

Report of the missionary hospital, in the western suburbs of Canton.

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19.

REPORT
OF THE
MISSIONARY HOSPITAL,
IN THE
WESTERN SUBURBS OF CANTON.

1854-5

ters of societies and public institutions are not very popular
present day, especially if they are long and tedious. But those
rge of such institutions, personally disinclined as they may
write them, yet consider they are morally bound to render a
account of the receipts and disbursements of contributions
ey; and at the same time to furnish, for the satisfaction of
tributors, some information to show the good the charity
ting. It is for this reason, that I have been induced from
year, to publish a short report of the hospital under my

missionary hospitals for the benefit of the Chinese have always
with a liberal support from the foreign community in this coun-
o argument is needed to recommend them to public sympathy.
are regarded by all who take an interest in the exercise of
dence, as not only valuable institutions in alleviating much
suffering, but also as most useful auxiliaries to the diffusion
Christianity in China. And this they do in two ways; 1st, in pio-
the way, and opening up inaccessible places for the mission-
2d. In affording ample fields, not only for the exhibition of
an "charity to our neighbor," but for inculcating, in the freest

manner possible, the sublime truths of the Inspired Volume. These remarks are, I believe, applicable to every place in China, but they apply with special force to Canton and its vicinity, where there is *far more restriction and difficulty* of every kind in carrying on the missionary enterprise. It would be irrelevant in this place to assign the reasons for it. The fact is unquestionable; and long experience has shown, that there is no better way to gain an entrance into any desirable but forbidden locality, and remove the prejudice that attaches to the foreigner, and obtain thereby a favorable hearing of the christian doctrine, than "healing the sick."

Every missionary in the south of China, has given his cordial testimony to the good service medical missions have rendered, and are still increasingly rendering, to the cause of religion in China, and this is the greatest honor that the medical profession can enjoy. No one can be more averse than myself, from applauding in an undue manner, the value of medical missions, but it is satisfactory to know that they have not been a failure; and that they are admirably adapted to meet the peculiar prejudices and wants of the Chinese people, especially in certain parts. To conduct a missionary hospital in an efficient manner, involves, however, more sacrifice of personal ease and comfort, than probably any other kind of gratuitous labor in China. To say nothing of the actual fatigue of prescribing for 100 to 150, or even 200 patients at a time, who are laboring under a variety of complaints, (two or three very frequently affecting one patient,) it must be felt by every medical missionary in China, a trying work to be brought continually into contact with so great an amount of misery, both physical and moral, which he can only partially relieve. And when his spirits are depressed from these causes, nothing cheers him more to renewed effort in this work and labor of love, than to hear that the great end he has in view, is in any measure secured. And what is that great end, but, that by this means, large numbers of men and women may be brought to hear the Gospel, and that through the instrumentality of the hospital, an excellent introduction may be afforded to many places, that otherwise would be partially or entirely closed to the missionary or to the native christian teacher, in their itinerating visits both in town and country.

The last Report for 1853-54 was much taken up in describing the difficulties that were surmounted in renting new and commodious premises; an opposition that was raised not so much against the foreigner, or the removal of the hospital to a more advantageous

position, as from disappointment and chagrin on the part of the disaffected neighbors, in not having their consent bought over with money. Since then no trouble of this kind has been repeated; we have lived quietly and peaceably with all around us: and circumstances have occurred to prove the necessity and advantage of having sufficient room to accommodate the unexampled number of applicants for surgical aid. In July of last year, rebellion broke out in this province; Canton and the neighboring places were attacked by numerous bands of insurgents, amounting to many thousands, who aimed at first to overthrow the existing local government, but failing in this, and disappointed that so few wealthy and influential persons joined their standard of revolt, they settled down into mere marauding parties, or banditti, bent only on plunder, to the injury of the peaceable inhabitants. This naturally soon created an universal detestation of these disturbers of the peace, and caused a reaction in favor of the old established, government. The literati and gentry, who are the heads of the people, now combined their influence and resources, to combat the common foe; and raised at their own expense, vast bodies of able militia, before whom and the government troops, the insurgents could not stand. At length after much skirmishing on both sides, the rebel party has been nearly wholly destroyed, and dispersed into other provinces. It has been a desperate affair; and nothing but injury has resulted to all classes, the position of foreigners being likewise in no way improved, as it has been at Shanghai and Amoy. Many have been killed and wounded on both sides, and the poor helpless creatures that have lately fallen, like so many sheep into the hands of their enemies, are brought to Canton and beheaded, in number more than a thousand a week. Forgiveness is now offered to all who sincerely repent. When the rebellion first broke out, the wounded of both parties, were brought to the hospital, but this was soon put a stop to, from the police seizing those who were suspected of being *tseih*, (robbers). There is appended to this report a detail of some of the principal cases. The number of wounded men admitted into the hospital for six months, has been over 500 persons; since then, owing to frequent indisposition, there has been no regular account kept of the cases, or of the number of wounded men brought to the hospital, either as in or out patients. For a period of five months when fighting was at its height, quite a sensation was created in Canton and its vicinity, by the noise and bustle of conveying wounded soldiers through the streets in open chairs or sedans; and large boats bringing wounded militia

by water. The hospital was during this time thronged with visitors, and the friends or companions of those who had been wounded in battle. The largest number residing at one time in the wards, was 135, of whom about 40 were attendants on the patients. The average was eighty cases. The exertion and anxiety of seeing and dressing daily such a number of bad wounds brought on exhaustion and fever. To recruit lost health, it became necessary to take a sea voyage to Shanghai in December last. Dr. Dickson most kindly undertook the charge of prescribing for the wounded soldiers, and the Rev. J. Cox, Wesleyan missionary as kindly came to reside on the premises to superintend the arrangements of the hospital, during my temporary absence of a month, and did everything in his power to relieve the wants of the wounded men.

I returned quite well early in January, and was pleased to find everything had gone on so satisfactorily. Owing to the labor of dressing so many out and in patients and inhaling the unhealthy effluvia, that emanated from their bodies, the native assistant also, and three coolies, were all successively laid up with attacks of fever for a few days. If it had been the heat of summer, instead of the cool of winter, it is not improbable that some of us would have been attacked with fevers of a virulent type. Happily there was no excessive heat, and no want of good accommodation; hence the only type of fever that was prevalent for a time, was a mild remittent and intermittent. One patient only died of fever.

Fighting (owing to lack of courage on both sides) was seldom carried on from hand to hand, and hence cases of incised wounds were not frequent. Those that occurred, though severely injured by a blunt sword, did well. Sword cuts did not produce half the constitutional mischief, that wounds from small cannon, gingalls, and guns produced. The balls projected from these ugly and uncouth instruments, were of all sizes and shapes, varying from a pea to a good sized orange, projected with little force, and chiefly composed of melted iron, run into badly formed clay moulds; they had a rough irregular form, and produced fearful mischief by jagging and contusing the flesh in their passage. It is well known that the smoother the ball, and the swifter its course, the less is the injury inflicted; and the reverse of this is equally true. Moreover, if these iron balls be not speedily cut out and extracted, they occasion pain and erysipelas of the limb from the iron oxidizing in the flesh and poisoning it. It was strongly suspected also that the balls were placed in some irritating substance, that might easily lodge in their

interstices, which would add to the mischief. Whatever may be the cause, the wounds always sloughed very much, were slow in healing, and occasioned death in some instances from the mere local irritation set up. It was often matter for remark, that by far the greater proportion of the gun-shot wounds were received in the extremities, and more frequently on the external, than in the internal side of the limb, where the vessels and nerves chiefly lie; showing how great the chances of war always are.

The following shows the proportion in 171 cases; 91 were of the lower extremities and back; 41 of the upper extremity and shoulder; 110 of the chest and abdomen; 18 of the head and neck; 11 of the face, eye, mouth, &c. The mortality has been small, compared with the numbers that recovered; of the 171 cases recorded above, which were of a more dangerous character than those which occurred subsequently, when fighting was carried on with less vigour, thirty six died. Of these 15 died in the house, the remainder were taken home by their friends in a dying state, or died in the boat that was hired to bring them to the hospital. As it may appear strange, and perhaps inhuman, to hear of sending dying persons home, it will not be out of place here to observe, that death is regarded by the Chinese with a superstitious dread. There is the greatest fear of being near a dead body; hence when a person died in the hospital, or was known to be dying, that room would be immediately vacated by the rest of the patients, and only new patients, ignorant of the fact, would occupy that room again. It was also desirable to avoid, as much as possible, the frequent occurrence of seeing or knowing that there were dead men in the hospital, as it damped the hope of recovery in the living. The relations also much preferred taking their friends home in a dying state, as the removal of a dead body involved much expense and trouble. The soldiers were buried at the expense of the Government; the militia, from a patriotic fund, which defrayed all these expenses. The widows received a small present of money; but there are no pensions for wounded disabled soldiers, and no provision made for widows and children. Native doctors were provided by Government to attend upon the sick and wounded, and the militia also had native surgeons who were paid according to the number of cures they effected. As none of them, particularly at first, had courage or ability to cut out balls, or attend to dangerous cases, these were mostly brought to the hospital, by their friends or sent by their superior officers, or the managing committees, with a card of introduction. Whether the local Govern-

ment, when peace and order is fully restored will show any sense of its obligations to foreign surgeons by conferring upon them some badge of honor, or some public token of their respect, is very doubtful; most probably not; for the Chinese are slow to acknowledge any obligations to foreigners. But this makes no difference to the medical missionary in his treatment of the sick; his motto is: It is more blessed to give than to receive; and his consolation and reward are derived from the satisfaction he feels in alleviating to some extent the wretchedness and misery of his afflicted fellow men, and pointing them to Christ the Saviour.

The following tabular statements will show the number of persons applying for relief from month to month, and also the attendance on the Sabbath days, throughout the year.

Number of persons applying each month for medical relief, three times a week.

1854-55	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	Total.
Men,	1220	897	960	1290	1416	1254	985	640	925	1322	1411	1421	13,741
Women,	477	525	551	856	923	676	559	348	512	654	856	800	7,737
12months	1697	1422	1571	2146	2339	1930	1544	988	1437	1976	2267	2221	21,478

Attendance of the sick and other persons in the Sabbath day of each month.

1854-55	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	Total.
Men,	486	316	376	587	568	520	445	361	433	486	418	385	5381
Women,	198	145	171	252	197	156	169	138	178	287	247	199	2337
12months	684	461	547	839	765	676	614	499	611	773	665	584	7718

The above lists are faithfully made out by the tract distributor Low tingsheen, who issues bamboo tickets numbered from 1 to 100 in two sets, for men and women; which he receives back, and registers their number. It was formerly my practise at Macao and Hongkong to keep a record of individual cases, sirname, place of residence, &c.; as is still done by one or two medical missionaries in other places: but in Canton the applicants for medical aid, have been so numerous, that to save time and expense, we adopted the simpler plan of keeping a general record of the number prescribed for each receiving day, having no regard whether they have been before or not. But even this plan is but an approximation to the truth, for it does not include in-patients, or those who gain admission through a private entrance. The number in July, August, and September, have been fewer than preceeding years, owing to the dis-

disturbed state of Canton and its neighborhood. The entire number who have come into these foreign premises, exclusive of in-patients amounts, with the Sabbath attendance, to 29,196. Of these about one third have appeared for the first time. The precious opportunity of teaching such large congregations, collected both from town and country, the way of salvation through faith in a crucified Redeemer, has not been lost. Twice on the Sabbath and six times in the week day, the "Good news" has been proclaimed. On the Sabbath morning at 11 A. M. to large and orderly congregations; on the afternoon at 3 P. M. to the in-patients, in a more free conversational style. On the week day, three times a week, there is preaching at 10 A. M. and 1 P. M. Those hearing at the earlier hour, are not the same who are present at the second service; these have come to the hospital at a later period of the day. Copies of the Scriptures and religious tracts are given to all who can read.

There has been no ordained European missionary (from various circumstances) on the spot, for some years past; it has devolved therefore upon the medical missionary, in the Providence of God, to undertake far more in this department of the missionary work than he had ever contemplated, or than could properly be expected of him to do; he has however, endeavoured to fulfill from a sense of obligation, the double duties of a missionary and a medical man. The native preacher Leang-a-fah had been associated for several years past with the medical missionary, in making known to the Chinese the great truths of Christianity, and of his character and ability there is no need now to speak. The good man, full of years and of faith, was removed rather suddenly in April last by the stroke of death. He was ordained a christian teacher to his countrymen by the late Dr. Morrison in the year 1823 and faithfully fulfilled the work given him to do. His name will be long remembered with respect in the Churches of England and America. His place will not soon be filled by another, but his work as a preacher now more than ever devolves upon the medical missionary, and two native christians, who have been long acting in the capacity of colporteurs.

The following summary will show our present condition as a Mission.

Number of Church members,	-	-	-	-	7.
Died during the past year (Leang Afah,)	-	-	-	-	1.
Number of public services each week,	-	-	-	-	7.
Number of a more private character,	-	-	-	-	8.
Average attendance at the former,	-	-	-	-	100.

Average attendance at the latter,	-	-	-	-	25.
Number of in-patients during past year,				from 600 to 700.	
Number of out patients from July 1st, 1854 to July 1st,					
1855,	-	-	-	-	21,478.
Number attending on the Sabbath day,	-	-	-	-	7718.
Number of books distributed in and out of the hospital					
during the last 12 months,	-	-	-	-	27,000.
Medical Missionary,	-	-	-	-	1.
Native Preachers,	-	-	-	-	2.
Medical Assistant,	-	-	-	-	1.
Dispensary coolies,	-	-	-	-	2.

Owing to want of time and strength, the works on elementary science and surgery have been kept in abeyance. The first and second part of the elements of Natural Philosophy referred to in the last report, have been published (in a small edition at present) at the expense of Dr. Lockhart at Shanghai, but are without the necessary wood engravings to illustrate them. These perhaps will be supplied before the close of the year.

The following outline of cases are from notes taken on the spot of all who were brought to the hospital during one month, viz: from October 14th to Nov. 14th. The remaining miscellaneous cases have occurred since that time. But before entering upon them, I cannot forbear expressing my obligations to W. G. Dickson M. D. for the truly kind aid he has rendered me. Besides giving assistance in important cases, he visited the hospital daily for a month to enable me, on his advice, to take a voyage to Shanghai for the benefit of my health.

October 14th, 1854. Received ten cases of gun-shot wounds from the country.

1. *Gun-shot wound of the shoulder.* Ball passed through the head of the humerus, and grazed the ribs in its course, to its outlet below the clavicle; followed by much constitutional irritation, and long continued suppuration. He was removed to the country, where he subsequently died from exhaustion of the powers of life.

2. *Gun-shot wound of the right hand.* Ball entered at the back, splintering the metacarpal bones of the index and long fingers, and passed out at the wrist, near the radial artery; became much debilitated from frequent attacks of intermittent fever, and local irritation; but finally the man made an entire recovery, and retained a serviceable hand.

3. *Gun-shot wound of the left arm.* Both bones grazed by the passage of the ball, and skin and flesh contused. Discharged cured.

4. *Gun-shot wound of the right thigh.* Ball entered on the inner side of the triangular space, near to the femoral artery. The ball was extracted. The patient suffered from violent and involuntary contraction of the muscles, was threatened with locked jaw, and died soon after from hemorrhage on the 27th.

5. *Gun-shot wound of the chest.* Ball passed through the sternum at its lower third; air passed in and out, and distended the integuments around. Right arm near the arm-pit also wounded by a spent ball; the patient suffered from difficulty of breathing, cough, and frequent attacks of ague, and depressing languor. Relieved by morphia and quinine; was sent home to the country for change of air, from whence he returned with other patients soon after, quite well, with no sense of uneasiness arising from the presence of the ball in his chest.

6. to 9. *Were superficial wounds* of the finger, and of the thigh and leg. Discharged cured.

10. *Gun-shot wound of the head.* Ball in the brain; passed through the left parietal bone; brain protruding and sloughy; patient restless and nearly insensible, paralyzed. Died five days after he was brought to the hospital.

October 15th, admitted the following cases:—

1. *Contused wound of thigh from a spent ball.* Cured.

2. *Ditto of the integuments of the chest.* Cured.

3. *Gun-shot wound of the upper part of the thigh,* passing on the inner side of the femoral artery; extracted posteriorly; size of a walnut. Cured.

4. *Gun-shot wound of the head.* Bullet entered a little anterior to the articulation of the jaw; the little finger readily passed into the brain; the patient was insensible at first, but gradually became conscious; could hear and speak. He complained of pain in the back part of the head. Died four days after, rather suddenly.

5. *Gun-shot wound of the thigh.* Ball entered at outer side, fracturing the bone, and wounding a large blood vessel in its course; limb much distended and cold; the patient (a large powerful man) was restless and feverish from the first, and died three days after his admission, from injury to the femoral vein; the hemorrhage was diffused through the limb. Amputation held out no hope of success.

6. *Gun-shot wound of the thighs and scrotum.* A ball, the size of

an orange entered behind the trochanter of right limb, passed through it, the scrotum, and fleshy part of the left thigh posteriorly. A young muscular soldier. This extensive wound presented a fearfully ragged and unhealthy appearance. There was much constitutional irritation at first, which made recovery very questionable for a time; but at length the powers of life rallied, the large sloughs came away, and the wounds finally closed up completely by healthy granulation; and he left the hospital well, and very grateful for the treatment received. The successful issue of this case made a very favorable impression on the officers and men belonging to the corps of H. E. the Governor-general.

On the 16th, admitted seven cases. 1. Gun-shot wound of the thigh, contusing seriously the soft parts, but sparing the femur and blood vessels. 2. Small ball passed through the sole of the foot.

3. *Small ball passed through the fleshy part of the leg.*

4. 5. *Two superficial wounds.* All cured.

6. *Contusion of the foot.* Cured.

7. *Gun-shot wound of left leg.* A large ragged wound, fibula broken into several pieces. These being taken out, the ball was felt at the bottom of the wound, and was cut out posteriorly; the size of a walnut, only flattened, a rough iron ball. Much irritation followed, but the patient made finally a good recovery.

Oct. 18th. Admitted two cases, one a ball in the left buttock; the other on the right arm, below the elbow, followed by much suppuration, and occasional hemorrhage. In neither case could the balls be found, and though recovery was tedious, they were both cured.

Oct. 20th. Ten cases of superficial wounds were attended to, chiefly of the hands and legs from contusion. A curious case of an infant was brought for treatment at this date; one month old, with an imperforate anus; urine and fecal matter both passed through the same passage. The imperforate bowel was opened by cutting into it, to the depth of an inch, which allowed the fecal matter to pass through the natural passage.

Oct. 23d. Eleven wounded men were brought in a large boat from Fuhshan.

1. *A fatal ball wound of the thigh, fracturing the bones, and injuring the large blood vessels.*

2. *A fatal case of a contused ragged wound and burn, from an arrow charged with a fuse, of the upper part of the front of the thigh, injuring the blood vessels, and attended with great constitutional irritation.*

3. *Ball in the foot*; extracted.
4. *Ball through the right buttock*; a large sloughing wound occasioning much irritation.
5. *Ball through the fleshy part of the leg*.
6. *A small bullet contusing the scalp*; extracted.
- 7, 8. *Contused wound of the face*, and of the neck.
9. *Ball in the foot*; extracted.
10. *Contused wound of the leg*. These light cases all did well.
11. *Wound of the femoral artery*; died soon after his arrival; was blanched from profuse hemorrhage previously.

Oct. 24th. Admitted, 1. *A case of gun-shot wound through the ankle joint*, shattering the bones in a fearful manner. Suffered great constitutional irritation from the time of his admission; was averse to an operation being performed. He was taken home, and gradually sunk from exhaustion.

2. *Gun-shot wound through fleshy part of the leg*. Cured.
3. *Sabre wounds of the head*, seven in number, dividing the scalp, fracturing the parietal bones in two places, and exposing the brain to view; together with two lacerated wounds on each thigh. He was left for dead on the field of battle, but revived, and bore up against all these injuries in a surprising manner, for more than half a month. He was 58 years of age; finding that he was gradually sinking, he was recommended to be taken home, where he died soon after.

4. *Severe gun-shot wound of the thigh*. Femur fractured, and several loose pieces taken out of the wound; there was occasional hemorrhage showing that the artery was wounded. Amputation recommended as the only chance of life; while his friends were sent for to give their permission, fresh hemorrhage ensued, and through the negligence of the patient's attendant, who had contrary to directions loosened the screw tourniquet, it was so excessive, that the patient was in a dying state when I reached the spot.

- 5 and 6 cases were superficial injuries; cured.
7. *Gun-shot wound through the pelvis into the abdomen*; died soon after from internal hemorrhage.
8. *Small bullet through the lip*. Cured.
9. *One extracted from the scalp*. Cured.

In the evening another large boat full of wounded men arrived.

1. *Ball in the thigh*; bone fractured and comminuted. The young man became delirious, and was sent home in a dying state.
2. *Compound and comminuted fracture of both bones of each*

leg, with much sloughing and injury of soft parts. Amputation was the only hope, but he was too weak and shattered, to justify our recommending it while in this state; a ball and several pieces of bone were removed, and the patient supported with stimulants. He was taken home a few days after in dying circumstances.

3. *Ball through the arm fracturing the radius.* Cured.

4. *Small bullet in the scalp.*—5. *Small bullet in the leg.*—6. *One in the thigh, extracted.*—7, 8, 9, were superficial wounds and contusions. All did well.

Oct. 25th. Admitted two Chinchew soldiers, one *a compound fracture of both bones of the leg*. Had been under the care of a native doctor. The leg was crooked, and the broken ends of the bone riding over each other. He got a tolerably sound leg at last, but owing to vicious practices, he was dismissed before a complete cure was effected.

2. *Ball through the upper part of the foot.* Cured.

Oct. 26th. *Gun-shot wound of the knee joint.* Ball had passed clear through the joint, and wounded the popliteal artery. Much blood had been lost, which had reduced the patient to a very weak state. Administered brandy and water, and applied the screw tourniquet to the femoral artery, intending to amputate if the patient rallied. He sunk however from exhaustion, and the shock of so serious an injury, a few hours after his arrival at the hospital. He had several friends in attendance upon him, and was spoken of as a valuable officer. He had raised and commanded about 50 militia in person.

From the back of the city, five soldiers were brought in mountain chairs or sedans to the hospital.

1. *Ball in the integuments of the back, extracted.*

2. *Ball in the arm; could not be found.*

3. *Ball through the thigh, impinging externally.* Extracted.

4. *Ball passed deep in the lumbar muscles and fascia; extracted after some difficulty.* Patient died afterwards from an attack of severe remittent fever.

5. *Superficial wound of the scalp; soon made an out-patient.*

Oct. 26th. Six cases of ball wounds and contusions, all light, and made out patients.

Oct. 27th. A spent ball wounding the abdominal walls, without entering the abdomen; no bad symptom followed.

2. *Contused wound of tibia from spent ball.* Cured.

3. *Flesh wound of the thigh* Cured.

4. *Ball in the buttock, could not be found.* Cured.

5. *Gun-shot wound of the face*, carrying away a large portion of the malar bone, passing into the integuments of the shoulder behind, where it was cut out. The patient did well at first, but died rather suddenly from exhaustion and fear.

6. *Ball in the thigh*, occasioning great pain. Every effort to discover the ball failed. He recovered without any inconvenience from its presence.

7. *Ball taking a circular course through the integuments of the chest*; cut out the opposite side. Cured.

8. *Ball passing into shoulder joint*, and lost behind the scapula; suffered much pain. Discharged himself, being dissatisfied that the ball could not be extracted.

9. *Ball in the outer side of the leg*. Extracted.

10. *Ball in the thigh*; could not be felt at first, afterwards discovered, and cut out. He suffered much irritation from the ball, with erysipelas; had depression of spirits; was taken back to the camp, where he died soon after.

11. *Fatal case of compound fracture of the bones of the leg*, with venous hemorrhage and mortification. Of the above, eight were soldiers from back of the city, the others were militia men from the country.

Oct. 28th. Admitted, 1. *A soldier with ball entered at the outer side of the sterno-mastoid muscle of the neck*. Breathing rather hurried, swallowing difficult, neck swollen. Ball could not be found. The left carotid and subclavian arteries beat strongly with a purring sound. He recovered without any bad symptoms.

2. *Burn and contusion of the neck from a large ball grazing the skin in its course*. Discharged cured.

3. *Ball in the thigh extracted*.

4. *Ball passing obliquely through the chest in the direction of the liver*; felt great uneasiness. The following day discovered the ball beneath the ribs, some bad symptoms threatened from injury to the liver, but finally the patient made an excellent recovery.

5. *A superficial burn from gunpowder*. Cured.

6, 7. *Balls passed through the fleshy part of the calf of the leg*. Cured.

Oct. 30th. *Gun-shot wounds of the neck and back*, two bullets taken out of the neck, another deep in the back could not be found; sabre cuts about the head. An elderly man and opium smoker; was removed by his friends to his home near, and died soon after from dysentery and exhaustion.

2. *Gun-shot wound of right hand from bursting of a gun.* Thumb was obliged to be removed, repeated bleedings from the palmar arteries; tourniquet was required to be kept loose on the arm continually. Danger from hemorrhage at length ceased, but the hand and arm were in the most critical state for some time from erysipelas and suppuration among the tendons and deep palmar fascia. The man, however, after two months' anxious treatment, finally recovered with a tolerably useful hand.

3. *Bullet through the fleshy part of the leg.* Cured.

4. *Fracture of the lower jaw and loss of several teeth;* several loose pieces of bones were taken out. Cured.

5. *Contused wound of leg from spent ball.* Cured.

6. *Corneitis with chemosis from gunpowder.* Cured.

7. *A case of jaundice,* improved.

8. *Contusion about the hip joint from bursting of a gun.* Cured.

Oct. 31st. *Gun-shot wound of leg.* A ball the size of a walnut was found jammed between the two bones, a little below the joint; the fibula was dislocated, and the tibia broken. The ball, after much difficulty, was raised and drawn out by the bullet forceps. There was a good prospect that the case would do well. Two days afterwards the leg became discolored and emphysematous. During the night of the 3d of Nov. I was suddenly called up to arrest hemorrhage; found the limb quite cold, pulse fluttering, and the patient sinking. He died two hours after. At this date there were 130 persons sleeping in the wards. From 90 to 100 required to be dressed daily from 11 A. M. to 4 P. M.

Nov. 2d. Admitted five wounded soldiers from north of the city.

1. *Ball passed obliquely behind the knee joint,* felt deep in the muscular substance, taken out without much difficulty; popliteal artery was felt pulsating strongly, and probably slightly grazed by the ball. Being of a weakly habit, he gradually sunk from the constitutional irritation that followed.

2. *Compound fracture of the thigh bone.* A small ball was detected on the inner side and readily cut out. The patient proved an extremely restless subject, disturbing the fracture apparatus repeatedly, and sunk from the irritation set up; which he was the less able to bear from being addicted to the use of opium.

3. *Small ball in the fleshy part of the thigh,* extracted. Cured.

4. *Burn of the leg from gunpowder.* Cured.

5. *Burn of the thigh and leg from gunpowder.* Cured.

Nov. 3d. Admitted thirteen from Tae-leuk district.

1. *Ball into the abdomen* in the region of the stomach. Died soon after his arrival.

2. *Ball through the pelvis* into the abdomen. Died.

3. *Ball passed through the right arm*, fracturing both bones, followed by erysipelas. Cured.

4. *Ball through the fleshy part of the arm*. Cured.

5. *Fracture of the lower jaw*, bullet ejected by the mouth. Cured.

6. *Bullet in the calf of the leg*; extracted. Cured.

7. *Contusion of the leg* from bursting of a gun. Cured.

8. *Numerous sword cuts* on the arms and head. Cured.

The remaining five were slight flesh wounds, and all cured.

Nov. 4th. Admitted six wounded soldiers.

1. *Ball entered the upper part of the chest* near the axilla, went a circular course, without injuring the lung; was detected in the back below the scapula, where it was cut out. The patient suffered from profuse suppuration, and was threatened with venous hemorrhage from the brachial vein, but finally recovered, and regained his flesh and strength.

2. *Ball through the right buttock*, much sloughing. Cured.

3. *Do. of the left*. Discharged himself.

4. *Ball through the fleshy part of the leg*. Cured.

5. *Ball passed through the ham*, injuring the tendons slightly, sparing the vessels. Cured.

6. *Wound of the foot* from a spent ball. Cured.

Nov. 6. *Bullet into the knee joint*, part of the inner condyle of the femur injured, felt by the probe, and cut out on the outer side without difficulty. The usual irritation, and suppuration followed. He was removed by his friends and died soon after. Amputation would not be heard of; and not till the patient was in dying circumstances, would they believe it was a case attended with danger.

Note. Continued and intermittent fever affected both in and out patients at this time.

Nov. 8th. 1 *Bullet in the thigh* could not be found. Cured.

2. *Bullet passed through the upper and outer part of the shoulder* injuring the scapula, several pieces taken out. Cured.

3. *Bullet wound of the thigh*. Cured.

4. *Bullet in the arm*. Cured.

5. *Bullet in the hand*. Cured.

6. *Ball passed through the abdomen* from behind, pulse extremely small, countenance anxious and pale, with other dangerous symptoms indicating a mortal wound. Recommended to be taken home.

7. *Dislocation of the shoulder*, reduced. Cured.

Nov. 9th. 1 *Bullet in the neck*, jugular vein most probably injured from the hemorrhage that followed; very weak and anxious. Ball could not be found. Dressed and sent back to the country.

2. *Mortal wound through the lung*; spitting of blood, almost pulseless, recommended to be taken home.

3. *Severe contusion of arm* with fracture of radius; cured.

4. *Severe fracture of both bones of the arm*, much sloughing; cured.

5. *Sword wounds* fifteen in number. Cured.

Nov. 10th. *One severe incised wound of the scalp*, skull fractured, patient partially comatose, not admitted.

2. *Shoulder joint entirely severed*, hanging on by loose skin and muscle, brachial artery (singularly enough) not divided. His companions were unwilling it should be amputated; sent a messenger 12 miles to obtain consent of the parents, before the reply came their son was dying! The poor man himself said, "If I lose my arm, what can I do?" We replied we were not thinking of his arm, but of his life. He referred the matter then to his friends, and if they consented he was willing.

3. *Gun-shot wound of the leg*, both bones fractured, soft parts severely contused; ball size of a walnut, had traversed the whole length of the limb from near the joint to the tendo-achilles, where it was cut out. Amputation here also was essential to life, but it was refused. They both died among their friends soon after.

Nov. 16th. Fifteen cases of wounded men were brought to be dressed; some admitted; all gun-shot wounds; one of these had both legs nearly shot off. The only prospect of life was amputation as soon as the powers of life rallied. This being decidedly objected to, the patient was sent back in the same boat that he came.

Two cases of severe sabre wounds. One of these was wounded in fifteen different places; the other on the face and neck fearfully lacerated from abortive attempt at decapitation. Both made an excellent recovery.

MISCELLANEOUS CASES. From January 1st to June 30th.

1. *Ball in the brain*, through the centre of the forehead. Probably not very deep; it could not be detected by the probe; several loose pieces of bone were removed, and slight suppuration continued a long time. The young man was also seriously injured in the arm, and was reduced to the greatest state of weakness. He was sent home into the country for change of air, from whence he has returned quite well, excepting some ulcers on the arm, and a stiff joint.

2. *Fracture of the mastoid process*, and laceration of the lobe of the ear, and soft parts in front, from a ball. At first sight it appeared a mortal wound, as the course of the ball pointed to the brain, but as no bad symptoms followed, it probably got embedded in the sphenoid or superior maxillary bones. All his friends were much surprised and pleased at his entire recovery.

3. *Gun-shot wound of the neck*, ball passed just above the clavicle, through the brachial plexus of nerves, producing temporary paralysis of the arm, and impinged on the inner side of the scapula, whence it was extracted. There was much suppuration, some difficulty of breathing and expectoration of blood at first, from injury to the apex of the lung, and long continued debility, but the young man was finally restored to health.

4. *Severe injury to the arm*, and burn of the face, arms, and legs from explosion of gunpowder, whilst ramming home a gun, from vent hole not being properly secured; fifty different splintered pieces of the rammer were propelled with great force into the arm and axilla, which were extracted with difficulty; the large vessels were wonderfully spared, and though hemorrhage occurred twice, it was easily restrained after the irritating splinter was removed. The patient made an excellent recovery.

5. A rice merchant besmeared with blood was brought into the hospital from one of the river steamers. The vessel came into collision with a ship at anchor, and besides other injuries, snapped the chains sustaining the smoke funnel, part of which or the chain, struck heavily on the crown of the head of this man, producing immediate paralysis of the left leg and arm. The parietal bone, to the size of half a dollar, was depressed deeply and firmly on the brain. There were no bad symptoms for ten days, after which they slowly appeared. The depressed and fractured pieces of bone, excepting one piece that could not be moved, were raised by a lever, but it effected no change in the improvement of the patient. The paralysis became more complete, his mind less clear, body wasting, pulse quick, inability to sleep, violent intermittent at night time for three nights, and complained of heat and depression at his heart; soon after, he became gradually comatose. One more attempt was made to raise the remaining piece of bone, but on trying to extract it from its now loosened position, hemorrhage from the longitudinal sinus came on, and the attempt was given up; insensibility gradually became complete, and he died in that state, three weeks after receiving the accident.

6. On the same day, and by the same accident, a respectable female, the wife of a military officer, was brought to the hospital for treatment. The scalp was torn up from the forehead, backwards several inches, exposing the bone. Her hair pin was forced through the skin behind, and the face, hands and clothes, were covered with blood. The poor woman was frantic with terror, and screamed incessantly for hours. She at last was worn down with fatigue and loss of blood, and got some sleep. The next day she was rational and calm, and allowed the wounds to be dressed. With the exception of a small portion of dead bone, which was readily removed, the whole wound healed up very favorably, and with very little disfigurement.

7. *Compound and badly comminuted fracture of both bones of the leg* from falling of a wall. It seemed even to us, who are accustomed to see wonderful restorative powers in the constitution of the Chinese, that nothing could save this man's life, but an amputation. But according to our usual practise an attempt was made to save the limb, and it succeeded. He was discharged after long and careful dressing for 3 months, with a serviceable leg.

8. *Gun-shot wound of the left elbow joint*, brachial artery wounded, from which there had been fearful hæmorrhage twice. He had been under the care of Chinese doctors; was admitted March 2d, eighteen days after the accident occurred. One or two large shot were extracted, but several more deeply embedded could not be got out. On consultation with Dr. Dickson, we agreed that tying the artery above held out a good prospect of cure without amputation. The artery was accordingly effectually tied by Dr. Dickson; the arm carefully dressed and bandaged. For three days the case went on favorably. On the 5th the patient became feverish and restless. The joint was more seriously injured than at first appeared. The head of the ulna was distinctly felt by probe, and matter issued from the openings made by the shot. The ligature came away on the 8th; the arm was swollen, and not so warm as the other; felt soft and painful on pressure. Hæmorrhage reappeared from the same place, and through the openings made by the shot; on a second consultation, it appeared to us that cutting down to find the wounded ends of the artery would be a hazardous and hopeless undertaking. The patient moreover was in too weak a state to bear any such operation. Death seemed inevitable. He was informed of his danger, and that amputation was the only chance, and that a very slight one, for his recovery. He preferred to return to his native village, where he died the following day.

9. *Gun-shot wound of the foot*, several of the metatarsal bones injured, tendons in a sloughing state, several pieces of fractured bone were taken out, and the foot dressed and bandaged. Most surgeons seeing this case on his admission, would probably have pronounced amputation of the foot inevitable. But the man made an excellent recovery, and had no necessity for a crutch.

10. *Two cases of balls in the leg*. One a long round piece of iron in front of the leg; the other a bullet behind the external left malleolus. Both were extracted, and did well.

10. A militia soldier while rowing an armed boat, *received a ball which passed through his hand* and carried away portion of the middle and ring fingers and fractured the metacarpal bones of the little finger. Removed the two shattered fingers and splinters of bone, and brought the wounded parts into apposition; no serious hæmorrhage followed. Discharged cured.

11. Admitted in April a woman with *an immense tumor of a fungoid character* growing from the right side. The mother of 2 or 3 children; 30 year old. Its circumference at the base measures over three feet, and over two feet across any part, from base to base. She was sent home as an unfit case for operation.

12. Ditto an elderly woman with *a fungoid carcinomatous growth*, size of an infant's head, growing from the back, surface, ulcerated, and discharging fœtid matter; was very anxious to have it removed, was admitted as a case for consultation. Before this could take place, hæmorrhage suddenly appeared from a vein opened by the process of ulceration, and though readily stopped by pressure, she was so weakened by the loss of blood, and fear, that she gradually sunk from exhaustion; brandy and other means failing to revive her.

13. Two old women with small feet were admitted in April with *fractured bones of the leg*, occasioned by losing their balance, while stepping into a boat; both recovered, without any bad symptoms.

14. *Compound fracture of the thigh bone* from the bursting of a gun, a piece of metal passed into the upper part of the thigh, and injured one or more of the principal vessels, producing great distension of the limb; the piece of iron could not be found either through the original wound, or through a counter opening made to discharge accumulated matter. Applied the long tailed bandage and splint, but with no hope of any ability to save the patient's life. His friends were informed of the danger, and also of the possibility of hæmorrhage occurring at any time. Amputation was quite out of the question. He was admitted on the 17th of April, and died on the night

of the 26th, from violent and sudden hæmorrhage. He was dead long before any of us could reach the spot.

15. Ten cases admitted on the 17th. 1st. *leg and arm shot off*; died just as he arrived at the hospital. 2. *Small ball lost in the bones of the face*, entered below the orbit; no bad symptoms. 3. *Ball through the fleshy part of the arm*. 4. *Small shot in the back*, and six cases of *severe burns* from explosion of gunpowder.

16. *Compound and comminuted fracture of both bones of leg*. Ball discovered posteriorly, and cut out; several pieces of loose bones were taken away at the same time. Placed the limb on Liston's fracture apparatus; afterward supported it by sand bags; he has made a good recovery.

17. Admitted a young militia man with *lower arm shot off* about 3 inches from the joint had lost much blood. As there seemed a good prospect of saving the arm without amputation above the joint, the arteries were tied, the projecting bones sawed off, and the soft parts brought together by plaster and dressing. There was much sloughing of the contused flesh, but there was plenty to cover the bones and the surface was healing up favorably by granulation. His general health however greatly suffered. Had repeated attacks of ague, lost flesh, no appetite, copious perspirations, and looked very sallow and weakly. Did not complain of any pain or uneasiness internally. He was sent to the country for change of air in May, but returned in June reduced to a still greater degree of weakness and emaciation. On examination, he was found suffering from a large abscess of the liver. A trocar was introduced, and about 3 lbs. of fœtid matter was evacuated, affording much relief. The orifice was carefully closed up. The case is still under treatment, and if the young man has strength to bear up, till the abscess ceases to secrete, he may yet make a good recovery.

18. In June an in-patient was discharged cured, who had been received six months before, with mortification of the entire lower limb from a ball that had struck the inner side of the thigh, fracturing the bone and destroying the artery. He was carrying a flag for a military officer when he received the accident; and has been plentifully supplied with money in consequence. A line of demarcation formed above the knee, and there amputation was made; the mortified part below the joint was taken away previously by Dr. Dickson. After a lengthened period, two large pieces three inches in length of the injured bone were taken away, and the old sinuses closed up leaving an excellent stump. He would have returned home much

earlier, had he not been so well supported while in hospital by the military officer.

19. June 6th. Admitted a little dumb and deaf boy also blind and lame suffering acute pain from three small calculi impacted in the urethra, preventing easy micturition. These were cut out with some difficulty by Dr. Dickson, and great relief was afforded to the poor afflicted child. He was taken home convalescent.

20. Admitted June 14th, a wife of a Government officer residing in the district of Samshuy. A pale and delicate looking female, worn down by the irritation and discharge of a large tumor of the breast, of an unmalignant character; glands in the axilla unaffected; commenced, the size of a nut, 12 years ago, ulcerated and discharged fetid pus for more than a year. Her life had become a burden to her from this cause. It was removed by Dr. Dickson on the 19th. As she dreaded pain, and feared the operation exceedingly, she was put at her own request, under the influence of chloroform, which affected her immediately; four arteries were tied, and much more blood was lost than desirable, from its being so thin and oozing through the atonic bloodvessels. The tumor weighed over 31 pounds, and was of a pale fibrous character. She has made an excellent recovery. Looks quite a different person; is in good spirits and very thankful. She has had a good education, which is so uncommon among the females in China, and can read and write well. She returns to her husband and friends in a few days a cheerful, healthy and happy woman. She has written with her own hand a letter of thanks.

21. Admitted a young man in June suffering severely from *calculus in the bladder*. His life he says has been miserable to him for more than a year past, and he wishes to have an operation performed, be the consequences what they may. Accordingly on the 26th Dr. Dickson removed the stone by the usual operation. It proved to be of the size of a pigeon's egg, rough externally, composed of the mixed phosphates. The bladder was painful and irritable for a few days after; but the patient is now (15 days after) feeling very comfortable and convalescing satisfactorily. He is very grateful for what has been done for him, and not without reason.

22. Admitted, while writing the report, a Chinese seaman from one of the river steamers. He was ramming home a gun on the 4th of July, previous to firing it for the fifth time; when in consequence of the touch hole not being properly secured, the charge of gunpowder suddenly ignited, and blew off the poor fellow's hands

into the river; his face and arms also were severely burnt. He lost much blood at the time, but the captain bound up the bleeding arms very adroitly, and no more hæmorrhage occurred (and that very slight) till the man was brought the same evening to the hospital. Assisted by Dr. Kenny the left arm was dressed, (after securing the arteries), and it will not probably need amputation. The right was in a different condition; the two bones joining the wrist, were shattered and uncovered, and the soft parts were jagged and contused. Amputation was unavoidable. His comrades said he was in my hands, and I must do, what would be for the best. On consultation with Dr. Kenny, it was thought more advisable to amputate at once than delay doing so until the next day. The operation was accordingly performed at the upper third of the lower arm. He bore the operation better than we expected, and promises to make a good recovery, minus his two hands. A good sum of money was generously raised at the time for his temporary support, by the passengers and owners of the vessel; but what can a poor Chinese laborer do without hands or feet. These are everything to him, hence the great horror of amputation, and the preference by many of risking life, rather than losing a limb.

In conclusion I beg to offer a few brief remarks. It must not be supposed by those at a distance, that in conducting hospitals in China, we have the same appliances and means at our command, as exist in Christian countries. There, ample means are usually placed at the disposal of those large and excellent charities, and there is also a staff of officers provided, who are able to discharge in an effective manner the trust reposed in them. But here it is very different; *one* individual has to do the work of many, his assistants are natives, who are not always trustworthy and are a constant care. The pecuniary assistance afforded is inadequate to do more than meet the incidental expenses on a small scale, and provide medicine. The patient if he resides in the hospital must find his own board, coverings, and bedding, and also an attendant, if the case demands it. In performing operations also regard must be had to the wishes of the patients' friends. One unsuccessful case without the full consent of the patient or his elder relatives, would endanger the reputation of the hospital, and give some ground for the unjust and injurious remark "the doctor killed the patient;" using the knife among

a people so suspicious and faultfinding, requires unusual caution ; and hence it is found necessary to divide the responsibility, in undertaking operations that involve the danger of life ; and it is wise to perform only those that hold out a very favorable hope of recovery. It has often been matter of surprise, that they have such confidence as they have, in the foreigner's advice, and take so readily the medicines he prescribes. The question is often put, are they thankful ? Some are very grateful, the greater number are unthankful or indifferent, and a few make the obligation to appear to be on our side. This is not unusual even in Europe, and we are hereby often reminded of the inquiry of our Saviour " Were there not ten cleansed ? but where are the nine ? " The long cherished hope and desire of the Christian is not to receive thanks for the few favors that he can bestow, but to see this people willing to receive the richer blessings of the soul, towards which there is at present such chilling indifference.

Note. Any persons wishing to contribute to the support of this hospital will kindly send their contributions to the medical officer in charge, or to Dr. Dickson or to Rev. Dr. Legge at Hongkong, or to Dr. Watson at Macao. They will be thankfully received.

Acknowledgments are due

To John Henderson, Esq. Park Glasgow, for donation of £50 to aid the publication of useful works in Chinese ; exchange 4.9. equal in dollars to \$210.52.

To Dr. Lockhart, Shanghai for printing a treatise on the elements of natural philosophy, \$50.

To Dr. Kenny, for Quinine, a roll of adhesive plaster, two new tubes for stomach pump, Chloroform, &c., &c.

To Dr. Dickson, for Quinine, Chloroform, Calico for bandages.

To Dr. Watson, Macao, for some Lancets.

To Professor Erichsen, University College, for his work on the Science and art of Surgery.

To several friends, for old linen and calico for dressing wounds.

Receipts and Expenses of the Hospital

1854			\$	cts.
July 1		Balance on hand from last year.....	64	92
Aug. 18		Received from Paul Forbes Esq. American Consul per R. S. Sturgis Esq.....	100	00
" "		Do from a friend to the hospital.....	100	00
" 19		Do from Wm. Pustau Esq., Pustau & Co.....	25	00
" 31		Do from George Dent Esq.....	10	00
Oct. 15		Do from Capt. Woolcombe through Dr. Lockhart.....	10	00
" "		Do from Edmund Webb Esq., Shanghai.....	10	00
Nov. 18		Do from a Lady in the United States per Mrs. Williams.....	15	00
		Remainder of medical educational fund.....	£19.2.0	
		Rev. G. Cullen's donation for 1854.....	£5.0.0	
		D. Custairs Esq., Edinburgh.....	£5.0.0	
		Col. Marshall, Plymouth.....	£3.3.0	
		Drawn on the London Miss. Soc. at 4s. 7½d.....	139	41
		Received from friends per Miss. Morrison £2.4.6 and a friend per Miss. Hobson 5s.....	10	00
Dec. 5		Received from Edmund A. Still Esq.....	20	00
1855				
March.		Do from the late Capt. Woolcombe of H. M. Steamer Styx.....	23	00
April 2		Do from owners of the Peruvian Steamer per Capt. Endicott.....	150	00
" 7		Do from Mrs. S. W. Williams.....	5	00
May 7		Rev. G. Cullen of Leith, donation for 1855.....	£5.0.0	20 70
Total receipts for the year Dollars.			703	03

from July 1st, 1854 to June 30th, 1855.

Allowance of \$15 per month to Medical Assistant, 12 months,.....	\$ 180
Present for extra labor during the indisposition of Dr. H.....	20
Allowance to two dispensary coolies for 12 months,.....	109
Doorkeeper for 12 months including a present for extra labor,.....	51
Half wages for assistant hospital coolie,.....	28
Street watchman \$1 per quarter, in-door watchman one month \$4.....	8
Street magistrate 50 cents per quarter,.....	2
Dispensary account for paper, wax, brushes, pots, charcoal, oil, leeches, rhubarb, pork fat, &c., 12 months,.....	45
Contribution to protect the district from robbers during the panic \$6. A government rate \$2 24,.....	8
Subscription to a watchman's look-out,.....	1
Allowance of \$2 per month to superintendent Low Tingsheen, 12 months.....	24
Paid for printing 400 copies of the hospital report for 1853.....	18
For six bed boards and stands for in-patients,.....	3
For two gilt lettered boards designating the name of the hospital,....	4
For a barometer for hospital,.....	5
A piece of calico for bandages,.....	2
1000 copies of the hospital calender for 1854.....	0
Paid for cutting a new block for 1855.....	0
For printing 5000 copies.....	2
Occasional assistance to destitute patients.....	3
Two rattan chairs, 4 arm-chairs for Chinese visitors' room.....	7
Seven common musquito curtains for use of poor in-patients....	5
Paid for paper for wrapping up medicines \$1.24, four night stools \$1.66, scavenger's labor 50 cents per month for 15 months \$7.50, oil and sundries \$2.76.....	13
Paid during the year for masons and carpenters repairs, \$10.10, one oyster shell window, \$1.11; three glass windows \$7.30; repairs of roof \$15, altogether.....	33
New-year's present to coolies and street watchman.....	4
Total of current expenses for the year.....	579
Part payment of rental for hospital premises.....	123
Dollars.....	703

BENJ. HOBSON

CANTON, 1st JULY, 1855.

Examined and found correct.

JOSIAH COX.

CANTON, 21st JULY, 1855.

THE STATE OF NEW YORK
IN SENATE
January 10, 1893.
REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE
IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION
PASSED BY THE SENATE
MAY 1, 1892.
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1893.