

Easter Greetings



ECHOES
FROM
KOREA

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE WORK OF

Doctor and Mrs. Ira M. Miller,
IN KOREA,

TO THE

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH,

GEORGE HUGH BIRNEY, Pastor,

Grand Rapids, Mich.

OCTOBER, 1910, to MARCH, 1911.

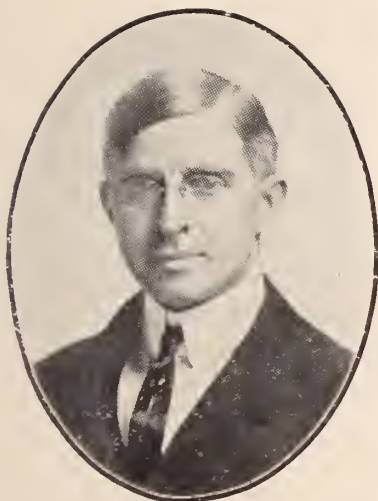
“Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these.”



The cross in picture indicates location of the sufferer.

A Korean Red Cross Ambulance.

The above picture shows the entrance to Dr. I. M. Miller's little hospital, with a group of patients. Dr. Miller stands to the extreme left, his assistant at his side. The man on the ox sled has been brought 12 miles, at night, after being terribly hurt in an explosion in the gold mine. Dr. Miller removed a piece of gold from his body. The day this happened, 34 patients were treated at the hospital. The majority of those who are thus treated become worthy Christians.



Ira M. Miller, M. D.



Mrs. Alice Starke Miller.

Our Medical Missionaries.

September 27th, 1910, Dr. and Mrs. I. M. Miller sailed from San Francisco, Cal., to Korea, as the Missionary representatives of the First (Division Street) Methodist Episcopal Church, of Grand Rapids, Mich. They have been assigned to Yeng-Byen, and, though just beginning, are making a wonderful record, even among the exceptional workers of that great missionary field. Dr. Miller is a young physician of excellent medical training, and brings to his work not only the skill of a modern practitioner, but, also, a heart which God has signally touched with the finest Christian sympathies. He is healing both the bodies and souls of men.

Mrs. Miller is a young woman of special natural fitness, to which has been added such graces of heart and mind, that her part in the Doctor's work will be immeasurable. Both are in love with their work, and rejoice in the privilege of sacrifice.

OUR PART.

This Church is to be congratulated in thus being directly identified with the great work in Korea, the one missionary field which Protestantism is seriously undertaking to evangelize in "this generation." The country has been apportioned among the Churches engaged in mi-

sionary work, the territory falling to the Methodist Episcopal Church in America containing some 3,000,000 souls.

Yeng-Byen, in Northern Korea, is the center of a territory containing 250,000 people, and is 150 miles long by 75 miles in width. Dr. Miller is the only physician to this vast population, To him come hundreds, thousands, of those, who, but for his healing, would know no relief. Some of the horrible practices of the native "doctors" are related in the following letters. These letters will also show how the healing of men's bodies leads to the conversion of their souls. A great work truly!

OPPORTUNITY FOR "LAYING UP TREASURE."

In their letters our missionaries urge the great needs of the work. It is sincerely hoped that, in addition to the regular support of Dr. and Mrs. Miller, (this church last year gave \$1650.00 for Foreign Missions) it may also be found possible to support other phases of the work as suggested:

Salary of trained native assistant.....	\$150.00
Salary of native trained nurse	120.00
Salary of second assistant.....	90.00
Salary of hospital Evangelist	96.00
Salary of hospital orderly.....	60.00
Salary of hospital Bible woman	60.00
Annual cost maintenance of bed to treat those who cannot pay	45.00

The sending out of Dr. and Mrs. Miller last year meant sacrifices to many, but surely the glorious reports of the work will amply repay us all. Think of this brave young man and woman who have given *themselves*.

The following interesting, informing, and inspirational letters were written without expectation that they would be published, and are printed just as written. They bring us tenderly close to the hearts and lives and work of our dear friends in their far-off field. We are sure every member of this church and congregation will feel most keenly the duty and privilege of a most generous support of this chosen work.

GEO. BIRNEY, Pastor.	H. W. BECKER, Chairman.
E. R. THOMPSON, Sec'y.	F. C. STEGLICH, Treas.
MRS. J. C. RICKENBAUGH.	
L. R. ABBOTT.	L. L. GODDARD.
C. H. FOOTE.	ORSON MUNN.
W. H. SHULTUS.	ALBERT SMITH.
WALTER CLARK.	

Missionary Committee.

Letters written by Dr. and Mrs. I. M. Miller, of their Journey to Yeng-Byen, Korea;

of their Introduction to the Work there,
and of their own Thoughts and Impressions.

Letter I, being Extracts from Mrs. Miller's Diary of the Ocean Voyage.

*"Go ye therefore, and, lo, I am
with you always."—Matt. xxvii : 19, 20.*

DATE OF SAILING, SEPT. 27, 1910.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Birney:

At 11 o'clock Tuesday morning, we say farewell to the splendid new San Francisco, to begin our long voyage, to our new home, across the Pacific.

Indeed, it is a time of sadness to most of us, as we realize how much time and change will alter our beloved Homeland for us, while we are absent one from the other.

We watch, with tear dimmed eyes, the dear old shores of America receding in the distance, we look until we look in vain for any sign of shore line, then we turn our attention to our new prospect.

Our ship is magnificent, just made its acquaintance. All the crew are Chinese, and seem very intelligent and clean.

Have our deck chairs which are nicely placed. Beginning to feel funny—guess I will take a nap.

Dinner at seven. Spent some time in the parlor, looking at the people. Met several missionaries, who are bound for China, none for Korea. One, a Miss Crane, who was at the meeting at First Church, Grand Rapids, when they were raising the money for our support. At nine o'clock, we came down to our cabin, read a steamer letter from Rev. Albert Smith for the Grand Rapids Bible Class. We discovered who it was that sent us our dear American flag. Such letters do much to strengthen and encourage us in our purpose. God bless the sender and the ones for whom he wrote. Our hearts beat high with hope and in realization of the love and confidence, which we possess in them. God give us both many sheaves for our hire.

September 28, 1910. Wednesday, 2nd Day Out.

Spent a splendid night. Awoke at 6:30 o'clock, much refreshed, was more so after the first salt bath. Took several brisk turns ou

deck. Great! Breakfast at 8 o'clock. We begin to turn our watches back 23 minutes every 24 hours.

After breakfast we return to our cabin for morning prayers.

Read a steamer letter from Brother Wilmarth. We will always connect it with the verse, that he gave us. We both learned it: "The Lord God will help me; therefore, I shall not be confounded; therefore, I will set my face like a flint, and I know I shall not be ashamed."

We came on deck and had the pleasure of seeing two great whales, dashing and splashing and spouting.

Met Dr. Goucher of the Goucher College, Baltimore, and about a dozen missionaries, who are going to the field. Expect a delightful time together. At our dining table, all are missionaries. Dr. Goucher is going to arrange a meeting. Ocean is beautifully smooth. Enjoy it so much.

After supper we spent a most enjoyable evening on deck, with our crowd of missionaries, singing and listening to tales of experience.

September 29, 1910. Thursday, 3rd Day Out.

Awakened by the rays of light streaming through our port hole, we bathe and dress. Open our mail for the day. Such a dear sympathetic letter from Mrs. Ella Hartshorn, Superintendent of the deaconess home in Grand Rapids. We read it over and over, it held so much for us. Told us of the joys of a life of service, of the greatest good that comes through our deepest sorrows. In the loss of her own boy twelve years ago, she sees the eternal love of God working out the highest good. May our faith know no shrinking, but steadfastly, looking into the face of Him who doeth all things well, press on toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

After breakfast we spent the morning on deck, in the usual manner with our missionaries, feeling quite at home with our Bibles and books.

It is getting very warm, have discarded blankets and sweaters. So far have been able to eat all meals—must be getting to be quite a sailor, although I must confess, that, so far, there has been no one sick. We enjoy the water immensely.

We watch a glorious sunset, the first of our ocean sunsets. After dinner, which was very elaborate, as indeed they all are, we entertain two maiden missionaries until nine o'clock, Miss Crane and Miss Jones, both of China.

September 30th, 1910. Friday, 4th Day Out.

This is the first day I have had any inspiration for anything, and that was soon worked out when I had finished fixing my typewriter, which was in anything but working order, having been at the mercy of the various baggage handlers. Talk about indolence! a little note was brought to our state room, informing us that we might have a little breakfast before rising in the morning, so we tried it this morning, and really enjoyed the hot chocolate and crackers which the boy brought to us. Truly, I fear we are learning bad habits, and I know our coming to will be pretty hard on us when we get to our mission field.

October 1st, 1910. Saturday, 5th Day Out.

To tell the truth, I have not been feeling just as I should, not that I have been seasick, but just a trifle squeamish. We kept no record of this day, but as far as I can make out, everything went off all right even though I was not on deck.

October 2nd, 1910 Sunday, 6th Day Out.

Feeling some better to-day, am able to be up and doing. Everything as usual until church time. Although the service was Episcopal, Mr. Tracy, of India, preached. Fine talk, many helpful things. He and his wife have spent 32 years on the field. They are going back to end their days in India where their children are working as missionaries. They are Presbyterians.

Mrs. Todd, 18 years in China, also going back to her work in Canton, held a meeting for the steerage passengers; those who were Chinese flocked about her, and seemed so eager to catch every word. We missionaries supported her with our hymns, and Ira was asked to pray. This was just a foretaste of the work, but even so we certainly got a blessing from it.

We expect to see the beautiful Hawaiian Islands tomorrow morning.

Monday, October 3rd, 1910. Seventh Day Out.

Saw land about 6 o'clock, which was so delightful, presenting a rugged mountain outline. Honolulu is set back in a crescent shape, with the mountains for a back ground. A city of 35,000.

We were anchored just outside the harbor, until the medical inspector and pilot came out to escort us in. The quarantine flag was flying from our mast, so we were all examined by the doctor as we went in to breakfast. After breakfast, finding no one on board with smallpox or fever, we were allowed to land. The first view of the island almost took our breath away. It seemed more like fairy land, than old mother earth, with its great variety of palm trees and its wonderful vegetation. The natives are very dark, but, not as black, nor do they have the thick lips of the negro. The inhabitants of the islands are Americans, Chinese, Japanese, natives and some negroes. A portion of the business district is distinctly American. We felt very much at home here, it is our last view of home territory. It is said the people live on turtle and pineapple in the summer time and on tourists in the winter.

We saw many beautiful and wonderful sights—a day long to be remembered, indeed. We are to sail by 5:30 p. m., so we hasten back to our ship. At the dock, we were met by native women, who carried lathes of flowers, which they twine about our necks. A very pretty custom. On one side of the ship, we discover native boys diving for the coins which the passengers throw to them. They followed the ship a little ways or until the change was exhausted. We slowly steam away and Honolulu becomes a memory.

(To be continued in the next.)

With love,

ALICE MILLER.

Letter II.--Just Off the Coast of Japan.

"And when we had come in sight of Cyprus (Yokahoma)."--Acts xxii : 3.

"And when we had finished the voyage . . . we saluted the brethren, and abode with them one day."--Acts xxi : 7.

S. S. MANCHURIA, OCT. 14, 1910.

My Dear Mrs. Birney:

A month ago this part of the world seemed so far away; distance has lost much of its mystery for me. I don't feel nearly as far away from you all as I thought I should.

The trip has been delightful, have never missed a meal, and have been on deck every day. Yesterday the weather changed, it rained and blew nearly all day, the ocean became very rough, making the vessel hard to manage, delaying us several hours. The harbor here at Yokahoma is very treacherous, much care is being exercised in making the port. Many vessels have been wrecked just where we are now.

We expect to remain in Yokahoma one day. Tokyo is just a few miles farther. We are looking forward to visiting the Methodists there. Tomorrow we sail again and land at Kobe next Monday. From there we travel by train across Japan. Another day's trip from Japan to Fusan, Korea, by boat, and then our final trip up to Yeng Byen, which we expect to reach about a week from to-day.

I shall be really glad to get to our field, although this trip has been a thing I shall never forget. It has impressed the majesty and power of God on my heart, in a different way than I have ever felt them before.

I have met some of His dear children, who are giving their best to Him, and these have strengthened our hearts. I realize more than ever the goodness of God in letting me have a part in this great work. We have about thirty missionaries on board. We have talked and sung and read together and now we are about to part, some to China, some to Japan, some to India and also the Philippines, and some day we will meet to tell of His grace and our victories in the land of perfect day, and the thought that means so much to me, is that the loved ones at home who are holding us up so lovingly for Jesus' sake "will in no wise lose their reward." His "well done" will be enough for us all.

The letters have been so dear and sweet, I shall ever remember all your kindness. The Lord alone can recompense you. I really never had such a lot of wonderful letters. We are going to arrange them in book form and preserve them. They will ever do me good to go over them. Thank all the dear church people for us. I wish I could write to each. Tell them they can do so much by keeping up the correspondence. We are nearly at the port. Will write from Korea. Love to the children and Dr. Birney.

Alice Starke Miller.

Letter III.—First Impressions.

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, that they are white already unto harvest."

—John iv : 35.

YENG BYEN, KOREA, NOV. 4th, 1910.

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Birney:

You are no doubt anxiously waiting to hear from us, regarding the field and the work.

We arrived in Seoul, October 20th, were met by all our Methodist missionaries much to our surprise and delight, found them a most desirable company.

We stayed for several days with Mr. and Mrs. Bunker, visiting all their work and meeting the Korean Christians. I really love them (the Koreans) they are so simple, and kind-hearted. They told us they were so glad we had come to tell their people about Jesus. Their faith is something wonderful, God's word to them is "Yea and Amen." I do believe the secret of the Church in Korea is that they take God at His word and in simple faith, just like little children, trust Him. He does the rest.

I wish you might see the difference between a Christian Korean and a heathen Korean. The transforming power of God certainly shows in their faces; the missionaries say, it does not take long after a Korean becomes a Christian before you can see a different light in his face.

We, here, visited the Ewa Haktang Girls School, which is doing such a splendid work among the coming women of Korea. Numbers of its graduates are now teachers in their own towns and villages. We have one here in Yeng Byen, who is a wonder. The Koreans are natural students, would rather study than work in other ways. I predict a splendid future for them.

THE TRIP THROUGH KOREA.

From Seoul we journeyed north a day's journey to Peng Yang, and were greeted by a brother in the profession, E. D. Folwell, M. D., who took us to his home several li from the station in push cars. These cars are about three feet wide and five feet long, will hold six passengers, three on a side, sitting back to back, and are pushed over a track about 18 inches wide by two Korean Coolies. We were much amused at the ginrickshás of Japan, but these cars of Peng Yang offered us more amusement.

Everything in Korea interested us and we felt more at home on reaching this land than at any point on our journey. We were glad indeed to meet all the dear missionaries, and a greater hearted people I never met. Here at Peng Yang we had a delightful time.

KOREAN CHRISTIAN WORSHIP.

A wonderful work is being done here, and the missionaries are on their knees continually, that they may be able to lead the Koreans who are going ahead at such tremendous strides. The missionaries are often left behind by the Koreans—upon whom the windows of heaven seem to be opened. You would be surprised at the children

and young people,, hundreds of them seated on the floor, never a noise or whisper to notice among them. All these are up in front. The older ones sit on the floor back of the children and the heathens who come in sit farthest back near the door, on the floor also. A curtain hangs in the center of the Church dividing the men from the women. While waiting for a meeting to begin, the Koreans sing hymns, first the men's side and then the woman's; they pick out the songs with the most verses and I wish you could hear them sing, it would do your heart good. They have no leader in this and do splendidly. It puts our home churches with their choirs to shame.

Rev. Chas. Morris, of Yeng Byen, came down to Ping Yang to meet us. We liked him at once, great big hearted man that he is. He comes nearer to a Ralph Connor here than anyone I ever met. We soon departed for our future home, only too glad to be upon the last stage of our long journey. We left Peng Yang at eight a. m., reaching Anju, the railway terminal at eleven a. m. From there we had an eight hours' trip overland—the men rode Korean ponies, I had a chair, carried by four Coolies. All I can say about this mode of travel is too much is plenty. I believe doctor has told you of the wonderful welcome we received at Yeng Byen, I shall never forget it. The people simply fill our hearts and we wish we were "legion" that we might serve them better.

THE FIRST VIEW.

After a good night's rest at the Morrises, we felt pretty well rested, and ready to look over our field. We are delighted with everything: truly it is a most beautiful spot. The town of Yeng Byen is situated in the valley, all the little mud houses with thatched roofs huddled up together, very picturesque, great hills surrounding them. Our compound is a short distance away from the town on a hill side. Such a view as we have, I never saw anything half so lovely even in America. The city is surrounded also by a wall with four great gates.

We have taken snaps of all the scenes which impressed us, so that you might better know our situation. Doctor, however, lost his developing tubes, so we must wait for another order from Seoul.

The new Church was dedicated the Sunday before we came, and since then revival meetings have been in progress. It seems as though people are just waiting to hear the message of Salvation. Every night eighteen or twenty take their stand, last night thirty-five stood up at the first call. Two men got up in the meeting and said they had come to the meeting on purpose to believe. That was the children's work, for school is closed, and they are given tracts and go about the streets leaving them at the homes.

The only thing I do not enjoy about these meetings is the fact that you can not get into them, and have to get it all through an interpreter. This work is carried on entirely by the native pastors. Mr. Morris is district superintendent and oversees the work only. There are about six pastors here now from Mr. Morris' district, all working in the revival, and preaching straight gospel. Oh! it is wonderful, the power of our God. People won't let God work in our home land, they do not think they need Him as much as the Koreans do.

MRS. MILLER'S WORK.

I must tell you about my work. I have seven dear Korean girls, about twelve years of age, who have begun to study English with me. I do enjoy it so much, they are so bright and quick. Next year these girls go to Seoul to Ewa Haktang. I give the preparatory term in English. I am also going to teach music to seven who are very musical. This takes most of the afternoon. We study with a teacher the Chosan Mae (Korean language) in the morning. It is very interesting. Really, dear friends, our lives are so full and happy here, in spite of all the heartaches. Sometimes it is so hard, but "His grace is sufficient." I can trust and not be afraid for I know He cares.

Our house is very nice, built of granite, the mountains are granite. Everything quite modern, it was a pleasant surprise.

We sent a couple of Korean silver trinkets to you as a small Christmas remembrance. The Stateum work in the pin originated in Korea although Japan has appropriated the art. The other is distinctly Korean. We live right among the silver mines.

Love to all the dear children and a Blessed Christmas to you all.

ALICE STARKE MILLER.

STEAMER LETTERS APPRECIATED.

P. S. This is just a note of thanks and appreciation for our steamer letters. We had letters until we reached Seoul, and what a blessing they were, the dear people of Grand Rapids will never know. I wish we could write to each one personally, but duties come so thick and fast. I hope in heaven I shall have more time than I have now, that I might come close to each one. Every letter leathed out words of love for our dear baby girl and I shall never forget that. May God richly bless each member of Grand Rapids Methodist Church, Division street, and bring them to a closer and deeper knowledge of Him. I can wish them no greater good.

A Blessed Christmas to you all.

Lovingly yours in Christ,

ALICE STARKE MILLER.

Letter IV. -- Welcome. Home Making. First Problems.

"For they were all waiting for Him."--Luke viii :40.

YENG BYEN, KOREA, NOV. 18, 1910.

My Dear Dr. Birney and Loved Ones:

Well, here we are in our new home, still living as it were in our trunks, for the freight has not put in its appearance; but we are as contented and happy as can be. We had hardly expected to feel so much at home in so short a time, but really our whole thought and energy is centered here in Yeng Byen. I started the Hospital work the first afternoon and on the fifth day had 20 patients between 2 and 4 p. m. Each patient gets a card with his own name and number written thereon and the Gospel story on the back. The Hos-

pital is a powerful center; last year in 6 months they traced over 270 new believers to the influence of the workers there. A Bible woman is employed to teach the women while they wait and my first assistant and the Pastor of the Central Church spend some time there also, preaching. Each patient's name and address is carefully taken and workers follow them up endeavoring to get all in the Church. There is still a great deal of persecution for some of the new ones who desire to attend the Jesus believer's church. Last night at prayer-meeting a mother-in-law came to the door and called a woman out, and before she had even passed through the door on her way out, her superior struck her a blow with the fist almost knocking her down, and I suppose the welcome home had only begun! There are many and many attending services under just such circumstances. There has been a two weeks' revival here and one night 46 came forward as seekers, so now every night a beginner's class is conducted at the church where all new believers are instructed.

Mr. Morris acts as sort of a District Superintendent, council and guide to a community of over 250,000 souls. This city has a population of about 5,000 and the circuit extends as far as 110 miles, which keeps him away from home a great deal of the time. Mr. Morris is a much loved man, the first man I have ever met who seemed to fill the place of Ralph Connor's ideal of what a man should be. Mrs. Morris makes an ideal companion for Mrs. Miller, as they are about the same age, and she is such a sincere worker.

The Koreans are so appreciative for any service rendered them, no matter how small. When they heard we were coming the Pastor had the church bell rung at 2 p. m. in order that the people might prepare in time to come and meet us.

BY SEDAN CHAIR AND PONY.

Mr. Morris met us at Pyeng Yang, about 80 miles, although it takes over 12 hours. We arrived at our last station at 10 a. m., where a Sedan Chair awaited the Mrs. and a Korean pony hardly able to support itself was planning to carry me the 24 miles. I easily could hook my feet underneath its body.

Our first mistake was, expecting to get the Chicago rush transferred to this Korean village, for it took us over one hour to arrange for an ox-cart to carry our trunks and finally get on our way. I was called to my first case before we had reached the outskirts of the village, which proved to be malaria and grip, so after providing for him we started on our homeward jaunt, and jaunt it was. At first it seemed rather novel, but that soon wore off. Mrs. Miller found that the constant "jig-jig" began to unjoint her neck and I found the most enjoyable way to ride a Korean pony was to walk. After about one mile ride we were able to see the mountain overlooking Yeng Byen just back of our house, seemingly only about five miles, but were told we would have to hurry in order to arrive by 8 p. m. Our trail guided us through the valleys and over streams, on ferry-boats, into scenery we had never imagined was to be found in Korea. In fact Northern Korea is far ahead of the South in more ways than one, for which we are duly grateful. The hillsides are almost barren of trees on account of the people being compelled to cut every piece of shrubbery for fire-wood. The more level portion is utilized for rice fields.

THE RECEPTION.

We were met about 7 miles from Yeng Byen by the man who was or really is our man of all work. He had started about 2:30 p. m., bringing the lantern to welcome and guide us on the last portion of our journey. Then, about 4 miles out we were met by Mrs. Morris and Miss Esty of the W. F. M. S., both on burros. How good it did seem to have such a welcome. After meeting the ladies, from there on to the City Gate we were met by various delegations, as the Church people, the boys and girls of the schools, all carrying their queer little candle lanterns. Last but not the least, were the Japanese officials. Just outside the Gate there had been builded a large bon-fire which lighted up the gate most beautifully, besides



Modern Travel in Korea.

(Mrs. Miller in the Sedan Chair. Dr. Miller on the Pony.)

making us feel such a warm welcome awaited us by every one. I thought how differently the missionaries of the former times were welcomed when they entered a place for the first time.

We stayed with the Morrises for only about 5 days, then with the help of donations and what we had in our trunks we moved in our new home, boarding out only until we were able to get some groceries from Pyeng Yeng.

It would shock the most of the people to tell them that we had granite steps to our house, but it is worse than that, we have a granite yard which we would like to exchange for some plain terra firma.

ONE MODE OF INITIATION.

I had an experience last Sunday night that all here are anxious for a novice to have, namely that of sleeping on a hot floor. I was called by a messenger to go to one of the Gold Mines as the Superin-

tendent had broken his arm. As quickly as possible I was ready to start, having put on my fur coat, and mounted a horse. Two men accompanied me to carry supplies and light the way. It was only about 12 miles but the men on foot went so slow that we were 4 hours making the trip, arriving at our destination 12:10 a. m., almost frozen and oh! so tired. In less than one-half hour everything was all fixed up and his suffering of 9 hours' duration was ended. As this man had not seen a foreigner for about 3 weeks, we sat up until after 4 o'clock getting acquainted, and talking about the news of U. S. that happened 6 months ago. Then came the night of slumber (?) on the hot floor. The Koreans have the floor made of mud with a flue as you might call it, underneath all, connecting with the chimney, thus when a fire is built it really bakes the floor and after that does likewise to every one who comes in contact with it. There were woven mats on the floor over which I placed my coat, then tried to sleep. As a special favor to the good doctor who had come so far, a servant was commanded to be sure and keep up a good fire, all of which certainly was fully appreciated, although anything but comfortable.

HOSPITAL CASES.

I am having some very interesting cases at the Hospital, many of which are the results of treatment by the Korean doctors. One child 9 months old had had needles thrust into its hip to cure stomach ache, until infection had set in and the whole hip swollen up about three times its normal size. I was compelled to open the hip and got over one pint of pus, and by continual attention saved the hip as well as the child's life, and now the mother comes to Church for the first time asking to be taught that she may come and be a Christian. At present I have three operative cases awaiting until my sterilizer, etc., puts in its appearance along with our freight. Every day I have some minor operation, but will not attempt the more complicated ones until I am fully prepared.

SOME NEEDS.

I wish you could see what a noble first assistant I have, for he is very capable as well as being thoroughly reliable and a Christian of the highest type. Many are the souls won into the Kingdom through his personal efforts. There are two other boys just learning and a woman acting as Bible teacher among the women. This woman has a wonderful history; her husband was put in jail for 13 years on account of not being able to pay his debts, having been victim of the robbers. Now she has expressed her desire to do Christian work and has been given the position mentioned, with a salary of \$2.50 per month on which she must support herself and four children. Winter is coming on and she can not possibly live on that amount. I have promised her a raise of \$1.00 per month, but don't know where it will come from. The mission only is able to supply but one assistant, so I must seek funds from some source or another to provide for the Bible woman and one assistant.

Last week Mr. Morris came with the shocking news that a Church in a town of 5,000 would have to be closed unless \$7.50 per month could be raised for the support of a Pastor. We are going to pay for it ourselves until we can get some one interested to take

that community up as their own. The Church is nearly new and has a membership of about 100.

At present we are studying so hard on the language, with so little encouragement. In the p. m. Mrs. Miller has a class of girls teaching English, preparing them for the high school at Seoul. I also have an English class of the Japanese officials of the town.

We are not lacking for work in the least. As soon as we get our freight and move in in proper shape I am going to accompany Mr. Morris on his country trips. He went on what he calls a short one to-day, to be gone only one week.

I must tell you about a confession of a Korean school teacher in a prayer-meeting last night. He has been a Christian for some time and only of late has the Lord shown him that it was not right to have two wives. It is a very proper thing for a Korean to have two or more wives if he can afford it, and the more wealthy he is the more he has. The first wife is the one he must marry and after that he is supposed to have love affairs. This man does not love his first wife nor does she love him. Although he has not seen her for 13 years and loves wife No. 2, he is now going to have her come here, and give all his earthly possessions to No. 2, thus getting right with God.

I. M. MILLER.

Remember us to all our dear friends. We will try and write to each one when we can. I trust the children and Mrs. Birney are enjoying good health and that you are at your best for your work. Love to all. Thanks for the letters, they were such a help.

Letter V.--At Work.

*" Heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them,
The Kingdom of God is come nigh unto you."*

—*Luke, the Physician, x : 9.*

YENG BYEN, SUNDAY P. M., NOV. 27, 1910.

My Dear Dr. Birney:

I just feel like having a good long chat with some one, so will impose on you for the time being. This has indeed been an interesting month. So many things are happening and everything so new. In the first place, our goods came on Thanksgiving day, with the piano and sewing-machine broken. The machine legs are broken in about 20 pieces. I don't know about the head yet, for it has not been taken out of the box. The piano is worth its weight in wood—still the harp is not broken, but the supports for the keys and a great many of the keys are broken until we are unable at present to tell whether it can be fixed. It would be a very easy matter if we were in Chicago, or where some one had seen the insides of one, but as it is, I will try and give it some medicine, and if that does not work, we will perform a major operation, and remove its appendix or make one, whichever seems wise.

GETTING SETTLED.

The rest of our things are in better shape than I had expected. It does seem so good to have our few belongings with us, for it

has been 7 months since we quit living. If we had it to do over again we would bring many of the things we gave away and all we sold, besides buying many more. We find ourselves almost cut off from the world, for now when we order anything from home it costs all the way from 40-100% of the original price to get it here. We are 23 miles inland and to bring everything on ox-carts or pony back makes it come very high after all the freight is paid, so there is no danger of our getting rich, as some think.

We burn wood, the coal would cost about \$15 per ton; as it is, wood for the year is about \$150. The mountains around us are all covered with snow and look so beautiful. The winter usually begins before this with a heavy coat of snow and lasts until late in the spring.

The work at the Hospital gets more interesting all the time and the patients are increasing faster than I am pleased with at the present, while we are trying to get a start in the language. I aim to let nothing interfere with my study in the mornings, but often some one can not wait until the afternoon to be sick. This p. m. I was called to see a little girl who had had pneumonia for 10 days without any attention and in very bad shape, in fact I hardly expect to be able to do anything for her, although I will see her every few hours. This is a very important case, for the family is one the Church has been trying to reach for several months—so it will probably depend on the outcome of this little one whether they will ever become Christians or not. They are of the most wealthy family here and so many relatives that it does seem the Lord surely would use human means here in the healing of this little girl in order to further His work.

MEDICINE AND THE GOSPEL.

There is one thing I am going to try and do by the help of friends at home, and that is to see that every person who comes to the Hospital is called upon in their homes by Bible women and workers. At present I have two evangelists at the Hospital, one for the women and one for the men. The patients are becoming so numerous now that these two can not attend to all those here in the city, which leaves the outlying districts untouched. This is very important, for one may be in for treatment and become interested in the Gospel as it is preached there every day, then go home, from 3-100 miles, where he will hear no more of this new religion, and finally dismiss it from his mind. Otherwise, had we workers to call on these, in many cases entire villages would be brought under the teaching of the Gospel. When the workers go out from the Hospital they are sure of a cordial reception.

It will cost about \$5.00 per month for a woman and her expenses to travel in the country, still some months it may only be \$4.00. The villages are so close together, that many can be visited in a short time. The houses are not scattered as at home, but grouped in little villages.

I really feel that we can make the Hospital the greatest power in north Korea in just such a way.

The present need then is support for one worker. Two are now provided for, one by the Board and the other we are paying for out of the money appropriated for drugs. We would be very glad indeed to learn of some one who would like to have her preach for them

every day while the women are waiting for treatment, at the cost of \$3.50 per month.

I think I have a man provided for to go in the country and see all the men who have been to the Hospital. You see if my plans work out I will have four evangelists working all the time, two preaching as the people come to the Hospital and two calling on them in their homes, thus making our work not in vain.

At the end of the year I am going to be able to tell how many have been treated, and how many converted through these workers.

We are treating now on the average of twenty patients each day and I have enough of the language to be able to get along. Once in a while I do get stuck and have to have Mr. Morris help me out of my difficulties.

The peculiar thing is that when I cure one kind of disease, as some skin trouble, then that will be the kind of cases we will have for several days, or until some one wants a tooth pulled, then I get a reputation for that, and then we will extract teeth for days to come. The majority of the cases thus far have been skin and stomach troubles, and minor operations.

This letter has been delayed, so I am able to report that the little girl with pneumonia seems to be improving, although it does seem miraculous.

Mr. Morris reports regarding the Church which had been closed, on account of funds, gave him such a joyful welcome, and came back in full force, and with a renewed determination to hold the fort. The Pastor we sent is one of the true and earnest kind, and will lead the people into a deeper Christian experience.

I am inclosing a sermon by the Pastor here, as translated by Mr. Morris, to show you the simple Gospel they preach, and it is this kind that brings results. Ten came forward to believe after this sermon.

We do need your prayers, that the Lord may work out His plans through us here in this place.

Yours in His Name,

I. M. MILLER.

We are sending some pictures, and trust they will give you an idea of field and work. Kindly let us know of any special pictures you would like, and we will try and get them.

May Xmas joys be yours.

Letter VI.—First Church in Korea, by Proxy.

*"The Spirit of God is upon me,
Because He hath anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor :
He hath sent me to proclaim release to the captives,
And recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty them that are bruised,
To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."*

— Luke iv : 18. 19.

YENG BYEN, KOREA, DEC. 20th, 1910.

My Dear Dr. Birney and Loved Ones :

We are having some very cold weather here now, the thermometer has been about 15 degrees below zero, and no snow yet. We

can see for miles in the distance and nothing but mountain ranges and peaks, some of which are covered with snow, and when the snow reflects the sun it makes a very beautiful sight indeed.

The Koreans are a very sturdy class as a rule and can stand a great deal of cold. The atmosphere up here is indeed vigorating and inspires one to his full capacity.

INTERESTING CASES.

The last ten days have indeed been very interesting as so many things have happened in connection with the Hospital work. It seems that each week brings a different class of patients and diseases for treatment. For a long time it seemed I had nothing but sick diseases, then came the eye cases, stomach troubles, and now of late has been surgery. I have had three big operations within one week, and now have two awaiting until I have the time to do them. One of the most important cases, was that of the wife of a Japanese official. It was a delicate case requiring one of the most dreadful operations in order to save her life. The Japanese doctor who had been attending the case, had been utterly unable to give relief. I was called as a last resort, and her condition was such that it seemed impossible that she could live. The operation took four hours, and was performed on the floor of the house, under the most trying circumstances, but was altogether successful. It was almost too good to be true. Imagine four hours on one's knees at work. I am willing to confess that I have not had enough practice in that position to feel comfortable at such prolonged periods. I was lame for over a week and have not fully recovered yet. Neither the Koreans nor Japanese have chairs or beds.

The work has grown so rapidly the last few weeks, that this letter has been delayed, therefore I also have additional information and items of interest, I trust.

POVERTY OF THE PEOPLE.---AN APPEAL.

When we awakened Christmas morning everything was white with snow and was so beautiful as well as appropriate, for the day. We are having real winter now, and many of the people are suffering for want of sufficient clothing and food. Where the average day's wage is only 20c it makes it very hard when winter comes for them to support large families. I trust our friends at home this spring will, instead of throwing away their winter clothing which is worn, or lay it aside and then confer with one another and send a large box out here for next winter. We would be able to help so many. Any kind of clothing will be acceptable, old skirts that are seemingly useless, can be made over into children's clothes and are highly appreciated. Any kind of cloth is acceptable, old or new. Especially do they rejoice in getting a cast off suit of clothes. To even have a vest is a wonderful thing, for it has pockets, besides keeps them warm; I am now talking about men. When we think for a moment that the clothing for an entire year costs them only about \$2.00 you may know it is not of very good quality, and the clothes we cast off wear them so long and are so warm. Their clothing is entirely of cotton (some times padded with cotton) and no one can afford underclothes, so any kind of old ones would be acceptable; never mind the holes, they will gladly mend them. Woolen clothing is unknown.

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS.

On Monday, December 26th, when we celebrated Christmas, I received a grand reception at the Dispensary—there were 40 people waiting when I got there! All manner of diseases and troubles that one could imagine. Always before we begin treatments, a short service is held, and they are urged to become Christians, prayed with and handed tracts. I have just finished having a tract translated and one will go into each home. It tells them they are sinners, lost, and must repent and that the Lord will receive them, etc., if they only believe; giving scripture for each instead of man's interpretation. It is a tract, that as it goes into the distant communities, will I pray, be used mightily by the Holy Spirit to convict of sin, righteous and judgment. I wish you would pray that the Lord will use and bless His word as it is thus sent out.

Dr. Birney wanted me to be sure and go to work as soon as we got here, cure the people, give out tracts, etc. Well, I have done so,



The Hospital, where Dr. Miller does his work.

even I think more than would gratify him, for the last two weeks. I have been exceedingly busy, night and day they have been calling for me, until my study of the language has been greatly interfered with. Some days I have not looked into a book, but of course I have been, at those times, talking with patients and getting excellent study in that way. I can usually grasp enough of their story now to treat them intelligently, although I do have to send a patient with a note once in a while to Mr. or Mrs. Morris to get things cleared up.

The Surgery cases have come in faster than I can handle them. I now have four patients (surgical) in the Hospital, and one who came 40 miles was compelled to find a room outside.

I did an operation for hair lip last Tuesday and I must say he was the most hideous sight I about ever saw; the lip was split to the nose, so that when he smiled his face opened up in a wonderful manner, until he was all mouth. At present he is about the happiest man I ever saw, and indeed looks like a new man. We are praying that ere he leaves the Hospital he may be a new man in Christ Jesus indeed, and go home, about 200 li, with a testimony for our Master that will arouse the entire village.

The man whose cancer we removed is improving very fast and is now walking around with a smile that won't come off.

One man came in and waited a week for me to straighten his legs; both knees and hips were locked and had been so for six years. We operated on his knees and now have them in plaster casts, will try the hips later on. As it is he will be able to walk with the aid of crutches.

Another was a boy of 4 years with a deformed back, he was put into a cast. These are the only patients now in the Hospital.

Among the most distressing ones attending the dispensary daily, is a man who became drunk on the Korean beer, and went to sleep on the floor, in the meantime a tremendous fire was built and he slept on, only to awaken and find his head, shoulder, and hip was burned to the bone, besides we must now remove three of his fingers.

“CHIM” DOCTORS.

A baby has been brought daily for some time, who had had pneumonia, and a Korean doctor was promptly called. He stuck a “chim,” which resembles a knitting needle, only is never clean, into the child's lung, and the result is its little lung is all filled up with pus.

The case that really gave me the most worry and discomfort, was one of our Christian men, sick with stomach trouble, and the medicine I gave him did not cure in a day, so, even though he was a Christian, they called their old standby, the doctor with the chim. As a human doctor could not be found, a horse doctor was second choice. He drove these chim into the abdomen and stomach 6 times. The man now really became sick, infection set in, and it was with pleadings they came to see if I could not do something, and they would never, never have another chim. We are glad to say he is now back at his work, which seems too good to be true.

The theory is, that if one has a pain, this needle thrust in will permit the devil to escape, and it will take many years for even the Christians to depart from their ancient customs. I trust very soon the Japanese government will pass a law that this barbarous practice must be discontinued. I am sure I would not have from 15-30 patients daily if it were not for this practice. But we are here to teach them better things, and gradually they will come to know that the Jesus Doctor is here to help their souls as well as their bodies.

THE NEW HOSPITAL, AND OTHER NEEDS.

I just received word that I must submit plans for our new Hospital at once. From the way the work is growing I don't know what we will do for room even in another month. We have rented a nearby house, but have patients waiting to be operated on now more than enough to fill it.

They say I can have \$7,000 for the building and equipment.

I only wish we could have the entire amount for the building and that our friends at home would take it upon themselves to furnish rooms and fit up the operating-room. In fact we must have two operating rooms, one for the regular dispensary patients, and one for all the clean operations.

I now have three assistants and one Bible-woman at the Hospital all the time. The Board only pays for two of them. I do hope we can find some one who will be led to provide for support of the other two. The Bible-woman should have \$5.00 per month, but we are only giving her \$3.50, and out of this she supports herself and four children. Her work is to teach the women who visit the Hospital to read, besides preaching to them, and the balance of her time she calls on them in their homes. The money I am paying to her and one of the helpers must for the present be taken out of the drug money, thus to offset that I am compelled to purchase inferior and cheaper drugs from the Japanese, where otherwise I could have my drugs from America.

If the patients and operations increase in the near future as of late, I must have a native trained nurse in addition to the staff, which will probably cost about \$10.00 per month. In doing this I will not be compelled to spend my mornings at the Hospital, and can then study and be of more service later on. If I really had the time I could have an operation every day now, but we must attend to only the more urgent cases for the present.

A few weeks ago I made a trip to the Gold Mine to set a broken arm for an American, and as a token of appreciation for a Xmas present I received \$25.00, which will be used in the dispensary making a board floor; now we must tread on clay covered with paper.

If any one wishes special pictures, I will send them as soon as our supplies arrive.

LATER:

I have often thought of the salutations here as compared with those at home. They are: Did you come in peace? Go in peace. Remain in peace, and Sleep in peace. These are used universally.

Christmas morning we were awakened at 3:30 by a group of school girls singing Christmas carols under our window, in their native tongue. It did sound so sweet.

The Japanese officials came up Saturday evening and left us a beautiful Xmas present as a token of their good will.

I guess we will just include our thanks to Mrs. Holt for the Waters Circle. They sent us the Outlook for one year and it does seem so good to get a bit of news. Will try and write them later.

I trust you received our package ere this and in good shape. The photos haven't all been finished yet but we will try and get them off in a few days.

I wonder if you have all forgotten us. We were very thankful for the steamer letters, but have received none since our arrival.

I have sent each name to Dr. Jones for pamphlets on Korea, I mean each person who wrote us a steamer letter, so the others need not feel slighted.

We ask an interest in all your prayers.

With love to all.

Yours in His name,
I. M. and ALICE MILLER.

A Korean Sermon.

It will be of interest to read the following sermon preached in Korean to Koreans, by a Korean, Rev. Kim (the native helper), and translated literally by the Rev. Charles Morris.

Text: "Receive not the grace of God in vain."—II Cor. vi: 1.

Paul wrote especially to the Corinthians, Why? All the Corinthians had heard the Gospel, but besides this they had heard other religions—therefore Paul wrote in this way. Why is this of use to us? At this time our Nation is receiving special grace from God. All over the country, from North to South, people are traveling and preaching to those who as yet know not Christ. Every day the Christians are going to every house and saying, "Believe, Believe," and the heathen are wondering why they do this way. If God had not given us grace and power we could not do this work. Even though we wished to we could not. Why? As we traveled to the houses in this city, did we hear rejoicing in any house? We heard only excuses, etc., and such things, as, can I be clothed if I believe? Can I eat if I believe, etc. Even though we heard only this we went again the next day and the next. We cared not that they did not want us, or abused us, for this was the work that God gave us and we were only too glad to go and preach the Saviour.

This is the time of special grace. Already there are many who have believed. Even from those who gave their names during the meetings, there are quite a few here this morning. Why do they come now to believe? Is it because they have never heard the Gospel before? Some have not, while others have heard for years, so God is especially giving His grace now to Korea and that is why so many are believing. Like our text: "Now is the day of grace."

In Tai Chun, where I have been preaching the last week, the first day we received great abuse, so the first night I was greatly discouraged, and I thought that in Yeng Byen we had seen nothing of this kind and I can not be of any help to this kind of people. Then I thought God came to save even these, so we went to the homes every day again and again, till, when I left, the Church was full. Is it not a time of God's special grace? God is especially pitying and giving His grace.

When we think of this world, there are two kinds of things—"Life" and "Destruction." If we receive not grace we receive not Life. The greatest grace is our Salvation through Christ who died on the Cross for us all. So if we receive not the grace of God in vain, we receive the grace so that we realize that Christ died to save us, and we accept Him as our Saviour: then we are receiving the grace not in vain. There are not many who do realize all it means. They come into the Church for various reasons; some for pleasure, some for temperance, some for this and some for that, etc. But my belief is that such people are all receiving the grace of God in vain. All think deeply. If we realize Christ's death on the cross, His suffering for us, and what then must we do to make peace with God? If we stop drinking wine, etc., because we love Christ, then we are receiving the grace of God not in vain, and if we follow God's leadings we can go before Him with nothing lacking. If we pretend to believe and receive not this grace, all is useless. If the world moves on at this

time of special grace and does what it pleases and not what God wishes, the end is destruction.

Each one's thoughts must be: "Have I received this grace?" At this time the believers, too, should have grasped the opportunity and entered into a deeper spirituality. Because many believers have entered more deeply in, we are grateful. Because many who did not believe have begun to believe, we are grateful, but if we are going to do as many have done, and fall again into destruction, what use is it all? That is why Paul wrote the following verse, "If I grow angry and speak unkind words to another, I drive the grace out of his heart and injure my own." Look at the trials Paul went through. He suffered all this, but where do we see that he became discouraged? He endured all, he bore all in faith. If we ask who was the greatest teacher, we must say Paul. Why? Because he bore so much. Now he is not only in Heaven, but he sits at the right hand of God.

If we have received this grace, no matter what we meet in this world, can we deny Christ? All the trials and troubles are only for a little while. Therefore during our short stay here, can we cast aside this grace? We can not cast aside even a little of it. Before the grace of God, before Christ's death, we were all of no worth before God; therefore we can only be grateful for His great grace. Let us all think of this grace. I can not only be happy and grateful because I have received this grace, or I will fall, but we as Christians during this time of special grace must enter into deeper blessings, and prepare to meet the future.

See Jesus when He died on the cross, did He not suffer? He was just as we all are, He could not but suffer as we would. It was for our sins that He suffered that which could not be borne. But if He had not done that we could not have been saved, we would have been lost forever. For me, for you, for all He died. Whatever is ahead of us of trial or sorrow, if we awaken up to His grace, we can endure all; but if we think His death is nothing to us, we will drop away—we will be ashamed before the world.

Since this is the time of special grace for us, we must use our strength to obtain this grace. Therefore to-day, what I desire is, that no matter how hard the trials ahead may be, I want to think only of the cross, and receive the grace unto the end.

