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MEDICAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY IN CHINA.

CONCLUSION OF DR. THOMSON'S PAPER.

Few philanthropic institutions at home or abroad can produce a record at all to be compared with that of the Medical Missionary Society in China. We doubt if there exists to-day any society formed for benevolent purposes that can be shown to have used its resources to greater advantage.

Our Medical Missionary Society, (the oldest not in China only but in the world), may be justly proud of its fifty years’ work.

We note with every satisfaction that its history, which has always been full of interest to constituents and friends, is soon to be made known more fully and widely in a memoir of one of the earliest physicians of the hospital, Dr Peter Parker, who was also first vice-president of the Society.

Meantime a sketch of the Society’s history during the last fifty years has been drawn up by Dr Thomson.

At a public meeting held last night (18th May, 1888), Dr Thomson read parts of this sketch; the entire paper being too lengthy for the time at the reader’s disposal. Dr Thomson also took occasion to exhibit to his audience photographs of medical gentlemen and others connected with the Institution in former days. His collection included pictures of Drs Parker and Collidge, Dr Wells Williams, Dr Hotson, Dr Magowan, ‘Howqua,’ and other well-known worthies.

The meeting was held in the Sailors’ Reading and Recreation Room on the Foreign Settlement, the chair being taken at half past six o’clock by Chaloner Alabaster, Esq., H. B. M. Consul, Canton.

Proceedings were opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr Happer.
weapons of war." Dr. Parker, when called to treat Imperial Commissioner Keying in 1843, remarks:—"Nothing has occurred to render more striking the contrast in the state of things in China, since the opening of the hospital in 1835, than this interview. Then, it was feared to have its existence come to the knowledge of the authorities, and the first lease of a building for the purpose expressly provided that it should be given up if the officers raised objections. A linguist's clerk for three or four years was also often in attendance as a spy. Now, on a public occasion, the Governor-General, Imperial Commissioner, in the presence of the Provincial Judge, and numerous other officers and attendants, voluntarily alluded to the institution in no measured terms of commendation."

Then 'twas better than now probably, and yet only recently our Society has been appealed to by the Viceroy for foreign surgeons to attend the armies.

But as on that 'triumphal tour,' the Ladies are not to be omitted: 'The interest,' says Dr. Parker, 'already existing in the English metropolis on behalf of the objects of the Medical Missionary Society was not confined to these benevolent ladies,' to whom he had referred as making systematic efforts in behalf of this cause, sending remittances and addressing circulars upon the subject to benevolent ladies in other parts of England. In Edinburgh, at least, and at points in the United States, he specially addressed Ladies' meetings, and at Philadelphia a Ladies' Society was formed which sent remittances. And where does the 'still sad music of humanity' strike a more responsive chord than in woman's sympathetic breast; and who more than
she would advance our cause and bring in the time 'when man to man the world o'er, shall brothers be for a' that.' But not only does our Society address itself to the foregoing, it is peculiarly the handmaid of religion. 'We have called ours a Medical Missionary Society, because we trust it will advance the cause of missions,' so reads the original address of 1838. Rev. A. Kroczyn declared that he would not be able to reside in Tung-kun but for his dispensary, which was also the declaration Dr Happer and others in the early days of Canton; while of Dr Parker it was said; 'He opened China to the Gospel at the point of his lancet.' As a summary of this introductory thought we give the opening paragraph of the original paper of suggestions drawn up after 'mature deliberation' by Drs Collidge, Parker and E. & Bridgman, and published in October 1836; and thus came to the first step in the formation of our Society. 'Viewing with peculiar interest,' it declares, 'the good effects that seem likely to be produced by medical practice among the Chinese, especially as tending to bring about a more social and friendly intercourse between them and foreigners, as well as to diffuse the arts and sciences of Europe and America, and in the end to introduce the gospel of our Saviour in place of the pitable superstitions by which their minds are now governed, we have resolved to attempt the formation of a society to be called the 'Medical Missionary Society in China.'

And yet it is plain to see how events led up to this organisation. Specially in the mind of Dr Collidge is the germ of the Society early found, as will be manifest from the sketch of that Founder.

In the concluding paragraph of the 'Suggestions' we read: 'All truth is of God; the introduction of medical truth into China
would be the demolition of much error.

... As the means then to waken the dormant mind of China, may we not place a high value upon medical truth, and seek its introduction with a good hope of its becoming the handmaid of religious truth.

... That inquiry after medical truth may be provoked, there is good reason to expect; for exclusive as China is in all her systems, she cannot exclude disease, nor shunt her people up from the desire of relief.

... This seems the only open door; let us enter it; loathsome disease in every hopeless form has uttered her cry for belief from every corner of the land; we have heard it and would and must essay its healing.

The next allusion we find to the Medical Missionary Society is under date of May 11, 1837, when a List of subscribers, with donations to the amount of $5230, to a proposed Medical Missionary Society in China` was published in the Canton Register. And, in Dr. Parker's Seventh Quarterly Report of the Ophthalmic Hospital of date May-Dec. 1837, he remarks that the `organization of the contemplated M. M. Soc. has been delayed through unanticipated causes.' But the date February 21st 1838 brings us to the actual organization of not only `the oldest and now most vigorous of the medical organizations in China` as it is characterized in the September No. of the China Med. Mis. Journal, but to the first Medical Missionary Society in the World.

Touching that important organization then we read:—"At a public meeting, called by T. X. Colledge, M.D., H.M.S., the Rev., P. Parker, M.D., and the Rev. E. C. Bridgman, (J. T. Lay, Esq., attending on the part of Dr. Colledge), which was held in the rooms of the General Chamber of Commerce, at Canton, on the 21st of
February 1838, it was Proposed by the Rev. P. Parker, and seconded by M. Inglis, Esq., "That Mr Jardine take the chair." This being unanimously agreed to, the chair was accordingly taken by Mr Jardine, Esq., who stated, that the object for which the meeting had been called was the organization of a Medical Missionary Society, in conformity with a plan which had been for some time in contemplation, and in reference to which certain suggestions had been published, about eighteen months previously, by the gentlemen by whom the meeting was called. On motion of G. T. Lay, Esq., seconded by Rev. E. C. Bridgman, it was Resolved: I. 'That, in order to give a wider extension, and a permanency to the efforts that have already been made to spread the benefits of rational medicine and surgery among the Chinese, a society be organized at Canton, under the name of 'The Medical Missionary Society in China.' That the object of this Society be, to encourage gentlemen of the medical profession to come and practice gratuitously among the Chinese, by affording the usual aid of hospitals, medicine, and attendants; but that the support or renumeration of such medical gentlemen be not, at present, within its contemplation.' Here follow Resolutions on Officers, Members, Meetings, Library, Anatomical Museum, Trustees, Qualifications of Medical Men employed, Duties of such Medical Men, Hospital Register and Foreign Agents, which being severally discussed and adopted it was further Resolved, 'That the members of this society are deeply impressed with a sense of the services which Dr College and Dr Parker have rendered to humanity, by the gratuitous medical aid they have afforded to the Chinese, which services have tended to originate this Society; and that the members trust to the philanthropy
and zeal of those gentlemen to carry the purposes of the Society into effect, and to enable it to perpetuate the benefits which have been already conferred.' It was then moved by James Matheson, Esq., (late Sir James Matheson, Bart.), seconded by R. Turner, Esq., and Resolved, 'That the thanks of this meeting be presented to T. R. Colledge, M.D., for the responsibility and trouble taken by him in purchasing, and putting into repair a convenient and suitable building for a medical institution at Macao. That the said building be accepted by this Society, on the liberal terms of Dr. Colledge's offer; and that the Trustees be authorized to take the necessary steps for the transfer of the property.'

Resolved,—'That the meeting now proceed to the election of officers.' The following officers were duly elected: President, T. R. Colledge, M.D., Vice-presidents, Rev. Peter Parker, M.D., W. Jardine, Esq.; G. T. Lay, Esq., Rev. E. C. Bridgman; Recording Secretary, A. Anderson, Esq.; Cor. Sec. C. W. King, Esq.; Treas. Joseph Archer, Esq.; Auditor of Accounts, J. C. Green, Esq. The following officers form the Board of Trustees: Thomas Richardson Colledge, M.D., Joseph Archer, Esq., John Cleve Green, Esq.

Thanks having been voted to the Chair, the meeting was then adjourned.

In a meeting of the Committee of management on the 23rd of Feb. R. Inglis and A. Anderson, Esq., were added to the number of the Vice-presidents, and J. R. Morrison, Esq., was appointed Rec. Sec. in the room of A. Anderson and a resolution was passed: 'That Dr Colledge, Dr Parker and Mr Bridgman be requested to draw out a general statement of the objects and prospects of the society, its regulations
and other particulars of its organization, for the purpose of publication, the same to be submitted for approval to a general meeting of the society.

At a public meeting of the Medical Missionary Society in the rooms of the General Chamber of Commerce on the 24th of April 1833, Rev. Peter Parker, M.D., Vice-president in the Chair, after the reading of the Minutes of the meeting of Feb. 21st, the provisional changes in the list of officers made by the Committee of Management were confirmed and the address by Drs Collodge, Parker, and Mr Bridgman, as ordered drawn up, was read. In it among other things they say: ""Heal the sick" is our motto,—constituting alike the injunction under which we act, and the object at which we aim, and which, with the blessing of God, we hope to accomplish by means of scientific practice, in the exercise of an unbounded and untiring kindness We have called ours a Missionary Society, because we trust it will advance the cause of missions and because we want men to fill our institutions, who, to requisite skill and experience, add the self-denial and the high moral qualities which are usually looked for in a missionary. While the Society’s Agents, who will be looked for from Missionary Boards in Christian lands, will ply their art they will educate young Chinese in it, and reflex benefits will accrue to medical science from discoveries in China. The Society thus addresses itself to all, including the scientist and the philanthropist, and in furtherance of this, Agents are appointed in the principal cities of England and America (as in London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington) since, though about $90,000 have been contributed in China and its vicinity within the last two years to this cause, the Society must look to the affluent
of happier lands for its principal support on the other hand now its support is all from the foreigners and natives, the latter providing the larger proportion.) After the reading of the Address on the motion of W. Jardine, Esq., seconded by J. C. Green, Esq., it was Resolved, ‘That the address be accepted, and that, agreeably to the resolution of the Committee of Management, it be printed, accompanied by the list of regulations and other particulars of information regarding the state and prospects of the Society.’ Resolved, ‘That this meeting, having heard that an application is to be made to the proprietor of the building now occupied as a hospital in Canton, to repair and enlarge it, is of opinion that Dr. Parker should, for the following reasons, be requested to avail himself of the time required for such repairs and alterations, to proceed to Macao, to open, and for three or four months to take charge of the hospital there. These reasons are, that there are now many cases in Macao calling for early attention, whereas in Canton most of the cases of old standing have been relieved; and that a great advantage will be experienced in the new institution being opened by a person acquainted with the language and habits of the Chinese, rather than by anyone, a stranger to their language and habits, who may hereafter arrive.’ Also resolved, ‘That this Society views with pleasure the prospects of an early increase in the number of its medical co-operators in this country; and that it trusts the hospitals, both in Canton and Macao, may enjoy, ere long, all needed superintendence, in the presence of, at least, two surgeons in each. Resolved, ‘That with a view of increasing the existing pecuniary means of the Society, the Secretary be empowered to call a general
meeting, a few days subsequently to the
publication of the pamphlet now about to
be printed.’ The meeting then adjourned.

In the list of contributors to the Society’s
treasury we notice among the Directors for
life, those contributing $500 or more, the
name of Lanceiot Dent, Wm. Jardine, and
J. Matheson, all so prominent in after
years; and among the members for life
those of Capt. G. Elliot, R.N., J. R. Mor-
rison, D. W. Olyphant, Sir G. B. Robin-
son, Bart, the Westmores and ‘Howqua,’ the
great Hong merchant, ever a generous
helper and the only Chinese on this list as
for years it would seem. Among the Annual
Subscribers are Capt. T. Smith, H.C.S., and
several ladies, among them Lady Herschell.
After general allusions to the three Founders,
the events of their careers were brought
out more in detail. First we met Thos. R.
Colledge, F.R.S.E., &c., of the E. I. Co.
and H. B. M. Commission, one of the
earliest medical benefactors of China and
the actual originator, may we not say, of
Foreign Medical Missions. To show his
position we give the incidental remark of
Rev. G. T. Lay, A.V.P. of our Society:
‘We have,’ says he, ‘a Society whose spe-
cial object is to encourage this (the exercise
of the medical art) among the Chinese,
founded upon principles first conceived by
Colledge, the Chinaman’s friend, and after-
wards successfully put in practice by him-
self and Dr. Parker.’ And as one reads
his life one will see his right to priority in
this claim. So to understand his relation-
ship to our Society one needs to know him
from his arrival in China, and then too
may not this Society claim the results of
those earlier labors of its founder.

In the Prospectus of the Medical Phi-
lanthropic Society of London, organized in considerable measure as an aid to this Society, we have the following: ‘The honor of founding the first institution (the Macao Ophthalmic Hospital in 1827) for conferring upon the Chinese the benefits of European science in medicine and surgery is due to Dr. T. R. Colledge, surgeon to the English Factory in China.’ In a letter acknowledging a benefaction from the E. I. Co. we find this: ‘In the year 1827, on joining the E. I. Co. establishment, I determined to devote a large portion of my time, and such medical skill as education and much attention to the duties of my profession had made my own, to the cure of so many poor Chinese sufferers of Macao and its vicinity as came in my way.

. . . . During that year my own funds supplied the necessary outlay. In 1828 many friends who had witnessed the success of my exertions in the preceding year, and had become aware of the expenses I had incurred, came forward to aid in the support of a more regular infirmary which I proposed to establish.’

And Chief of British Affairs in China Plowden, in a most favourable testimony to Dr. Colledge as surgeon and philanthropist, remarks:—‘To Mr Colledge therefore belongs the merit of having established by aid of voluntary donation the first institution in this country for the relief of indigent natives.’ (And yet we must not forget that Rev. Dr. Morrison, who also took a course in medical study, in conjunction with Dr. Livingstone, had as early as 1820 opened a dispensary at Macao for poor Chinese).

From Dr. Colledge’s Chinese testimonials we cull this:—
‘He lavishes his blessings,—but he seeks for no return; such medicine, such physician,—since Tsun were never known;
The medicine—how many kinds most excellent has he;
The surgeon’s knife—it pierced the eye, and Sprung once more I see.
If Yung has not been born again, to bless the present age,
Then sure, ‘tis Soo reanimate, again upon the stage:
Whenever called away from far, to see your native land,
A living monument I’ll wait, upon the ocean’s strand.’

The memory of this Hospital, which was necessarily closed in 1832 after some 6000 cases had been treated, is preserved in a noted painting by Chinnery, a steel engraving of which you observe suspended on the wall.

In 1828, during the period of the residence of the British Factory in Canton, Dr Colledge and Dr Bradford of Philadelphia opened a free dispensary which was largely patronized by the natives. 1833 according to Hunter’s ‘Fankwai at Canton,’ was a ‘notable year, for the hitherto unprecedented event of the marriage at Macao of a young American lady, Miss Shillaber of Boston, to Dr Thos. R. Colledge of the Company’s Factory. It was a brilliant affair and celebrated with more than usual éclat from its novelty.’ In 1835 was organized ‘The British Seaman’s Hospital Society in China,’ with Dr Colledge as chief actor. Its special object was to maintain a ‘floating hospital’ at Whampoa—whither during 1834 there came nearly 200 ships and upwards of 6000 seamen. It also gave gratuitous medical aid to Chinese. The Whampoa Bethel ship was then, we believe, still under the care of Rev. Edwin Stevens of the American Seaman’s Friend Society, from the funds of which this society has of late years an annual allowance.

Coming down to 1836 we find Dr Colledge in Oct., in conjunction with Drs. Parker and Bridgman issuing the appeal for a Medical
Missionary Society, and in Feb. 1838, after a most favorable resolution touching his philanthropy and zeal in this cause, the newly organized society at once elects him to its Presidency, which office he holds upwards of forty years, or until his death at Cheltenham, England, in 1879, at the advanced age of 82 years. He passed away with the pathetic yet comforting refrain on his lips when reminded of his part in founding this society, ‘That was the one good thing of my life.’

Our second Founder was the pioneer American Missionary to China, Rev. Dr. Bridgman, who as a V. President of this Society and ever active for its welfare, a noted sinologue, founder and editor of the Chinese Repository, and prominent in all good works of his day, died at Shanghai November 2nd 1861.

The third Founder was Rev. Peter Parker, M.D., the first regularly appointed Medical Missionary to this Empire. The idea of using the practice of medicine as a means of affording opportunities to introduce Christianity among the Chinese was first practically adopted by the American Board of Missions, and Dr. Parker proceeding with that view arrived at Canton October 26th 1834. Leaving soon for Singapore, after treating there upwards of 1,000 patients, he returned to Canton, and after considerable difficulty opened there in San Tau Lan the first Medical Mission Hospital in China. Renting Factory No. 7 of Fung-tai Hong at $500 per annum from Hokqua and notice given, the first day no patient ventured to come; the second day a solitary female afflicted with eye disease came, the third day half a dozen, but soon they came in crowds, by hundreds, even a thousand have been present on out-
patients day, some spending the night before the doors to gain an early admittance. And so it has since continued, for the last thirty three years under the self-denying and efficient labors of Dr. Kerr.

These applicants have been from all the Provinces and from all ranks, from the beggar to the members of the Imperial household. The reply of an old woman with cataract in both eyes is a sufficient illustration of the unqualified confidence reposed in the foreigner. Dr. Parker expressing doubt whether she could bear the knife being put into her eye, she made answer:—'If you like you may take them both out and put them in again.' Not to refer again to Dr. Parker's active part in the founding of our Society, we note this as the period, when without anaesthetics he revelled in tumors 'one third the weight of the man' on Chinese who like Kwongchaufu Yü 'with much composure laid himself upon the operating table and during the operation scarcely discovered any sensibility:' in first amputations of limbs of Chinese, first lithotomies, of which his institution has almost had the monopoly, there being considerably more than 1,000 operations for stone to date since the first in 1844; and was weighted down with scrolls from Imperial Coun. Keying to the grateful heart who wished to send an artist for a painting of his benefactor that he might worship it daily. There are still traditions on the street of the skill of Dr. Parker in that heroic age. A remark of Kwangchak-fu Yü above mentioned is worth repeating. No doubt on his good behavior under the surgeon's knife, having sustained a conspicuous part in the recent war and ransom of Canton, the officer with whom Captain Elliot treated, he made inquiries after him, and observed of Imperial Commissioner Lin,
that had he listened to him, he would have saved himself and country much trouble, and alluding to the relative importance of China and the nations of the West, made the just interrogation, ‘What is the use of designing one high and the other low, of those which are on the same level?’

Having felt the importance of training natives for the medical calling Dr. Parker began in 1837, with a class of three promising youths, the instruction apparently largely in English. This Hospital class is still continued with the Chinese language as the medium, and many have gone forth to play a medical part, some with distinction and much pecuniary profit, while others have continued in hospital employ. The Macao Hospital was opened in 1838 by Dr. Parker, who was soon succeeded by Dr. Lockhart, and he in turn by Drs. Hobson and Diver in the care of it. During the hostilities of 1839 the hospital was forced from the Factory to Dr. Parker’s residence and then to the Canton Dispensary. Finally closed on the 7th of June 1840 by reason of the Blockade of Canton by the British—though the eagerness to obtain medical aid and the number of patients was never greater, there being an attendance of some 200 on the closing day.

Dr. Parker, also with the approbation of the Medical Missionary Society, embarked July 5 on a tour through America and England, the object specially proposed being to raise there a permanent fund for the support of the Medical Missionary Society in China," for the maintenance of the hospitals already established, and for the founding of others at every accessible and eligible part of China; it being also a prominent object to train up Chinese youth of talent, to extend the blessings through the Empire; in all our efforts, never losing
sight of the paramount object,—the introduction of the Gospel.' At the first meeting for the specific object at Washington there was good attendance and favorable resolutions were passed. On Sabbath he addressed the Congress of the U.S. Many other places were visited and addresses made, notably New York, Boston and Philadelphia. Very favorable resolutions were passed and pecuniary aid given, at Boston to the amount of upwards of $5000. At Philadelphia a General and a Ladies Society were formed and remittances made. New York commended heartily the objects of our Society, appointed an Aid Committee, and besides agreeing to support several Chinese Medical Students has since sent money and medicines.

Immediately after these meetings Dr Parker embarked for England. Spending six weeks in London, he published a 'statement respecting Hospitals in China,' and displayed his paintings by Lamqua of characteristic maladies, which he left in Guy's Hospital Museum. Sir Henry Halford, already interested in Medical Missions in China, at once gave him hearty support. Commendation of the Society's objects was also received from the Duke of Sussex, and the Princess Sophia, from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke of Wellington, Sir Robert Peel, the Bishops of London and Durham, Lord Buxley, Sir George Staunton and others. At the Exeter Hall meeting July 15, 1851, Sir George Robinson, Bart., former Chief Superintendent of British trade in China was called to the Chair. The meeting closed with favorable resolutions by Dr Wm. Jardine, M.P., and others. Cambridge and Birmingham were visited on the way to Edinburgh. At this last point special interest was manifested. The Lord Provost presided over a gathering of the elite of the City at the Waterloo Hotel, and the famous Dr Abercrombie played a prominent part, afterwards becoming Pre-
sident of the Society then formed to aid medical missions in China and since called the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society.

The workings of Providence are seen, in that Dr Parker was the instrument used in establishing the Edinburgh Society, its Superintendent Dr W. Burns Thomson led Dr G. D. Dowkontt into that work, and he afterwards became the virtual founder and is now Superintendent of the New York Medical Missionary Society. Dr Parker also addressed in Edinburgh a meeting of ladies who, with the Society above, promised aid. At Glasgow the meeting was held at Carrick’s Hotel, the Lord Provost in the chair. W. P. Paton, Esq., introduced Dr. Parker through a letter from James Matheson Esq., of Canton. At Liverpool in a ‘numerously attended’ meeting Dr. Parker alluded to the work of Dr. Lockhart, one of the Society’s agents and to that of Dr. Pearson, who introduced vaccination into China at Canton in 1805; both of them former residents of Liverpool. Here the ladies were also outspoken in their interest, and a General Committee was appointed, of which it was said that a ‘more respectable and influential body comprising the same number and embracing such different professions and religious denominations, could scarcely be selected in Liverpool.’ To Paris a brief visit was paid and friends made for the cause. Through several distinguished gentlemen whom Dr. Parker met in London the cause was also advocated and sympathy enlisted in Germany.

The War in China ended, Dr. Parker meanwhile marrying a Miss Webster, again reached China October 4th 1842, and with Mrs Parker took up his residence at Canton Nov. 5th, in ‘direct opposition to old regulations,’ one of which was that ‘neither women,
guns, spears, nor arms of any kind can be brought to the Factories.’ Here Mrs Parker lived a ‘lone woman without a single female companion for many months.’ She was the first foreign woman to reside at Canton. It was soon after this that the great Imperial Commissioner Keying, shortly afterwards a patient of Dr. Parker’s, presented a Memorial to the throne in which is the following paragraph:—‘Another point, it is the wont of the barbarians to make much of their women. Whenever their visitor is a person of distinction, the wife is sure to come out to receive him. In the case of the American barbarian Parker, and the French barbarian Lagrène, for instance, both of these have brought their foreign wives with them, and when your slave has gone to their barbarian residences on business, these foreign women have suddenly appeared and saluted him. Your slave was confounded (awe-stricken) and ill at ease, while they, on the contrary, were greatly delighted at the honor done them. The truth is, as this shows, that it is not possible to regulate the customs of the Western States by the ceremonial of China, and to break out in rebuke, while it would do nothing towards their enlightenment might chance to give rise to suspicion and ill-feeling.’

On the 21st of November, Dr Parker reopened the Hospital in the building where it was first commenced. Old Howqua, the landlord of the factory, at first made some objections, particularly referring to the hazard he was before exposed to at the time of the death of a friendless beggar, upon whose body the Nanhai hien held a coroner’s inquest, but being assured that due precautions should be taken to prevent the recurrence of a similar event, he gave his consent.
On inquiring what would be the rent, he replied that it would be unnecessary to speak of that: ‘My own heart likes this business too; if any repairs are necessary, just call on my comprador, and he will see that they are attended to.’ Not to dwell longer, we conclude briefly. Appointed in March 1844 joint secretary with Doctor Bridgman to the American Legation, under Hon. Caleb Cushing, he was present at the forming of the U. S. Treaty with China at Macao on the 3rd July, and on the exchange of Treaties at Pun T’ong, Canton, on 31st Dec., 1844; he was interpreter and subsequently acted as Chargé d’Affaires. His connection with the American Board of Missions ceased in 1847, though he continued his medical service at the Hospital and amongst the foreign community till 1855.

Serving then as Secretary and Interpreter, or Chargé, in March 1853, he arrived at Shanghai with Commodore Marshall in U.S.S. Susquehanna, bound for Nanking, but shallowness of water prevented their progress, and thence returning to Hongkong he was wrecked at the mouth of the Min River, but without bodily harm. In 1854 he accompanied Minister Maclay to the mouth of the Peiho, where joint applications were made by the English and American Ministers to be allowed to discuss treaty matters in the capital, and remained till Nov. 10th. In the spring of 1855, Dr Parker returned to the United States, the charge of the Canton Hospital being meanwhile transferred to Dr Kerr, and appointed United States Consul, he returned to China. In 1857 he retired from China and took up his residence at Washington, where we find him holding such positions as Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, President of the Evangelical
Alliance, and of the Yale College Alumni Association, while since the death of Dr T. R. Colledge, in 1879, he has been the President of the Medical Missionary Society in China, and ever shown a hearty interest in its welfare. But on the 10th Jan., 1888, at the advanced age of 84 years, he was called to his reward, and we lost one who had probably done more to advance the cause of Medical Missions than any other one person.

We might show the admirable adaptation of these three Founders to form such a Society by noting the fact that one was a layman, dissociated from any Missionary Society; two, physicians; two, clerical missionaries; two from New England and one from Old England. The prominent part played in that organization by mercantile factors is also noticeable and commendable—by Jardine, and Messrs James and Alexander Matheson, of that well known firm; Mr J. C. Green of Russell & Co.; Messrs Olyphant, King, Ingis, Archer, Moller, Dent, Wetmore, Sturgis Turner, Fearon—the paternal ancestor of the member of our Managing Committee who find this year so fortunate for partnerships—and others, several nationalities being represented.

We remark at this period the earnest desire of the great African explorer and medical missionary David Livingstone to come to China, but the war with England led to his appointment to Africa instead.

On the 4th of September 1843 there died at Canton a generous friend of this Society, and altogether the most remarkable native known to foreigners, 'Honqua', the senior and leading member of the Hong-merchants, whose wealth was estimated at any.
thing up to a billion dollars by the press.

The sketches of the old agents of this Society, Drs Lockhart, Hobson, Macgowan, Ball and others have to be passed with a bare allusion, so also the important parts played by S. Wells Williams, LL.D., Venerable Archdeacon Gray, Rev. C. F. Preston, and notably Mr Gideon Nye, U. S. Vice-Consul, who, even before the organization of this Society, a resident of Canton, was a contributor to the Hospital's funds and ever after a faithful and generous friend of this Society, a Vice-President and for some ten years past its presiding officer. The oldest foreign resident in China, he passed away Jan. 25th, 1888. The action of the Society at its annual meeting touching his decease, you already have.

The acute stage of things under consideration we pass over from want of time, besides being rather warned off, the present incumbent of the Canton Hospital, the chief actor of a generation, on the stage of the Medical Missionary Society in China, and the oldest medical missionary in this Empire, we conclude our sketch by giving the words of another at the Hospital's Semi-centennial sometime since as equally appropriate here: 'The prosperity of Institutions like this does not depend so much upon organizations and well-devised regulations and plans as upon men; given the right men, and things will generally go right. Dr Kerr needs no praises from me, but we have come to regard him as part of the Missionary Hospital, and the Hospital would somehow seem a different place without him.'

The Medical Missionary Society's Agents since 1838 comprise the following:—Drs. Parker, Lockhart, Diver, Hobson, Ball, Cumming, Macgowan, Hepburn, Happer, McCartee, Kerr, Gocking, Graves, Wong,
Faber, Krolok, Carnegie, Nacken, Carrow, Jeremiasen, Thomson, Misses Niles and Fulton, McCandless and Swan. The M. M. Society has conducted hospitals and dispensaries at Macao, Hongkong, Amoy, Ningpo, Ting-hae, Shanghai, Formosa and Kwai-peng; in Canton City at Kuk-fau, Kum-le-fau, Ham-ha-lan, Tsing-hoi-mun, Tai-ping-sha St., 13th St., Sz-pai-lau; and in the Province at Shii-hing, Ng-chau, Fatshan, Shik-lung, Fu-mun, Fuk-wing, Sai-nam, Pok-lo, Tsing-yuen, Shik-kok, Tai-ping, Tung-kun, Ho-ai, Fui-chü, Lien-chow, Yeung-kong and Kiung-chow and Noda, Hainan.

At the Canton Hospital, and dispensaries and hospitals drawing supplies therefrom, but not including the Society’s hospitals of early dates at Macao, Hongkong, Amoy, Ningpo, etc., there have been treated in the past, fifty years some 900,000 patients. While in a review of all the figures of all the various agencies of the Medical Missionary Society in China we conclude that, during the past fifty years no less than a million patients have been treated.

The Chairman said Dr Thomson’s paper was exhaustive. It showed that the Society had extended its scope and increased the measure of its usefulness in a truly remarkable manner and gave some idea of the immense amount of good wrought by its operations. He regretted that though forced to cut out so much from the sketch Dr Thomson had not read in greater detail his account of the work done at the Hospital since Dr Kerr had been in charge; Dr Kerr being a man whom we all knew so well and esteemed so highly for his works’ sake. For his (the Chairman’s) part, in the event of a rising of the Chinese against foreigners, he should feel safer in Dr Kerr’s Hospital than on board a gunboat in the
river. He was sure no Canton mob would attack the Canton Hospital. On the higher ground of religion and humanity and on the lower ground of mere utility he considered the Hospital worthy of all the support which the foreign communities had in their power to render.

The Chairman next called on Mr C. Seymour Consul for the United States. He testified to the gratification he felt at seeing so much sympathy shown to Dr Kerr and his co-physicians, Dr Thomson and Dr Swan. He knew of no men and no work more worthy of our sympathy. Dr Kerr’s name and fame had gone throughout Christendom; he might say throughout the world. His self-denying labours here during these many years would go down to succeeding generations both of Chinese and foreigners.

Mr Seymour then informed the meeting that $3,000 from the estate of the late Dr Parker were to be devoted to the preparation and publication of a memoir of that gentleman which would necessarily mean an account of the rise, progress and early history of the Medical Missionary Society in China.

The Rev. W. Pearce next spoke. Votes of thanks to the Chairman and Dr Thomson were passed and the meeting brought to a close, the benediction being pronounced by Rev. Dr Happer.