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# THE CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

For the FULNESS OF JESUS and the EVANGELIZATION OF THE WORLD with which LIVING TRUTHS is combined.

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**H**AVE you heard the midnight cry, "Behold the Bridegroom Cometh"? Have you heard the still small voice of the Spirit in your heart say, "Even so, Lord Jesus, come quickly"? Have you heard the wail of the perishing millions in heathen lands, who as yet have not heard the sweet story of the Gospel, saying, "Come over and help us"? Do you love His appearing? Are you looking eagerly for the end of this present age? Remember, "This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and THEN shall the end come."

## A Plea for the Perishing of South China and Annam

BY REV. R. A. JAFERAY, WUCHOW, SOUTH CHINA.

### HONG KONG.

Our landing port is Hong Kong, a British possession, the largest shipping port in the world, and one of the finest harbors. The city has a population of 400,000, of which 20,000 are European. The crying need of this great city, thronged, as it is, with sailors of all nationalities, is a real live Rescue Mission. There is no such work done in the city.

### KWANG-SI—ANNAM.

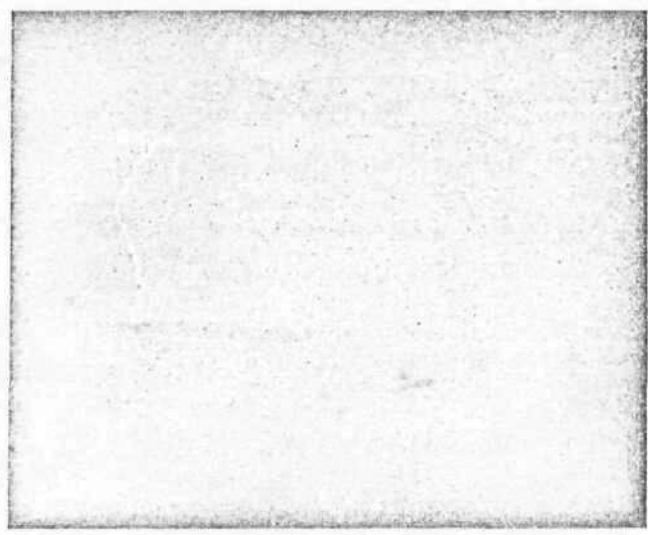
To reach our inland province of Kwang-Si, where our work begins, we must pass up the West River, some 300 miles, through the province of Kwang-Tung, commonly called the Canton province. Canton was the scene of the first missionary work in China. It was here that Robert Morrison landed over one hundred years ago. But the inland province of Kwang-Si was without a resident missionary until fifteen years ago, when Alliance missionaries began their work among a people bitterly hostile to foreigners, and amid many difficulties. Thus was carried into effect one of the fundamental principles of the Alliance as a missionary society; namely, to strive to preach the Gospel where Christ is not named. Thus, again, impelled by the same motive, are we striving to preach Christ in regions still beyond us. Over the southwestern border of our province lies the great neglected field of French Indo-China, a peninsula with an aggregate population of over 20,000,000 usually known as Annam, without one resident Protestant missionary so far as we know. But we are anticipating.

### THREE-SCORE NEEDED CITIES.

The province of Kwang-Si—"Extensive West"—is roughly estimated to stretch from east to west for 450 miles and about 300 miles from north to south. Its climate is semi-tropical. Its population has been variously estimated from 5 to 10 million. We have always considered 8,000,000 as the probable accurate figure. Beside our Alliance Mission there are but three other societies, and two independent missionaries. These brethren and sisters are resident

in but three of our over 70 cities (all of which had first been occupied by the Christian and Missionary Alliance), and they number, all told, male and female, about 14. The Alliance Mission has in all 40 missionaries in

the South China field, six of whom are usually at home on furlough, so that to the whole province of Kwang-Si there are, all told, less than 50 missionaries on the field. This works out at about a missionary couple to every 320,000 people. During the past years of faithful labor the Lord has honored the effort of His children and to-day we have eleven main stations and four out-stations in connection with the Alliance work. Three of these stations, however, which usually have a resident foreigner, are to-day without a regular foreign worker. Over sixty of our walled cities of Kwang-Si, with populations from 10,000 to 60,000 or 70,000 and usually a populous country district, studded with many markets and villages, surrounding, are still without the Gospel. Itinerating trips have



A LIGHTNING FLASH—WEST RIVER, SOUTH CHINA.

been made by our brethren to some of these neglected parts and the Word preached and the Scriptures distributed, but when shall we have men to send to open these remaining cities without the Light? A glance at the map will tell you that we have tried to spread ourselves as far as possible over the vast territory allotted to us. We have aimed, in statesmen-like manner, to take first the strategic points of the province, the great centers of population, for Christ, and from these centers to open up the surrounding country. There are a few especially destitute and very important points over which our hearts at this time yearn in prayer; places which our brethren have visited and brought back a good report; great cities in which

they have witnessed for Christ all day on the street, and retiring to their humble couch in the inn at night, have spent the night in weeping and in prayer, overwhelmed with the fact that they have been the first messenger of the Cross to that city, that its thousands of people, generation after generation, have been allowed by the Christian Church to pass on into darkness without the knowledge of God. And they are still groping in utter darkness. There are a score of such cities in Kwang-Si, which could be opened to the Gospel at once, had we but the men to send and the money to support them.

### AN OPEN DOOR.

It is indeed marvellous to us that the general attitude of the people of this province (as indeed, of all China) has been completely changed from bitter hatred to a friendly willingness to listen to the message of the foreign missionary. And this has come to

pass in an almost incredibly short period of time. Ten years ago, it was, naturally speaking, not without considerable risk that our missionaries opened our interior stations. But now the whole situation is changed and we may go where we wish in Kwang-Si and find an open door to the Gospel. God, in His providence, has used the great educational, commercial and political reforms which, like mighty waves, have been sweeping China, to bring this about. Is this not a challenge to us to go in and possess the land?

#### THE POWER OF CHRIST TO SAVE.

Our church members now number nearly 400, and many more than this number have been saved through the preaching of the Gospel. These precious souls have been won to the Saviour through much prayer and trial, suffering and death, and to Him, who alone is worthy, be all the praise. From all classes and conditions of society the Lord has called out a people for His Name. Sometimes the first convert in a city is a beggar—a poor soul, absolutely forsaken by all on earth. The Lord loves to save such. Again, not a few Confucianist students have been brought to the knowledge of the truth and gloriously saved. Ignorant farmers, hard laborers, and smart, shrewd business men, are alike attracted to the Saviour. Hardened sinners, opium smokers, gamblers and all kinds of wicked idolaters, as also the smooth, affable moralist and "religious man," the vegetarian, etc., all have to come to the Lord by the way of the Cross, acknowledging their sin and uncleanness.

#### HUNGRY FOR THE GOSPEL.

One thing has particularly struck us in this work. It is that the Lord seems invariably to have gone out before His children and prepared hearts to receive the Gospel. There are always some whose hearts are hungry for something—they know not what. Everywhere we go we find men and women ready to believe in Jesus. It is for this reason that we feel called to hold close along the line of evangelistic work. The command is "Go ye \* \* \* and preach the Gospel." "We are debtors \* \* \* to preach the Gospel." And, at a time when a great deal of the present-day, popular missionary work is being directed along educational and other good though not the essential lines, it behooves us to stand for the old Gospel. When that message is given forth, it invariably brings men to Christ. After these years in China, we can say with Paul, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth."

#### BURNED HEATHEN BOOKS.

One whose father and grandfather before him were professional fortune-tellers and sorcerers, and who was successfully carrying on this devilish business in the city of Wuchow, heard the Gospel and believed. On the day of his baptism we had a glorious bonfire in the court of our mission premises, when he burned to ashes a pile of musty, dirty, diabolical books that had come down to him from several generations and which were of some considerable value in the line of his old profession. He had found the truth that is in Jesus and could afford to do as they did in Acts xix. 19. Not a few have been healed and saved at the same time. Many of our converts have felt the call on them to preach the Gospel, and have come to our Bible Training Schools for the three-year course, and have gone forth as witnesses for the Master.

#### CALLED TO PREACH AT SIXTY.

Most of these were young men and women, but the Lord chooses those who are older also to serve Him. A few years ago a venerable-looking old gentleman called on us, much burdened about his soul's salvation. He had resigned his position as the secretary of a native mining company in the province, and came to Wuchow so that he would be able to put his whole mind to what he declared was to him the most important matter in the world. "At sixty years old it is high time that I knew the way of salvation and was rid of the burden of the sin of my guilty soul," he said. To make a long story short, he soon found the Light, and soon after received a passion to tell others, entered our Training School, and at an age when at home he would have been a candidate for the "superannuated list," he went forth to preach Christ to his own people. If time and space would permit we could tell of scores of more wonderful cases, to the glory of the matchless Name of Jesus.

#### REVIVAL.

On each of our stations where souls have been saved, the Christians are organized into a little church and at once taught, and encouraged toward self-support. Our Christians are almost always faithful witnesses for Jesus and soon win others to the Saviour. It has pleased the Lord to graciously pour out His Spirit upon us, and while the revival with us in the south has not been of the sweeping nature that it has been in the north of China, still we are standing in faith that copious showers will soon follow the "mercy drops" that have fallen. Surely China needs the "floods on the dry ground" and she shall have them. The work of the Spirit thus far in our mission has been a getting of the children of the Lord right first, baptizing them with the Holy Spirit, and then will follow the harvest time for the ingathering of many souls. During the past year, however, there have been over double as many cases of clear conversion than any previous year, more than 100 having been baptized. There are also many earnest enquirers who are coming fast to the Lord.

#### TRAINING SCHOOLS AND PUBLICATION WORK.

The Lord has greatly blessed in our two Bible Training Schools at Wuchow. More than thirty young men and women have graduated from these schools in the past years and are now in active service for the Lord. It is our hope, if the Lord supplies the needed funds, to establish, also, on a small scale, a publishing department, so that by means of the printed page, the truths of the full Gospel may be sent to many whom we otherwise could never reach.

#### WUCHOW TO LUNG-CHOW.

And now, in closing, let me lay before you the field to which our longing eyes and hearts have looked for many years, neglected Annam. From Wuchow (the headquarters of our mission, and where we have our general Receiving Home), on the eastern border of our province, the Lord has given us, after fifteen years of faithful toil, a chain of eight stations across Kwang-Si, a distance of about 450 miles, to Lung-Chow ("the Dragon City"), on the western border, within a day's march of the frontier of French Tonkin, which is the northern province of Annam. It was not till our brethren had had a real fight of faith, that we succeeded in establishing the Lung-Chow station, for Satan well knew that it would be a stepping-stone to open work in Annam. But the Lord has given the victory over every foe, and now a little company of believers has been gathered out of heathendom (the first baptism consisted of seven men and seven women) and the latest news tells that a Mission Hall and Home has just been built, the Lord having sent the money in answer to prayer. And now, we are waiting on God to call out His chosen men to go forth, and at the Mission Home in Lung-Chow take up the study of the French and Annamite languages and prepare to go over the border and establish the first Protestant Mission in Annam. X

#### THE NEEDIEST FIELD IN THE WORLD.

Think again of the terrible reality of these neglected, perishing millions:—

- Tonkin with 12,000,000 and no Protestant missionary;
- Annam with 6,000,000 and no Protestant missionary;
- Cochin-China with 3,000,000 and no Protestant missionary;
- Cambodia with 1,000,000 and no Protestant missionary.

An aggregate of over 20,000,000 souls (about four times the population of Canada) for whom the Saviour shed His blood over nineteen hundred years ago, and not yet one messenger of the Gospel to tell them of His love and salvation.

Two providences of God in recent years have seemed to indicate that the Lord is preparing the way for the entrance of the Gospel into this land. First, the friendly international relations at the present time between France and Great Britain, and also America. And second, the disestablishment of the Roman Catholic Church in France. Romanism, as found in Annam, is in its most corrupt form, and far from being a substitute for the true Gospel, is but an added reason for sending the pure Light to that benighted land. The question still remains, of course, what the attitude of the French Government will finally be when an attempt to open Protestant missionary work in their colony is really made.

Up 10 the present 1 in.,- (11 is shame to say so) no aucmpt has really faggj n.in.l.; We arc confident, that, as the hand oi God is leading on, and 3a we follow in obedience and faith, it shall be as 11 hoi ever been, and the door will o-imi wli.n m n-uri, 11,- threshold.

## ANNAM STRITCUNG Witt II lit\* HANDS.

i he following is an extract from a report of one of our missionaries in Lung-Cliuw: "While selling books and preaching in .1 shop at Lo li (a iwii near Lung-Chow and on the border of Annam), a rqtici tall person, with a dress that distinguished him from the rest of the crowd, came and houi'lit Gospels and tracts. For a while he li\*lcicid aicmively. Then he spoke in a language unintelligible to me. Upon asking the Chinese around what lit said, they explained that he was an Anainoc. Slid that he asked me in explain die Go-iki to him. I soon beeamt iuicresud, and made several attempts to make him understand, hut to no purpose. We could no' underhand each other. Then lie went a\*wiy. Lain in the day 1 saw him several times, following me „s 1 went in and out of the slores. I can see bin; now, with a mule a'ppcal for help in Ins black, contemplative eyes lie made an indelible impression on my heart, for it was not so much llns single man I saw, but the jj.000.000 of his fellow-countrymen, who, like him-clf. are ignorant of the true God."

May we ask thai each Christian who reads Illesc lines, will unite definitely ill believing prayer for Annam, and that the Lord of the Harvest will thrust forth laborers and open the doors before than?

## PRAYERS M WORKERS.

Our greatest need is more workers. These fields are while unto harvest. We, on the field, feel the need as you. ai home, cannot feel it, for the sight of the perishing millions is ever before our eyes, and their wail of despair, as they pass on to the darkness beyond, without hope and with no Cluist to save, is ever in our ears. God is socking out His men to-day. What if the way seems closed and beset with difficulties. God permits this as a lest. Mountains of difficulty arc not for us to stumble over, but to surmount. There is nothing thai will bring about the coming of the Lord, and llic utter downfall of Satan, quicker than the going forth of God's missionaries, and (lie enemy, knowing *litis*, will make every effort to hinder the soul that is affime for the "regions beyond." "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him." II. Chron. xvi. 0. "And I sought for a man among tlicin, thai should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, and that I should not destroy it. hut 1 found none." Ezekiel xxii. 30. "I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, who will go for us?' Then said I, 'Here am I, send me.'" Isaiah vi. 8.

Man's extremity is God's opportunity. Oh for men who have some of that divine tenacity of purpose to follow hard after God, which was displayed in young Elisha, who, when three limes told by the old stern prophet to "tarry here" still pressed through and received the divine call and the unction for the proline! ministry. (See II. Kings ii.) Oh for men in whom the Word of God is burning like fire shut up in their hones and who say like Jermiah. "I am weary of forbearing, and I cannot say." A sere of men on the earth like the Apostle Pnnl would evangelize the world, close up the present dispensation, and biing back the Lord Jesus Christ.

## A Concrete Case.

"He is local!"

"Who?"

"Thai Protestant prie.it. He says he is going to make a church out of sand and cement. He made some big bricks to-day and they arc soft! He is crazy."

So we began the year. All the way through we had Nchemiaie encouragement. A church and a manse were to be built. No contractor cared to al-pinpl [be ronstrnriion on our lol. We had to do it.

Ours was the first American-style house San German had ever seen. Their remarks would make Socrates smile.

"You have only cm< door in front by which to enter your house."

"And look! 'i he doors are longer than the windows."

"The house is to far back from the street."

"They have the queerest temple you ever saw. The entrance is at the bell tower."

So the year passed with enough of the ridiculous along with the serious and culling, to make life buoyant. Suffice it to say that the buildings are completed and among those who did the most talking against the coucrele blocks are some who have changed. The priests of the cathedral have made one house and will soon build two more out of "-and and cement." A number of other buildings are being constructed of the same material and a factory of concrete blocks is established. Men thank the "fool Protestant" for the new industry he has given them. A church member said:

"If they would only accept Christ as readily as they do this manner of building!"

A great victory for our church is this new building. It has advertised us. It is the tall of the whole district. Men are looking on the evangelical faith with more respect. If those who gave the money for the San German church could *only* know the gratitude of the people and their joy in having a church |

"Good morning!" said an old man of stalwart frame and high forehead as he came to the door the other day. "Do you sing here to-day?" (Pointing toward the church.)

"So." I replied, "not u'll to-night."

Hi; face fell.

"I came from that mountain side over there. The road is so had no one can pass after dark. Will you sing here Sunday night?"

"Yes."

"Good! Then I shall come Sunday and spend the night here so I can go to service. We arc in darkness up where I live. I am searching for light and I wish to hear what you have to say here."

Another—a lady of high standing in the Homish Church who has renounced the evils practiced therein—said to us one evening as we were returning from a collage prayer meeting:

"Two years ago I was marching in this very street in a procession with the body of Christ. Now I am marching again with Him, but 'in spirit and in truth.'"

Her voice rang out as she spoke. The "body of Cluist" which she mentioned is a life-sized figure of the dead Oirist in a glass coffin with which the priests and others parade the town on Friday of passion week.

Yet it is hard for them to break from their old ways. Not long ago a wealthy man who is now studying the Bible said to me as he looked toward his two tall sons:

"Get the yfling people into your church and let us old ones go. We arc too hard to change. Now all the ii.cn in town know that you people have the true religion—the religion of Christ, but it is like this: i( I had an old doctor in my family who has known all my family for years; and if there should come into the town a young doctor whom everyone knew to be a better doctor, it would be hard for nte to say to the old doctor, 'You arc not needed any more.' So it is with that church. I know your church is better, but I cannot say to the old church. 'You arc not wanted.' Get the young people."

There is truth in that. The young people arc more open to receive new teaching from the Bible. We have a family of children in our church. They arc the best members we have. They are always at service, even though it means an hour's hard walk to reach the place. They know the catechism well. Just now they arc planning the marriage of their falher and mother. As in all Catholic countries, so here, many arc living without legal marriage because of the rigid exaction of the priesthood. And these children, with the consent of their parcnlr, arc making ready the marriage feast of their own father and mother.—II'. /.. *Harris, Lcallel of Presbyterian Home Board.*

## A Scene in Morocco.

"This morning, while J read the story of the crucifixion from Luke, there was breathless silence in the packed room. As I asked—if they did not *uvui* my Saviour, *a chorus* of earliest voices answered. 'Yes, we do we do!' Some ten or twelve broke down, with faces buried in their *hoiks* and bauds, weeping over the love of God as revealed in Jesus. One said, 'We want Christ now; but, oh I we shall go out Hi get busy and forget about Him!' I knew that if the Holy filios! Himself were working they would not forget, I could not restrain the tears as they wepl, and the native Christian at my side was equally moved. Never have I seen such a sight—Moslem women evidently touched, and thai to tears, and before their fellows, over the story of God's love. We arc encouraged to ask for even more—lhal they may seek and find the One they so earnestly said they wauled."—*S'orth African.*

## Korea.

There is a movement on foot in Korea whereby one of the four Gospels, and tracts relating to the plan of salvation, shall be put into every home in Korea.

A Chinese soldier, missing a target, shot an ido! Seeing lhal no harm came to the man, his captain pondered the matter, saw the folly of worshipping what was only wood; he obtained a Gospel from a missionary, and soon after became a Christian.—*Selected*

## A Song of Salvation.

IV MRS. II. S. B.MNPF.I.WE.

The entrance of the Word of God,  
Gives light to those who hear:  
A gift is Christ's obedience,  
A gift His filial fear.

If there is morning in thy soul,  
Thou speakest words of Truth:  
The law of God is in thy heart,  
Thou hast the dews of youth.

In thee there shall be no more night.  
Thy sun shall not go down:  
Thou walkest on the sea of glass,  
Where all earth-sorrows drown.

Behold salvation's jasper walls!  
Enter the gates of Praise!  
And through eternity proclaim  
The justice of God's ways!

## The Passion.

St. Matthew x. 23:—"It is enough for the disciple that he be as his Master."

Ah, my deare Lord! what couldst Thou spye  
In *litis* impure, rebellious clay,  
That made Thee thus resolve to dye  
For those that kill Thee every day?

0 what strange wonders could Thee move  
To slight Thy precious blood, and breath?  
Sure it was love, my Lord; for Love  
Is only stronger far than death!

## MEDITATIONS FROM FENEL-ON.

*Translated from the French by*

1 ISABELLA B. KENNARD.

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