

# **First Report of the Glasgow Association in Aid of Chinese Medical Missions.**

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## **Publication/Creation**

[Glasgow] : [Printed in the Scottish Guardian Office], 1846.

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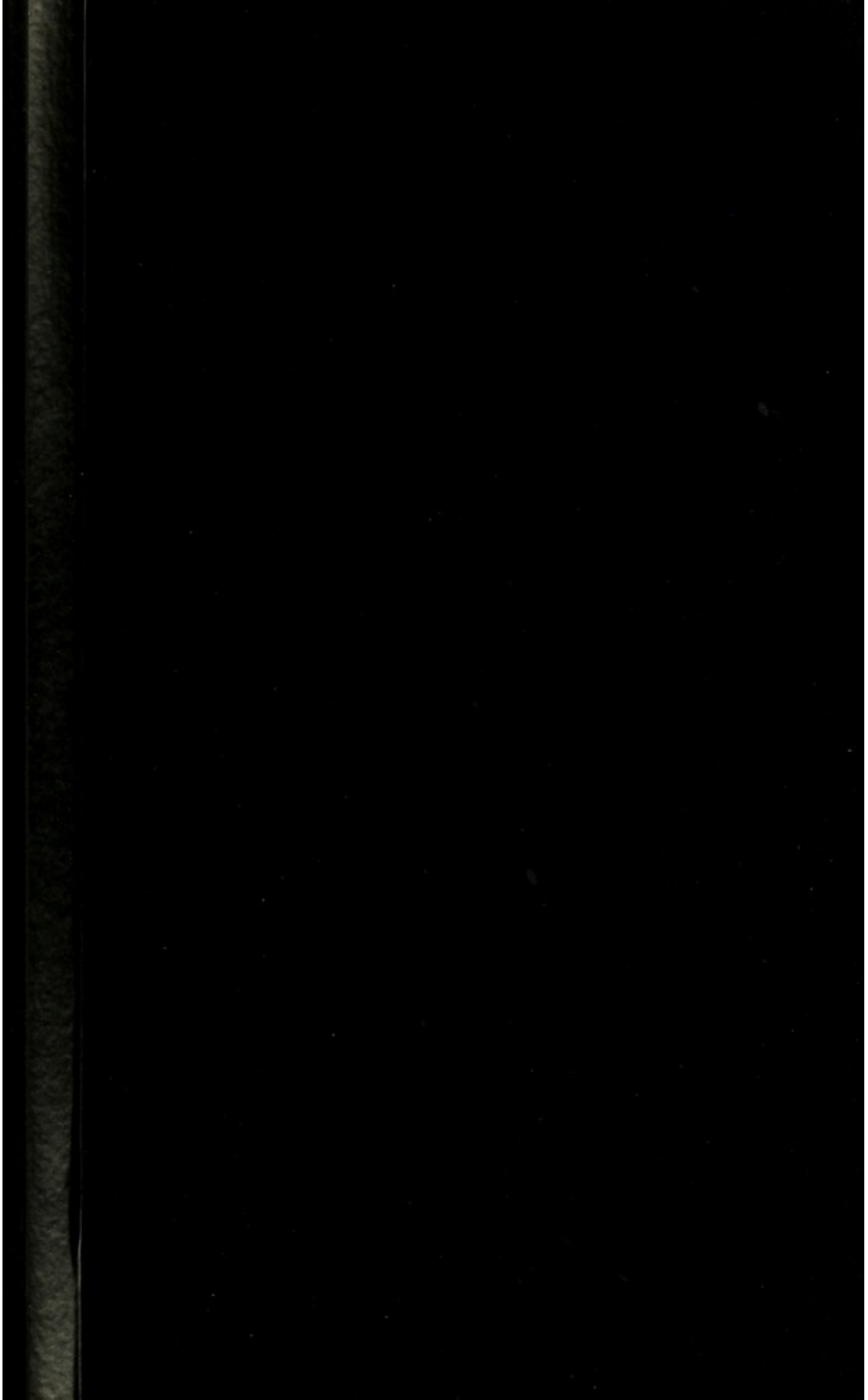
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FIRST REPORT

OF THE

GLASGOW ASSOCIATION

IN AID OF

CHINESE MEDICAL MISSIONS.

1846.

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FIRST REPORT

GLASGOW ASSOCIATION

CHINESE MEDICAL MISSIONS



GLASGOW, March 30, 1846.

THE First Annual Meeting of the Association was held this day, in the Merchants' Hall—

Dr. JAMES WATSON in the Chair.

After prayer, by the Rev. Dr. FORBES, the SECRETARY read the Report.

It was moved by Rev. Dr. HILL, and seconded by Rev. Mr. MILES—

“That the Report now read be approved of, printed, and circulated.”

It was moved by Rev. Dr. HENDERSON, and seconded by Dr. RANSFORD, of Edinburgh—

“That this Association, humbly thanking Almighty God for the blessing hitherto vouchsafed to Medical Missions in China, approves of the arrangements entered into with the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, recommends the cause to the attention and the prayers of the Christian public; and urges on them the duty of making (in dependence on the help of God) every exertion to carry out the object held in view.”

It was moved by Rev. Dr. WARDLAW, and seconded by Rev. Mr. NIVEN, from Caffraria—

That the following be the list of Office-bearers and Committee for the ensuing year:—

## OFFICE-BEARERS.

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### President.

DR. WATSON.

### Vice-Presidents.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL, Esq.

W. P. PATON, Esq.

### Treasurers.

JAMES A. ANDERSON, Esq., UNION BANK OF SCOTLAND.

WILLIAM KIDSTON, JUN., Esq., 60, GREAT CLYDE STREET.

### Secretaries.

DR. RITCHIE, VICTORIA PLACE.

DR. ANDREW ANDERSON, 4, WOODSIDE TERRACE.

### Committee.

DR. ANDERSON.

DR. BALFOUR, Edinburgh.

BENJAMIN BELL, Esq., Surgeon, Edinburgh.

DR. M. S. BUCHANAN.

DR. BURNS.

DR. COLDSTREAM, Edinburgh.

MICHAEL CONNAL, Esq.

DR. EASTON.

WILLIAM FRAZER, Esq.

WILLIAM GEMMELL, Esq.

JOHN GILLIES, Esq.

JOHN HENDERSON, Esq.

J. L. LANG, Esq.

WILLIAM MATHIESON, Esq.

JOHN MEIKLEM, Esq.

ROBERT PATERSON, Esq.

DR. PERRY.

DR. RANSFORD, Edinburgh.

GEORGE WATSON, Esq., Surgeon.

THOMAS WATSON, Esq., Surgeon.

DR. JAMES WILSON.



## RULES.

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I. The Association shall be called the **GLASGOW ASSOCIATION IN AID OF CHINESE MEDICAL MISSIONS.**

II. Its object shall be to raise funds to promote the introduction of gospel light into China, by means of the efforts of medical men, practising gratuitously among the Chinese; and, with this intent, to spread intelligence, and excite interest on the subject as widely as possible.

III. The Members of the Association shall be the gentlemen present at the preliminary meeting,—all ministers of religion of evangelical denominations, in Glasgow,—and all subscribers of Five Shillings annually, or donors of Two Pounds.

IV. The business of the Association shall be conducted by a President, Vice-Presidents, two Treasurers, and two Secretaries,—assisted by a Committee of twenty Gentlemen, to be annually appointed, (with power to add to their number), by the Members of the Association.

V. The funds which may be raised shall, after defraying expenses, be appropriated to support the now existing Medical Missions and Missionaries to China, to send out new Missionaries, or generally to promote the Medical Missionary Scheme there, as shall to the Committee seem expedient.

VI. The Committee shall meet once a month, five to be a quorum,—the Secretaries having power to summon the meeting, and, with its consent, the Members of the Association, when necessary.

VII. The above Articles may be altered by a General Meeting of the Association.



## REPORT.

THE Committee of the Glasgow Association in aid of Chinese Medical Missions, in presenting this their first Report, would preface what they have to say upon the plan of operations which they contemplate by the following statement with reference to the funds hitherto placed at their disposal:—

The subscriptions received up to the present date amount to £82 10s. 6d., and, adding interest, £86 7s. 6d. have been intrusted to them. Of this sum £11 12s. 9d. have been expended in printing, advertising, and collecting subscriptions, and £50 have been remitted to Dr. Parker in Canton, for the benefit of the Medical Missionary Society of China, so that £24 14s. 9d. remain at the command of the Society.

It ought to animate to deep thankfulness to God, and it entails on us a heavy responsibility, that by a recent edict the Emperor of China has granted full toleration to the Christian religion throughout his vast dominions; and the activity with which the emissaries of the Papacy are striving to profit by this opportunity should excite Protestants to strenuous efforts to propagate by all the means in their power the true gospel of our Lord and Saviour among the 360 millions of that great land.

In the Appendix to this Report will be found part of a most interesting letter from Dr. Parker, in which he describes the first preaching of the word, in his hospital, after the edict of toleration had been issued; and shows of how much avail were the successful results of his medical practice in winning a hearing for gospel truth. The manifesto published at the Missionary hospital of Hong Kong, which is likewise appended, will best show the professions which are made to the Chinese, and the plainness with which they are informed of the object our Missionaries have in view; while the crowds constantly flocking for medical advice, their gratitude, and, in many cases, the readiness with which they accept and read the religious publications put into their hands, give high encouragement to perseverance.



There are now ten Medical Missionaries, and four Missionary hospitals, in China.

At Canton,....	Rev. P. Parker, M.D.,.....	American,...	(hospital),...	1834
—	....Rev. J. Devan, M.D.,.....	do. ...	...	1844
Amoy, .....	W. C. Cumming, M.D.,....	do. ...	...	1840
—	.....J. C. Hepburn, M.D.,.....	do. ...	...	1841
Hong-Kong, ...	Rev. D. Ball, M.D.,.....	do. ...	...	1838
—	...Rev. A. P. Happer, M.D.,	do. ...	...	1844
—	...B. Hobson, M.D.,.....	English, ...	(hospital),...	1839
Shanghai, .....	W. Lockhart, M.D.,.....	do. ...	(hospital),...	1838
Ningpo,.....	D. J. M'Gowan, M.D.,....	American ...	(hospital),...	1843
—	.....D. B. M'Cartee, M.D.....	do. ...	...	1844

Amoy is supposed to be the least populous of the free ports, yet it is understood to number 200,000 inhabitants, while there are in Ningpo 300,000; and as might be expected from this vast population, crowds of patients are ever applying for relief at the hospitals or dispensaries of the Society. From January 1844, to September 1845, 3922 patients were entered on the books by Dr. Cumming at Amoy; and at Shanghai Dr. Lockhart saw more than 15,000 during the sixteen months preceding last September. How wide the field of usefulness thus opened!—how many the souls brought within the sound of the truth!

In October last, the Committee received from the Secretary of the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society a communication to the effect that it had been resolved on by that Society to send a Medical Missionary from Scotland to China, and inviting the co-operation of Glasgow in the undertaking. The Appendix contains the Report of the Edinburgh Sub-Committee, setting forth the basis of the proposed arrangement.

After giving this important subject their prayerful and attentive consideration, the Committee have acceded to the proposal, and intimated to our Edinburgh friends their willingness to unite with them in this good work. Extensive inquiries have been made, but a suitable man has not yet been found. In the meantime, in concluding their Report, the Committee beg to express their hope that the Christian public of this city will not refuse, in the face of the facts contained in this short statement, and in the appended documents, to raise the very moderate sum required to defray the expense of half the maintenance of a Missionary to China.



MANIFESTO OF THE MEDICAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S  
HOSPITAL IN HONG-KONG.

(TRANSLATED FROM THE CHINESE BY DR. HOBSON.)

The following statement is published for the information of you the people of Hong Kong, &c. &c., and those in the district of Kwangtung, &c., who come to this port, in order that you and your relations and friends, suffering from diseases, may know where and how to obtain relief.

The hospital at Macao, in which the Foreign Surgeon cured many thousands of sick Chinese, was closed in the early part of last year, and now a large hospital has been recently built in Hong Kong (on the hill leading to the Wong-nei-chung), usually known by the name of the "Benevolent Healing Hospital," which was opened for the reception of patients in the fourth month of the past year. It cost 5000 dollars, which sum was benevolently subscribed by the merchants of the English and American nations.

This hospital is conducted by a foreign surgeon, and has accommodation for more than eighty in-patients, who, aided by two native assistants, are daily treated with kindness and care. From the time it was opened till the present, there have been more than 5000 men, women, and children, who applied for relief, of whom upwards of 800 have resided in the hospital.

Those that are very needy have money allowed for rice, and there is no tampering with the high to the neglecting of the poor; but all are treated alike, as belonging to one family. Diseases of the eye, ear, skin, with the internal and external disorders of the body, are understood and cured gratuitously, without money or price. The rules of the hospital are these:—

1. The dispensary is open every day, except Sunday, from nine o'clock till eleven.

2. Patients are not admitted after twelve o'clock, unless the disease is dangerous.

3. Those who desire to become in-patients must bring their bedding, rice, and cooking utensils with them, and if the disease is very important, must call an attendant.

4. Cleanly habits must be observed.

5. No quarrelling, gambling, opium smoking, drunkenness, or idolatrous sacrifices will be allowed.

6. The surgeon and master of the house wishes all the patients to assemble each morning, with one mind, to worship the true God, and carefully hear the pure principles of the heavenly doctrine explained and enforced; and the reasons for this are twofold:—1. There is but one God, and from Him proceed life and death, health and disease; and, exalted above the heavens, he ever hears the prayers of men; it is the duty, therefore, of mankind to worship Him. 2. The object of establishing this hospital is to exhibit the benevolent character of the doctrines of Jesus, and to show forth their reality and truth; for after this manner did Jesus establish the truth of his religion.

Tankwang, 24th year, 9th month, 1st day.



## EXTRACT LETTER—DR. PARKER TO THE SECRETARY.

Canton, 27th Aug., 1845.

\* \* \* Since writing the Association in Edinburgh, a fourth case of lithotomy has been successfully performed, and three cases of amputation, two of them above the elbow, and one of the forearm. The former are perfectly well; the latter, a recent case, is doing well. The hospital continues crowded as much as ever with patients of all ranks and conditions; while some of the imperial officers prefer waiting on me at my private residence.

\* \* \* I have referred in the preceding page to the *new era* in Missionary operations in China. I have often, in a private way, and socially, from time to time, explained to the Chinese the aim and motives with which I had come to live and die among them: but Sabbath, the 14th instant, was the first time that I have been permitted publicly and fearlessly to tell them that great as the pleasure afforded by opening the blind eye, or amputating the wounded or diseased limb—all this was subordinate to the great desire of making them acquainted with the doctrines of Jesus, and of being permitted at death to rise with them to the presence of God in heaven. The service was held *at the hospital*. In a quiet way information was extended among the patients for several days previously, that on Sabbath we should be happy to see them and their friends, to explain to them the doctrines of Jesus. When the hour arrived, we were agreeably surprised to find about 100 present, among whom I recognised many familiar faces, and none more interested than those who had been relieved of distressing physical calamities. The Rev. Dr. Bridgman co-operated with me on the occasion. A number of copies of the memorial of Keying to the Emperor, and of the Imperial grant of the prayer of the memorial, that Christianity be tolerated, were circulated among the audience. I first stated the number of years I had resided in the country, and how my time had been spent among them; alluded to the former restrictions upon Christianity, and the present removal of them; and endeavoured to impress upon them that their *souls* have diseases which none but Christ can heal. Dr. Bridgman then addressed them, giving emphasis to what had already been stated, and declared to them the fundamental doctrines of the gospel briefly, and addressed the throne of grace. Considering that the scene and the occasion were new to the audience, there was as much decorum as could have been expected. Last Sabbath the service was resumed at the same place and hour, and about 200 were present.

\* \* \* I will only ask if what God is doing on his part in preparing the way, should not be met by corresponding prayers and sacrifices on the part of his servants; and whether, with the *new* openings, our Christian professional brethren have not a duty to perform.

## EXTRACT LETTER—DR. LOCKHART TO THE SECRETARY.

Shanghai, Sept. 6, 1845.

\* \* \* I may mention that the number of patients entered on the book for the last year was 11,000, making a total of upwards of 15,000 during the sixteen months I have been at this place, up to June 30th. I have accommodation for twenty or thirty in-patients, but my wards are very



poor, and are barely good enough for the purpose. Patients are attended to every day, and thrice a-week the Rev. W. Medhurst attends previous to the inspection, and addresses them on the great truths of the gospel, and calls their attention in a serious manner to the great subject, the welfare of the soul. On the Sabbath afternoon, Mr. M. also preaches to the in-patients, and a good congregation of the neighbours and others who assemble at my house to hear the discourse. The in-patients also attend family worship in Chinese every morning; books are also given to such as can read, and on their return home they receive a supply to take to their friends. \* \* \* I feel convinced that the operations of the Medical Missionary Society at Shanghai have had a good influence on the minds of the people, as has been the case previously at Canton and other places; and to show the influence it has, it may be mentioned that several of the wealthy residents, seeing that a foreigner was attending to the sick, and giving them medicine, subscribed liberally, and have established an institution, where eight or nine native practitioners attend every five days during the three summer months, and give attendance and medicine to all comers. About 300 or 400 persons usually attend on the appointed days, and the affair is carried on with some degree of vigour and energy. \* \* \* We wish it ever to be borne in mind that our object in working the Medical Missionary Society is not confined to the relief of bodily infirmity and pain—that is important; but our great object is to show this people that Great Physician who can cure their souls of the malady of sin. May they have much of the Word of God, and learn the way of life and peace!

EXTRACT LETTER—DR. CUMMING TO THE SECRETARY.

Amoy, Sept. 13th, 1845.

\* \* \* From June, 1842, until January, 1844, a dispensary was sustained at Kolongsoo. Immediately after the peace, we endeavoured to transfer it to Amoy; but finding it impossible to obtain houses, we were compelled to wait until the arrival of the British consul, and his arrangements with the authorities, when all objections to our removal ceased. In November, 1843, I was joined by Dr. Hepburn, of the Presbyterian Board, who remained here until the end of last June. We together opened the dispensary at Amoy, and practised together during the whole time of his residence here. Since the 19th January, 1844, we have recorded the names of 3922 patients. \* \* \* In the months of June and July, I had forty-eight cases of acute Iritis. \* \* \* Almost all our patients are from the poorest class, and many of them do not live in the city. They cannot long desist from their ordinary occupations, as they have no funds for their support. In some cases a sum of money has been given them, to aid them in their maintaining themselves; and as a dollar and a half, or two dollars, will support them for a month, a little money goes a great way. A few of the foreigners here have given small sums for this purpose, so that we have not been compelled to expend in this way any of the funds granted by the Medical Missionary Society.

\* \* \* You ask me to state what I think the best way for your Society to aid the cause. \* \* \* There is one course



which seems to me most beneficial in its effects. I scarcely know whether to propose it, for I cannot tell whether your Society can supply the funds necessary for its successful execution. Still it may be that Glasgow is not alone interested in these things, and that the other cities of Scotland would lend their aid. The plan I suggest is to educate a number of Chinese lads in Scotland as physicians, and to send them back to their own country, prepared to practice skilfully the healing art. I will suppose twenty boys selected, averaging twelve years of age. I should think that twelve years well employed would be sufficient for the purpose, and thus at the age of twenty-five they might return to this country. It is probable that out of twenty, two or three would not live to finish their studies, two or three more would be found too obtuse for the work, and perhaps a few more might prefer to study theology, and point their countrymen to the Great Physician; but these last ought not to be deducted from the list of successes of the plan, for your members would regard such events as declaring the excellence of their enterprise. It may be objected that the expenses of education are greater in Scotland than in India, and that it would be far better to send them to Calcutta, where they might enjoy good general and special instruction; but India is a land of darkness and of heathenism, and would not be favourable to the full developement of the intellectual or moral character of Chinese. Some again would prefer that this instruction should be given in China; but where are the instructors? where the unnumbered facilities for the acquisition of knowledge? \* \* \* I can see no one objection to the plan proposed except the expense, for I think that it should be tried on a large number at once; \* \* \* and, if the blessing of God should be granted, and these young men be converted to Him, the most pleasing results might be expected from their labours. Twenty men, speaking the Amoy dialect, would find ample room for the exercise of their powers within forty miles of this place. There are to be found within this distance five cities, each probably containing more than 100,000 inhabitants, and one of them more than half a million. Is not the object worthy of the effort? How much more valuable would such men be in the midst of an ignorant, degraded, idolatrous people, than the same number of young physicians in Scotland! yet the expense would not be greater; but in the one case parental affection supplies the means—in the present instance it must be Christian philanthropy and love.

You ask me to tell you what religious instruction we have given. If you mean to the sick, I must say that we have given them the same that we have to others, with this difference, that as they more frequently and more regularly come, they hear more of the truth than most of those who visit us. Soon after the opening of the dispensary at Kolongsoo, the audience was greatly increased; and as the number of applicants was great, and I was obliged to employ an interpreter to investigate the cases, they were compelled to wait a long time each day, thus giving Mr. Abeel a good opportunity of delivering his message to them. We have had a Sabbath service in the dispensary ever since we removed to Amoy, and here preaching has been sustained for more than a year by Messrs. Stronach and Young, of the London Society. As many of the patients are from the villages and



country around, and many also are sailors, it is to be hoped that the elementary truths of Christianity will thus be disseminated. They often take religious books and portions of the Scriptures to their friends at home. We do not know of any case of conversion yet; but our duty is to be unwearied in well doing, hoping for the season when we shall see the fruit of our efforts.

Another important result of our labours here is the general, indeed, it would seem, universal impression in our favour. The people all seem to wonder at the expenditure of time and money upon the poor. They admit that such conduct is not to be found among themselves. We are everywhere kindly received; and while officers in the army and navy have sometimes (rarely, indeed), met with insults and peltings, we have never received any other than kind and respectful treatment from officers and people.

\* \* \* I trust that you will find in the members of your Society a constant interest in the welfare of the Chinese, and that this will be based, not on the arrival of reports and the present success of their exertions, but on an unflinching love for Christ and zeal for the extension of his kingdom.

EXTRACT REPORT OF A SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE EDINBURGH MEDICAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY,

Appointed 21st July, 1845, to take into consideration the expediency of the Society's sending a Medical Missionary of its own to China, and to make inquiry regarding the expense likely to be incurred in such an undertaking.

Your Committee entered upon the consideration of the matters referred to them under a deep sense of their importance, and with earnest prayer for Divine guidance in all their deliberations, and they have now to report as follows:—

That, in their opinion, the Committee should, without delay, resolve upon sending a Medical Missionary to China.

That the agent to be sent out by our Society should be a fully educated, able, and experienced surgeon, of decided and tried Christian principles and practice, of a truly Catholic spirit, and having a capacity for the acquisition of foreign languages.

That the question whether the agent should be married or unmarried be, in the meantime, left open.

That our agent should be sent to a station where there is already an evangelist labouring among the Chinese, with whom he may co-operate; and that Shanghai and Ningpo ought to be preferred to Hong Kong.

That a small Sub-Committee should be appointed to draw up a paper of instructions for the guidance of the agent in his proceedings.

That steps should be taken immediately both to augment the funds of the Society, and to seek out a suitable person willing to enter upon the mission.



## ABSTRACT OF TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS, as per List,.....	£86 7 6
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Advertisements and Circulars,.....	£2 8 4
Printing Tract,.....	5 0 0
Commission on Collections,.....	4 4 5
Remitted to Dr. Parker,.....	50 0 0
	61 12 9
Balance due to the Society,.....	24 14 9
Cash in Union Bank,.....	£18 17 0
" in Treasurers' hands,.....	5 17 9
	£24 14 9

We have examined the above Accounts, and find them correct.

(Signed)      WILLIAM P. PATON.  
                         ANDREW ANDERSON.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Allan, James,.....	£0	5	0	Brought forward,....	£14	8	0
Anderson, Alexander,.....	1	1	0	Friend, A,.....	0	5	0
Anderson, Alexander D.,.....	1	0	0	Glasgow, Alexander,.....	1	1	0
Anderson, A. Dunlop, M.D.,...	1	0	0	Goodwin, John,.....	0	5	0
Anderson, Andrew, M.D.,.....	1	0	0	Hannay, A. J., M.D.,.....	1	0	0
Anderson, James,.....	2	0	0	Henderson, John,.....	5	0	0
Anderson, James A.,.....	1	0	0	Imray, William,.....	0	5	0
Anderson, John,.....	1	1	0	Interest, Union Bank of Scot-			
Angus, William, LL.D.,.....	0	7	6	land,.....	3	17	0
Balfour, Professor,.....	1	0	0	Kerr, Angus,.....	0	5	0
Barr, Robert,.....	0	5	0	Kidston, Richard,.....	2	0	0
Bell, John,.....	0	10	0	Laird, Alexander A.,.....	0	10	6
Bell, Matthew P.,.....	0	10	0	Lang, J. L.,.....	0	5	0
Bell, Thomas,.....	0	5	0	Langlands, Matthew,.....	0	5	0
Black, John,.....	0	5	0	Lawrie, J. A., M.D.,.....	0	10	6
Bryce, David,.....	0	5	0	Macfarlane, John, M.D.,.....	1	1	0
Broadfoot, Alexander,.....	1	0	0	Matheson, Hugh M. (3 years),	3	0	0
Brown, James, M.D.,.....	0	7	6	Mein, Alexander,.....	0	5	0
Brown, Hugh,.....	1	0	0	Middleton, William,.....	1	0	0
Brown, Robert,.....	1	0	0	Miller, William,.....	0	5	0
Buchanan, Andrew, M.D.,.....	1	1	0	Mirlees, William, Jun.,.....	0	5	0
Buchanan, M. S., M.D.,.....	1	0	0	Mitchell, Andrew,.....	1	0	0
Burns, James,.....	1	0	0	M'Adam, Archibald,.....	0	5	0
Burns, John, M.D.,.....	1	0	0	M'Gregor, Josiah,.....	1	0	0
Campbell, Sir James,.....	1	0	0	M'Kinlay, William,.....	0	10	0
Campbell, William,.....	2	0	0	M'Lachlan, Hugh,.....	0	5	0
Chapman, David,.....	1	0	0	M'Phun, William L.,.....	1	1	0
Craig, A.,.....	1	0	0	Paton, W. P.,.....	2	0	0
Craig, John,.....	0	5	0	Perry, Robert, M.D.,.....	0	10	0
Cogan, Hugh,.....	1	0	0	Potter, Lewis,.....	1	0	0
Cogan, John,.....	1	0	0	Ritchie, Charles, M.D.,.....	1	0	0
Collection at Sermon, by Rev.				Society, College Missionary,...	4	0	0
Dr. Wardlaw,.....	8	0	0	Society, Kilsyth Missionary,...	3	0	0
Crum, H. E.,.....	1	0	0	Stevenson, Nath.,.....	1	0	0
Cunningham, Charles,.....	0	5	0	Urie, John,.....	0	5	0
Dames, Captain,.....	1	0	0	Walker, G. L.,.....	1	0	0
Dunlop, Henry,.....	1	0	0	Watson, James, M.D.,.....	1	0	0
Dunlop, Miss (3 years),.....	3	0	0	Watson, George,.....	0	10	6
Finlay, James,.....	2	0	0	Wilson, William,.....	0	10	6
Fleming, Robert,.....	1	0	0	Wright, John,.....	1	0	0
Friend, A.,.....	0	10	0	Yuil, John,.....	0	2	6
	£44	8	0		£86	7	6



## REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC MEETING.

*(From Scottish Guardian of April 3.)*

On the Evening of Monday last, a Public Meeting was held in the Merchants' Hall, Hutcheson Street—Dr. Watson in the chair—for the purpose of hearing read the First Annual Report of the Glasgow Association in aid of the Chinese Medical Mission, and also some interesting intelligence communicated respecting the Chinese.

Amongst the gentlemen on the platform we observed the Rev. Dr. Wardlaw, the Rev. Dr. Hill, the Rev. Dr. Forbes, the Rev. Dr. Henderson, the Rev. Mr. Miles, the Rev. Mr. Niven from Caffraria; John Alston, Esq. of Rosemount, Dr. Anderson, Dr. Perry, Wm. Church, Esq., Dr. Ransford from Edinburgh, &c.

After a deeply impressive prayer by the Rev. Dr. Forbes,

The CHAIRMAN said they had met, as he believed they were all aware, in behalf of the Chinese Medical Missionary Society. They would hear the Report of the Association read, and afterwards be addressed by the different gentlemen who were to propose the Resolutions for adoption. It fell to his share to make a few remarks at this stage of the proceedings; and as this was the first public Meeting of the Association, he felt that he could not do better than state the objects they had in view by the formation of a Medical Missionary Society. The first of these was to exhibit to the Chinese the art of medicine, and to show to them what wonders can be accomplished under the enlightenment of modern European science. In this way they expected to make an impression on the minds of the Chinese favourable to the institutions of foreigners. In the second place, they wished to remove an impression prevalent amongst the Chinese, that strangers visit their country only for selfish purposes. And the third and principal object was, to make use of those favourable impressions for the purpose of inducing the people of that country to lend a favourable ear to the doctrines of the Christian religion. It would be the object of the agents of the Association to use every opportunity to bring before the Chinese mind Christ and his finished work. These objects could not be accomplished by a merely clerical missionary. They wished to have their agents deeply imbued with the science of the medical profession; and besides, from practical education at some of the great schools, to have acquired a tact in treating cases, that will stand in competition with that of any in the profession. To these qualifications, however, they expected to have added deep piety, a sincere love of souls, and a willingness to devote every acquirement to the service of God. It might naturally be asked, where will persons possessed of all these qualifications be found, who are willing to proceed as Missionaries to China? A person possessed of such acquirements as these would naturally rise to wealth and station at home; and is it to be expected that such persons will go abroad, and leave all for Christ? Well, they would hear that such men had been found. When they considered the vastly-increasing Missionary spirit of the age—when they reflected, also, on the eminently pious men who adorned the profession from time to time, and who considered it to be a duty, as well as a privilege, to give attention to the healing of the souls of men, as well as the body—but especially when they thought of the great change which had taken place in the minds of the medical brethren generally, it was not unreasonable to think that many belonging to the profession would be found willing to engage in the missionary work. (Applause.) The Chairman, after referring, in highly eulogistic terms, to the piety and active benevolence of Dr. Peter Parker, who devised and carried into execution the present plan of missionary enterprise, and under whose charge the hospital at Canton had flourished, proceeded to state that, at the commencement of the late Chinese war, during which time the hospital was closed, Dr. Parker, after visiting America, came to this country to endeavour to obtain funds in support of his scheme. While in Glasgow, he interested several gentlemen upon whom he called in his plans, and shortly afterwards a Society was formed, for the purpose of aiding his scheme. The funds collected had been sent direct to Canton, to aid the Association there; but in consequence of urgent applications from certain gentlemen resident in the city of Canton, the Committee had thought it right that something should be done in the way of aiding the missionary cause more directly. It was accordingly proposed to the Edinburgh Society that one missionary agent should be sent out



from Scotland, to which proposal that Society had acceded; and it was with the view of getting the consent of the members of the Glasgow Association to this appropriation of their funds that they had met. He trusted that those present, and through them the Christians in the west of Scotland, would readily support this proposal, which the Committee considered to be the most likely mode of doing good to China. In that vast country there was a population of 360 millions of souls, who with regard to spiritual concerns did not know the right hand from the left; and surely the people of this country should have compassion upon them. He trusted that the gentlemen who were to address them would be able to excite such sympathy in behalf of the people of China, as to draw out liberal contributions to the support of the Society, and enable the Committee to fulfil their pledge, and give them the comfortable feeling of being enabled to continue to support this missionary gentleman, who must be a person of talent and acquirements. (Applause.)

Dr. ANDREW ANDERSON having here read the Report,

The Rev. Dr. HILL moved the adoption of the first resolution:—"That the Report now read be approved of, and printed and circulated." He had little doubt that the motion would be at once acceded to. We live, he said, in very interesting, very stirring times, when God, in his good providence, is continually opening up new fields for the propagation of the gospel of his dear Son—when the communications between the different countries of the earth are so multiplied and rendered so easy, that the dullest amongst us can scarcely fail to perceive that the Great Proprietor is directing Christians to go up and possess the land—directing them to assume the highly interesting and honourable station of being his instruments in spreading the religion of Christ throughout the habitable globe. It is not for those who feel the importance of diffusing Christianity to remain backward. At the present time events are occurring which seem to speak to us in a voice which cannot be misunderstood, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might." There is no country where events of a more remarkable kind have occurred, with reference to the progress of Christianity, than in that immense empire to which the efforts of this Association are directed. For ages past it was inaccessible to strangers from whatever country—there has existed a jealousy of admitting strangers into China, particularly on the subject of religion—and the very language of China was an obstacle to communication with its inhabitants. That last obstacle has been overcome. A devoted man, in the providence of God, was sent there, who toiled year after year in the prosecution of his great object, and, by the blessing of God, he was spared till he accomplished his last undertaking, that of giving a version of the Scriptures in the language of China. That is the foundation of all proceedings in carrying the light of the gospel into that country. There is a very remarkable circumstance mentioned in some of the annual Reports connected with this business, that although the empire of China is so extensive—although the dialects are various of the spoken language—yet there is but one written language for the whole empire, and that language is universally understood in every part of it; so that the new version of the Scriptures already prepared will facilitate mightily the introduction of Christianity into that country. Referring to the recent changes in the eastern world, Dr. Hill said—An opening is here made for us, and we will be wanting in duty if that opening which God has made is not profited by, by every disciple of Christ. There is, no doubt, looking to the character of the Chinese, need for discrimination as to the manner pursued in bringing in a strange religion amongst them. We might destroy the very end we have in view were we at once to attack their prejudices; all their jealousies would thereby immediately be revived, and the fair prospect which God has opened up before us be marred. It is right, therefore, that whatever steps be taken for the introduction of Christianity into China should be maturely considered, and be of a kind which will facilitate the attainment of the great object which every one of us must have in view. China has suffered, it is said, from us. In some respects we have done it material injury, and how can we better repair that injury than by presenting to them the jewel of great price? (Applause.) The people, as was stated by the Chairman in his opening remarks, are most of them in so humiliating a state as scarcely, in matters of religion, to know the right hand from the left—many of them are worshipping idols, and they are ignorant, we may say all of them, of the true God and the only way of salvation. And if we are enjoying a blessing which has elevated our character, and ministered to our enjoyment in time of prosperity, and to our consolation in time of distress, shall we look upon those with whom God has enabled us to enter into friendly relations, and leave them in that humiliating, that ignorant, degraded



state in which hundreds of millions are to be found. It will be a reproach to us if we do not bestir ourselves to do whatsoever our hands find to do for their instruction. I know not any means, humanly speaking, more likely to be successful in carrying some knowledge of the gospel among the people of China than that contemplated by this Association. I trust the Association will become better known than it is—that its objects will speedily be more generally understood; and sure I am that when they are understood this Society will not fail to be cordially supported. Its efforts appear to me to be in the right direction. The objects it has in view, as has been stated, are of various kinds, namely, to dissipate error with regard to the intentions of the missionaries; to show that those missionaries are not merely intent upon their personal emolument; that they do not come with a desire merely of making money; but finally, and above all, the object is, through the medium of the healing art, by means of gaining upon the people through the benefits conferred on their bodies, to bring them to listen to the truth as it is in Jesus. We have the highest authority for commending the steps which this Association is taking. Our Divine Master came not only to preach the kingdom of God, but to heal all manner of sickness and disease of the people, thereby drawing their attention, through the benefits which he immediately rendered, to the great benefits he was to impart to the soul. I do look upon the plan proposed by this Society, humanly speaking, as one of the most effectual that can be employed—one to which every encouragement and assistance should be given. Little indeed can be expected to result from the employment of the means as yet. There is but little doing, we may say; ten missionaries are employed, but what are these among so many millions of Chinese? We cannot look for much impression yet among the ignorant; but how encouraging is it to know that the great and the learned are stretching out the hand of friendship to the missionary, and that the Emperor, instead of discountenancing the proceedings, is allowing perfect freedom to all who are willing to know the truth. I was delighted to hear, in the Report read, that an impression is actually made already on the public mind. The people are wondering at the expense of labour and time, and the disinterestedness manifested by these Medical Missionaries. It is a thing hitherto unknown to them on the part of strangers—unknown to them on the part of the inhabitants of their own country. We find also that some of the natives are attending upon public worship, that they are receiving books and tracts; and, by the blessing of God, some impression may be made even on two or three individuals; and supposing that to be the case, they will become, in some measure, as native missionaries amongst their countrymen. They may not be able to expatiate on the truths of Christianity, but representations of what they have heard, and what has been done for them, and of the benevolent spirit of Christianity, will be communicated to their neighbours, and thus shall the whole nation ultimately be arrested. Dr. Hill concluded by proposing the resolution.

The Rev. Mr. MILES, in seconding the resolution, said he was persuaded that were the Christian people residing in this vast city thoroughly acquainted with the importance of this Association, many more of them would have given it their countenance and support by their presence this evening. The remarks he was about to make were those which flowed from a deep conviction in his own mind, not from statements which he had read, but from matters of fact which he had witnessed. Any European, on first visiting the Celestial Empire, as it has been called, must be deeply impressed with the truth that the cities of China overflow with people. On the river on which Canton stands, to the extent of some miles, there is a population continually residing; that is to say, instead of living exclusively in the city or suburbs, it would seem as if the city could not contain the population; and consequently, for miles on the river vessels are moored, in which families reside, and children are born. The river is so entirely occupied with these floating houses, as scarcely to leave room for boats from European vessels to pass up; and they are compelled, for the distance of two or three miles, to lay aside their oars, and use paddles. This shows what an immense population is in the vicinity of the city of Canton. In respect to the moral condition of the people of that city, the observation is a true one, that there never was a city on the earth whose inhabitants are so entirely idolatrous as those of Canton. The whole population is given up to the worship of idols. There are only about one hundred regular temples for Buddhist worship, but there is an innumerable number of what may be termed household gods; for in every house, and in every corner of every street, and what is more, in every boat on the river, as far as his own observation would allow him to speak, there is to be found a little god, with incense continually burning before it. The Chinese people are erroneous in their principles,



and they are also degraded and vicious in their lives. But, said the rev. gentleman, I do feel persuaded that it is not the extent of the population—not the idolatry nor the vice which is to be found among the people of China—which constitute so great an obstacle in the way of the progress of the gospel of Christ, as the example shown unto that people during the last two centuries by the inhabitants of our own country. I am not speaking without thought and consideration. Every sentence which I shall advance this evening comes from the heart as the result of conviction,—conviction, not from hearing the statements of other men, but from personal observation in that country some fifteen or twenty years back, and indeed at a later period. During the time in which the East India Company held their charter, there used occasionally to lie, twelve miles below the city of Canton, twenty large ships at one time. The crews of these ships amounted to 2000 men; so that at any period when the fleet lay there, there would be presented to the notice of the Chinese the lives and conduct of 2000 of our countrymen, irrespective of that of the few resident civilians. We are all perhaps too familiarly acquainted with the character of our seamen generally; still the truth must be advanced—few can form any conception of the demoralised practices of seamen whilst in foreign ports. And what must be the effect of such conduct on the minds of the people of China and other countries where the Christian religion is not known? Perhaps some here present may remember that a few years antecedent to the late war the Emperor of China issued an edict. While I read it, I was struck with an observation it contained. The Emperor prohibited the introduction of all Christian books into China, and in the closing part of the edict it was added, “The doctrines of Christianity make black the heart of man.” I remember, whilst I read that edict in London, being led to exclaim, “The Emperor could arrive at no other conclusion, for nearly the whole of the seamen who visit the Chinese coasts are abandoned to immorality!” But to pass on to the brighter part of the subject, these difficulties are not greater than the impediments which the gospel has always encountered. As a nation the Chinese are given up to idolatry, but there is no innate love to idolatry. It has come down to them from ages, but they do not seem to be so wedded to the worship of idols as to lead us to the conclusion that they may not be brought to throw off their allegiance. I will mention an anecdote by the way of illustrating what I have said. On my first arriving in the river at China, a pilot came on board our vessel. At that time I was a young officer, and took the opportunity of descending into his boat. When I entered the cabin I perceived a little god with burning incense, and also some Chinese fruit and preserves. As you may easily suppose, being newly off a long voyage, I had no objections to partake of some of the fruit. The pilot, however, who had followed me into his boat, understanding my desire, remonstrated with me against touching the fruit, and gave as a reason for not gratifying my wishes, that he could not deprive his god of his expected supper; whereupon I offered him a small piece of money, and instantly the whole was granted to me. I mention this, and I have seen it often illustrated since, to show that the people of China have no great attachment to idolatry. They are prepared, as it were, to throw it off; and, farther, in the minds of the educated people, there is no more attachment to idolatry than in former ages was exhibited on the part of the philosophers of Greece. Mr. Miles went on to state that the Chinese are a shrewd, clever, and intelligent people; they are also an observant people, and willing to learn; and after relating several anecdotes in proof of this, and also to show that they had even become convinced of their own inferiority in the power of ship-building and in several other respects, he asked if it was unreasonable to suppose that they would also be able to show to them the superiority of the Christian religion over that of the Buddhist, under the various punishments for crime sanctioned, by which they suffer the utmost torture, and which leaves them in the streets of Canton wandering blind, and in a state of the most abject wretchedness? May we not, under God, convince the people that there is a beauty and a moral power in Christianity, inasmuch as Christianity sends missionaries to their shores, and, under God, heals their infirmities, and conveys to them the blessings of the gospel of Christ. (Applause.) In respect to the particular agency to be employed, I cannot use language sufficiently strong in its support. If we have degraded that people by the opium trade, send them, to heal their sicknesses and cure them of their wounds, men of God and men of love and prayer, and may we not anticipate their greatest blessing? Now that there is an hospital established by Christians of Great Britain, to afford gratuitous health to the Chinese who are suffering from distress, let me urge on you, in con-



clusion, to give your countenance and hearty support to the cause now before you. Mr. Miles concluded by seconding the resolution, which was unanimously agreed to.

DR. RANSFORD, Secretary to the Edinburgh Medical Association, after apologising for the unavoidable absence of the President of their Society, said he felt it to be his duty to be present this evening, because from Glasgow, two years since, a proposal had been received by the Edinburgh Society to agree to support a Medical Missionary in China. At that time the subject was so little understood by the people in Edinburgh, and even by the friends of missions in general, that they were not prepared at once to accede to the proposal. They began, however, to distribute information, and likewise invited individuals to address audiences on the subject, and he was happy to state that it was now thoroughly understood in Edinburgh; and not only there, but friends in Dundee, Almond, Dumfries, and Perth, were engaged in procuring subscriptions. Every information would be sent to the Glasgow Association. The Edinburgh Society would not take a single step on their own responsibility. Testimonials had been received from about eighteen persons; but he was sorry that many of those applying were perfectly ignorant of the nature of the thing, they entertaining the notion that it would be an excellent opening for making a fortune. Several medical men were sceptical of the utility of missionary operations altogether. One had asked him what was meant by a Medical Missionary Association? He had replied, that there was no such thing as a knowledge of medical science in China. The object the Association had in view was to treat the poor creatures of that country according to the approved mode of science; and surely there could be no harm in putting into their hands, at the same time, a copy of the Scriptures. The gentleman having admitted that there could be nothing wrong in this, he (Dr. R.) informed him that these were the objects the Medical Missionary Society had in view. Now, as the subject was not well understood, and there was consequently some difficulty in raising the necessary funds, he begged to recommend to the clergymen of this city to preach a sermon in behalf of the Society once a-month, in different parts of the town, and they might soon look forward to something different from Glasgow and Edinburgh merely supporting a Medical Missionary between them. A Ladies' Auxiliary Society had also been formed in Edinburgh, the members of which had taken up the subject with the greatest energy, and done much to interest the people in it, and he begged strongly to recommend to the ladies of Glasgow also to undertake this work. They had been much encouraged by a letter from Dr. Kalley, who is a warm advocate of the scheme, and Dr. Ransford read a letter from that distinguished individual, in which was enclosed a draft for the sum of £20, being his subscription in advance for two years, provided the Association resolved to send out a missionary to China. Another Christian minister in Leith had promised £10. The difficulty of selecting a proper person for the mission was very great. They were charged to send none but first-rate men—men of first-rate education, and of whose Christianity there must be no doubt. He believed, however, that ere long they would be enabled to select a proper agent. He felt much pleasure in attending the meeting, and trusted that this was merely the beginning of such meetings; that the important object they had in view would be more and more discussed and brought before the public mind, and that all their proceedings would redound to the glory of God. Dr. Ransford concluded by moving, "That this Association, humbly thanking Almighty God for the blessing hitherto vouchsafed to medical missions in China, approves of the arrangements entered into with the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, recommends the cause to the attention and prayers of the Christian public, and urges on them the duty, in dependence on the help of God, of making every exertion to carry out the object held in view."

The Rev. Dr. HENDERSON said, that under the circumstances he would do little more than simply second the motion. In regard to this subject, they had as yet but a day of small things; yet, they were not left without grounds for thanksgiving. God had opened a door which had been long shut, to the exclusion of Christian influence and agency amongst the millions of the mighty empire of China. The agents were but few—they were but ten. They numbered, however, only two less than the band of apostles with whom Christ intrusted the propagation of the gospel to man over the whole world; and even looking to the millions of the Chinese, and the small agency directed to the Christianising of that country, we need not despair. The word of the living God with which they are intrusted is quick and powerful, and to it He is ready to impart his life-giving Spirit. Another matter of encouragement was, that our missionaries there have



got a welcome. They are, at least, loved for the medical part of their work; and as we have heard, nothing has hitherto been seen in China which has exhibited in so humble and so attractive an aspect the religion of Christ. While he was grieved to hear of the host of prejudices raised against the cause of Christ by men bearing His name, and proceeding from our own shores, surely they ought to give thanks to God that now there was at least the beginning of a better work; that now we have men there who by their works will commend that word of which they speak; and he trusted that they might be honoured in removing those prejudices which, more than the walls of the Chinese empire, are a barrier, and have been a barrier, to the progress of Christianity. The resolution invited to prayer as well as thankfulness. This door had been opened to us, but we should bear in mind that He who has opened it may shut it; and the way to keep it open, at least the means which God may bless for that purpose, may be found in the prayers of the Christian people, seeking that the way thus opened may be entered, and the door not merely kept open, but made effectual; for God, it would be found, does most for his work, not through able instruments—emperors or learned men, or scientific or even good men—but merely in answer to the longing of hearts filled with Christian love, and expressed by prayer for his blessing on the work. Dr. Henderson concluded some other remarks by seconding the resolution, which was also agreed to.

The Rev. Dr. WARDLAW said that at the late hour of the evening, and after the full explanations which had been given of the nature of the institution, it would be unwarrantable in him to detain the meeting beyond a few minutes. He would only say that from the first moment this idea had been brought before his mind, it commended itself to the convictions of his judgment and the feelings of his heart. His only wonder was that the idea had not sooner occurred, and that such a Society had not been earlier instituted, amongst the many objects which had engaged attention during the last half century. It appeared to him that there was a natural affinity between the medical treatment of men and their spiritual treatment; and he rejoiced to hear from the Chairman that this kind of affinity was now extensively felt and recognised amongst the medical profession. And why should the two not go together? Had the object of this Society been alone to give a knowledge of the medical art, it would be worthy of regard; but it was not that alone, nor that chiefly. It was proposed to preach to the soul through the healing of the body, and thereby attaining the highest interests of mankind through those of an inferior nature. In this way they might expect to gain an avenue to the human heart. Dr. Wardlaw, after a few additional remarks, stated that he would be happy in any way which might be in his power to aid the Association, and concluded by moving the appointment of Office-bearers. (See page 4.)

The Rev. Mr. NIVEN, missionary from Caffraria, seconded the resolution. He bore his humble testimony to the success which such an institution must have in the missionary field. When he left this country, about fifteen years ago, he had attained some knowledge of the medical profession, and had employed his skill in the healing art amongst the people of Africa. By this means he had gained a ready access to the carnal heart, and he related an anecdote or two illustrative of the fact. He considered the formation of Medical Missionary Associations to be one of the most interesting signs of the age, and he had only to hope that, when the Society had done something for China, they would extend their efforts to Africa.

The resolution was adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Hill having engaged in prayer, on the motion of James A. Anderson, Esq., a vote of thanks was given to Dr. Watson for his conduct in the chair, when the meeting separated.



got a welcome. They are at least loyal for the medical part of their work. We have heard nothing but praise for the work which has been done in the past and so attractive an aspect of the religion of Christ. While he was engaged to the best of his judgment to the cause of Christ by men bearing the name and proceeding from our own society they ought to give thanks for the fact that now there was at least the possibility of a better work; that now we have men there who by their works will commend that word of which they speak; and he trusted that they might be honored in removing their feet from the walls of the Christian empire and a better and more open a barrier to the progress of Christianity. The resolution invited everyone to the progress of Christianity. This door had been opened to us but we should bear in mind that the door was opened in a way that it may be closed; and the way to keep it open at least the means which God may bless for that purpose may be found in the prayers of the Christian people, seeking that the way thus opened may be entered and the door not merely kept open, but made effectual; for that it would be found does mean for his work, not through able instruments—superior or inferior, or selfish or even good men—but merely in answer to the longing of hearts filled with Christian love and expressed by prayer for his blessing on the work. Dr. Henshaw concluded some other remarks by reading the resolution, which was also agreed to.

The Rev. Dr. Wadsworth said that at the late part of the evening and after the full explanation which had been given of the nature of the institution it would be very desirable in him to detain the meeting beyond a few minutes. He would only say that from the first moment this has had been brought before the mind, it commended itself to the convictions of the judgment and the feelings of his heart. His only wonder was that the idea had not sooner occurred, and that such a society had not been earlier instituted, amongst the many objects which had engaged attention during the last half century. It appeared to him that there was a natural affinity between the medical treatment of man and their spiritual treatment; and he rejoiced to hear from the Chairman that this kind of affinity was now extensively felt and recognized amongst the medical profession. And why should the two not go together? Had the object of this Society been also to give a knowledge of the medical art, it would be worthy of regard; but it was not that alone, nor that chiefly. It was proposed to present to the soul through the bodies of the body, and thereby attaining the highest interests of mankind through those of an inferior nature. In this way they might expect to gain an avenue to the human heart. Dr. Wadsworth, after a few additional remarks, stated that he would be happy in any way which might be in his power to aid the Association and concluded by moving the appointment of Officers (see page 4).

The Rev. Mr. Fayer, subsequently, seconded the resolution. He bore his humble testimony to the success which such an institution must have in the missionary field. When he left his country about seven years ago he had attained some knowledge of the medical profession, and had acquired his skill in the hospital amongst the people of Africa. His first means he had gained ready access to the central heart, and he related an anecdote or two illustrative of the fact. He regarded the formation of Medical Missions Association to be one of the most interesting signs of the age, and he had only to hope that when the Society had done something for China they would extend their efforts to Africa.

The resolution was adopted.  
The Rev. Mr. Hill having engaged in prayer, on the motion of James A. Anderson, Esq., a vote of thanks was given to Dr. Watson for the conduct in the chair, upon the meeting separated.







