

**ECHOES FROM CHINA;
THE STORY OF MY
LIFE AND LECTURES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649354559

Echoes from China; The story of my life and lectures by Marcus Ch'eng

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

MARCUS CH'ENG

**ECHOES FROM CHINA;
THE STORY OF MY
LIFE AND LECTURES**

DEDICATION.

To the Missionaries and Mission Friends
of the Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant of America,
to express my gratitude for their kindness
to me during this trip.



Marcus Ch'eng

Echoes from China

*The Story of My Life
and Lectures*

By
Marcus Ch'eng

陳
崇
桂
著

CHICAGO, ILL., 1921
The Covenant Book Concern
136 WEST LAKE STREET

PREFACE.

This is no attempt to be an author or to write a book in English. During my trip in Sweden and America I have delivered many speeches and have some of these in manuscript. Some friends have read them and asked me to publish at least a few in permanent form together with a sketch of my life. At first I rather hesitated to do it. Then I thought that if this can be done for the glory of my Savior and can aid the cause of bringing salvation to my beloved land, I shall be more than glad to do it. Now I send this forth with the prayer to God that He may bless the reading and the readers to the attaining of the object of this little missionary enterprise.

I wish to express my special thanks to Prof. A. S. Wallgren for his help in reading the manuscript and the proof for me, and to Miss Agnes Hjerpe for her stenographic help. This was written originally in Swedish and is published in Sweden.

MARCUS CH'ENG.

Swedish Evangelical Mission Covenant,
136 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill., Oct. 8, 1921.



GOD'S WAY OF DEALING WITH ME.

MY ANCESTRY.

My great grandfather was a farmer who lived some ten miles away from Hankow. He was very rich but became poor through a trial at court. We still have in our home a box full of contracts and title deeds from that time. In China in the country places there is a custom to have every year at the time of the New Year a so-called "lantern feast." These lanterns are made of paper in the shape of a dragon with a big head. Every village has its own dragon, and the farmers carry their dragon to the temple to compete with those of others. It often happens that they get into a quarrel and fight. The dragon plays a big role in China and exerts a great influence. The Emperor's throne is called the "Dragon Throne." The Emperor's dress is called the "Dragon Dress." The old Chinese flag has also a dragon. This reminds us of the dragon in the

Book of Revelations, because the dragon has done much mischief in China too.

It was at such a dragon feast my great grandfather's nephew killed a man during the fight. My great grandfather offered to suffer punishment instead of him. Now in China courts of law are not well organized, and the officers and "yamen runners" take advantage of such opportunities to squeeze the people, especially if the arrested one is rich. When he was in prison the "yamen runners" would privately threaten to beat the prisoner and treat him in many cruel ways. The only way to escape such treatment was to pay bribes. My great grandfather had to sell his house and fields, and in fact all his properties to bribe officers and "yamen runners" in order to help his nephew, and at last he died in prison in Wuchang.

The law in China is that if a man dies in prison he may not be carried out through the gate. They break the wall and make a hole to cast him out. That is considered to be a great shame, and the people believe that if such a person has no children it is a sign that even God testifies that he was a sinner. But if such a prisoner has children, and has many of them, it is a sign that God in heaven bears witness that the prisoner was innocent. Therefore it was my grandfather's ambition to get as many children as possible to show that his

father was innocent, but died instead of another. He had two sons and more than ten grandchildren. He used to talk to us about his father, that is, my great grandfather, how great a hero he was and how noble and brave he was to be willing to die for his nephew. He was very glad that Heaven also testified now to that effect through so many descendants.

When prospects at home became poor, my grandfather found it necessary to leave the country and move to Hankow to learn a trade. He learned to be a cooper. My grandfather and my father established a big shop there. My brother was born in Hankow. The new enterprise, however, did not succeed; so they must move over to Mucheng. There I was born. There the Mission Covenant of Sweden began their work.

My father's mother and my mother's mother were not born in Hupeh province. They came from the Province Nganhuei. In this province it happened there was a big flood and the people had to move from there to save their lives. These two girls then came to Wuchang and were married there. They became very good friends and agreed secretly that their children, if they should have any, should be united in marriage. So my father and mother were engaged by their mothers. That is very common in China. The parents decide concerning the marriage of the children.