A Talk With Women

Edited and Conducted by Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, Sc. D.

THAT the activities of a medical missionary in China are multifarious as well as arduous appears from an interesting letter from a former student of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, addressed to one of her ex-teachers. It would appear that, having overtaxed her strength, she met with a nervous breakdown. As a consequence, she was compelled to take a long and much-needed vacation. After a rest at Peking, she spent three weeks with a Peking missionary in the country. She writes:

"We lived in a good Chinese house and did our own cooking. Miss—was busy teaching and preaching all day. I kept up the fire and prepared most of the food, which, of course, was especially good. Every afternoon for three hours was held a clinic, Miss—doing the interesting. I treated 250 women and children, men being excluded. These cases were mostly medical, as we had no facilities for doing proper surgical work. Surgical cases, therefore, were advised to go to our hospital in Peking. Diseases of the eyes are the most frequent ailments that we meet with here—scarcely lumbri-coids excepted. No drug is used other than antimonials and calomel. Two days before my brother quit work, preparatory to going home, he and I did 12 entropions, and with the help of Doctor—we increased the number of operations to 80.

Doctor—and I treated from 90 to 150 patients daily, performing our operations in the morning.

"Kalgan, where we are now, is 130 miles northwest of Peking. It is a city of some 50,000 souls, and is the chief centre of trade between Russia and China. The great wall, 1500 miles long, which separates China from Mongolia, is just outside the northern city. We have been here only four days, but have taken some walks and horseback rides. We rode over to Mongolia through the great Kalgan gate and saw the famous wall. It differs in construction from the more recently built wall nearer Peking, which is only 600 miles long and is of cut stone and very broad at the top. This old wall was constructed in 264 before our era, under the first emperor of the Tsin dynasty. It is wedge-shaped, 25 feet at the base and 15 feet at the top, with a height varying from 13 to 15 feet. The towers, however, are 60 feet high. It is built of rough-hewn stone and its own

Frankly personal point of view of the writer bring her present environment vividly before us. The letter gives us a better idea of things Chinese, as they are to-day, than many a learned treatise, and as such we present it to our readers. A number of missionary graduates from the Woman's Medical College in the past decade lost their lives in China in the discharge of their duty. Some during the Boxer riots and others, three years ago, at the time of the Lien-Chow massacre. Dr. Elizabeth Carter is now on her way to the latter locality to take up the work of Dr. Eleanor Chestnut, who was killed then. It will be remembered that other victims were Dr. and Mrs. Peale, who had just recently reached their post, and Doctor Mabie and her daughter. The work, however, is now being resumed.

Dr. Amy B. Robrer, who graduated from the Woman's Medical College on May 22, 1887, is the last of the college's students to respond to the call of the Foreign Missionary Society. She is to serve as a medical missionary at Tegua, India, and is now preparing to sail for the field. Upon reaching Itahamundry, she will devote herself to the study of the Telugu language and people, meanwhile rendering what assistance she can in the mission's medical work.

The Registry of the Woman's Medical College

The Woman's Medical College registry this year, besides numerous entries from different States of the Union, has students from Hamburg and Nuremberg, Germany; the Punjab, Sholapur, and Bombay, India; from Lithuania, the Philippines, England, Syria, Haiti, Japan, Sweden, Russia, China, Porto Rico, etc. The last-named island is the first woman from her country to study medicine. She graduated from one of the high schools established by the United States Gov.
The world is a three-year journey from Peking. We came 180 miles by rail to the terminus of the railroad, and 125 miles by litter and cart: each person and one trunk making a litter. This is a very convenient way of traveling over the high sandy roads. The Mongols look upon this much like our American Indians and have many of their characteristics. They must be taught. There is a Russian settlement here on the Mongolian side of the wall. There are telegraph lines now nearly every part of China, and they are working on the extension of the rail.

This is a time of growing interest in science in our daily clinics since the latter part of March, until recently when my activities began and I ceased, hoping of the wall. There are telegraph lines now mountains. Their supply of gas is sent on ahead. The Italian prince, Belpasso, and a news came.

"Doesn't your read about our right centenary anniversary in Shanghai, Hatteke, tell partly what Christian work is doing for China, in 1800, 1700, in 1657, 1700? It is 17 to see the temple, turned into schoolhouses and the old gods cast out. But the question copes up forthwith be before us: Shall these people be left without God? Surely this is a time of paramount importance to the people of God. China needs all the Christian men they can send."

"The freshness of impression and the gift..."