

**CHINA AND THE BOXERS. A SHORT
HISTORY OF THE BOXER OUTBREAK,
WITH TWO CHAPTERS ON THE
SUFFERINGS OF MISSIONARIES AND
A CLOSING ONE ON THE OUTLOOK**

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BY

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Shan Hsien, China.*

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TO

THE MEMORY OF THE MANY MISSIONARIES AND NATIVE
CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE NOT COUNTED THEIR LIVES
DEAR UNTO THEMSELVES, BUT HAVE GLADLY
LAID THEM DOWN FOR CHRIST, IS THIS
VOLUME
REVERENTLY DEDICATED.



Yours truly,
Z. Chas. Beals.

PREFACE.

After being forced to leave his work in China, the author felt compelled to publish in popular form a reliable book on the "Boxers," their origin, outrages and the world-wide commotion they have caused. As there had been many wild and groundless reports, he tried to ascertain the real facts and give to his readers the thrilling events as they occurred in order.

The Boxer movement has been one of the greatest crimes of the nineteenth century. It has paralyzed not only China, but the world. Nor is the end yet in view. Every one should study to know the real cause of the present trouble, and so watch with interest future developments.

There is now no doubt but that there was planned in Peking by the heads of the Chinese Government one of the most fiendish conspiracies to drive out or exterminate all foreigners and Western civilization, and also stamp out every trace of Christianity from among the natives.

Their plans were kept secret for a long time, but documents have been secured which implicate the highest officials. Instances were found where Governors and Viceroy offered and even paid for the heads of foreigners from \$30 to \$100 per head. The Governor of Shan-si, the human monster, beguiled into his *Yamen* (official residence), on the pretext of protection, fifty-one men, women and children, and then horribly butchered them in

the most cruel and revolting way, and then claimed from Peking headquarters \$100 per head for the carrying out of his part of the programme.

It is, therefore, of the utmost importance nationally, that these fiends should be known and dealt with, no matter how high the official position; for, if allowed freedom, they would soon be placed in authority again. On the other hand, those who have shown such great kindness, such as the two Viceroys of the Yang-tsi Valley, Ch'ang-Chih-Tung and Liu-Kuan-Ye, and the Governor of Shensi, with others, should be promoted and trusted in the future by the nations.

We are indebted to some of the Shanghai and Japan papers for extracts which we have taken from them, and also to different writers, but especially to Mr. Charles Gammon, agent for the American Bible Society, Tientsin, who has written a small book, entitled "The Boxer Movement," and from which we have taken many valuable thoughts and selections, the 1st and 3d chapters being almost entirely his; also to Rev. Gilbert Reid, D. D., for his account of the siege, taken from the "Shanghai Mercury."

The author has been nine years in China as a missionary, and understands the views which the Chinese hold regarding the foreigner, and with this experience he is able to present facts which he could not do if he had only been a visitor or globe-trotter. Much has been omitted because of limited space, but enough will be found in this volume to give the reader a clear idea of events as they have transpired within the past year, and also a closing chapter on the present position and the future outlook.

90 Covert Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Z. CHAS. BEALS.

Jan. 1st, 1901.

INTRODUCTION.

The greatest living issue before the church and the nations to-day is the Chinese question. At last China—conservative, secluded, selfish, heathen China—has overstepped herself, and forced upon herself either the permanent dictation of the more civilized nations or dismemberment. Which horn of the dilemma she will choose it is impossible to forecast at present. Whether the settlement with the allied powers is near at hand, or, if so, whether it will be satisfactory, sufficient and wise, is problematical.

At all events, the more light we can have thrown upon this vital subject by the platform, the pulpit and the press, the more profitable will it be to the race and the cause of Christ. We, therefore, welcome this timely volume by Mr. Beals, and bespeak for it a warm reception, a wide circulation, a careful perusal and a prayerful, hearty "God-speed" on the part of its grateful readers. Information is the foundation for a sound conviction, sound conviction for a wholesome and safe agitation, and agitation for thorough and permanent purification. When the facts are known, the missionary will not be blamed for the uprising in China. The movement has been anti-foreign, and not primarily anti-Christian. It became anti-Christian only as the Christian missionary was, incidentally, a foreigner, and as the native Christian was

connected with him. But even if the missionary were wholly at fault, that would not change the Great Commission nor alter the responsibility of the church to evangelize China. While the marching orders of the Great Commander are, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," every Christian is under infinite obligations, either in person or in spirit, to "go." No shrinking from danger, no fear of disruption, no dread of being misunderstood and misrepresented must deter him for a moment. The soldier may not disobey, nor even question, the Captain. The subaltern may not reason against the superior. Obedience is his; the results are God's.

In due time the clouds hanging over China will be dispelled, the ancient nation will have been thoroughly scourged, she will enter upon a new lease of life, chastened and humbled; her doors will be thrown wide open to civilization, commerce and Christianity, and her four hundred millions of people will stand on the same plane as those of the other nations, and from this great seething mass will come a great multitude, a mighty army, to swell the ranks of the elect number which shall make up the Bride of the Son of God.

W. J. MOSIER,

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