CHAPTER II.

During this interval of uncertainty, my indisposition had increased to an alarming degree; when I was surprised by the arrival of one of my mercantile Chinese friends, a native of the eastern part of Canton province, who felt himself interested in taking me to China. He used every argument to prevail on me to embark; but, as I was vergeing so fast to the grave, I was reluctant to comply. Nevertheless Lin-jung (for this was the man's name) succeeded, for his arguments were imperious; and I agreed with Captain Sin-shun, the owner of the junk Shunle, to embark in his vessel for Teen-tain. This junk was of about two hundred and fifty tons burden, built in Siam, but holding its license from Canton; it was loaded with sapan-wood, sugar, pepper, feathers, calicoes, &c., and was manned by about fifty sailors.

The 3d of June was the day appointed for our departure. Mr. Hunter, Capt. Dawson, and Mr. Mac Dalnac, had the kindness to accompany me on board the junk. I am under very great obligations to the first of these gentlemen, for his frequent and ready support, to the utmost of his power, of any measures that could tend towards the civilization of the natives. When I got on board, my cabin in the steerage was pointed out to me; it was a hole, only large enough for a person to lie down in, and to receive a small box. I had six fellow-passengers. One of them, a captain sixty years of age, was obliged to become
a passenger, because his own junk was unseaworthy, having sprung a leak whilst moored in the Meinam. He was my declared enemy; a master in opium-smoking (using the drug to the amount of about one dollar per day); a man thoroughly versed in all sorts of villany; and averse to the instruction of his countrymen; though, at the same time, he was well aware of the superiority of Europeans, and knew the value of their arts. His son was an insolent youth, well trained for mercantile transactions, and anxious to amassed wealth; he became my friend and neighbour. My mercantile friend, already mentioned, had a cabin beneath mine. He was remarkable for deceitfulness, loquacity, childish pride, and unnatural crime. His companion in trade was wealthy, self-sufficient, and debauched, but polite. In the practice of wickedness and deceit, no one was superior to captain Fo, another of my fellow-passengers. This man had formerly been in command of a Siamese junk, bearing tribute to China, and was shipwrecked on the coast of Pulo Way. On his release from that island, he returned to Bankok. Being skilful in various sorts of workmanship, especially in painting and mechanics, he at length gained so much property, that he was able, this year, to put some hundred peculs of goods on board a junk, and to proceed to China, where he had two wives still living. He was devoted to opium, and prone to lying; but according to his own declaration, my best friend.

Our captain, Sin-shun, was a friendly man, well versed in the art of Chinese navigation; but, unhappily, long habituated to opium-smoking. His younger brother showed himself to be a man of truth; he was my private friend and associate in every sort of trouble. One of the captain's brothers-in-law was the clerk; he denominated himself (from the moment I stepped on board) my younger brother; paid attention to the instructions of the gospel; and abstained from every vice.
abstained from every sort of idolatry. The pilot claimed
cousinship with me, being (as he said) of the same clan.
He was little versed in the art of navigation, but had never
been so unlucky as to sail his junk on shore. He was
a man of a peaceful temper, a yielding disposition, and
a constant object of raillery to the sailors. To all his good
qualities, he added that of opium-smoking, in which art
he had made considerable proficiency. His assistant was
quarrelsome, but more attentive to the navigation than any
other individual on board; and he also, as is the case with
almost all the pilots, was trained up to the use of the drug;
after having inspired the delicious fumes, he would often,
against his inclination, sleep at his watch. All the principal
persons, on whom depended the management of the vessel,
partook freely of this intoxicating luxury; by which they
were alternately, and sometimes simultaneously, rendered
unfit for service.

When I embarked, though in a very feeble state of body,
I cherished the hope, that God, in his mercy, would restore
me again to health, if it were his good pleasure to employ
in his service a being so unworthy as myself—the least,
doubtless, of all my fellow-labourers in the Chinese mis-
mission. I took with me a large quantity of christian books,
and a small stock of medicines,—the remnant of a large
remittance, made, not long before, by some kind English
friends. I was also provided with some charts, a quadrant,
and other instruments to be used in case of emergency.
Long before leaving Siam I became a naturalized subject
of the Celestial Empire, by adoption into the clan or family
of Kwo, from the Tung-an district in Fuhkeen. I took,
also, the name Shih-lee,—wore, occasionally, the Chinese
dress,—and was recognized (by those among whom I lived)
as a member of the great nation. Now, I had to conform
entirely to the customs of the Chinese, and even to dispense
with the use of European books. I gladly met all their
propositions, being only anxious to prepare myself for death; and was joyful in the hope of acceptance before God, by the mediatorial office of Jesus Christ. My wish to depart from this life was very fervent, yet I had a sincere desire of becoming subservient to the cause of the Redeemer, among the Chinese; and only on this account I prayed to God for the prolongation of my life.

In three days after embarking, we passed down the serpentine Meinam, suffering greatly from the swarms of musquitoes, which are a better defence to the country than the miserable forts built at the mouth of the river. Such was my debility that I could scarcely walk; I could swallow no food; and for some time river-water alone served to keep me alive. During the night of the 8th of June, I seemed to be near my end; my breath almost failed, and I lay stretched out in my berth, without the assistance of a single individual; for my servant Yu, a Fuhkeen man, thought and acted like all his countrymen, who give a man up and leave him to his fate, as soon as he is unable to eat rice. While in this exceedingly depressed state, so much consciousness remained, that I was able, at length, to rally a little strength, and leave my cabin; scarcely had I reached the steerage, when a strong vomiting fit freed me from the danger of suffocation.

On the 9th day of June, we reached the bar, where there is very little depth of water: here we were detained for some time. Every vessel built in Siam has a Siamese noble for its patron; the patron of ours was the highest officer in the kingdom, who sent one of his clerks on board to see us safe out to sea. This man was greatly astonished at seeing me on board a Chinese junk, and expressed some doubts in regard to my safety. In fact, all my friends expressed their fears for my life, which might fall a prey, either to the rapacity of the sailors, or to the villany of the mandarins. Many fearful dangers were predicted concerning me; there was no hope of my course; and I had given up to God, under a sense of duty.

In three days we were effectuated with much difficulty; the vessel was moved forward with great credit to the sailors.

The people treated me with kindness, the loss of my wife, I knew; and endeavoured in every way which was very important to obtaining their scanty rice, and rags hardly that were healthy and cheerful. They highly congratulated the regions of barbarous that I was in. Though most of them could read, and took delight in they possessed. In this I was delighted to find our greatest pleasure to read the books; this brought me God, in his great mercy means of bringing me knowledge and enjoyment.

On the 14th of June, we search for me; not knew. If, at this moment, I was delivered to me, my falls; but it was not that my dearest infant embarked. The mountaineous region was

After this, I passed so
concerning me; there was not one individual who approved of my course; and I had no other consolation than looking up to God, under the consideration that I was in the path of duty.

In three days we were able to pass the bar, but it was effected with much difficulty. When the tide was in our favour, a cable was thrown out, by means of which the vessel was moved forward, in a manner which did high credit to the sailors.

The people treated me with great kindness; regretted the loss of my wife, whom most of them had seen and knew; and endeavoured to alleviate my sufferings in a way which was very irksome. The poor fellows, notwithstanding their scanty fare of salt, vegetables, and dried rice, and rags hardly sufficient to cover their nakedness, were healthy and cheerful, and some of them even strong. They highly congratulated me, that at length I had left the regions of barbarians, to enter the Celestial Empire. Though most of them were of mean birth, the major part could read, and took pleasure in perusing such books as they possessed. In the libraries of some of them I was delighted to find our tracts. It has always afforded me the greatest pleasure to observe the extensive circulation of christian books; this gives me the confident hope, that God, in his great mercy, will make the written word the means of bringing multitudes of those who read it to the knowledge and enjoyment of eternal life.

On the 14th of June, some Siamese came on board to search for me; not knowing their intentions, I withdrew. If, at this moment, the message they brought had been delivered to me, my feeble frame would perhaps have fallen; but it was not till long afterwards that I heard, that my dearest infant daughter had died soon after I embarked. The mournful tidings excited the deepest grief. After this, I passed several days alone in my cabin, which
was constantly filled with the vile smell of opium fumigation. As soon as the men laid down their pipes, they would indulge in the most obscene and abominable language; thus adding offence to offence. All this I had to bear patiently, till I acquired sufficient strength to talk with them; I then admonished them, in the plainest terms; and, contrary to my expectations, received from some apologies for their ill conduct towards me.

At length our passengers had all come on board, and the men were beginning to heave the anchor, when it was discovered that the junk was overloaded: a circumstance which very frequently occurs, as every individual takes as many goods on board as he pleases. The captain had now to go back to Bankok; immediately on his return, some of the cargo was discharged; and on June the 18th we finally got under way. But we moved very slowly along the coast of the Siamese territory, attempting to sail only when the tide was in our favour. Proceeding eastward, we anchored near the promontory and city of Banplasoi, which is principally inhabited by Chinese, and is celebrated for its fisheries and salt works. Here the Siamese have some salt inspectors, and keep the country in complete subjection. On the 19th, we espied Ko-Kram, formerly the resort of pirates; it is an island with a temple on its summit, in which is a representation of Buddha in a sleeping posture. On arriving at this place, the Chinese generally make an offering to this indolent idol. Those on board the richly-laden junks make an offering of a pig; poor people are satisfied with a fowl or duck; both which offerings are duly consumed by the sailors after having been exposed a short time to the air. Concerning this practice, so repugnant to common sense, I made some satirical remarks, which met with the approbation of the sailors, who, however, were not very anxious to part with the offerings.

I now began to change my situation, recovering, and turning my thoughts to the distant but great weakness of the body, the wear and tear of the spirit, and to pass my time meantime, endeavoured to fix my thoughts on the beauty of the Celestial Kingdom, and to be more than ever directed to be with Christ, which is far better for the poor beings, who have not an earthly one.

After having passed Chantibun, a place of residence of the Siamese, Chinese, and Indians, betel-nut, are found here. Several junks, principally from China, load the town with these articles. Ships generally touch here and there.

When my strength increased, I made observations regularly, and gave them to others, to explain the latitude and longitude. When I found the longitude, the captain wondered that I had been unable to give him the three observations were equal. So I lost his confidence, recovered, when I told him I could see Pulo Way. One day a British fort was abandoned, on account of the men who murdered the British wars in Cochin-China.
I now began to cherish the hope that my health was recovering, and turned my attention to Chinese books; but great weakness soon compelled me to abandon the pursuit, and to pass my time in idleness. My fellow-passengers, meantime, endeavoured, by various means, to keep up my spirits, and to amuse me with sundry tales about the beauty of the Celestial Empire. My thoughts were now more than ever directed to my heavenly abode; I longed to be with Christ, while I felt strong compassion for these poor beings, who have no other home to hope for than an earthly one.

After having passed Cape Liant, which in most charts is placed too far west by two degrees, we approached Chantibun, a place of considerable trade, and inhabited by Siamese, Chinese, and Cochin-Chinese. Pepper, rice, and betel-nut, are found here in great abundance; and several junks, principally from Canton, are annually loaded with these articles. Ships proceeding to China might occasionally touch here and trade to advantage.

When my strength was somewhat regained, I took observations regularly, and was requested, by the captain and others, to explain the method of finding the latitude and longitude. When I had fully explained the theory, the captain wondered that I brought the sun upon a level with the horizon of the sea, and remarked, "If you can do this, you can also tell the depth of the water." But as I was unable to give him the soundings, he told me plainly, that observations were entirely useless, and truly barbarian. So I lost his confidence; which, however, was soon recovered, when I told him that in a few hours we should see Pulo Way. On this island, one hundred years ago, a British fort was erected; but it was afterwards abandoned, on account of the treachery of some Bugees troops who murdered the English garrison. During the civil wars in Cochin-China, near the close of the last century,
Kaung-Shung, the late king, took refuge here, where he lived for several years in a most wretched condition. In the year 1790, he made a descent upon his own territory, gained over a party, expelled the usurpers, conquered Tonquin, and, by the assistance of Adran, a French missionary, improved the condition of his whole empire. Some time back, the island was the retreat of Malay pirates; but at present it is the resort only of a few fishermen, and is wholly covered with jungle.

With the utmost difficulty we arrived at the mouth of the Kang-kau river, in Camboja, where there is a city, which carries on considerable trade with Singapore, principally in rice and mats. The Cochin-Chinese, pursuing a very narrow policy, shut the door against improvement, and hinder, as far as they can, the trade of the Chinese. They think it their highest policy to keep the Cambogians in utter poverty, that they may remain their slaves forever. Among the several junks at this place, we saw the "tribute bearer," having on board the Siamese ambassador. Though the Siamese acknowledge, nominally, the sovereignty of China, and show their vassalage by sending to Peking tribute of all the productions of their own country, yet the reason of their paying homage so regularly is gain. The vessels sent on these expeditions are exempt from duty, and being very large, are consequently very profitable; but the management of them is entrusted to Chinese, who take care to secure to themselves a good share of the gains. Within a few years several of these junks have been wrecked.

On July 4th, we reached Pulo Condore, called by the Chinese Kwan-lun. This island is inhabited by Cochin-Chinese fishermen. The low coast of Camboja presents nothing to attract attention; but the country seems well adapted for the cultivation of rice. When we passed this place, the Cochin-Chinese squadron, fearful of a descent of the Siamese on Luknoo, and destined to Camboja, was in harbour; and of these events the gospel of God would be the result of John's Gospel, which, by His love, was encouraging to me, not see that peculiar preachment will send the word of unvisited by the life-giving In these meditations I name, the only one given of the be saved. Under such all the contempt that we were dishonest men are permission solely to the The coast of Tsiomp closely overgrown with aborigines, and by Cochin-Chinese very little information do not often trade thither, are in the habit of sending to their neighbouring harbours.

Here we saw large quantities of good supplies of the some very large ones were always much influenced and advised that such should Ma-tsoo-po. The pre
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the Siamese on Luknooi, were ready to repel any attack. Of eight junks loaded with betel-nut this year at Luknooi, and destined to Teen-tsin, only four reached that harbour; and of these, one was wrecked on her return voyage.

At this time, though I was suffering much from fear and sickness, I found rich consolation in the firm belief, that the gospel of God would be carried into China, whatever might be the result of the first attempts. The perusal of John's Gospel, which details the Saviour's transcendent love, was encouraging and consoling, though as yet I could not see that peculiar love extended to China; but God will send the word of eternal life to a nation hitherto unvisited by the life-giving influences of the Holy Ghost. In these meditations I tasted the powers of the world to come, and lost myself in the adoration of that glorious name, the only one given under heaven whereby he must be saved. Under such circumstances, it was easy to bear all the contempt that was heaped on me; neither did the kindness of some individuals make me forget that there were dishonest men around me, and that I owed my preservation solely to the divine protection.

The coast of Tsiompa is picturesque, the country itself closely overgrown with jungle, and thinly inhabited by the aborigines, and by Cochin-Chinese and Malays. I could gain very little information of this region; even the Chinese do not often trade thither; but it appears, that the natives are in the habit of sending their articles to some of the neighbouring harbours visited by the Chinese.

Here we saw large quantities of fish in every direction, and good supplies of them were readily caught. By chance, some very large ones were taken; and a person who had always much influence in the deliberations of the company, advised that such should be offered to the mother of heaven, Ma-tsoo-po. The propriety of this measure I disputed
strongly, and prevailed on the sailors not to enhance their
guilt by consecrating the creatures of God to idols.

From Pulo Condore the wind was in our favour, and in
five days we passed the coast of Cochin-China. The
islands and promontories of this coast have a very romantic
appearance; particularly Padaran, Varela, and San-jo.
Many rivers and rivulets disembogue themselves along the
coast; and the sea abounds with fish, which seem to be a
principal article of food with the natives. Hundreds of
boats are seen cruising in every direction. The Cochin-
Chinese are a very poor people, and their condition has been
made more abject by the late revolution. Hence they are
very economical in their diet, and sparing in their apparel.
The king is well aware of his own poverty and that of his
subjects, but is averse to opening a trade with Europeans,
which might remedy this evil. The natives themselves are
open and frank, and anxious to conciliate the favour of
strangers.

On the 10th of July we saw Teen-fang, a high and rugged
rock. The joy of the sailors was extreme, this being the
first object of their native country which they espied.
Teen-fang is about three or four leagues from Hainan.
This island is wholly surrounded by mountains, while the
interior has many level districts, where rice and sugar are
cultivated. There are aborigines, not unlike the inhabi-
tants of Manilla, who live in the forests and mountains;
but the principal inhabitants are the descendants of people,
who, some centuries back, came from Fuheen; and who,
though they have changed in their external appearance,
still bear traces of their origin preserved in their language.
They are a most friendly people, always cheerful, always
kind. In their habits they are industrious, clean, and
very persevering. To a naturally inquisitive mind they
join love of truth, which, however, they are slow in under-
standing. The Roman Catholic missionaries very early
perceived the amiableness of their endeavours to conciliate
of the people profess to improve themselves such.

Hainan is, on the whole, a fine island, except the
exception of Timbok, which is principally carried out
no articles of export. To arrive abroad; they visit Tonkin
Singapore. On their way along the coasts of Tsiochun
they build junks. In the junk are sails, ropes, anchor, and
their own hands. These junks are salable at Canton or on
budgers. Other junk are usually designed to
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During my residence of this
course with this people, perusing christian books of
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perceived the amiableness of this people, and were successful in their endeavours to convert them; and to this day many of the people profess to be Christians, and seem anxious to prove themselves such.

Hainan is, on the whole, a barren country; and, with the exception of timber, rice, and sugar, (the latter of which is principally carried to the north of China,) there are no articles of export. The inhabitants carry on some trade abroad; they visit Tonquin, Cochin-China, Siam, and also Singapore. On their voyages to Siam, they cut timber along the coasts of Tsiompa and Camboja; and when they arrive at Bankok, buy an additional quantity, with which they build junks. In two months a junk is finished—the sails, ropes, anchor, and all the other work, being done by their own hands. These junks are then loaded with cargoes, saleable at Canton or on their native island; and both junks and cargoes being sold, the profits are divided among the builders. Other junks, loaded with rice, and bones for manure, are usually despatched for Hainan.

During my residence in Siam, I had an extensive intercourse with this people. They took a particular delight in perusing Christian books, and conversing on the precepts of the gospel. And almost all of those, who came annually to Bankok, took away books, as valuable presents to their friends at home. Others spoke of the good effects produced by the books, and invited me to visit their country. Humbly trusting in the mercies of our God and Redeemer, that he will accomplish, in his own time, the good work which has been commenced, I would invite some of my brethren to make this island the sphere of their exertions, and to bring the joyful tidings of the gospel to a people anxious to receive its precious contents.

As soon as the first promontory of the Chinese continent was in sight, the captain was prompt and liberal in making sacrifices, and the sailors were not backward in feasting
upon them. Great numbers of boats appeared in all
directions, and made the scene very lively. We were be-
calmed in sight of the Lema islands, and suffered much
from the intense heat. While there was not wind enough
to ruffle the dazzling surface of the sea, we were driven on
by the current to the place of our destination, Soakah,* in
Chau-chow-foo, the most eastern department of Canton
province, bordering on Fuhkeen. This district is exten-
sive, and closely peopled. The inhabitants occupy every
portion of it; and must amount, at a moderate calculation,
to three or four millions. Its principal ports are Ting-hae
(the chief emporium,) Ampoh, Hae-oo, Kit-oo, and Jeao-
ping. The people are, in general, mean, uncleanly,
avaricious, but affable and fond of strangers. Necessity
urges them to leave their native soil, and more than 5000
of them go every year to the various settlements of the
Indian archipelago, to Cochin-China, and to Hainan, or
gain their livelihood as sailors. Being neighbours to the
inhabitants of Fuhkeen, the dialects of the two people are
very similar, but in their manners there is a great difference.
This dissimilarity in their customs, joined to the similarity
of their pursuits, has given rise to considerable rivalry,
which frequently results in open hostility. But the Fuh-
keen men have gained the ascendency, and use all their
influence to destroy the trade of their competitors.

Our sailors were natives of this district, and anxious to
see their families after a year's absence. As, however, our
junk had no permit, we could not enter the river of Soakah,

* The Chinese characters, and, consequently, the mandarin pro-
nunciation, of this and several other names in the following pages, we
are unable to ascertain; Mr. G. having only inserted in the MS. he
left with us, the names of the places, according to their Fuhkeen pro-
nunciation. Ting-hae is Ching-hae-heen, and Jeao-ping is Jaou-ping-
heen. Hae-oo, and Kit-oo, we believe to be Hae-yeang-heen, and Kee-
yang-heen. Soakah, (or Shan-kee,) is a small port near the mouth of
the Jaou-ping river. Ampoh is the same as Gan-po.
but had to anchor in the harbour of Nan-aou, (or Namoh,) whilst passage-boats came in all directions to carry the men to their homes. Rice being very cheap in Siam, every sailor had provided a bag or two, as a present to his family. In fact, the chief thing they wish and work for, is rice; their domestic accounts are regulated by the quantity of rice consumed; their meals according to the number of bowls of it boiled; and their exertions, according to the quantity wanted. Every substitute for this delicious food is considered meagre, and indicative of the greatest wretchedness. When they cannot obtain a sufficient quantity to satisfy their appetites, they supply the deficiency of rice with an equal weight of water. Inquiring whether the western barbarians eat rice, and finding me slow to give them an answer, they exclaimed; "O, the sterile regions of barbarians, which produce not the necessaries of life! Strange, that the inhabitants have not, long ago, died of hunger!" I endeavoured to show them that we had substitutes for rice, which were equal, if not superior to it. But all to no purpose; and they still maintained, that it is only rice which can properly sustain the life of a human being.

When most of the sailors had left the junk, I was led to reflect on their miserable condition. Almost entirely destitute of clothes and money, they return home, and in a few days hurry away—again to encounter new dangers and new perils. But, however wretched their present condition may be, their prospects for eternity are far more deplorable. Reprobates in this life, they tremble to enter into eternity, of which they have very confused ideas. They defy God, who rules over the seas; they curse their parents, who gave them life; they are enemies to each other, and seem entirely regardless of the future; they glory in their shame; and do not startle when convicted of being the servants of Satan.
It was the 17th of July when we anchored in the harbour of Namoh. The island, from which this harbour takes its name, is mostly barren rock, consisting of two mountains connected by a narrow isthmus, in lat. 26 deg. 28 min. N.; long. 116 deg. 39 min. E. It is a military station; it has a fort; and is a place of considerable trade, which is carried on between the people of Fuhkeen and Canton. The harbour is spacious and deep, but the entrance is difficult and dangerous.

The entrance of the Soakah river is very shallow; but numerous small craft, principally from Ting-hae, are seen here. The duties, as well as the permit to enter the river, are very high; but the people know how to elude the mandarins, as the mandarins do the emperor. Ting-hae is a large place, tolerably well built, and inhabited principally by merchants, fishermen, and sailors. The productions of the surrounding country are not sufficient to maintain the inhabitants, who contrive various ways and means to gain a livelihood. There is no want of capital or merchants, but a great lack of honesty and upright dealing.

As soon as we had anchored, numerous boats surrounded us, with females on board, some of them brought by their parents, husbands, or brothers. I addressed the sailors who remained in the junk, and hoped that I had prevailed on them, in some degree, to curb their evil passions; but, alas! no sooner had I left the deck, than they threw off all restraint; and the disgusting scene which ensued, might well have entitled our vessel to the name of Sodom. The sailors, unmindful of their starving families at home, and distracted, blinded, stupidly by sensuality, seemed willing to give up aught and every thing they possessed, rather than abstain from that crime which entails misery, disease, and death. Having exhausted all their previous earnings, they became a prey to reckless remorse and gloomy despair. As their vicious partners were opium-smokers by habit,
and drunkards by custom, it was necessary that strong drink and opium should be provided; and the retailers of these articles were soon present to lend a helping hand. Thus, all these circumstances conspired to nourish vice, to squander property, and to render the votaries of crime most unhappy. When all their resources failed, the men became furious, and watched for an opportunity to reimburse their loss, either by deceit or force. Observing my trunks well secured, it was surmised by the sailors that they contained silver and gold; and a conspiracy was formed to cleave my head with a hatchet, and to seize the trunks, and divide the money among themselves. In favour of this scheme it was stated, that I did not understand the use of money, and that they themselves could appropriate it to the very best advantage. All the persons who formed this plot were opium-smokers; the leader was an old sailor, and, nominally, my friend. Just as they were about to execute their plan, an old man came forward and declared to them, that a few days before he had seen the trunks opened, and that they contained nothing but books, which they might obtain without cleaving my head. Witnesses were then called, and it being satisfactorily ascertained that such was the fact, in regard to the trunks, they all agreed to desist from the execution of their plot.

In the midst of such abominations, the feeble voice of exhortation was not entirely disregarded. Some individuals willingly followed my advice. A young man, who had repeatedly heard the gospel, and anxiously inquired about his eternal destinies, was reclaimed; and, covered with shame, and penetrated with a sense of guilt, he acknowledged the insufficiency of all moral precepts, if no heavenly principle influenced the heart.

My visitors were very numerous; they generally thought me to be a pilot or mate, and behaved very politely. In the long conversations I held with them, they seemed
attentive, and not entirely ignorant of the doctrines of Christianity; and they frequently noticed, as a proof of its power, the mere circumstance, that one of its votaries stood unmoved, while the stream of vice carried away every thing around him. To these visitors I distributed the word of life; expressing my earnest wish, that it might prove the means of their salvation. There was one old man, who stated that he had two sons, literary graduates, whom, as he himself was hastening to the grave, he wished to see reading the exhortations to the world, (so they call our Christian books.) I enjoyed myself in the company of some other individuals, to whom it was intimated that we should endeavour to establish a mission at this place, since so many millions of their countrymen were without the means of knowing the way of salvation.

The return of the captain, who had been on shore, checked the progress of vice. Being a man of firm principle, he drove out the prostitutes, and brought the men to order; —his vigilance, however, was in some instances eluded; but when those wretched beings had obtained their money, (their great object,) they generally, of their own accord, abandoned the junk. I had now full scope to speak to those around me of the folly and misery of such conduct; and I was successful in applying the discourse to themselves. The Chinese, generally, will bear with just reproof, and even heap eulogiums on those who administer it.

Here I saw many natives famishing for want of food; they would greedily seize, and were very thankful for, the smallest quantities of rice thrown out to them. Though healthy, and strong, and able to work, they complained of want of employment, and the scarcity of the means of subsistence.* Urged on by poverty, some of them become

* In the department of Chao-chow-foo, to which these remarks apply, as also in the neighbouring province of Fuhkeen, and in the adjoining department of Hwuy-chow-foo in this province, famine has

pirates, and in the night black junks in the harbour. When we were anxious to depart, exhausted, and the opportunity were only the means of escaping. As we were getting under weigh, we should have encountered us from proceeding. Making to the north of China, left the

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On the following day, we reached the channel of the island has flourished greatly the possession of the Chinese; and Tung-an in Fuhkeen, already by trade, and the camphor. Formosa has borders, but all the entrance, trade is carried on in small go to all the western port loaded with rice, or gold

very generally prevailed during the immediately, abroad, and immense numbers of peasants also and movement, to join the secret as particularly its southern pro
pirates, and in the night time surprise and plunder the junks in the harbour. When fourteen days had elapsed, all were anxious to depart, because their treasure was exhausted, and the opportunities for farther expenditures were only the means of tantalizing and annoying them. As we were getting under way, an old man predicted that we should have to encounter storms; but this did not deter us from proceeding. Many junks, loaded with sugar for the north of China, left the harbour in company with us.

On July 30th, we passed Amoy, the principal emporium of Fuhkeen province, and the residence of numerous merchants, who are the owners of more than 300 large junks, and who carry on an extensive commerce, not only to all the ports of China, but to many also in the Indian Archipelago. Notwithstanding the heavy duties levied on exports and imports, these merchants maintain their trade, and baffle the efforts of the mandarins. They would hail with joy any opportunity of opening a trade with Europeans, and would, doubtless, improve upon that of Canton.

On the following day, favourable winds continued till we reached the channel of Formosa (or Tea-wan.) This island has flourished greatly since it has been in the possession of the Chinese, who go thither, generally, from Tung-an in Fuhkeen, as colonists, and who gain a livelihood by trade, and the cultivation of rice, sugar, and camphor. Formosa has several deep and spacious harbours, but all the entrances are extremely shallow. The trade is carried on in small junks belonging to Amoy; they go to all the western ports of the island, and either return loaded with rice, or go up to the north of China with very generally prevailed during the last few months. Pirates, consequently, abound, and insurrections have in several cases occurred; numbers of peasants also are induced, by hunger and want of employment, to join the secret associations of banditti which infest China, particularly its southern provinces.
sugar. The rapidity with which this island has been colonized, and the advantages it affords for the colonists to throw off their allegiance, have induced the Chinese government to adopt restrictive measures, and no person can now emigrate without a permit. The colonists are wealthy and unruly; and hence there are numerous revolts which are repressed with great difficulty, because the leaders withdrawing to the mountains, stand out against the government to the very uttermost. In no part of China are executions so frequent as they are here; and in no place do they produce a less salutary influence. The literati are very successful; and people in Fuhkeen sometimes send their sons to Formosa to obtain literary degrees.

Northerly winds, with a high sea, are very frequent in the channel of Formosa. When we had reached Ting-hae, in the department of Fuh-chow-fou, the wind, becoming more and more adverse, compelled us to change our course; and fearing that stormy weather would overtake us, we came to anchor near the island of Ma-oh, (or Ma-aou,) on which the goddess Ma-tsoo-po is said to have lived. Here we were detained some time. The houses on the coast are well built; the people seemed poor, but honest; and are principally employed in fishing, and in rearing gourds. Their country is very rocky.

A few miles in the interior are the tea hills, where thousands of people find employment. The city of Fuh-chow-fou, the residence of the governor of Fuhkeen and Chekeang, is large and well built. Small vessels can enter the river; the harbour of Ting-hae is deep, and very spacious. We saw there numerous junks laden with salt, also some fishing craft.

When we were preparing to leave the harbour, another gale came on, and forced us to anchor; but instead of choosing an excellent anchorage which was near to us, a station was selected in the neighbourhood of rocks, where our lives were placed in great danger. The storm increased, and the great waves threatened to whelm us in the sea. We were exposed to the united blows of the wind and sea; and we expected every moment to be torn in pieces. The rain soon turned the deck of the vessel and every part of the vessel smoking.

For several days Egyptians and Arabs in composure I could look up with some joy in his promises, and would neither leave nor forsake the person who ventured on deck. The Chinese, in bad weather, took to the small cabins till the tempest is over; they were dispensing their provisions before they were dispelling their smoking.

Notwithstanding all this, on account of the riches we were to sink the junk, to seize on a small boat to the nearest land and some information of the place, we walked near them with the seamen. The ringleaders seeing this, paid off a Canton junk at the same hazardous scheme.

It was most evident that they were cowards; they treated the crew, in the hour of adventure, in the same manner as before. God in his mercy sent a great gale of wind, which the firmament with breath. While I was thus engaged, I went on shore; unconscious that it was rather puzzled wh...
our lives were placed in great danger. The next day the storm increased, and the gale became a tornado, which threatened to whelm us in the foaming billows. The junk was exposed to the united fury of the winds and waves, and we expected every moment that she would be dashed in pieces. The rain soon began to descend in torrents, and every part of the vessel was thoroughly drenched.

For several days Egyptian darkness hung over us: with composure I could look up to God our Saviour, could rejoice in his promises, and was fully confident, that he would neither leave nor forsake us. I was almost the only person who ventured on deck; for it is customary with the Chinese, in bad weather, to take shelter and repose in their cabins till the tempest is over. At the present juncture, they were dispelling their cares by sleeping and opium-smoking.

Notwithstanding all this they formed a plot, principally on account of the riches which they supposed me to possess, to sink the junk, to seize on the money, and then to flee in a small boat to the neighbouring shore. Having gained some information of their designs, I left my cabin and walked near them with my wonted cheerfulness. The ringleaders seeing this, and observing the approach of a Canton junk at the same time, desisted from their treacherous scheme.

It was most evident that these heroes in wickedness were cowards; they trembled, and their courage failed them, in the hour of approaching death. For ten days we were in suspense between life and death; when at length, God in his mercy sent again his sun to shine, and clothed the firmament with brightness. I could now feel with Noah, and render praise to God our great benefactor. While I was thus engaged, some of our fellow-passengers went on shore; unconscious of the object of their visit, I was rather puzzled when I saw them returning in their
state dress; but soon suspected, (what was true,) that they had been to the temple of Ma-tsoo-po, to render homage to their protectress. At such an act of defiance, after such a signal deliverance, I was highly indignant, and rebuked them sharply. One of them held his peace; the other acknowledged his guilt, and promised, in future, to be more thankful to the Supreme Ruler of all things. He remarked, that it was only a pilgrimage to the birth-place of the goddess, and that he had only thrice prostrated himself before her image. I told him, that on account of such conduct he had great reason to fear the wrath of God would overtake him; when he heard that, he kept a solemn silence.

The temple of Ma-tsoo-po is not very splendid, though it has been built at a great expense. The priests are numerous and well maintained, the number of pilgrims being very great. When we were about to sail, a priest came on board with some candelsticks and incense, which, being sacred to the goddess, had power, it was supposed, to secure the vessel against imminent dangers. He held up in his hand a biography of the goddess, and was eloquent in trying to persuade the people to make large offerings. The priest belonging to our junk replied to him, "We are already sanctified, and need no additional goodness;—go to others who are wanting in devotion." I improved this opportunity to remark on the sinfulness of paying homage to their goddess; and reminded them how, during the storm, the idol shook and would have fallen into the sea, if they had not caught it with their own hands. The priest, anxious to maintain his ground, said, "Ah! she was angry." I replied, "She is weak—away with an image that cannot protect itself—cast it into the ocean, and let us see if it has power to rescue itself."

The people from the tea plantations, who came on board our junk, were civil, and characterised by a simplicity of manner which was very agreeable to us. When I spoke with them, asked them questions with the propriety and courtesy befitting the situation, they were pleased to answer me, and were interested in my inquisition.

Before we left Namouch, I was very much attracted by the pleasure of staying with my new captain. He was a kind and amiable young man, friendly and agreeable, and his conversation was full of interest and amusement. He was of a warm temper, and his manners were easy and natural. I was much pleased with his company, and I was very much pleased with the kindness which he showed to me.

The vessel was not a very large one, but it was well built and well manned. The crew were civil and friendly, and I was much pleased with their good nature and easy manners. I was much pleased with the kindness which they showed to me. They were not very learned, but they were very intelligent, and they were very much interested in my conversation.

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though bests are pilgrims a priest which, opposed, He held eloquent herings. We are s;—go red this homage sea, priest, he was image let us board city of

manner which was very commendable. I conversed much with them, asked them many questions, and was pleased with the propriety and correctness of their answers.

Before we left Namoh, our captain, the owner of the junk, attracted by the pleasures of domestic life, had charged his uncle with the management of the vessel, and left us. This new captain was an elderly man, who had read a great deal, and who could write with readiness, and was quite conversant with the character of Europeans. These good qualities, however, were clouded by his ignorance of navigation, and by his habitual roguishness. His younger brother, a proud man and without experience, was a mere drone. He had a bad cough, and was covered with the itch; and being my messmate, he was exceedingly annoying, and often spoiled our best meals. Our daily food was rather sparing—it consisted principally of rice, and of salted and dried vegetables. When anything extra was obtained, it was seized so greedily, that my gleanings were scanty indeed! yet I trusted in the Lord, who sweetened the most meagre meals, and made me cheerful and happy under every privation.

A large party was, at one time, formed against me, who disapproved of my proceedings as a missionary. My books, they said, were not wanted at Teen-tsin; there were priests enough already, and they had long ago made every needful provision for the people. And as for medical aid, there were hundreds of doctors, who, rather than allow me to do it, would gladly take charge of the poor and the sick. Moreover, they all expressed their fears that I should become a prey to rogues, who are very numerous throughout China. But when I told them that I proceeded as the servant of Shang-te (the supreme Ruler), and did not fear the wrath of man in a good cause, they held their peace. By a reference to the immorality of their lives, I could easily silence all their objections; "If you are really
under the influence of the transforming laws of the Celestial Empire, as you all affirm, why do those rules prove so weak a restraint on your vicious practices, whilst the gospel of Christ preserves its votaries from wickedness and crime?" They replied:" We are indeed sinners, and are lost irre- mediably."—"But," I inquired, "have you never read the books I gave you, which assure us that Jesus died for the world?"—"Yes, we have; but we find that they contain much which does not accord with the truth." To shew them that they were wrong, I took one of the books of Scripture and went through it, sentence by sentence, shew- ing them that the gospel was not only profitable for this life, but also for the life to come. This procedure put them to shame; and from that time they ceased to offer their objections, and admitted the correctness of the principles of the gospel, and their happy tendency on the human heart.

As soon as we had come in sight of the Chu-san (or Chow- shan) islands, which are in lat. 29 deg. 22 min. N., we were again becalmed. The sailors, anxious to proceed, collected among themselves some gilt paper, and formed it into the shape of a junk; and, after marching a while in procession to the peal of the gong, launched the paper junk into the sea, but obtained no change of weather in consequence of this superstitious rite; the calm still continued, and was even more oppressive than before.

The city of Chu-san (or Chow-shan), situated in lat. 30 deg. 26 min. N., has fallen into decay since it has ceased to be visited by European vessels; its harbour, however, is the rendezvous of a few native junks. Ning-po, which is situated a short distance westward of Chu-san, is the prin- cipal emporium of Che-keang province. Native vessels belonging to this place are generally of about two hundred tons burden, and have four oblong sails, which are made of cloth. These vessels, which are similar to those of Keangnan province, trade mostly to the north of China; copper cash,
SEANGHAE.

reduced to about one-half the value of the currency, is their principal article of export.

About the 20th of August we reached the mouth of the river Yang-tsze-keang, on the banks of which stands the city of Seanghae (Shang-hae-heen), the emporium of Nan-king; and of the whole of Keangnan province; and as far as the native trade is concerned, perhaps the principal commercial city in the empire. It is laid out with great taste; the temples are very numerous; the houses neat and comfortable; and the inhabitants polite, though rather servile in their manners. Here, as at Ning-po, the trade is chiefly carried on by Fuhkeen men. More than a thousand small vessels go up to the north, several times annually, exporting silk and other Keangnan manufactures, and importing peas and medical drugs. Some few junks, owned by Fuhkeen men, go to the Indian archipelago, and return with very rich cargoes.

It was with great difficulty that we reached the extremity of the Shantung promontory, in lat. 37 deg. 23 min. N.; and when we did so, the wind continuing unfavourable, we cast anchor at Leto (Letaou, an island in the bay of Sang-kow), where there is a spacious and deep harbour, surrounded by rocks, with great shoals on the left side. This was on the 23d of August. There were several vessels in the harbour, driven thither by the severity of the weather. At one extremity of Leto harbour a small town is situated. The surrounding country is rocky, and productive of scarcely any thing, except a few fruits. The houses are built of granite, and covered with sea-weeds; within they were very poorly furnished. The people themselves were rather neat in their appearance, and polite in their manners, but not of high attainments. Though very little conversant with their written character, they nevertheless spoke the mandarin dialect better than I had ever before heard. They seemed very poor, and had few means of
subsistence; but they appeared industrious, and laboured hard to gain a livelihood. I visited them in their cottages, and was treated with much kindness—even invited to a dinner, where the principal men of the place were present. As their attention was much attracted towards me, being a stranger, I took occasion to explain the reason of my visiting their country, and amply gratified their curiosity. They paid me visits in return; some of them called me Sceyang-tsze, “child of the western ocean;” and others a foreign-born Chinese; but the major part of them seemed to care little about the place of my nativity.

Apples, grapes, and some other fruits, we found here in abundance; and such refreshments were very acceptable after having lived for a long time on dry rice and salt vegetables. Fish also was plentiful and cheap. The common food of the inhabitants is the Barbadoes millet, called kaou-leang; they grind it in a mill, which is worked by asses, and eat it like rice. There are several kinds of the leang grain, which differ considerably in taste as well as in size.

Some sales were made here, but the people were too poor to trade to any considerable extent. It is worthy of remark, that, in the very neighbourhood of the place where Confucius was born, the moral precepts of that sage are (as I had opportunity to witness) trampled upon, and even when referred to are treated with scorn. Here our sailors, especially those who went to visit the temple of Ma-tsoo-po, were again ensnared by wretched women—the most degraded beings I ever beheld. But the poor fellows soon felt the consequences of their wicked conduct; for some of them had not only to sell their little stock of merchandise, but were also visited with loathsome disease. Often did they lament their folly; and as often did they remark, that they had no power to become better men. Some of my fellow-passengers, when they had recovered their senses, felt keenly the stings of this number:—‘T am I strive against vice, or destruction.’ Though by placing an idol in “O-me-to-Fuh,” (i. e.) the commences most prayers were in vain; his heart institions more strong, He would often remain talking about the gospall my vicious companions on Pulo Way; the little home, who are looking giving myself up to a poor man was emaciated in sleep. Occasionally with Captain Hae, his iniquitous schemes in the night-time, they particulars of their ferations, especially when Eo, they proceeded for who after a wicked lie verging to the grave bell, where all the eternal intercourse, no

Although my sensations of those of Eo, he frequenlness, lamented my fall a prey to wicked He would sometimes acord to the popular considered as the one
CAPTAIN EO.

felt keenly the stings of conscience. Captain Eo was among this number;—"I am a forlorn wretch," he said; "in vain I strive against vice, every day brings me nearer eternal destruction." Though he endeavoured to stifle remorse, by placing an idol in his cabin, and by repeating his "O-me-to-Fuh," (i.e. Amida Budha, an expression which commences most prayers to that deity,) yet all his efforts were in vain; his heart became more depraved, his superstitions more strong, and he seemed utterly incorrigible. He would often remark, as I sat with him in his cabin, talking about the gospel of Christ,—"I have no friend; all my vicious companions forsook me when I was wrecked on Pulo Way; the little property I now have is only sufficient to support myself alone; but I have a family at home, who are looking to me for support, while I am giving myself up to folly and vice." The body of this poor man was emaciated, and he passed most of his time in sleep. Occasionally he would enter into conversation with Captain Hae, his neighbour, who was a great proficient in iniquitous schemes and practices. In conversation during the night-time, they would relate to each other the particulars of their feats; it was painful to hear their narrations, especially when I remembered that, in the case of Eo, they proceeded from the lips of a hoary-headed man, who after a wicked life of more than sixty years, was fast Verging to the grave. O what must be the company of hell, where all the heroes of wickedness meet, and hold eternal intercourse, making daily progress in sin!

Although my sentiments were entirely at variance with those of Eo, he frequently showed me marks of real kindness, lamented my lonely state, and feared that I should fall a prey to wicked men, because I was over righteous. He would sometimes give me accounts of geography, according to the popular notions of the Chinese, which he considered as the only correct ones, and ours as altogether
erroneous. As he was a painter, he drew a map; in which Africa was placed near Siberia, and Corea in the neighbourhood of some unknown country, which he thought might be America. Though his ideas were ridiculous, he possessed a good understanding; and had he not been debased by idolatry and crime, he might have formed a talented and useful member of society. But, alas! Satan first debar God’s creatures from improvement, and then reduces them to the level of brutes.

The vessels of the last English embassy touched, it seems, at Leto, and their stay there was still fresh in the recollection of the natives. They frequently referred to those majestic ships, which might have spread destruction in every direction; and to this day they are over-awed and tremble, even at the mention of the Kea-pan* ships, as European vessels are denominated. I was closely questioned on this subject, but as I was not well informed respecting the expedition, I could give them no satisfactory answers; I was able, however, by describing the character of Europeans, in some degree to quiet their minds. “If,” said I, “they had come to injure you, they would have done so immediately; but as they came and went away peaceably, they ought to be considered as the friends of the Chinese.” My reasoning, however, was of little avail;—“They were not traders,” they replied; “if they had been, we should have hailed them as friends; but they came with guns, and as men never do any thing without design, they must have had some object, and that object must have been conquest. Those mandarins who did not inform the emperor of their arrival were severely punished; and how could this have been done, if he had not perceived an ultra design?”

Europe is supposed, by a great majority of the Chinese,

* We are unable to ascertain the meaning of this term Kea-pan. It may perhaps be derived from Captain, or some other foreign word.
to be a small country, inhabited by a few merchants, who speak different languages, and who maintain themselves principally by their commerce with China. With a view to correct their ideas, I gave them some account of the different nations who inhabit Europe, but all to no purpose; the popular belief, that it is merely a small island, containing only a few thousands of inhabitants, was too strong to be removed.

They were anxious, however, to know from whence all the dollars came, which are brought to China; and when I told them more of the western world, they expressed a wish to go thither, because they thought gold and silver must be as abundant there as granite is in China; but when I told them that in going thither they could see no land for many days, they became unwilling to engage for such a voyage;—"For where," they earnestly inquired, "shall we take shelter and come to anchor, when storms overtake us? And whither shall we find refuge when once we are wrecked?"

Though they soon abandoned the idea of visiting Europe, they were still desirous to gain some more information about dollars, and requested me to teach them the art of making them of tin or lead; for many of them believe that the English are able, by a certain process, to change those metals into silver. As they considered me an adept in every art, except divinity, they were much disappointed when I told them that I neither understood the secret, nor believed that there was any mortal who did. This statement they discredited, and maintained that the English, as they were rich and had many great ships and splendid factories in Canton, and had no means of obtaining riches except by this art, must of necessity be able to change the inferior metals into gold. This same strange notion is believed in Siam; and I have been earnestly importuned by individuals to teach them this valuable art; silver ore has

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been sent to me also with the request, that I would extract the silver, and form it into dollars. The reason of their so frequently conspiring against me seems to have been, that I acted with liberality and honesty towards every one, and did not engage in trade; and hence they inferred that I made silver and coined money, and by these means had always a stock on hand sufficient to defray my expenses.

After staying several days at Leto, we again got under way; but the wind being still unfavourable, we proceeded slowly, and on the 2d September came to anchor in the deep and spacious harbour of Ke-shan-so. The town from which this harbour takes its name is pleasantly situated, and its environs are well cultivated. The people were polite and industrious; they manufacture a sort of cloth, which consists partly of cotton, and partly of silk; it is very strong, and finds a ready sale in every part of China. They are wealthy, and trade to a considerable extent with the junks which touch here on their way to Teen-tsin. Many junks were in the harbour at the same time with ours, and trade was very brisk. On shore, refreshments of every description were cheap. The people seemed fond of horsemanship; and while we were there, ladies had horse-races, in which they greatly excelled. The fame of the English men-of-war had spread consternation and awe among the people here; and I endeavoured, so far as was in my power, to correct the erroneous opinions which they had entertained.

Vice seemed as prevalent here as at Leto; the sailors borrowed money in advance, and before we left the harbour, every farthing of it was expended. I predicted to them that such would be the consequence of their vicious conduct:—that prediction was now fulfilled; the poor fellows became desperate, and, as they had no other object on which to vent their rage but myself, they exceedingly wearied and annoyed me. Did I ever offer an earnest prayer to God, it was to intercede graciously to them and to His almighty power, in order to avert the symptoms of their calamity, and to console a distressed mind. The following morning the wind roused from sleep by a sudden shock was awfully terrific; it advanced from top to bottom, and did not seem to receive any injury. Among the sailors; and it appeared to me as if the expedition against us; winds and their hardships was scarcely perceptible.

In the neighbourhood of the principal ports, junks anchor near the shore. A town by a small river and European merchants, take a tolerable price. The Chinese darins have very little idea of the latter; but they have stated that, in general, the former is much more honest than the latter traders, although the latter tradesmen of their inferiors.

On the 8th of September we arrived situated near the shore, and after a visit to Shantung provinces; which was surrounded by a high mound in its vicinity, and the sea town, a very lively aspect, particularly the sailors, who were hairily excited and noisy.
prayer to God, it was at this time: I besought him to be gracious to them and to me, and to make a display of his almighty power, in order to convince them of their nothingness, and to console and strengthen my own heart. The following morning the weather was very sultry; I was roused from sleep by loud peals of thunder; and soon after I had awaked, the lightning struck our junk; the shock was awfully tremendous;—the masts had been split from top to bottom, but, most mercifully, the hull had received no injury. This event spread consternation among the sailors; and with dejected countenances, they scarcely dared to raise their heads, while they looked on me as the servant of Shang-te, and as one who enjoyed his protection. From this time they ceased to ridicule me, and, on the other hand, treated me with great respect. The elements seemed, at this time, to have conspired against us; winds and tide were contrary, and our progress was scarcely perceptible.

In the neighbourhood of Ke-shan-so is Kan-chow, one of the principal ports of Shantung. The trading vessels anchor near the shore, and their supercargoes go up to the town by a small river. There is here a market for Indian and European merchandise, almost all kinds of which bear a tolerable price. The duties are quite low, and the mandarins have very little control over the trade. It may be stated that, in general, the Shantung people are far more honest than the inhabitants of the southern provinces, though the latter treat them with disrespect, as greatly their inferiors.

On the 8th of September we passed Ting-ching, a fortress situated near the shore, on the frontiers of Chihle and Shantung provinces; it seemed to be a pretty large place, surrounded by a high wall. We saw some excellent plantations in its vicinity, and the country, generally, presented a very lively aspect, with many verdant scenes, which
the wearied eye seeks for in vain on the naked rocks of Shantung.

On the 9th we were in great danger. Soon after we had anchored near the mouth of the Pei-ho (or Pih-ho, the White River,) a gale suddenly arose, and raged for about six hours. Several junks, which had left the harbour of Leto with us, were wrecked; but a merciful God preserved our vessel. As the wind blew from the north, the agreeable temperature of the air was soon changed to a piercing cold. Though we were full thirty miles distant from the shore, the water was so much blown back by the force of the wind, that a man could easily wade over the sand bar; and our sailors went out in different directions to catch crabs, which were very numerous. But in a few days afterwards, a favourable south wind blew, when the water increased, and rose to the point from which it had fallen. In a little time large numbers of boats were seen coming from the mouth of the river, to offer assistance in towing the junk in from the sea.

We had approached a considerable distance towards the shore before we saw the land, it being almost on a level with the sea. The first objects which we could discern were two small forts; these are situated near the mouth of the river, and within the last few years have been considerably repaired. The natives, who came on board, were rather rude in manners, and poorly clothed. Scarcely had we anchored, when some opium dealers from Teen-tsin came along side; they stated, that in consequence of the heir of the crown having died by opium smoking, very severe edicts had been published against the use of the drug, and that because the difficulty of trading in the article at the city was so great, they had come out to purchase such quantities of it as might be for sale on board our junk.

The entrance of the Pei-ho presents nothing but scenes of wretchedness; and while we thought it would be as dreary as a desert, a little way off it blow, the coast is often cut by numerous tumuli, and by numerous tumuli, the dead. The forts are nothing more than single walls; they evince no signs of fortification. The people of the last English embassy mentioned a detachment of soldiers, whom they believed to ward off any impression made on the astonishment of those ships is always heard unreservedly removed; and thirst after conquest and equitable government. People wondered how the forming influence of the present state of civilizationvernacular kingdom." They rejoiced that Pei-ho was too shallow for English vessels to anchor, or to be mentioned with the 'Divine' who was present, the only person, which could proceed upon this remark greatly to allay the fears: which, however, there are still those barbarians, that would never make an alliance if the Celestial Empire were not be the least cause.
of wretchedness; and the whole adjacent country seemed to be as dreary as a desert. While the southern winds blow, the coast is often overflowed to a considerable extent; and the country more inland affords very little to attract attention, being diversified only by stacks of salt, and by numerous tumuli which mark the abodes of the dead. The forts are nearly square, and are surrounded by single walls; they evince very little advance in the art of fortification. The people told me, that when the vessels of the last English embassy were anchored off the Pei-ho, a detachment of soldiers—infantry and cavalry—was sent hither to ward off any attack that might be made. The impression made on the minds of the people by the appearance of those ships is still very perceptible. I frequently heard unrestrained remarks concerning barbarian fierceness and thirst after conquest, mixed with eulogiums on the equitable government of the English at Singapore. The people wondered how a few barbarians, without the transforming influence of the Celestial Empire, could arrive at a state of civilization very little inferior to that of "the middle kingdom." They rejoiced that the water at the bar of the Pei-ho was too shallow to afford a passage for men-of-war (which, however, is not the case; when the south wind prevails, there is water enough for ships of the largest class); and that its course was too rapid to allow the English vessels to ascend the river. While these things were mentioned with exultation, it was remarked by one who was present, that the barbarians had "fire-ships," which could proceed up the river without the aid of trackers; this remark greatly astonished them, and excited their fears: which, however, were quieted when I assured them that those barbarians, as they called them, though valiant, would never make an attack unless provoked, and that, if the Celestial Empire never provoked them, there would not be the least cause to fear.
Though our visitors here were numerous, they cared very little about me, and treated me in the same manner as they did the other passengers. Most of the inhabitants, who reside near the shore, are poor fishermen; their food consists, almost exclusively, of Barbadoes millet, boiled like rice, and mixed with water in various proportions, according to the circumstances of the individuals;—if they are rich, the quantity of water is small; if poor, as is usually the case, the quantity is large. They eat with astonishing rapidity, cramming their mouths full of millet and vegetables, if they are fortunate enough to obtain any of the latter. Most of the inhabitants live in this way; and only a few persons who are wealthy, and the settlers from Keangnan, Fukheen, and Canton provinces, enjoy the luxury of rice. In a district so sterile as this, the poor inhabitants labour hard and to little purpose, in trying to obtain from the productions of the soil the means of subsistence.

The village of Ta-koo, near which we anchored, is a fair specimen of the architecture along the banks of the Pei-ho; and it is only on the banks of the river, throughout these dreary regions, that the people fix their dwellings. The houses are generally low and square, with high walls towards the streets; they are well adapted to keep out the piercing cold of winter, but are constructed with little regard to convenience. The houses of all the inhabitants, however rich, are built of mud, excepting only those of the mandarins, which are of brick. The hovels of the poor have but one room, which is, at the same time, their dormitory, kitchen, and parlour. In these mean abodes, which, to keep them warm, are stopped up at all points, the people pass the dreary days of winter; and often with no other prospect than that of starving. Their chief enjoyment is the pipe. Rich individuals, to relieve the pressing wants of the populace, sometimes give them small quantities of warm millet; and the emperor, to protect them against the inclemency of the season, has given them a few jackets. I had no occasion to use those who seemed to be rude, but lively and quarrelsome beings is very great, and expostulation by the cold of winter increases their population, wages are low, and the articles for domestic wants in other districts and provinces of life, even such as silver, the chief article of commerce, is sent thither from the other.

Some mandarins from their rank and the extent of their business, had given us permission to proceed, and whether we, however, had to be boarded or not a day was occupied in preparations.

Before we left this vessel, both passengers of our company to intimate the favour of Mme. de Chlore made to her. I replied: "I do not know if I have seen her ever since last year; it is strange that she should take this offering from me." "You must take care that you will not be mistaken," "It is better," said, "considering whatever is intended, and it is really a goddess, if that is what you prefer; if she has any being, it is merely an image, be
inclemency of the season, compassionately bestows on them a few jackets. I had much conversation with these people, who seemed to be rude but hardy, poor but cheerful, and lively but quarrelsome. The number of these wretched beings is very great, and many, it is said, perish annually by the cold of winter. On account of this overflowing population, wages are low, and provisions dear; most of the articles for domestic consumption are brought from other districts and provinces; hence many of the necessary of life, even such as fuel, are sold at an enormous price. It is happy for this barren region that it is situated in the vicinity of the capital; and that large quantities of silver, the chief article of exportation, are constantly flowing thither from the other parts of the empire.

Some mandarins from Ta-koo came on board our junk; their rank and the extent of their authority were announced to us by a herald who preceded them. They came to give us permission to proceed up the river; this permission, however, had to be bought by presents, and more than half a day was occupied in making the bargain.

Before we left this place, I gave a public dinner to all on board, both passengers and sailors. This induced one of their company to intimate to me, that, in order to conciliate the favour of Ma-tseo-po, some offerings should be made to her. I replied, “Never, since I came on board, have I seen her even taste of the offerings made to her; it is strange that she should be so in want, as to need any offerings from me.” “But,” answered the man, “the sailors will take care that nothing of what she refuses is lost.” “It is better,” said I, “to give directly to the sailors, whatever is intended for them; and let Ma-tseo-po, if she is really a goddess, feed on ambrosia, and not upon the base spirits and food which you usually place before her; if she has any being, let her provide for herself; if she is merely an image, better throw her idol with its satellites
into the sea, than have them here to encumber the junk."

"These are barbarian notions," rejoined my antagonist,

"which are so deeply rooted in your fierce breast, as to lead you to trample on the laws of the Celestial Empire."

"Barbarian reasoning is conclusive reasoning," I again replied; "if you are afraid to throw the idol into the waves, I will do it, and abide the consequences. You have heard the truth, that there is only one God, even as there is only one sun in the firmament. Without his mercy, inevitable punishment will overtake you, for having defied his authority, and given yourself up to the service of dumb idols; reform, or you are lost!" The man was silenced and confounded, and only replied, "Let the sailors feast, and Ma-tsoo-po hunger."

As soon as we were again ready to proceed, about thirty men came on board to assist in towing the junk; they were very thinly clothed, and seemed to be in great want; some dry rice that was given to them they devoured with inexpressible delight. When there was not wind sufficient to move the junk, these men, joined by some of our sailors, towed her along against the rapid stream; for the Pei-ho has no regular tides, but constantly flows into the sea with more or less rapidity. During the ebb tide, when there was not water enough to enable us to proceed, we stopped, and went on shore.

The large and numerous stacks of salt along the river, especially at Teen-tsin, cannot fail to arrest the attention of strangers. The quantity is very great, and seems sufficient to supply the whole empire; it has been accumulating during the reign of five emperors; and it still continues to accumulate. This salt is formed in vats near the sea shore; from thence it is transported to the neighbourhood of Ta-koo, where it is compactly piled up on hillocks of mud, and covered with bamboo mattings; in this situation it remains for some time, when it is finally put into bags and carried to Teen-tsin, and kept before it can be sold. Moreover, constantly employed in turning thousands of persons gain a livelihood; they become very rich: the principal trade is rice.

Along the banks of the river, hamlets, and all are built the same style as at Ta-koo. The pulse, and turnips, were systematically cultivated and to enjoy more liberty here. Even the very poorest of their gait, and compelled them. The young and rising power of adequate. The was, rather a The implements of husbandry. Though this country has been for many centuries, the roads of the few, and in some places, the traveller can scarcely be My attention was frequently drawn to the doors of many houses. The of spirituous liquors, especially rice grain, was very general, with the consequences, very prevalent; and no wine is extracted from it abundantly on the banks of the river. The choicest fruit of the country, pears, are found here numerous, and in quality of Europe.
carried to Teen-tsin, and kept for a great number of years, before it can be sold. More than eight hundred boats are constantly employed in transporting this article; and thousands of persons gain a livelihood by it, some of whom become very rich: the principal salt merchants, it is said, are the richest persons in the empire.

Along the banks of the Pei-ho are many villages and hamlets, and all are built of the same material and in the same style as at Ta-koo. Large fields of Barbadoes millet, pulse, and turnips, were seen in the neighbourhood; these were carefully cultivated and watered by women, who seem to enjoy more liberty here than in the southern provinces. Even the very poorest of them were well dressed; but their feet were much cramped, which gave them a hobbling gait, and compelled them to use sticks when they walked. The young and rising population seemed to be very great. The ass, here rather a small and meagre animal, is the principal beast employed in the cultivation of the soil. The implements of husbandry are very simple, and even rude. Though this country has been inhabited for a great many centuries, the roads for their miserable carriages are few, and in some places even a foot-path for a lonely traveller can scarcely be found.

My attention was frequently attracted by the inscription Tseu-teen, "wine-tavern," which was written over the doors of many houses. Upon inquiry I found that the use of spirituous liquors, especially that distilled from suh-leang grain, was very general, and intemperance, with its usual consequences, very prevalent. It is rather surprising that no wine is extracted from the excellent grapes which grow abundantly on the banks of the Pei-ho, and constitute the choicest fruit of the country. Other fruits, such as apples and pears, are found here, though in kind they are not so numerous, and in quality are by no means so good as those of Europe.
now come; as a mission of mercy, to relieve the sufferings of a loss of life, and even, in some cases, the misery entailed on the foe, whose lives have been sacrificed in a great cause, the Chinese being always ready to remain concealed at a place of such danger. The mandarins—it was expected would interfere. Almost friendly towards us, and usually ready to supply us with what resources, without any passports, and at a very low price. For the sake of the city, and its inhabitants, I was determined to make an effort. Considerations of this kind were in every way reasonable conjecture, and the acting upon them, the accomplishment of the great schemes, which had been so long talked of and so long prepared for. Certainly, I was not in a pressed state of affairs, and I was determined to take the fullest advantage of the opportunity that presented itself.

Naturally timid, and with a strong sense of the danger of my position, I was deeply impressed by the thought of the necessity of confiding my affairs to the guidance of Divine aid, and of the Saviour's power and grace. In the hour of need, I was resolved to trust in the shadow of his wings for refuge, and in the promises of his holy word for strength. The conviction of my heart, that the hope of the Lord will be revealed, and that God will be glorified in the salvation of the world, gave me strength and courage. I was determined to trust in the Lord, and to rely on his power and wisdom. I was determined to trust in the Lord, and to rely on his power and wisdom. I was determined to trust in the Lord, and to rely on his power and wisdom.
now come; as a missionary, anxious to promote the welfare of my fellow-creatures, and more willing to be sacrificed in a great cause, than to remain an idle spectator of the misery entailed on China by idolatry, I could not remain concealed at a place where there are so many mandarins—it was expected that the local authorities would interfere. Almost friendless, with small pecuniary resources, without any personal knowledge of the country and its inhabitants, I was forced to prepare for the worst. Considerations of this kind, accompanied by the most reasonable conjecture, that I could do nothing for the accomplishment of the great enterprise, would have intimidated and dispirited me, if a power from on High had not continually and graciously upheld and strengthened me. Naturally timid, and without talent and resources in myself, yet by Divine aid, and by that alone, I was foremost in times of danger, and to such a degree, that the Chinese sailors would often call me a bravado.

Fully persuaded that I was not prompted by self-interest and vain-glory, but by a sense of duty as a missionary, and deeply impressed by the greatness and all-sufficiency of the Saviour's power and gracious assistance enjoyed in former days, I grounded my hope of security on protection under the shadow of his wings, and my expectation of success on the promises of his holy word. It has long been the firm conviction of my heart, that in these latter days the glory of the Lord will be revealed to China; and that, the dragon being dethroned, Christ will be the sole king and object of adoration throughout this extensive empire. This lively hope of China's speedy deliverance from the thraldom of Satan by the hand of our great Lord, Jesus Christ—the King of kings, to whom all nations, even China, are given as an inheritance, constantly prompts me to action, and makes me willing rather to perish in the attempt of carrying the gospel to China, than to wait quietly on the frontiers,
deterred by the numerous obstacles which seem to forbid an entrance into the country.

I am fully aware that I shall be stigmatized as a headstrong enthusiast, an unprincipled rambler, who rashly sallies forth, without waiting for any indications of divine providence, without first seeing the door opened by the hand of the Lord; as one fond of novelty, anxious to have a name, fickle in his purposes, who leaves a promising field, and restlessly hurries away to another; all of whose endeavours will not only prove useless, but will actually impede the progress of the Saviour’s cause. I shall not be very anxious to vindicate myself against such charges, though some of them are very well founded, until the result of my labours shall be made known to my accusers. I have weighed the arguments for and against the course I am endeavouring to pursue, and have formed the resolution to publish the gospel to the inhabitants of China Proper, in all the ways, and by all the means, which the Lord our God appoints in his word and by his providence; to persevere in the most indefatigable manner so long as there remains any hope of success; and rather to be blotted out from the list of mortals, than to behold with indifference the uncontrolled triumph of Satan over the Chinese. Yet still I am not ignorant of my own nothingness, nor of the formidable obstacles which, on every side, shut up the way and impede our progress; and I can only say, “Lord, here I am, use me according to thy holy pleasure.”

Should any individuals be prompted to extol my conduct, I would meet and repel such commendation by my thorough consciousness of possessing not the least merit; let such persons, rather than thus vainly spend their breath, come forth, and join in the holy cause with zeal and wisdom superior to any who have gone before them; the field is wide, the harvest truly great, and the labourers are few. Egotism, obtrusive monster! lurks through these pages;
it is my sincere wish, therefore, to be completely swallowed up in the Lord’s great work, and to labour unknown and disregarded, cherishing the joyful hope that my reward is in heaven, and my name, though a very unworthy one, written in “the book of life.” I return to my detail.

In the afternoon, September 22d, we passed a grove, on the left bank of the river Pei-ho, which is said to have been visited by the Emperor Keen-lung. It contains a few houses, but is at present a mere jungle. On the opposite bank we observed a shop, having a sign with this inscription, written in large capitals, *Idols and Budhas of all descriptions newly made and repaired.* This sign told plainly the condition of the people around me, and called forth earnest intercession on their behalf.