

# MISSIONS



## PIONEERING IN QUANGSI AND ANAM.

By Rev. C. H. REEVES, of China.

The months covered by this report have been very full ones; full of many things which we would not have chosen for ourselves had we the choosing, but all things chosen by the Lord for us for which we praise Him and have been able to praise Him through it all, although many of the days have been days of walking in the shadow.

June 6th.—We arrived at Tung Tsun Hu and found Quick alone. Landis having been compelled to go to the coast before we could arrive (we passed him without seeing him one day's trip down the river). Mr. Quick was well and happy in the Lord. We spent three days here with him talking over matters of business connected with the station and looking over the new building, lately rented, in the market, and making what arrangements we could for having it put in shape so that our brothers could live here.

After we anchored on the evening of the 10th we had a very respectable look-

him was very emaciated. He told us that there were some hundreds in his village and that many had died of hunger. We saw the effects of the famine a good deal along the river in the number of people who were seated on the shore asking for rice from the different boats that went by.

On the 20th, on account of heavy head winds, we anchored at Ling Li Hu.

On the 27th, in crossing the river in rather a swift current, one of our oars broke, which detained us some time. The reason for which we saw the next day (Sunday). Very early in the morning the boatmen went into the market (Yeung Mi Hu), opposite to which we were anchored, to sell the lamp chimneys which they brought from Canton.

On their return they said that the people had invited the foreigner to come into the market and tell them the doctrine. We were, of course, glad of the opportunity, so I spoke to my teacher, but he, not being in the right spirit to go for successful work, partly refused, so Mrs. Reeves, with her Biblewoman and myself, started. When we arrived on the opposite shore it

of the crowd went to hear her, so, as the one who had invited us to come over was a storekeeper, I went on, guided by one of the boatmen, to his store and here, seated on a stool on top of a table, I spoke for some time to quite a company, most of whom, small boys excepted, paid very



SCHOOLMASTER AND BOY.

good attention and I had much liberty of the Spirit in speaking. Several seemed to be very glad to hear and invited us to come again.

When I got back to the shore I found Mrs. Reeves and the Biblewoman, each surrounded by a separate group, still talking, and here I had another opportunity to tell the glad tidings. The people were very respectful and very little of the bad element seemed to show itself. Monday being market day we went into the market again and had very good sales, but no opportunities to talk, as all were too busy buying and selling to listen. This market is a large and very busy one.

During the first half of July we continued to go on up the river through some of the wildest mountain scenery I have ever seen. On this part of the river there are few places of much importance, though in some of the breaks in this mountain formation there are some markets and a small walled city or two, very few villages were seen along the shore, though among the rock piles, for that is all the mountains are, there must be some.

On the evening of the 14th we arrived at the lower end of Lung Chow, and in the morning had our boat moved up to the I. M. Customs landing at the upper end. During the day we met the Custom's staff (3) stationed here and began at once to make inquiries concerning Lung Chow itself and its relation to Annam. I also began to get ready for the overland trip into Annam, for from this side I could not get the information that I desired respecting the northern part of the country.

I found some little trouble in getting a chair to take me for so long a trip as I



TYPICAL FACES IN SOUTHERN CHINA.

ing man come down to the boat and ask for rice, which we gave him, together with a tract. He looked very hungry himself and his little boy who was with

was lined with people, most of them of a very respectable class. Of course, Mrs. Reeves, being a foreign woman, attracted the most attention and the largest part

it was necessary to take, but at last I was successful. When I had procured the chair I found that I had to wait several days more for the chair bearers and my teacher to get their passports for entering Annam, which passports we found later on were not necessary as long as the Chinese are with a foreigner. Everything being arranged at last, the teacher and I got off, leaving Mrs. Reeves in charge of the boat and also to look into the prospects of work in Lung Chow and the surrounding country during my absence. We started on the 18th and did not get very far that day as one of the chair coolies was taken sick and could not go on, so we had to stop at Ha Tong Hu, a market about 18 miles from Lung Chow, to get a new man, and, as it was late in the afternoon, made this our Sunday stopping place. It being market day we found the inns all full, so we went down to the river and rented a boat from Saturday night to Monday morning with the understanding that the captain would cook our rice for us. So we had a very nice, quiet place for our Sunday's rest, and it was a very refreshing and restful Sabbath.

Monday noon we crossed over into Annamite territory, or, more properly, into

Tongking reaching on Saturday night a point within a few miles of the head of navigation on the south branch of the river. Here we stopped for Sunday.

During the next week we went still further south to the largest city in this part of Tongking (Lang-son), and then northeast into Chinese territory again, and so back to Lung Chow. During

the whole of the time spent in Tongking I was under escort of Annamite or French soldiers.

I had the most courteous treatment from all the French officers and soldiers that I met, and they were not few, for every place from 100 inhabitants up has its own military post.

On the 3d of August we left Lung Chow, where, by the way, one meets a good number of Annamites, on our return trip. On the way down we stopped and sold books at all of the walled cities, some five, and at all of the market towns that were large enough to warrant our stopping.

	July 14, 1896	- Lung Chow
	" 18 "	- to Ha Tong Hu (18 miles away)
Monday -	" 20 "	- crossed into Tonkin
Sat.	" 25 "	- camped near so. branch of river
Mon	" 27 }	- to Lang son & northeast to China
Sat	Aug. 1 }	

- in Viet-nam ca. 10 days.