ONE OF CHINA'S SCHOLARS: THE CULTURE & CONVERSION OF A CONFUCIANIST

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One of China's scholars: the culture & conversion of a Confucianist by Mrs. Howard Taylor

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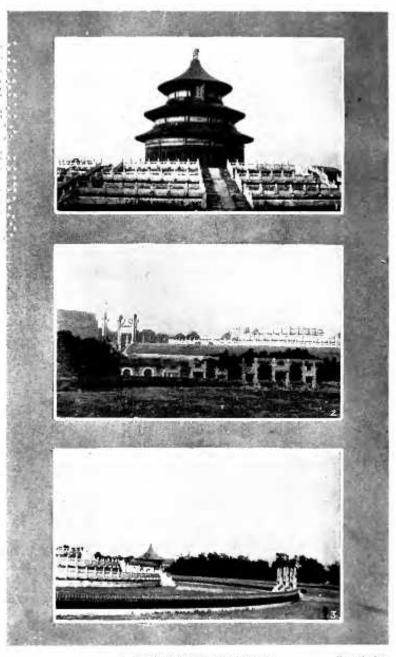
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MRS. HOWARD TAYLOR

ONE OF CHINA'S SCHOLARS: THE CULTURE & CONVERSION OF A CONFUCIANIST



ONE OF CHINA'S SCHOLARS (PASTOR HSI)



1. THE TEMPLE OF HEAVEN. Frontispiece.
2. THE KILN FOR BURNT SACRIFICES. 3. THE ALTAK OF HEAVEN.

For an account of the services performed here see page 76.

ONE OF CHINA'S SCHOLARS

The culture & conversion of a confucianist

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS



BY
MRS. HOWARD TAYLOR
(née GERALDINE GUINNESS)

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TO

THE BELOVED MEMORY OF CH'EN AND TSENG





OF HONAN

MEN OF LIKE SPIRIT WITH HSI HIMSELF
AND TO OTHERS STILL LIVING
WHOM IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO CLAIM
AS OUR PERSONAL FRIENDS
AMONG
THE LITERATI OF CHINA

"Thou hast made us for Thyself; and our heart is restless till it finds rest in Thee."—Sr. AUGUSTINE,

Thou art the source and centre of all minds,
Their only point of rest, Eternal Word!
From Thee departing they are lost, and rove
At random, without honour, hope, or peace.
From Thee is all that soothes the life of man,
His high endeavour, and his glad success,
His strength to suffer, and his will to serve.
But, oh Thou bounteous Giver of all good,
Thou art of all Thy works Thyself the crown!
Give what Thou canst, without Thee we are poor;
And with Thee rich, take what Thou wilt away.
W. COWPER—The Task.

PREFACE

FEELING sure the information given in this book will be of special value at the present time, I have urged its immediate publication. My son and daughter-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor, have had considerable opportunity for studying, from personal observation, the character and possibilities of educated men in China; and the dedication of this book is a sufficient proof of the high regard they entertain for many they have thus learned to know and love.

Every one acquainted with Chinese affairs must be aware of the antagonistic attitude maintained by the literary classes toward foreigners and everything connected with them. Perhaps, however, the fact is overlooked that we ourselves are not entirely free from similar prejudice. Just as the training of the Confucian scholar renders him incapable of fully appreciating the value of Western science, education, and customs, so there is a tendency on our part to undervalue the culture and civilisation of China.