission without personal solicitation, by those who  
4835 wish to aid in this effort to spread the knowledge of the

4836 Gospel throughout China. The income for the year  
4837 1892 was about 34,000 from all sources—Great  
4838 Britain, the Continent of Europe, North America,  
4839 Australasia, China, etc.

4840

4841 Some of the missionaries having private property have  
4842 gone out at their own expense, and do not take anything  
4843 from the Mission funds.

4844

4845 Stations have been opened in ten of the eleven  
4846 provinces which were previously without Protestant  
4847 missionaries; from one of these, however, we have had  
4848 to retire. The eleventh province has been visited several  
4849 times, and it is hoped that in it permanent work may  
4850 soon be begun.

4851

4852 More than 200 stations and out-stations have been  
4853 opened in fourteen of the eighteen provinces, in all of  
4854 which stations either missionaries or native labourers  
4855 are resident. Over 6000 converts have been baptized  
4856 from the commencement, some 4000 of whom are now  
4857 living and in fellowship.

4858

4859

4860 THE MISSION IN 1902

4861

4862 The year 1894, in which the first edition of A  
4863 Retrospect appeared, was marked by the erection of  
4864 large and commodious premises for the work of the  
4865 Mission, and early in the following year the houses in  
4866 Pyrland Road, which had so long formed the home of  
4867 the Mission in England, were vacated, and

4868 NEWINGTON GREEN, LONDON, N., became the  
4869 address of the Mission offices and home.

4870

4871 From that date until the Boxer outbreak of 1900 the  
4872 Mission made steady progress, the development of the  
4873 work in China being accompanied by corresponding  
4874 developments in the home departments of the Mission  
4875 in England, America, and Australasia.

4876

4877 In January 1900, before the Boxer outbreak, there were  
4878 in connection with the Mission, 811 missionaries,  
4879 including wives and associates; 171 stations; 223 out-  
4880 stations; 387 chapels; 581 paid native helpers; 193  
4881 unpaid native helpers; 8557 communicants in  
4882 fellowship, 12,964 having been baptized from the  
4883 commencement. There were 266 organised churches;  
4884 788 boarding scholars; 1382 day scholars; 6 hospitals;  
4885 18 dispensaries; and 46 opium refuges.

4886

4887 During the terrible year of 1900, when no fewer than  
4888 135 missionaries and 53 missionaries' children and  
4889 many thousands of Chinese Christians were cruelly  
4890 murdered, the China Inland Mission lost 58  
4891 missionaries and 21 children. The records of these  
4892 unparalleled times of suffering have been told in  
4893 Martyred Missionaries of the China Inland Mission  
4894 and in Last Letters, both of which books will be  
4895 found advertised at the end of this volume. Apart from  
4896 loss of life, there was an immense amount of Mission  
4897 property destroyed, and the missionaries were  
4898 compelled to retire from their stations in most parts of  
4899 China.

4900

4901 The doors closed by this outbreak have all been  
4902 reopened in the goodness of GOD. In those districts  
4903 which suffered most from the massacres the work has  
4904 largely been one of reorganisation; but throughout  
4905 China generally there has been a spirit of awakening  
4906 and a time of enlarged opportunity; which is a loud call  
4907 for more men and women to volunteer to step into the  
4908 gaps and fill the places of those who have fallen.

4909

4910 Among recent developments we would specially  
4911 mention the opening of a new home centre at  
4912 Philadelphia, U.S.A. The total income of the Mission  
4913 for 1901 was 53,633 = \$257,712, and the total received  
4914 in England alone, for 1902, was 51,446 = \$246,912.  
4915 The total membership of the Mission in June 1902 was  
4916 761.

4917

4918 Current information about the progress of the work in  
4919 China may be obtained from China's Millions, the  
4920 organ of the Mission. It is published monthly, and may  
4921 be ordered through any bookseller from Messrs.  
4922 Morgan and Scott, 12 Paternoster Buildings, E.C., for  
4923 1s. per year, or direct by post from the offices of the  
4924 Mission, Newington Green, London, N., for 1s. 6d. per  
4925 annum.

4926

4927 The Australasian edition of China's Millions may be  
4928 ordered at the same price from M. L. Hutchinson, Little  
4929 Collins Street, or from the Mission Offices, 267 Collins  
4930 Street, Melbourne. The North American edition will be

4931 sent post free from the Mission Offices, 507 Church  
4932 Street, Toronto, for 50 cents per annum.

4933

4934 Prayer meetings on behalf of the work in China are  
4935 held at the principal home centres of the Mission, as  
4936 follows: Every Saturday afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock,  
4937 at Newington Green, London. Every Friday evening at  
4938 8 o'clock, at 507 Church Street, Toronto. Every  
4939 Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock, in the Office, 267  
4940 Collins Street, Melbourne. A hearty invitation to attend  
4941 any one of these meetings is given to any one residing  
4942 in or visiting any of these cities.

4943

4944 Donations to the Mission, applications from candidates,  
4945 orders for literature, requests for deputation speakers,  
4946 and other correspondence should be forwarded to

4947

4948 The Secretary,  
4949 China Inland Mission,  
4950 Newington Green, London, N.

4951

4952 The Home Director,  
4953 China Inland Mission,  
4954 507 Church Street, Toronto, Canada.

4955

4956 or

4957

4958 702 Witherspoon Buildings, Philadelphia, U.S.A.

4959

4960 or to

4961

4962 The Secretary,

4963 China Inland Mission,  
4964 267 Collins Street, Melbourne, Australia.

4965  
4966 [Illustration: MAP OF CHINA

4967  
4968 Shewing {1. All Protestant Mission Stations in China  
4969 up to June 1866, when the C.I.M. was founded (they  
4970 numbered fifteen) These are underlined in black.

4971 {2. The Stations of the China Inland Mission which  
4972 (with the exception of Ning-Po & Fung-hwa) have  
4973 been opened since June 1866. These are printed in red.]

4974  
4975  
4976 [Illustration]

4977  
4978  
4979

4980  
4981 STATIONS OF THE CHINA INLAND MISSION

4982  
4983 1900

4984  
4985 (BEFORE THE BOXER OUTBREAK)

4986  
4987  
4988 The best guide to the stations of the Mission is the new  
4989 China Inland Mission Map (size 44 × 38 in.,  
4990 mounted on linen, coloured, varnished, and hung on  
4991 rollers), price 8s. net, carriage and packing extra.  
4992 Mounted to fold, 8s. net, post free.

4993  
4994 Provinces.[4] Stations.[5] WORK BEGUN.

- 4995  
 4996 =Kan-suh=, 1876 LIANG-CHAU 1888  
 4997 SI-NING 1885  
 4998 LAN-CHAU 1885  
 4999 TS'IN-CHAU 1878  
 5000 \_Area,[6] 125,450 square miles.\_ FU K'IANG 1899  
 5001 \_Population, 9,285,377.\_ P'ING-LIANG 1895 KING-  
 5002 CHAU 1895  
 5003 TS'ING-NING 1897  
 5004 Chen-yuen 1897  
 5005 Tong-chi 1899  
 5006 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5007 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5008 =Shen-si=, 1876. Lung-chau 1893  
 5009 FENG-TSIANG 1888  
 5010 Mei-hien 1893  
 5011 K'IEN-CHAU 1894  
 5012 \_Area, 67,400 square miles.\_ Chau-chih 1893  
 5013 \_Population, 8,432,193.\_ \_Sang-kia-chuang\_ 1894  
 5014 Hing-p'ing 1893  
 5015 SI-GAN 1893  
 5016 \_Ying-kia-wei\_ 1893  
 5017 Chen-kia-hu 1897  
 5018 Lan-t'ien 1895  
 5019 K'ien-yang 1897  
 5020 Ch'ang-wu 1897  
 5021 San-shui 1897  
 5022 T'UNG-CHAU 1891  
 5023 Han-ch'eng 1897  
 5024 HAN-CHUNG 1879  
 5025 Ch'eng-ku 1887  
 5026 Si-hsiang 1896

- 5027 Yang-hien 1896  
5028 HING-AN 1898  
5029 \_\_\_\_\_  
5030 \_\_\_\_\_  
5031 =Shan-si=, 1876 TA-T'UNG 1886  
5032 Hwen-yuen 1898  
5033 SOH-P'ING 1895  
5034 Ts-yuin 1895  
5035 YING-CHAU 1897  
5036 Hiao-i 1887  
5037 Kiai-hiu 1891  
5038 SIH-CHAU 1885  
5039 Ta-ning 1885  
5040 KIH-CHAU 1891  
5041 Ho-tsin 1893  
5042 Ping-yao 1888  
5043 \_Area, 56,268 square miles.\_ HOH-CHAU 1886  
5044 \_Population, 12,211,453.\_ Hung-t'ung 1886 Yoh-yang  
5045 1896  
5046 P'ING-YANG 1879  
5047 K'h-wu 1885  
5048 I-sh 1891  
5049 Yin-ch'eng 1888  
5050 \_Mei-ti-kiai\_ 1895  
5051 HIAI-CHAU 1895  
5052 Lu-ch'eng 1889  
5053 \_-wu\_ 1896  
5054 LU-GAN 1889  
5055 Kiang-chau 1898  
5056 \_\_\_\_\_  
5057 \_\_\_\_\_  
5058 =Chih-li=, 1887 T'IEN-TSIN 1888

- 5059 \_Area, 58,949 square miles.\_ PAO-T'ING 1891  
 5060 \_Population, 17,937,000.\_ Hwuy-luh 1887  
 5061 SHUN-TEH 1888  
 5062 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5063 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5064 =Shan-tung=, 1879 \_Chefoo\_ 1879  
 5065 “ Sanatorium 1880  
 5066 “ Boys’ School 1880  
 5067 \_Area, 53,762 square miles.\_ “ Girls’ “ 1884  
 5068 \_Population, 36,247,835.\_ “ Preparatory School 1895  
 5069 \_T’ung-shin\_ 1889  
 5070 Ning-hai 1886  
 5071 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5072 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5073 =Ho-nan=, 1875 Siang-ch’eng 1891  
 5074 \_Chau-kia-k’eo\_ 1884  
 5075 \_Ho-nan\_ ...  
 5076 \_Ho-peh\_ ...  
 5077 \_Ho-si\_ ...  
 5078 \_Area, 66,913 square miles.\_ CH’EN-CHAU 1895  
 5079 \_Population, 22,115,827.\_ T’ai-k’ang 1895 \_She-k’i-  
 5080 tien\_ 1886  
 5081 Kwang-chau 1899  
 5082 Hin-an 1899  
 5083 \_King-ts-kuan\_ 1896  
 5084 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5085 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5086 =W. Si-ch’uan=, 1877 Kwan-hien 1889  
 5087 CH’EN-TU 1881  
 5088 KIA-TING 1888  
 5089 \_Area of whole Province, SUI-FU 1888  
 5090 166,800 square miles.\_ LU-CHAU 1890

- 5091 Hiao-sh 1899  
5092 CH'UNG-K'ING 1877  
5093 Ta-chien-lu 1897  
5094 \_\_\_\_\_  
5095 \_\_\_\_\_  
5096 =E. Si-ch'uan=, 1886 Kwang-yuen 1889  
5097 \_Sin-tien-ts\_ 1892  
5098 PAO-NING 1886  
5099 Ying-shan 1898  
5100 \_Population of whole Province, K-hien 1898  
5101 67,712,897.\_ SHUN-K'ING 1896  
5102 Pa-chau 1887  
5103 SUI-TING 1899  
5104 Wan-hien 1888  
5105 \_\_\_\_\_  
5106 \_\_\_\_\_  
5107 =Hu-peh=, 1874 \_Lao-ho-k'eo\_ 1887  
5108 \_Area, 70,450 square miles.\_ \_Han-kow\_ 1889  
5109 \_Population, 34,244,685.\_ I-CH'ANG 1895  
5110 \_\_\_\_\_  
5111 \_\_\_\_\_  
5112 =Gan-hwuy=, 1869 T'ai-ho 1892  
5113 VING-CHAU 1897  
5114 \_Ch'eng-yang-kwan\_ 1887  
5115 \_K'u-ch'eng\_ 1887  
5116 Fuh-hing-tsih (Lai-gan) 1898  
5117 LUH-GAN 1890  
5118 GAN-K'ING 1869  
5119 \_Area, 48,461 square miles.\_ Training Home ...  
5120 \_Population, 20,596,288.\_ Wu-hu 1893  
5121 Kien-p'ing 1894  
5122 NING-KWOH 1874

- 5123 KWANG-TEH 1890
- 5124 CH'I-CHAU 1889
- 5125 Kien-teh 1892
- 5126 HWUY-CHAU 1884
- 5127 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5128 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5129 =Kiang-su=, 1854 Gan-tung 1891
- 5130 Ts'ing-kiang-pu 1869
- 5131 Kao-yiu 1888
- 5132 YANG-CHAU 1868
- 5133 Training Home ...
- 5134 CHIN-KIANG 1888
- 5135 \_Area, 44,500 square miles.\_ Shanghai 1854
- 5136 \_Population, 20,905,171.\_ Financial Department ...
- 5137 Business Department ...
- 5138 Home ...
- 5139 Hospital ...
- 5140 Evangelistic Work ...
- 5141 Literary Work ...
- 5142 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5143 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5144 =Yun-nan=, 1877 Bhmo (Upper Burmah) 1875
- 5145 \_Area, 107,969 square miles.\_ TA-LI 1881
- 5146 \_Population, 11,721,576.\_ YUN-NAN 1882
- 5147 K'H-TS'ING 1889
- 5148 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5149 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5150 =Kwei-chau=, 1877 KWEI-YANG 1877
- 5151 GAN-SHUN 1888
- 5152 \_Area, 64,554 square miles.\_ Tuh-shan 1893
- 5153 \_Population, 7,669,181.\_ HING-I 1891
- 5154 (Work among Aborigines) ...

5155 \_P'ang-hai\_ 1897  
 5156 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5157 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5158 =Hu-nan=, 1875 CH'ANG-TEH 1898  
 5159 \_Area, 74,320 square miles\_. SHEN-CHAU 1898  
 5160 \_Population, 21,002,604.\_ Ch'a-ling 1898 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5161 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5162 \_\_\_\_\_  
 5163 =Kiang-si=, 1869 KIU-KIANG 1889  
 5164 Ku-ling Sanatorium 1898  
 5165 \_Ta-ku-t'ang\_ 1873  
 5166 NAN-K'ANG 1887  
 5167 Gan-ren 1889  
 5168 RAO-CHAU 1898  
 5169 \_Peh-kan\_ 1893  
 5170 Kwei-k'i 1878  
 5171 \_Shang-ts'ing\_ 1893  
 5172 H-wan 1899  
 5173 Ih-yang 1890  
 5174 \_Area, 72,176 square miles.\_ \_Ho-k'eo\_ 1878  
 5175 \_Population, 24,534,118.\_ \_Yang-k'eo\_ 1890 Kwang-  
 5176 feng 1889  
 5177 Yuh-shan 1877  
 5178 \_Chang-shu\_ 1895  
 5179 KUI-GAN 1891  
 5180 \_Feng-kang\_ 1891  
 5181 KAN-CHAU 1899  
 5182 Sin-feng 1899  
 5183 LIN-KIANG 1898  
 5184 NAN-CH'ANG 1898  
 5185 UEN-CHAU (\_Itinerating\_) ...  
 5186 Yung-sin 1899

- 5187 \_\_\_\_\_  
5188 \_\_\_\_\_  
5189 =Cheh-kiang=, 1857 HANG-CHAU 1866  
5190 SHAO-HING 1866  
5191 Sin-ch'ang 1870  
5192 KIU-CHAU 1872  
5193 Ch'ang-shan 1878  
5194 Lan-k'i 1894  
5195 \_Area, 39,150 square miles\_. KIN-HWA 1875  
5196 \_Population, 11,588,692.\_ Yung-k'ang 1882 Tseh-k'i  
5197 1897  
5198 CH'U-CHAU 1875  
5199 Lung-ch'uen 1894  
5200 Uin-ho 1895  
5201 Song-yang 1896  
5202 \_Siao-meï\_ 1896  
5203 Tsin-yun 1898  
5204 NING-P'O 1857  
5205 Fung-hwa 1866  
5206 Ning-hai 1868  
5207 T'ien-t'ai 1898  
5208 T'AI-CHAU 1867  
5209 Ling-he District ...  
5210 Hwang-yen 1896  
5211 T'ai-p'ing 1898  
5212 WUN-CHAU 1867  
5213 Bing-yae 1874  
5214  
5215 FOOTNOTES:  
5216

5217 [4] Arranged in three lines from west to east, for easy  
5218 reference to Map. The dates in this column in many  
5219 cases are of itinerations begun.

5220

5221 [5] Capitals of Provinces in capital letters; of  
5222 Prefectures in small capitals; and of Counties in  
5223 romans; Market Towns in italics.

5224

5225 [6] Areas and populations are from The Statesman's  
5226 Year Book.

5227

5228

5229 [Illustration]

5230

5231 Printed by R. & R. CLARK, LIMITED,  
5232 Edinburgh.

5233

5234 \* \* \* \* \*

5235

5236 Transcriber's Notes:

5237

5238 Page 109, "my" changed to "My" (My marriage had  
5239 been)

5240

5241 Page 125, ending ) added. (Miss Bausum (afterwards  
5242 Mrs. Barchett)); in)

5243

5244 Page 129, format of "God" was changed to "GOD" to  
5245 match rest of usage. (goodness of GOD)

5246

5247 Possible inconsistencies in spelling of Chinese names  
5248 were retained such as Bhmo and Bham.

5249

5250

5251

5252

5253

5254

5255

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