

# ON THE TRAIL OF THE AMERICAN MISSIONARY

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS

This Distinguished American Journalist Is Traveling Around the World for the Purpose of Investigating the American Foreign Missionary from a Purely Disinterested, Secular and Non-Sectarian Standpoint. Illustrated with Drawings and from Photographs.

## CRITICISM OF MISSIONS RAMPANT IN PORT CITIES

Tientsin, China.—Here is the place to come to learn "the other side" of foreign missions. This city and Shanghai are doubtless the two greatest centers of anti-missionary sentiment in the world. The criticisms of missions and missionaries most commonly heard have to do with China and with China's capital. Three out of four stories reflecting upon missions are located in China, and two out of three are likely to concern Peking and its neighborhood.

Now, that means Tientsin. The foreign population of Peking is very small, including few persons besides legationnaires and missionaries. But Tientsin, the port of Peking and of North China, has the second largest foreign population in the empire. It is a city of imposing European buildings, of foreign stores, of modern streets and homes, of clubs and churches—in short, it is a bit of the west which greets a traveler like an oasis in the desert of the east.

**A Missionary Charged with Graft.**  
On the ship between Chefoo and Tientsin I was talking over a variety of far eastern topics with a British merchant who had lived for more than 20 years in Tientsin. He was plainly a gentleman, a man of family, of breeding and social standing, and in all respects his views had been temperate. Without his knowing my interest in the subject, the conversation drifted to missionaries. "Really, some one should look into this missionary business. It is not what people at home think it is. You go up to Peking, and you will find the missionaries living in compounds as big as legations. And during the Boxer troubles they looted frightfully."

"There was one missionary, a Mr. Blank, who was made interpreter to a British punitive expedition, with the honorary rank of second lieutenant. At every village he would demand a large sum of money, in the name of the commanding officer, which he would quietly pocket himself. At length word of this reached the British authorities, and the missionary was asked for an explanation. He flatly denied everything. Then he was given his choice of standing a fair court-martial, with the assurance that he would be shot if found guilty, or of being deprived of his rank and of being dismissed from the service in

the wisest way would be for the missionaries openly to disavow responsibility for the course of all established bona fide members of legitimate missions; and hospitably to meet honest criticism with frank explanations and with respect for the motives of the critics; instead of maintaining an attitude of silence, seclusion and self-sufficiency. In the matter of the gift that exists between the foreign community and the missionaries, the latter appear to be more blameworthy than the former, for it is their business to be friendly with all men and to guard the good reputation of their work. Yet in truth they sometimes seem the more censorious of the two. Some of the sweeping assertions of the missionaries concerning the evil lives of non-missionary foreigners are as unfounded as many of the criticisms which the latter make of the missionaries. Investigation reveals the fact that in Tientsin more effort is put forth in behalf of the moral welfare of the Anglo-Saxon young men and for the reclamation of those who have strayed, by the non-missionary residents than by the missionaries themselves.

### Where the Missionaries Are at Fault.

An interested critic could probably prove the charges of narrowness, exclusiveness and censoriousness against many members of the missionary body here, admitting the noteworthy exceptions. All this might be comprehended within the phrase, general unfitness for missionary work in a port city. It is a singular lack of perception on the part of the mission boards in America and Europe which often puts in the open ports missionaries who by social gifts, intellectual equipment and by temperament are least likely to do the most effective work there, both among the natives and the foreigners. No end of misunderstanding and misrepresentation would be escaped by a wiser method on the part of the boards.

The frequently expressed policy of the missionaries, that they have come to work for the heathen and not for Europeans, is mistaken to the point of absurdity and folly, as in a case I ran across here. The best single missionary enterprise in Tientsin is the work of the Young Men's Christian association in the Chinese city proper. It is almost entirely self-supporting, so

Troubles in the mission have been almost constant, and now former members of the mission are out in a public circular, which they are sending widely to America, making various charges against the mission and its head. It is reported that the American consul general is taking steps to require Mr. Houlding to provide return passage to America for his missionaries, since a number of them have become a charge on the consulate. For it appears, according to this circular, that of the 69 missionaries brought out, three have died and 28 have left the mission in dissatisfaction. Most of these have remained in China, in connection with other missions; some have gone into business here, and some have returned to America.

The circular charges Mr. Houlding with lack of proper qualifications for leadership, with denying the missionaries a voice in the management of the mission; with running a sort of absolute monarchy, all the property being in his own name; and with making representations concerning the work which are not borne out by the facts. The signers of the circular say that they have made the mildest possible presentation of the real situation, and they hint at more serious evils. Some of the many stories current here are ludicrous. One member of the mission was British, and liked his cup of afternoon tea. The mission thought this a wicked and sinful indulgence. When he persisted in the practice, they held a mission prayer meeting over him, to show him the evil of his course! Another member was similarly disciplined for being too fond of peanuts! All this while grave evils were existing in the conduct of the mission.

### Stranded Missionaries.

One hears many stories in the east concerning independent missions, without substantial and responsible bodies back of them at home. Especially are tales told of the "faith" missions. Zealous and unqualified enthusiasts come out on "faith," and the other missionaries and foreigners have to support them to keep them from starving, until they can secure work or provision is made for their return to America. I have repeatedly been told instances of this sort concerning a Scandinavian mission whose people come chiefly from Minnesota. Some of the independent missionaries who do manage to get along, are obliged to give a large part of their time to cultivating their American constituency.

These missionaries who come out with no other equipment than enthusiasm make strange blunders. One party of Swedes, whose advent is a pronounced memory in missionary circles, bore each a musical instrument. They would play and sing hymns along the street, to the entertainment of the Chinese. The young women wrote home glowing accounts of the crowds they gathered by their street meetings, not realizing at all that in China such performances as theirs are always attributed only to evil characters and the basest of motives. Instead of doing good, they actually did no harm.

Akin to these, are the religious faddists who enter the foreign fields, representing some special tenet or doctrine. These make no special effort to reach the genuine heathen, but confine themselves to proselyting among the native Christians. Still easier mission work is that done by a holiness sect in America, which publishes a paper called "The Gospel Trumpet." It appeals for funds to evangelize the heathen, and then spends the money for sending copies of the paper to missionaries of the various denominations, already on the field. Thus, every missionary in Japan receives "The Gospel Trumpet," and none, so far as I could learn, ever reads it.

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### GREAT FEAT OF MEMORY.

Zangwill Had at Command All Famous Trials of History.

As an indication of the quality of Zangwill's mental processes I may relate an incident that occurred while we were producing "The Children of the Ghetto." Mr. Zangwill was seated in my office, and we were going over some of the details of the play. It was the day that Labor, intimately connected with the Dreyfus case in Paris, was assassinated. Knowing that Zangwill had intimate knowledge of the case, a New York newspaper sent a representative up to see him. The reporter entered, and after conveying the news, said:

"Mr. Zangwill, we want from you a history of all the famous trials you can call to mind for our paper."

"Indeed?" said Mr. Zangwill; "I think I can prepare that for you. Come to see me in three or four days and I will have it ready."

"We want it now," objected the newspaper man. "We want to print it in our paper to-morrow morning."

"But surely you don't expect me to quote you dates and facts out of my mind on the spur of the moment, do you?" asked Mr. Zangwill in astonishment. "Such a thing is out of reason."

"I'm sorry, but it's the only way we can make use of it," replied the newspaper man, firmly Mr. Zangwill thought a moment, and then asked if he could have my stenographer for a short time. He was called in, and Zangwill dictated to him, then and there, a two-column resume of all the famous trials of history from Socrates down, and quoted every important date and historical feature connected with each.—The Bohemian.

### GIFT NOT ALL A GIFT.

Generosity That Was Purely the Result of Accident.

A missionary bishop told this story about F. Marion Crawford, the famous novelist:

"Mr. Crawford went to school," he said, "in Concord, and one day he was taken to call at a Concord clergyman's."

"The clergyman had a missionary box on his drawing room table, and, time hanging heavily on the boy's hands, he amused himself with trying whether a silver dollar—it was all the money he had in the world, and he had converted it into that gigantic coin for safety—would go into the slit in the box's top."

"It was a close fit, but unfortunately it did go, and the coin slipped out of the missionary's fingers. There was a terrible crash of silver falling among the coppers—and then the boy, as the novelists say, 'knew no more.'"

"When he came to himself he found the clergyman and his family in raptures over his generosity."

### CHILDREN TORTURED.

Girl Had Running Sores from Eczema—Boy Tortured by Poison Oak—Both Cured by Cuticura.

"Last year, after having my little girl treated by a very prominent physician for an obstinate case of eczema, I resorted to the Cuticura Remedies, and was so well pleased with the almost instantaneous relief afforded that we discarded the physician's prescription and relied entirely on the Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, and Cuticura Pills. When we commenced with the Cuticura Remedies her feet and limbs were covered with running sores. In about six weeks we had her completely well, and there has been no recurrence of the trouble."

"In July of this year a little boy in our family poisoned his hands and arms with poison oak, and in twenty-four hours his hands and arms were a mass of torturing sores. We used only the Cuticura Remedies, and in about three weeks his hands and arms healed up. Mrs. Lizzie Vincent Thomas, Fairmont, Walden's Ridge Tenn., Oct. 13, 1905."

### She Experimented.

A little girl of five was taken to church one Sunday, and listened with unexpected attention to the sermon, which graphically told the story of the stilling of the tempest on the Sea of Galilee, and how Christ walked on the waves. In the afternoon her mother missed her and began an anxious search of the house. As she neared the bathroom she heard sounds of splashing, and hurried to the door to behold a small, excited face peering over the rim of the big white tub, and to hear a small, excited voice exclaim: "Say, mamma, this walking on the water is quite a trick."

### Why He Was Jolly.

Bidder met Kidder, and Kidder was just bubbling with good humor. "What are you feeling so uncommon jolly over?" said Bidder. "Why, my best girl went and got married yesterday," said Kidder, slapping Bidder on the back. "Seems to me that's about the last thing for a chap to feel jolly over," said Bidder.

"What!" said Kidder. "It was me she went and got married to!"

And so the cigars were on Bidder.—Browning's Magazine.

### Great Discovery Announced.

Sir William Crookes, as a result of his own researches and the experiments of Professors Krowalski and Mosecki, of Freiburg university, has discovered a process of extracting nitric acid from the atmosphere. The process is available for commercial, industrial and agricultural purposes, and is expected to revolutionize the nitrate industry and the world's food problem.

### Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury.

Mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is too great to be possibly repaired. Do not get into the habit of buying cheap ointments, as they are often adulterated with mercury, and it is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood, destroying its purity, and thus causing Catarrh of the mucous surfaces. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co., Sole and Proprietors. Sold by Druggists. Price, 75c per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

### A Knock.

"Jimmy," said the father, "there's a rip in your bathing suit. Go and sew it up."

"But papa," growled the boy, "mother will sew it for me."

"Never mind. I want you to learn to sew yourself. For," said the father, "some day you will get married, and then you won't have any mother—you will only have a wife."

### Hurting Eyes.

Are relieved of all pain and soreness without pain in one day by Leonard's Golden Eye Lotion. Cools, heals and strengthens weak eyes. Stops watering, cures inflammation at once. Be firm in demanding "Leonard's"—it makes strong eyes. Guaranteed or money refunded. Druggists sell it at 25 cts. or forwarded prepaid on receipt of price by S. B. Leonard & Co., Tampa, Fla.

### Negro's Valuable Head.

A Kentucky negro earns double wages as a hodcarrier, because he is able to do the work of two men. He carries from 40 to 50 bricks at a time. He places the bricks upon a board which he balances upon his head as he climbs to the tops of high buildings.

### Free if It Fails.

WILKINSON'S HEADACHE POW-DERS—A Most Wonderful, Certain and Harmless Remedy for all forms of Headache and Neuralgia. Guaranteed or money refunded. Contains No Morphine, Alcohol or other harmful ingredients. 25 cents per package at any good druggist or by mail, postage prepaid. Take no substitute. Quin-Sharpe Drug Co., Vicksburg, Miss.

Always say a kind word when you can, if only that it may come in with singular opportuneness.—Helps.

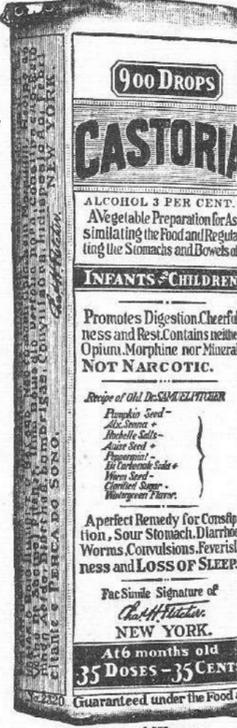
Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. A bottle.

Fault-finding women frequently step on their own corns.

All men want to be able to work, but all men do not want to work.

## Physicians Recommend Castoria

CASTORIA has met with pronounced favor on the part of physicians, pharmaceutical societies and medical authorities. It is used by physicians with results most gratifying. The extended use of Castoria is unquestionably the result of three facts: *First*—The indisputable evidence that it is harmless; *Second*—That it not only allays stomach pains and quiets the nerves, but assimilates the food; *Third*—It is an agreeable and perfect substitute for Castor Oil. It is absolutely safe. It does not contain any Opium, Morphine, or other narcotic and does not stupefy. It is unlike Soothing Syrups, Bateman's Drops, Godfrey's Cordial, etc. This is a good deal for a Medical Journal to say. Our duty, however, is to expose danger and record the means of advancing health. The day for poisoning innocent children through greed or ignorance ought to end. To our knowledge, Castoria is a remedy which produces composure and health, by regulating the system—not by stupefying it—and our readers are entitled to the information.—Hall's Journal of Health.



### Letters from Prominent Physicians addressed to Chas. H. Fletcher.

Dr. B. Halstead Scott, of Chicago, Ill., says: "I have prescribed your Castoria often for infants during my practice, and find it very satisfactory." Dr. William Belmont, of Cleveland, Ohio, says: "Your Castoria stands first in its class. In my thirty years of practice I can say I never have found anything that so filled the place."

Dr. J. H. Taft, of Brooklyn, N. Y., says: "I have used your Castoria and found it an excellent remedy in my household and private practice for many years. The formula is excellent."

Dr. R. J. Hamlen, of Detroit, Mich., says: "I prescribe your Castoria extensively, as I have never found anything to equal it for children's troubles. I am aware that there are imitations in the field, but I always see that my patients get Fletcher's."

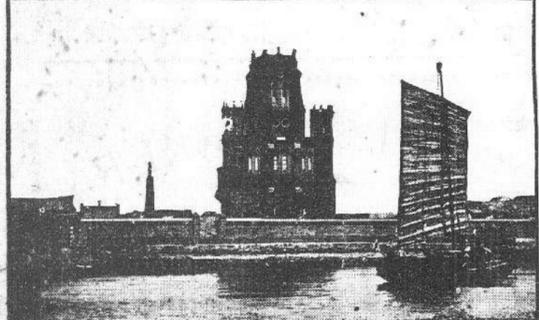
Dr. Wm. J. McCrann, of Omaha, Neb., says: "As the father of thirteen children I certainly know something about your great medicine, and aside from my own family experience I have in my years of practice found Castoria a popular and efficient remedy in almost every home."

Dr. J. R. Clausen, of Philadelphia, Pa., says: "The name that your Castoria has made for itself in the tens of thousands of homes blessed by the presence of children, scarcely needs to be supplemented by the endorsement of the medical profession, but I, for one, most heartily endorse it and believe it an excellent remedy."

Dr. R. M. Ward, of Kansas City, Mo., says: "Physicians generally do not prescribe proprietary preparations, but in the case of Castoria my experience, like that of many other physicians, has taught me to make an exception. I prescribe your Castoria in my practice because I have found it to be a thoroughly reliable remedy for children's complaints. Any physician who has raised a family, as I have, will join me in heartiest recommendation of Castoria."

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Ruins of Roman Catholic Cathedral, Tien Tsin, Twice Destroyed by Chinese.

ignominy. He chose the latter, thus practically confessing his guilt. Missionaries all say: "Poor Mr. Blank!" and look upon him as a martyr; although the board that employed him took a different view of the matter, and discharged him. He lives in Tientsin to-day, and is a rich man."

### Trouble Through Ex-Missionaries.

Now this attitude of many English-speaking residents of the east toward missions means something. It is not a sufficient answer to fling charges, as missionary supporters commonly do, at the moral character of the white communities in port cities. The man above quoted is, as has been said, a honorable man of position, and his statements were specific.

In the particular case he cited, an investigation showed that his statements were warranted, except as to the attitude of the missionaries toward the alleged culprit in question. What the merchant said was mildness as compared with what the missionaries said to me. They seem to have a more intimate knowledge of the crookedness of the ex-missionary than others, and they have the additional grievance that he has brought disgrace upon their calling. Similarly, the missionaries went farther than others in condemnation of another notorious character in this city, an ex-missionary now in corporation service, who is commonly alluded to as "the prize coward of the Peking siege," and whose business methods are reputed to be devious.

Of this attitude of the missionaries, apparently, the community is unaware. In its sensitiveness to criticism the missionary body presents a solid front, making no explanations, and the world does not know that the black sheep have been cast out of the flock. It appears that this place, like other port cities, contains a number of ex-missionaries who have been dismissed from board service, or who have of their own will retired to enter business. There is nothing dishonorable in the latter practice, although it is a clear violation of accepted missionary ethics. The onus of the shortcomings of all these, who are naturally still called "missionaries," attaches to the missionary body, the members of which, I have been repeatedly assured, look with utmost disfavor upon the entrance of any one of their number into money-making pursuits.

greatly does it command the respect of eminent Chinese, the vicerey himself being among the contributors. All the work, including the home of the missionary, is in a big Chinese residence, with upwards of a hundred rooms. A school which has government recognition and approval is maintained, as well as a library and an athletic department. Some months ago the wife of the secretary was taken suddenly and dangerously ill. A messenger was hastily dispatched to a physician in the foreign concessions, who reported himself busy. (The journey by night into the center of the native city is not a pleasant one.) A missionary physician who, like all the other missionaries, lives outside the native city, sent back word, when appealed to: "I came to treat the Chinese, and I cannot take other patients."

So after this experience, which might have proved fatal to his wife, the association secretary, to avoid its repetition, is obliged to consider the possibility of surrendering his home amid the Chinese, where he is doing notable work, and of taking up his residence in the foreign settlement. Probably such an extreme instance as this of the contention of the missionary, that he came to work for natives and not for foreigners, cannot be duplicated. But it is nevertheless significant.

### A Missionary Rebellion.

Since this article is dealing with missionary shortcomings, it is proper to tell the story of a missionary rebellion which has its focus in Tientsin.

In the southern part of this province is an independent undertaking called the "South Chihlin mission," begun ten years ago by Rev. H. W. Houlding, an American Congregationalist. The mission is not related to any church or denomination, its support coming chiefly from independent city missions and from Congregational churches in the west and middle west of the United States. Mr. Houlding, it appears, has the gift of glowingly portraying China's needs and last year he received more than \$20,000 for the work of his mission. During the past eight years he has brought out 69 adult missionaries, most of them coming at their own expense and putting all their worldly possessions into a common mission fund, from which they could never withdraw them.

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