

**LOVE FOR CHINA: EXEMPLIFIED IN
MEMORIALS OF MARY GUNSON.
THE FIRST FEMALE TEACHER IN
CONNECTION WITH THE WESLEYAN
METHODIST MISSION AT CANTON**

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Love for China: Exemplified in Memorials of Mary Gunson. The First Female Teacher in Connection with the Wesleyan Methodist Mission at Canton by George Piercy

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GEORGE PIERCY

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By GEORGE PIERCY.

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TO
"THE LADIES' COMMITTEE
FOR
AMELIORATING THE CONDITION OF WOMEN
IN HEATHEN COUNTRIES,
FEMALE EDUCATION," &c.
THESE PAGES
ARE
RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.



PREFACE.

DEATH strikes down many too soon, apparently, for the best interests of the cause in which they laboured. To our view it seems so; but to the mind of God it is otherwise. He alone takes full cognizance of the work pertaining to His kingdom; He only can see the way in which each agent will be most truly useful; and He has the right to determine *how* they shall aid in advancing that kingdom, "whether it be by life, or by death."

On my homeward voyage from China, when the vessel touched at Aden, I had the opportunity of visiting the grave of a recently-deceased missionary brother. After many years labour in the south of China, Rudolph Kroné returned to Germany to recruit his wife's health. Two years were spent by them in their native land, then (their children left at home) husband and wife were on their way back to China. In Egypt disease attacked him; and when they

reached the mouth of the Red Sea, he was landed at Aden—to die. There his body rests “in hope” of a joyful resurrection. Of a fine, loving, brotherly spirit, and richly qualified to renew his already successful labours in a field where many ardently awaited his arrival,—in the very prime of life, he was cut down. Prematurely, says man; but doubtless not for his influence to be lost to the cause of Christ. He rests from toil and suffering; his work, personally, fully done; but his example will long stir many to emulate his labours.

Sad feelings, not unmingled with joy,—flowed through my heart as I stood over that lonely grave. No “storied urn” or “animated bust” adorned it, yet one touching mark of very tender affection was left there,—a wreath of faded leaves and flowers. A loving hand, tremulous with sorrow, had dropt that chaplet, soon to lose all bloom and fragrance. So fades and decays every sign of human love! Marble or brass cannot long keep the memory of the good fresh on earth! Nor is it necessary; their record is on high, and *The Day* will declare it.

My task is but to weave such a chaplet for