

ON THE TRAIL OF THE AMERICAN MISSIONARY

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS

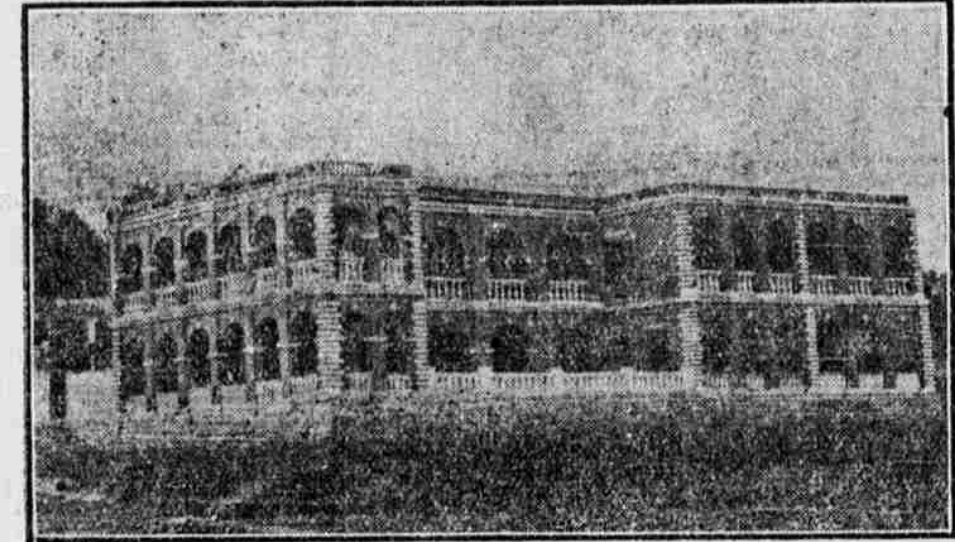
This Distinguished American Journalist is Traveling Around the World for the Purpose of Investigating the American Foreign Missionary from a Purely Disinterested, Secular and Non-Sectarian Standpoint. Illustrated with Drawings and from Photographs.

China Awake, Is Showing to the World Her Power

Shanghai, China.—Whoever gets a square look at the real China knows that he has seen the theater and actors of great events that are imminent and impending. The importance, the far-reaching influence and the amazing rapidity of the transformation now taking place in this country will be learned with surprise one day by the big, uncaring world outside. In the meantime, it is the office of the present investigator to show how Christian missions have become wrought into every phase of Chinese life, as a shaping influence.

Next to the relation between education and missions must be mentioned medical missions, that supreme proof of the altruism of the west with respect to the east. Here again the magnitude of the material altogether precludes anything like a systematic presentation of the subject, for medical missions are found in every part of China, from port cities to remote interior towns, placing the healing arts of the west at the service of the suffering east, and thus winning the confidence, respect and admiration of the natives.

The Priestess' Severed Hand.
An interesting story of contrast is told in connection with the new American Baptist hospital at Hanyang. Where the imposing modern structure of gray stone now rises, outside the city wall, there was formerly a little



United States Consulate at Amoy, China, owned outright by the United States Government.

temple of medicine, attended by a lone priestess. But the temple languished, and to win the favor of the idol and the people the priestess with the own right hand severed her left hand at the wrist. Now she wears the withered hand as an amulet around her neck. Nevertheless her little temple of superstition has given way to a great temple of healing, where a skilled missionary doctor ministers to the sick of that toiling ancient city.

The magnitude of some of these mission hospitals is beyond the grasp of the westerner who thinks that all big things are near at hand. Not one tourist in 10,000 who touches Shanghai knows that out by the west gate of the city is the Woman's Union hospital, in charge of Dr. Elizabeth Reifnyder, of Pennsylvania, which last year treated more than 60,000 patients, preaching to them all, as well as to the crowds of relatives and friends who accompanied them. St. Luke's hospital, of the Protestant Episcopal mission, in the same city, is in quite the same class with it, and both are institutions of which any progressive city in Christendom would be proud. Canton, the Chicago or New York of China, has two notable medical institutions in the Canton Medical college and the E. A. Hackett Medical College for Women. Both have hospitals attached, and the latter, in care of Dr. Mary H. Fulton, the only one of the sort in the empire, has received the highest official and public honors. Everywhere I went in China I found the missionary doctor, engaged in manifestly noble work, and earning the praise of all classes.

A Christian Newspaper for China.
Before I had got as far south as Shanghai the conviction had forced itself upon me that one of the most potent agencies that could be employed by the missionaries, in the present state of this nation's development, would be a liberal daily newspaper, actually presenting the whole world's news, and at the same time maintaining a broadly progressive and Christian attitude. There are men already on the field, with a mastery of the language, who are equal to this task. When I reached Shanghai, I found the great Dr. Timothy Richards, general secretary of the Christian Literature society, bubbling over with the same project. The scheme is rather outside the scope of any one board, yet it should not be difficult of realization.

Whatever may be the future of the old-fashioned tract, the place of literature in the modernization and Christianization of China is obviously of tremendous importance. The whole nation is giving attention to reading. The work of the Christian Literature society has been vastly use-

ful. The various mission presses, notably the famous Presbyterian Mission Press, Shanghai, have been incalculably influential.

An instance of the way Christian literature is being read by all classes is shown by the wide circulation of Halleck's Almanac, of which this year more than 100,000 copies were purchased by individual Chinese. It is an almanac somewhat after the fashion of Franklin's "Poor Richard's Almanac," although avowedly used for purposes of Christian propaganda. I watched a missionary selling these in an inland city, and his supply—so large that it took both himself and an assistant to carry it—was soon exhausted. In her sudden thirst for new knowledge, China finds herself purchasing by the myriad the books prepared by missionaries.

Making Shoes Out of Bibles.
In the lavish free distribution of all this literature, it is inevitable that abuses arise: from several widely-separated missionaries I have heard the complaint that portions of the Bible are being used to make soles for Chinese shoes, since they can be purchased more cheaply than common paper. The donors to the Bible societies never intended to help Chinese soles after this fashion. I am assured by the agent of the American Bible society for China that, speaking only for his own society, this abuse has

never been charged against any of his more than 100 colporteurs, who are not paid by commission, which is the root of the evil. Less than one per cent. of the total annual circulation of more than half a million copies is given away; the cheapest New Testaments and gospel portions, on native paper, are sold at one-third the cost of manufacture. Whatever evils exist in connection with the distribution of the Bible in China will probably be corrected in connection with the forthcoming Robert Morrison centennial in Shanghai.

The great gathering, convening April 25-May 5, which is the event to which all missionary eyes are turned, promises to be a memorable milestone in Missionary history. Committees of experts have been at work for 12 months preparing deliverances upon all the big problems of Chinese missions. At this time the three committees which have been at work upon the new translations of the Bible, a monumental undertaking, will offer the fruits of their labors. These versions will be High Wenli, Easy Wenli and Mandarin, and they should bring to a consummation a hundred years of Bible translation in China.

The Biggest Blunder of Missions.
This Shanghai conference will give a decided impetus to the union of all missionary work. The biggest blunder of the missionary movement has been perpetuation of foreign denominational lines on the mission field. As the "Shanghai Mercury" recently said, in an editorial upon "Chinese Christianity": "If it depended upon the Chinese vote, the Christians would all unite together in one National Chinese church, without any of the 'isms' of the west, which ought not to be imposed on them and which mayhap they will one day cast off."

A rather careful inquiry among leading native Christians reveals a definite tendency toward the assertion of Chinese nationalism in the native churches. This nowhere assumes the proportions or the animus so marked in Japan, but the "independence movement" is a real factor in the Chinese missionary situation. The foreign workers seem well aware of it and hospitable toward it, since the missionary is not wholly successful until he has made himself unnecessary. The number of self-supporting Chinese churches is quite considerable, and a few are self-governing. They are undoubtedly more in favor with the people generally than foreign-manned and foreign-maintained churches. So earnest are many native Christians in this direction that they have organized a missionary society of their own, to open Christian work in hitherto untouched Chinese villages.

While on the subject of union and comity, frank criticism must be made of some of the smaller and rather "peculiar" American sects, which, like many independent missionaries, plant their enterprises under the shadow of long established missions and steal away the converts of the latter. This sort of proselyting is not uncommon on the mission field on the part of these smaller bodies, although by all standards it is dishonorable. Givers to foreign missions should assure themselves that the work they support is not of this sort. There is small excuse for these new undertakings going to port cities, when there are thousands of interior cities and towns where not a single missionary has ever gone.

Big Feet Becoming Fashionable.
The disproportion in which many matters Chinese have been viewed in the occident is illustrated by the foot-binding practice. Westerners have been led to believe that this has meant constant agony and hardship for the Chinese women and girls, and the subject has been a stock argument in arousing sympathy for the poor Chinese. One is therefore unprepared to find these "lily-footed" women such a merry, lively lot, as they toddle about on the points of their distorted feet. In answer to a remark upon this, an experienced missionary said, "There is no doubt that the suffering incident to foot-binding has been greatly exaggerated." If China had no worse evil than this one she would have small need for missionaries.

Not that the foot-binding is other than a bad practice; it is needless, stupid, hurtful and probably worse than the tight lacing of the white woman. Progressive Chinese and missionaries have all united to break up the custom. The girls of mission schools are always required to unbind their feet; the chief reason why older Christian women do not always do so is because the pain suffered from unbinding would be greater than the inconvenience of the small feet. Peasant women are usually big-footed; so also is the empress dowager and all other Manchu women. The Manchus never followed the practice of binding feet.

So substantial has been the progress made in this reform that the Anti-foot Binding Society, vigorously led by Mrs. A. Little, and served by many European ladies, recently closed out its affairs, after ten years of active campaigning. The fight for big feet is now so far won that its further prosecution is left to the Chinese themselves.

Waging War on Opium.
Everybody knows that Chinese smoke opium; strangers to this land do not realize to what an extent it has permeated the national fabric, so that it has debilitated the physical strength of China and sapped the moral fiber of its countless victims. To an even greater extent than strong drink, opium uplifts its user for usefulness. For years the missionaries have hammered away at this seemingly hopeless subject, Rev. Dr. H. C. DuBoise, of Soochow, being the most tireless and dauntless opponent of opium in the empire.

At last the lethargic nation has been stirred. The Chinese themselves have become concerned at the spectacle of their public men made inefficient by opium, and their newly educated youth rendered powerless by the drug. In an inspection of the great opium smoking resorts in Shanghai, (there are 21,000 in that city alone) I was impressed by the fact that it was the young, the prosperous and the educated who furnished the patronage; the old, the poor, the wrecked were smoking in miserable hovels in obscure streets where a few cash would suffice to satisfy their cravings.

Now China is treating with England to secure a cessation of the importation of the drug into the empire; and England, moved by a militant sentiment at home against this disgraceful situation, is lending a listening ear to China's plea. For its own people the Chinese government has issued an astonishing anti-opium edict, which is already being put into effect. The edict declares "It rouses our deep indignation even to speak of the matter. The court is now ardently determined to make China powerful, and it is incumbent on us to urge the people on to reformation in this respect, that they may realize the evil, pluck this deep-seated cancer, and follow the ways of health and harmony."

"We therefore decree that within the limit of ten years, this harmful 'foreign muck' be fully and entirely cleansed away, and we command the council of state affairs to consider means for the strict prohibition both of opium smoking and of poppy-growing in China itself and report their deliberations to us for approval."

In all this progress the missionaries have borne a foremost, though often unrecognized part. So, too, in elementary institutions the missions have pioneered the way for the new China to care for its own. In Canton alone one may see a school for blind girls, an asylum for the insane, a home for the untalented children of lepers, an orphan asylum and school for children of various ages and conditions.

It is fair to say that the missionary is a school-master of civilization to the Chinese.

(Copyright by Joseph B. Bowles.)

Study in Natural History.
Teacher—What are marsupials?
Boy—Animals which have pouches in their stomachs.
Teacher—What do they have pouches for?
Boy—To crawl into and conceal themselves in when they are pursued.

Dressing on Dimes

Holiday Frocks for Little Girls

(Copyright, 1907, by the Delinctor, N. Y.)

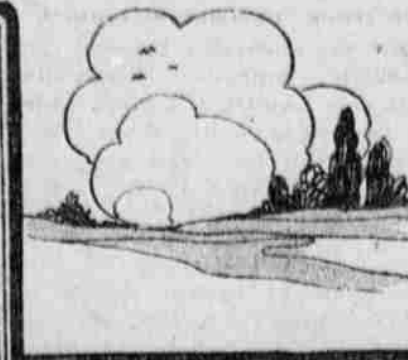


Illustration Copyright, 1907, by The Delinctor, New York.

When one does one's own dress-making correct cut costs only the price of a pattern, and careful finish nothing at all in money. Yet they are of far more importance in the smart-gowning of the younger girls than is either quality of material or expensive trimmings. Possibly the fact that children rapidly outgrow their frocks has influenced the fashions. Be this as it may, certain it is that even in circles where money-saving need not be considered, simplicity and daintiness rather than rich and elaborate effects distinguish the attire of the children.

Lingerie frocks are de rigueur for four- and six-year-olds, for dress, even in mid-winter. They cannot be too dainty, either in material, trimming, or finish. Lawns and cotton batistes can be found fine and sheer, even when low-priced; and as the foundation of a lingerie dress, they answer quite as well as India linen. After all, the daintiness lies less in the quality of the material than in its freshness, its lines, and its finish.

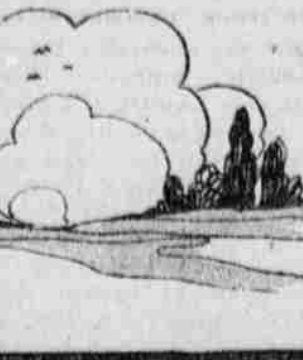
Skirts must be short and full. The hem and tucks must be set with geometric precision, and sewed with almost microscopic stitches. The raw edges of seams must be invisible, both on the right and wrong sides. Whipping them to inserted lace it adds somewhat to the total expense, or seam-binding is the newest way, but the next best method turns the seams to the right side, trims them close, and hides them under a narrow band of bias material with its edges folded down. This is first basted into position, and then ornamented with closely set herring-bone stitches done in crochet cotton or in the new mercerized embroidery thread. The long seams in the frocks are finished in "French" style.

When inserting lace, bands of drawn work, strips of darned, tuck or embroidered net, etc., baste the trimming into position, sew it down just within its own edges, and finish the ends in picket-points, as illustrated in Figure 1. To secure the transparent effect, turn to the wrong side, and with pointed scissors cut through the center the portion of material immediately under the lace. Fold the raw edges back at the lines of sewing, and stitch them down just beyond the latter, so as to catch the extreme edge of the lace. Finally, trim away the material close to the last row of sewing. Whipping the lace and material together makes a daintier finish, but the cheap lace and cottons will not always stand the strain which may eventually be exerted upon them.

In the little frock shown in Figure 1, the hem, being double, was whipped to the lower edge of the lace insertion above it, and the lace edging at the sleeves and throat was whipped to the brier-stitched collar and elbow bands. **Clevery Angers** can improve

Concealed Them.

Joe came to school for the first time. In one hand he carried a cap and in the other a bunch of bananas.
"You can't come in here with those bananas," warned the teacher.
Joe went out. In a few minutes he came back, walking slowly and painfully.
"Where did you put the bananas?" asked the teacher.
"Oh, I hid 'em all right," gasped Joe; "they're safe inside of me."



upon these by substituting coral stitching for the simpler brier-stitching, and setting French knots between the branches.

The following items entered into the construction of the frock:

2 1/2 yards of lawn at 20 cents \$50
4 yards of insertion at 5 cents 20
1 1/2 yards of edging at 8 cents 12
Buttons 05
Cotton (half a spool) 05
Cotton (for herring bone stitches) 05
Pattern (197) 15
Total \$115

Figure 2 illustrates a charming dress for little Miss Eight-Year-Old. The skirt was made of embroidered flouncing, and the bretelles of hand embroidery to match. The open neck and sleeves were finished with valenciennes lace. This model, specially adapted for dressy wear, as the illustration shows, is so cut that it may be simplified for ordinary purposes, by omitting the bretelles, and making it high in the neck and long sleeved. The pattern is suitable also for little every-day frocks in challis or albattross, and may be utilized, thus lessening the actual cost, for two or three different costumes.

When selecting the embroidery for the model shown here, an open pattern of eyelet work was chosen, for two good reasons. First, its airy effect is smarter and prettier; and second, because dime for dime this style of embroidery makes a better appearance than the best so-called "solid" embroidery, obtainable for the same price. It is only by using the best judgment in matters of this sort, by contriving when cutting, and by managing to make the most of everything, that dressing on dimes becomes feasible. The better the management the fewer the number of dimes required.

Study the illustration closely and you will find the bretelles are finished with valenciennes lace. This touch of lingerie is very pretty and it softens the bretelles in a smart and becoming fashion. Two rows of edging are used. The first row is whipped almost flat to the beaded edge of the band. The second, slightly full, is sewed to the first so that it projects from beneath its scalloped edge.

The bretelles slope off narrower at the ends. This effect may be secured by plaits or darts where the bretelle enters the belt. The fullness in the waist where it meets the yoke may be disposed of in gathers, in pointed smocking, or in hand-made pin-tucks which are shortened as they near the shoulder. The exact cost of the little frock is as follows:

2 1/2 yards of embroidered flouncing at 20 cents \$50
2 yards of hand embroidery at 12 1/2 cents 25
1 1/2 yards of lawn at 15 cents 22
6 yards of lace edging at 5 cents 30
Buttons 06
Thread (half a spool) at 6 cents 05
Pattern (No. 152) 15
Total \$133

Hive as Hotel Sign.

Over the doorway of a house called the Beehive Inn, Grantham, England, is a hive in which bees store their honey. This is believed to be the only "living" public house sign in England.

Who was Ann after whom Ann street in Manhattan is named? The records apparently leave the matter in mystery, except to tell that she was the wife of the first man who owned and occupied its site.

A ROSE-COLORED ROOM.

White Wood and Furniture a Pleasing Contrast to Pink Walls.

A charming bedroom where the utmost effect of daintiness can be obtained with very practical means is the rose-colored room, but an equally good effect can be secured by using water blue or green in light and agreeable shades, says a writer in the Woman's Home Companion. If rose color is preferred, a pleasing tint can be made by a sparing and careful addition of vermilion, or of the scarlet used in carriage painting, to cream white. This means that a small amount of yellow ochre is first added to the white paint and thoroughly incorporated with it before the vermilion or scarlet is added. The woodwork of the room should be painted cream white, and the walls have three coats of pink—the first two considerably darker than the last, as the last is lighter, it gives a misty effect which is very soft and satisfying. After the last coat is well dried a border of cream white should be stenciled at the top of the wall next the ceiling. It may be wide or narrow, as one prefers; but if wide, the lower part of it, for a third of the width, should be faintly or thinly painted, in order to have it blend properly into the wall. It is necessary only to use a full brush at the top and a comparatively empty one at the bottom of the stencil to secure this effect, and even an unskillful workman can do it if the object is explained to him.

If a narrow border is used, what is called a "floating design" may be added to the wall; and this also should be varied by the use of more or less paint in the brush, so that some of the floating forms should look like the mere reflection of the others. The furniture of this room would be preferably of cream-white enamel to match the wood-work, but a bedroom set in natural wood could be used if more convenient. The curtains should be of pink chambray or pink denim under white muslin, and it will add to the beauty of the room if the counterpane is made in the same way. A sage-green carpet harmonizes exceedingly well with this scheme of color and gives what one may call a pastel effect to the room.

STUFFED LEAVES OF CABBAGE.

Change from Ordinary Methods of Preparing the Dish.

Select a large white head of cabbage; core it and pour boiling water in center to cover it. Take one pound of chopped meat, one onion fried brown, one-half cupful of rice which was previously soaked for one hour; season to taste and mix well. Take one leaf at a time from the head and cut off the thickness in center so as not to break when rolling. Take a small handful of the above mixture and roll tightly in the leaf. Pack in a layer in kettle, cover with warm water and boil one hour. Take one quart tomatoes, boil and strain, add butter, salt, pepper and thicken it. Let it come to a boil and pour over the cabbage. Serve with mashed potatoes.

To Sew with Double Thread.

Here is a simple way to straighten out knots when sewing with double thread. Cut a length of thread from the spool, double it, twist the two cut ends together and thread them through the eye of the needle. Pass the needle point first through the loop of the doubled thread, forming a tiny knot at the eye of the needle. This serves to keep the thread straight and is flat enough to pass easily through the finest fabric. With this arrangement one can work button holes and do any work requiring a doubled thread with never a knotty problem.

Dampening Clothes.

Use hot water to dampen the clothes that are to be ironed and you will find it a great deal more satisfactory than cold. It dampens the clothes more evenly and makes them easier to iron. If the water is too hot to put the hands in use a whisk broom to sprinkle it with. Many laundresses prefer the whisk broom, as they claim that it is less likely to make the clothes too wet. The clothes may be ironed two hours later with good results.

Rubber for the Umbrella Jar.

Cut a piece of your old rubber mat, and place it in the bottom of the umbrella jar. Umbrellas and canes are frequently the means of breaking these receptacles when dropped into them without proper care, and the rubber will help to prevent this. If you have not a piece of an old rubber mat to use, procure a piece of soft sheet rubber, such as is used for packing by steam fitters and plumbers.

Sweet Potatoes, Mexican Style.

Boil them until tender, peel and cut in halves lengthwise. Put one tablespoonful of butter and two of minced onion into a saucepan and brown. Add one heaping tablespoonful each of green and red peppers, minced, two tablespoonfuls of tomato catsup, one of vinegar, and a teaspoonful of brown sugar. Stir well and pour over the potatoes.—Vogue.

Sauce for Duck.

Extract the juice from a quantity of sorrel leaves, add a glass of sherry, some mashed gooseberries, a little sugar. Two tablespoonfuls butter. Roll up once and serve.

Currant Sauce.

Boil one ounce of currants in a pint of water for five minutes, add a cup of bread crumbs, six cloves, a glass of wine and a bit of butter, stir till smooth. Serve with venison.