

NEWS-LETTER FOR THE ASIATIC

DIVISION

Volume 2

Shanghai, Sept. 1, 1913

Letter VI

ASIATIC DIVISION NEWS

Japan

We are glad to have the following report from Brother B F Hoffman, dated at Teuchinra, August 6:--

"Almost a year has passed since we joined the band of workers who are preparing the way of the Lord in the Far East. We are glad to be here. It has been a pleasant year to us, filled with blessings from God, and special help from his almighty hand in struggling with the difficulties of language study. The language school closed the last of June, and since then I have been at this place most of the time, where we are holding a series of tent-meetings. Brethren Miyake and Maehata are doing the speaking, and while the attendance is fluctuating, and not as large at times as we would like it to be, we are thankful that a few come regularly, and seem to be interested, and to comprehend the truths presented. I am sorry my limited knowledge of the language does not enable me to take part in the speaking, but I have enjoyed helping the workers plan the different subjects to be presented, etc. I am sure I shall return to language school this fall with a greater determination to do my very best, because of having had a little experience in the work this summer, which has enabled me to more clearly comprehend the greatness of the work that lies before us.

"Even while studying the language I have had a taste of the joy of teaching the truth to these people who know it not. For some little time I have been teaching a Bible class, which is composed of employees in government offices, teachers in government schools, etc. While it is true that the willingness on the part of the Japanese to study is usually prompted by a desire to learn English, still I believe in the promise that the word of the Lord shall not return unto him void. One of these young men, who is employed in the educational department of the government, came to my home once a week during the winter, and we studied all of the most important points of our doctrine. He has expressed his belief that it is the truth, and a desire to keep God's law and the true Sabbath, and accordingly has written to the minister of education for permission to be absent from

his office on Saturday, giving his reason for making such a request. My prayer is that God will strengthen his determination to obey the truth."

Recently an old lady about sixty years of age became interested in the message, and attended our meetings regularly. However, her husband and son opposed her, and she finally quit coming. A few days ago she called one of our young workers, and related her experience. "For some time," she said, "I was troubled greatly because my family opposed my attending your meetings. I thought it not good to disturb the peace of the home with my new religion, so decided to study and pray alone, but one night I was shown that I should attend the meetings. I heard a voice say: 'If you stop going to church, your soul will die.' Still I had not the courage to go. Very soon I was taken sick, and suffered for several days. I prayed the Lord to heal me, but the answer was, 'No.' I was perplexed and disappointed, but last night I saw the sin of neglecting to heed the warning of the messenger, and repented, and prayed to the Lord to heal me. Now the fever has left me, and I have promised to attend the meetings, and also to tell my friends and relatives of this truth."

In one of my recent reports I mentioned a young man who began canvassing in the vicinity of his home. One day his uncle wrote him, inviting him to come to his house. He went, and the uncle asked him to work in his bank, promising to pay him fifteen dollars a month. This is a pretty good wage for a young man, but he did not accept. "I do not want money, neither do I want position, but eternal life," was his reply when his uncle tried to convince him that money is the only thing to help one in this day. The next morning, which was Sabbath, the boy's mother came, bringing money with her, and tried to persuade him to leave us. She said: "Come home, or buy new clothes with this money and go to your uncle's bank. Did he not say he would pay you fifteen dollars a month if you would accept? Are you not happy, my son, to get such a position?" The boy listened to his mother, but said: "This is not the place to come to talk about such things. This is Sabbath, and soon the service will begin." In about a week, the boy's brother-in-law took him to his home, and tried to persuade him to work in the bank. Failing in his purpose, he asked the boy why he refused to see his father, and urged him to go home. He said he would go home if his parents would allow him to follow his convictions in religious matters, and believe in Jesus Christ; also if they would throw all the idols that were in the house into the fire and burn them, and attend the meetings with him every Sabbath. At this the brother-in-law and other members of his family became angry, but the boy was not at all frightened. He told them that the gods which the Japanese worship are all false gods, and that they have no power to save from sin. "I love Christ more than money," he said. "He is the true, eternal God, but gods of wood and stone will perish." The boy came back to us, and is doing well in selling our literature.

One of our sisters, who became discouraged about two months ago because her husband gave up the truth and began to oppose her, went back home with her family, but when she realized what it would mean to stay where idol-worship was carried on, and also other things which she does not believe in, she left home and came

to the city, where she could attend our meetings. "Every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life," is the promise of the Lord. Many of our believers are being tested, to see if they are worthy of heaven. Please pray for them, that they may be able to stand.

H. Kuniya.

The Philippine Islands

No doubt we express the feeling of all those who are now in the field when we say that we are exceedingly thankful for the recruits that are coming. Already the burdens seem lighter, even though help has not yet actually arrived. May the Spirit of God give efficiency and skill to every pair of hands, that the work may be carried on to the best advantage. Aside from the promise of more laborers for our field, we have a little printing-press here now, waiting in storage until Brother Finster comes and builds a house for it. This press will fill one of our great needs.

Our progress of late can not be measured so much by increased numbers as by the richer experience enjoyed by our workers. On the twentieth of July we began a workers' institute, which we planned to continue only two weeks, but owing to matters which came up for immediate attention, the meetings were continued for three weeks. We had four sessions each day--two in the forenoon and two in the afternoon. The first session, which all seemed to enjoy the most, was given to study and prayer for greater consecration to the work. The messages from the Spirit of Prophecy had the desired effect upon the hearts of the laborers, and they saw themselves in a new light. There was deep searching of heart, confessions were made, and sins put away. The second and third sessions were devoted to the study of doctrinal points of our faith; and the last, for the most part, was devoted to writing answers to test questions, and essays on certain subjects. We were all convinced that the written part of the work was very helpful.

Elbridge M. Adams.

Brother Floyd Ashbaugh writes under date of July 24, from Isabela, Negros Occ., P. I., as follows:--

"During the last two months I have been delivering books. This island is very large, when one comes to walk over it, and a good share of my work is done on foot, especially here in Southern Negros. In this country delivering takes just as long as canvassing. This may sound strange, but it is a fact. In the States we canvass two months, and deliver the orders in one or two days. Here we canvass two months, and spend about the same length of time delivering. This refers to all territory except the large cities, such as Manila and Iloilo, and to working with a Spanish book. The reason is easily explained. You canvass only the higher class of Spanish-speaking people. Most of the exhibitions made result in orders, but the territory is scattering, as comparatively few in each town read Spanish. Therefore, in a delivery of four hundred books you will have a territory of possibly seventy miles to cover. In delivering you find one man gone,

another ten miles out on his ranch, another will have the money in the morning 'sin duda' (without doubt), etc., etc. You must either lose half your orders, or stay at each place until you succeed in delivering the book.

"Thinking perhaps the readers of the News-Letter would be interested to know just how a canvasser gets along in the Philippines, I shall try to describe my last trip delivering. I got two coolies to take my books down to the boat at Iloilo. Went to Silay, Island of Negros, loaded my books onto the commercial automobile, and started for Talisay. After finding a place to leave my books, and eating dinner, I opened my box, took six books on one arm, and started out to deliver them. Many interesting experiences, too numerous to relate, follow. Perhaps the first customer will meet you with the excuses that he hasn't a cent in his pocket; that these are very hard times; that if the book is Protestant he can not read it; and will ask if you can't sell it to some one else.' Upon agreeing with him that these are hard times, indeed, and that this is why I must collect every cent; that the book is just the same now as when he ordered it; that the book is his, and I have no right to sell it to any one else, he produces the money.

"The next customer: 'Ah, here is the book we ordered. I thought you had gone to America. I am very anxious to know the truth. Here is the money. Thank you very much for coming to my house.'

"From Talisay I took a two-wheeled covered conveyance to Bacolod, delivered my books, returned to Silay, took boat for Iloilo, then came to Southern Negros. Down here I took my books from one town to another by bull-cart, a very common method of transportation. In the towns I stay with Americans, if there are any; if not, with a Filipino family, usually the town president or some official. Quite often the official, though of very mediocre quality, wields considerable influence in his own town, and can help the canvasser if he desires to do so.

"The Lord has blessed in placing more than three hundred forty books in the homes of the people on this island. Thus the books are going from town to town and from province to province. If there were only a few evangelists to follow up this literature, what a work could be done! I am indeed glad to hear that several workers are to come to the Philippines soon, and feel to praise the Lord that he is sending forth more laborers into the harvest."

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Korea

Brother R C Wangerin sends the following report, under date of August 18:--

"We feel exceedingly sorry for the poor Koreans in this part of the field, as at present we are experiencing a prolonged drought. The year started out well, with plenty of refreshing rains and good prospects for a bountiful year. However, we did not have our usual rainy season, and the rice-fields are parched and dry. Many of the fields, in fact, are not worked at all. The natives say it is much worse than last year, when drought and failing crops caused our people so much suffering. The people are becoming desperate, and last market, by order of the magistrate, a large number of persons

assembled, and an offering was made to the great dragon, the god of rain. After the sacrifice the multitude made the Oriental bow, and knelt down before the dragon god. If no rain comes before next market, this performance is to be gone over again. May the Lord give us much wisdom and power from on high, that we may, in the spirit of Elijah, be able to reveal the true God to the darkened minds of this heathen people.

"Notwithstanding the severe drought, and the almost total failure of crops, the work at Keizan station is steadily progressing. Eager souls are constantly coming in contact with the truth, and some are accepting salvation. The way is not always as smooth as it might be, but we must not forget that we are engaged in a Christian warfare. The adversary of our souls will not yield one inch of ground that he is not absolutely obliged to. Neither will he, without a struggle, yield a soul whom he holds in his grasp and claims as his own. But it is our privilege, occasionally, to see souls rescued from the power of Satan, and glorious victories won.

"Our native believers have done excellent work with our literature, thereby greatly strengthening their own experience, as well as scattering the light of truth far and near throughout this benighted field. Several new interests have developed recently, and the message is being firmly planted in regions beyond. Our hearts are made very grateful as we see manifestations of God's guidance and blessing."

Dr Riley Russell writes from Soonan, August 18:--

"We were glad to welcome Elder Butterfield back to Korea on August 15, although he has not yet visited Soonan. It does our hearts good to hear of so many recruits coming to the needy Orient. We are sorry that some could not have been sent our way, though we rejoice with China, Japan, and the other fields to whom help is being sent.

"During the past week reports have been received from three different places where there are new believers; and there are a few persons up on the Manchurian border who are waiting for baptism, so you see we shall be able to clasp hands with our laborers in Manchuria when work is opened there.

"Canvasser Song came into the edge of a large walled village, and as he looked at the great number of houses, he felt lonesome. Seeing a pine grove near by, he went aside for a season of prayer. When he arose from his knees he saw a group of well-dressed men under the trees, and immediately went to them. 'See here,' he said, 'I have something to show you.' Unfolding his chart and hanging it on a tree, he explained the symbols, going through Daniel 2, 7, 8. All paid attention and seemed greatly interested. At the close of his remarks the canvasser sold forty-five papers."

Miss May Scott also writes from Soonan:--

"The work on the buildings is progressing nicely. The tin is nearly all on the roof of the school-house, the rafters are being put up for the roof of the dormitory, and the foundation is being laid for the dispensary. . . .

"During the summer vacation I made a trip to Wiju, where I was glad to meet with the company of Sabbath-keepers. Recently I spent Sabbath with the believers at Pyeng Yang. Two of our colporters

canvassed this city with our paper a short time ago, and as a result there were several new persons present at the services. Some are attending regularly, and give promise of becoming good, strong Seventh-day Adventists.

"School opens again the first of September. We were in hopes that the new buildings could be used by that time, but they will not be ready for several weeks yet, so we shall have to carry on our work in the old buildings for a time. We are grateful for the privilege of conducting a school here, and want to do our best to train the students to become efficient workers for the Lord."

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The East Indies

Brother R F Montgomery writes under date of August 2, from Sandakan, British North Borneo:--

"We rented the lower half of a room in the city and fitted it up for a chapel, holding our first meeting July 20. The room was full, and the people were quite attentive while Brother Chan preached an introductory sermon on the message for this time. We have a large audience every night, and one of the most encouraging features is that the attendance is regular. The prospects are good, and we are of excellent courage. We have an attendance of about thirty at our Sabbath-school.

"I expect to sail this evening for Labuan, where there is a family waiting for baptism, and where others are interested."

We have the following from Sister F Tunheim:--

"During the last two months I have visited three isolated families, also doing some work in the line of distributing literature in the vicinity of their homes. At Soekaboemi, where Brother Sisley is teaching English, we sold quite a number of tracts and books, and also took several subscriptions, during the few days we worked. While at this place I was called to a home where Brother Sisley has been teaching some girls English. The oldest of the girls wrote down all the texts that we referred to, as she desired to read them again with her parents. I have promised to go there once a month and study with them.

"Last month, in company with Sister Kwie Nio and her mother, who sold literature to pay their traveling expenses, I visited Indramajo and Cheribon. Near these places we have two Sabbath-keeping families. Though alone, we found them of good courage in the Lord. They have allowed their light to shine, both in teaching and example, and as a result some are keeping the Sabbath. We spent two days at Cheribon, where Brother and Sister Sharp were located for a couple of years, teaching English and doing what they could in spreading the message. We sold a number of tracts and books at this place. We called at one of the homes where Brother and Sister Sharp taught, and were glad to find also that what the people had been told in regard to the gospel had not been lost. We sold a copy of 'Christ Our Saviour' and some tracts, which the people promised to read.

"We have not seen as much fruit from our labor as we desire, as the government allows us to work in only three of the large cities, but we have the privilege of selling our literature, and often when engaged in this good work we find honest souls waiting for the message."

China

We have been informed by the General Conference that Elder W C Hankins, who was to have returned from his furlough next month, will remain in America another year, probably on account of his wife's health.

The workers in the Signs office at Shanghai are rejoicing that through the generosity of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, of Mountain View, California, a new Colt's Armory press is on its way to China. This has been needed for some time, and will be greatly appreciated.

Brother R F Cottrell writes, August 16, as follows:--

"During the past five weeks we have remained in Changsha, endeavoring to keep as cool as possible. The early part of the summer was quite cool, but for the last three weeks we have had a steady, uninterrupted heat. Notwithstanding the fact that many about us have been ill, the Lord has kept us in usual health. The last word received from Brother Westrup, in Honan, and Dr and Mrs Larson, in Hankow, was also to the effect that they were well.

"The mission houses in Honan and Hankow are nearing completion, and should be ready for occupancy by October. Brother Westrup is also erecting, in a compound adjoining the foreign cottages, buildings for an intermediate school for Honan province. The school-buildings are being erected according to native style, arranged to accommodate boys and girls in separate buildings. The total cost will be about twelve hundred dollars Mexican. The buildings should be ready for use this autumn, and we trust the school will prove a great blessing to the work in Honan.

"At present, Hunan province is endeavoring to find some way to beat an honorable retreat, acknowledge the Peking government, and withdraw her soldiers from the borders of Hupeh, without losing too much 'face.' It is as yet too early to predict just how this will be accomplished. We are thankful that there has been no serious trouble here so far, and we earnestly pray that affairs may soon be restored to their normal condition, so that the work in this great country may not be retarded.

"We are looking forward with joy to the coming of the promised recruits for China. Central China extends a most cordial welcome. We plan to hold our annual provincial meetings as follows: Hupeh, October 5-11; Honan, October 14-20; Hunan, October 24-November 1. We sincerely trust that it will be possible for Elder Porter to be present at these meetings."

Reasonably good progress is being made on the new school-buildings in Shanghai. Some delay has been experienced in getting material, as much of it has to come through the war zone south of the city. In spite of this hindrance, however, the buildings are up to the second floor, and the second payment has been made on the contract. We now have the promise of a good supply of material being delivered during the first week in September. If this material is forthcoming, it is probable that the brickwork will be completed in two weeks more.

The first of August Mrs Selmon and myself opened a dispensary in the market-place to the east of the mission and press property. The building was rented and repaired with the purpose of running the dispensary until the training-school opened, when we would turn it over to Dr Miller, to be operated in connection with the school. Just before the time set for opening the dispensary, word was received to the effect that Dr Miller was not to return to China. This left us in uncertainty as to what would be best to do. We have had the experience of opening, and later closing, two dispensaries in Shanghai, and wished to avoid a repetition of these experiences. However, the people from the surrounding neighborhood continued to come to our home to be treated, and as it is far from an ideal situation to make a dispensary of one's study, we decided to start work in the village, but not to advertise. The first day there was an attendance of thirteen, and at no time since then have we had less than this number. Some days there are over twenty cases treated in the two hours we are there. Loh Sien Seng meets the people in the waiting-room and tells them the gospel story, and just before beginning work we have prayer with all the patients. Since beginning this work the people in the market have become much more friendly, and the owners of a large pawn-shop adjoining us, who were extremely gruff at first, are now very friendly, and do a great deal of advertising for us.

A. C. Selmon, M. D.

Typhoon at Macao

On Sunday, August 17, Macao was visited by the largest typhoon that has been seen here for several years. The storm came up just before the close of the Sabbath, and the wind blew some during the night. Soon after daylight Sunday morning it began blowing harder, and continued most of the day with great severity. Water and sand filled the air like snow in a western blizzard. Waves from the sea crossed the road in front of our house, coming within a few inches of the floor. About three feet of sand was deposited in our front yard. The sea-wall was broken in several places, many large trees were pulled up by the roots, and others were broken off. As the worst of the storm occurred in the daytime, most of the smaller boats sought refuge, and only a few lives were lost here. In the country the loss of life was greater, many small houses collapsing in the storm.

F. H. Wilbur.

A Trip to South China

On July 27 I left Shanghai on the China Navigation Company's steamer "Linan," for Hongkong. For three days previous to my departure, severe fighting had been going on between the rebels and the government forces around the arsenal, just south of the French Concession, and because of this, and the disturbed state of affairs throughout the Yangtze valley, very little freight was offering. This steamer usually makes no calls between Shanghai and Hongkong, but on this trip a small cargo was taken for Swatow.

When we went to sea Sunday morning it was a beautiful day, with a stiff south wind. Tuesday morning the wind began to shift, and by noon it was from the north. At that time we were just off Amoy, and as there were so many signs of a typhoon, our captain decided to call at Amoy, in order to look at the signals. As soon as we were near enough, it was seen that the typhoon signal was up, so we anchored in the bay. The gale was soon on us, and we lay there rolling and tossing for two days. I regretted very much that although we were almost within sight of the home of Brother and Sister B L Anderson during this time, it was so rough we were unable to land.

Thursday afternoon we went out again, and spent a terrible night, arriving at Swatow early Friday morning. During the forenoon I enjoyed a pleasant hour at the home of Brother W F Hills. In the afternoon Brother Hills, who was away from home in the morning, came down to the boat, accompanied by Brother Ang, and spent several hours with me. I was glad to find Brother Hills and his family nicely settled in their new home, which has been completed recently. I felt to rejoice that another family had been provided with a comfortable home.

Sabbath, about noon, we reached Hongkong. The brethren had been informed that our boat would not arrive until the next day, so were not expecting me. However, I very easily found the home of Dr and Mrs Law Keem, where I was made welcome, and kindly entertained during my stay in Hongkong. I spent the time from Sunday morning until Thursday afternoon instructing Brother Meeker in his new duties as treasurer of the South China field. Elder Harlow had planned that we should visit the stations at Canton and Fatsan, but aside from being very busy helping Brother Meeker, all the district in the vicinity of Canton was seething with the spirit of revolution at that time, and all who could were fleeing from there. A day or two after I reached Hongkong Elder Wilbur arrived from Canton, bringing with him a number of native believers. With the exception of the trouble caused by the revolution, the work in South China seems to be moving along well.

The homeward trip was very pleasant, the sea being extremely smooth all the way. I found, on my return, that the scene of war around Shanghai had shifted from south of the city to Woosung, and we were compelled to anchor a long way down the Yangtze River and wait until daylight before coming up to the usual anchorage. I found everything moving along well at headquarters.

C. N. Woodward.

On August 27 Brother Woodward sailed for Japan, where he has some auditing to do. He hopes to get through with his work in time to return on the "Shinyo," with Elder and Mrs Porter and the party of recruits for the Asiatic Division.

We have the following from Brother Wilbur concerning the recent trouble at Canton:--

"During July and August Canton has been in a constant state of unrest. . . . The prospect of fighting filled the hearts of the people with fear, and the better class began a stampede to Hongkong and Macao. Over one hundred thousand people left the city; business was at a standstill; local paper currency was greatly discounted; and the city of Canton placed under martial law. The close censorship of the press, and the exclusion of the Chinese daily papers from Hongkong, only increased the apprehension of impending danger. . . . In the course of events, robbers took advantage of the situation, and, going in bands of two and three thousand, robbed many surrounding villages, and even threatened Canton itself."

We are glad to know that none of our people were injured during this trouble, and that on August 15 the soldiers returned to their barracks, and quiet again reigned.

During the last few months Brother K H Wood and wife have been studying the Ningpo dialect, preparatory to going to that field next year. From a recent experience it would seem that the Lord is especially preparing the way before these workers. A short time ago the mother of one of our Sabbath-keepers, who lives near the mission property, came on a visit. From the first she seemed very anxious to hear about the Sabbath. This woman became a Christian when she was only seven years old. During the forty years that she has been a Christian, she has either attended school or taught. She is now teaching in Ningpo. Her knowledge of the Bible is far superior to that of the majority of members of the missions in China. She not only knows the Bible, but seems to reverence it greatly. When new truths were mentioned during the studies that Sister C M Lee has been having with her, she would say: "If the Bible teaches them, I will accept." Thus far she has been as good as her word, for she has accepted the Sabbath, as well as several other vital truths of our message. She is to return to her school in a few days, but is firm in her determination to bear witness to her new-found faith among her friends and acquaintances.

A little over a year ago, a man from Szechwan accepted the truth and joined the church in Shanghai, later returning to his home in Szechwan. Recently we received a letter from this brother, asking that his name be removed from our church books. He stated his intention of going back to the mission to which he used to belong, but gave no reason for doing so, other than that he thought our organization a bit too strict. The letter had rather a strange "ring" to it, which was easily accounted for when we received a later letter, in which the brother stated that his foreign pastor compelled him to write as he did, else the mission would not take him back. Although the man has not had sufficient courage to stand firm for the truth, yet it is certain that he is distressed in his mind, for the joy, peace and blessing that he experienced after accepting the third angel's message can not fail to be evidence to him of the genuineness of the truth. Through the distribution of literature, this man succeeded in arousing a wide interest, and now his leaving the truth will harden many hearts and seal the ears of a large number who would otherwise have been eager to hear. Surely the time has fully come when we should have some one to open work in the west of China.

For almost two years I have been in correspondence with a Chinese brother in Manchuria, whose earnestness in behalf of the truth is very much in contrast to the experience of this man in Szechwan. After much correspondence back and forth, and the reading of the Signs and various tracts, he began keeping the Sabbath. After a time he left the mission he was with, and instead of sitting down and waiting for help, he began work as a laundryman and tailor. With a recent letter he enclosed \$3 for a supply of tracts. We hope the way will open for this man to attend our training-school, and that he may receive a preparation that will make him an effective worker for Manchuria.

A. C. Selmon, M. D.

Notes from Chefoo, Shantung

No doubt the readers of the News-Letter will be glad to know that the third angel's message has made a beginning in Shantung province, and that during the last two months the truth has been preached, through the effective instrumentality of our literature, in the vicinity of Chefoo. Evangelist T S Zee, who accompanied us from Shanghai, has been busy every day, carrying our message-filled books and papers to the people of this neighborhood. A map of the city was carefully studied immediately upon our arrival, and a definite campaign planned, so that no important place would be missed. At the close of each day's work the territory covered is marked with a red line on the map. Two important points were decided on at the beginning: One was not to skip any house or shop, no matter how small or insignificant it appeared; and the second was that wherever the people could not be persuaded to buy a paper or tract, they should be given a folder.

The Lord has abundantly blessed in this work, over one thousand copies of the Signs having been sold to date, with six subscriptions taken. A few copies of "Bible Readings" and "Thoughts on Revelation" have been sold, also a number of tracts. Brother Zee has his room open to inquirers on Sunday; and a meeting is held on the Sabbath, which a number of interested persons attend.

Last Thursday we went to Ninghai, which is a small city near the sea, about three hours' ride by steam-launch from Chefoo. There is only one chapel at that place, and we were very cordially received by the parties in charge. They inquired who we were, and what our intentions were. Upon being told, they replied that they hoped we had not come to tell all their church-members not to keep Sunday any more. We told them that our only aim was to teach all men everywhere to believe the Bible and prepare for the Saviour's soon return to this earth, and we could only hope that all Christians, including themselves, would keep sacred the day which God blessed at creation. They informed us that so much literature had been given away in the town it was impossible to sell any. However, in one hour we sold sixty-six copies of the Signs and gave away about two hundred folders.

There is an American gentleman here in Chefoo who has made inquiry concerning our belief. We have given him a copy of "Daniel and Revelation" to study, and we are praying that he will be led to see the light of this truth.

How we wish that several families could be located in Kiangtung province this fall, to carry on the work that has been started! "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

F. E. Stafford.

Mrs George Harlow and little daughter, Edyth, are spending a few weeks in Shanghai, having arrived August 15. Although we have very warm weather here, they find it cooler than in the south, and have benefited by the change.

Brother C F Lillie writes, from Changsha, Hunan:--

"We are thankful that the Lord has kept us well during the summer months, and now we are quite anxious to begin the fall work. The message is onward here. The evangelists and canvassers are doing well, and some of the lay members are also doing good work. One of our faithful church-members, old and deaf, has interested three in the gospel, and last Sabbath he brought them to the service. It would be difficult to describe the happiness of this man, that he, old and deaf, should be instrumental in leading others to a knowledge of the Saviour. May these souls truly seek God with all their hearts, and in heaven shine as stars in Dai Sien Seng's crown."

We have much for which to be thankful to the Lord. In spite of the fact that the plague and other diseases have done their deadly work, and many persons have fallen victims, our lives have been spared, and we have enjoyed a reasonable degree of health. It was never expected that the plague would be very severe in this vicinity this spring, as early in the season much cattle died of plague, both water-buffalo and the red cow. These animals were not put under quarantine. Some of them were eaten by the heathen Chinese, but the great-portion, flayed or unflayed, were cast into rivers and stagnant pools, and left to float about and be eaten by birds of prey. It is needless to say that such conditions are favorable to the spreading of contagious diseases. For a long time it was against the law to sell beef on the island of Kulangsu; and milk was considered very unwholesome for use. Such conditions as these remind us that the curses are laid heavily upon the land, and that the end of all things is at hand.

The message is onward, the laborers are of good courage, and excellent reports are received from the field, telling of interesting results, and persons who are accepting the gospel. One of our young men, who has given a great deal of his time to literature work, believes that with the help of the Lord he will be able to secure ten thousand subscriptions to the Signs of the Times within a year. One of our best evangelists, under the direction of the committee, is now on an itinerating trip, preaching and selling literature. He has set his mark for one thousand subscriptions to the Signs, and has already secured several hundred. He writes that he is having the best opportunities of his life to preach the gospel." He is a faithful man, and the Lord is with him.

I have just returned from a ten days' itinerating trip, visiting companies and interested persons. At Hui-An a four days' meeting was held. An evangelist has been working at this place for some time, and a good interest is manifested. At the close of the meeting ten souls were buried with their Lord in baptism, four of whom were direct from heathenism. We expect that by the first of the year nearly as many more will be prepared for this sacred ordinance. The evangelist at Hui-An had a singular experience this season. His little boy, about five years old, was taken with the plague, and from all appearances it seemed that he would soon be silent in death. The buboes were coming out in his armpits and groins, and the only hope of his recovery was in God. The child earnestly urged prayer. "Pray," he said, "there is wonderful power in prayer." One evening the believers, also a number of outsiders, gathered at the chapel and united in prayer for the child. There was a heathen man in the congregation who felt the presence of the Spirit of God, and that night while sleeping upon his bed he had a view of Jesus standing by the child, and he was very definitely impressed that the boy would recover. He did get well, and the heathen accepted Christ as his Saviour.

B. L. Anderson.

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Notice

We have used "Bernese Alps," or "Bear Brand," cream (not milk) considerably of late, and believe it is much superior to "Carnation" cream. Although about one dollar Mexican per case higher in price, and the cans somewhat smaller, the cream is so much richer that we believe it is just as economical, and at the same time a much better article.

This is to call the attention of our friends in China to this brand of cream, so that if possible there may be sufficient demand for it to enable our office in Shanghai to secure it in wholesale lots.

R. F. Cottrell.
