

**IN THE FAR EAST. LETTERS FROM  
GERALDINE GUINNESS FROM THE  
MEDITERRANEAN TO THE PO-  
YANG LAKE, IN CHINA 1888-1889,  
AND MOST RECENT EXPERIENCES**

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In the Far East. Letters from Geraldine Guinness from the Mediterranean to the Po-Yang Lake,  
in China 1888-1889, and most recent experiences by Mrs Howard Taylor

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**MRS HOWARD TAYLOR**

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*Christy Watson*  
2/1/89

# In the Far East.

LETTERS FROM GERALDINE GUINNESS.

FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN TO THE PÓ-YANG LAKE, CHINA

1888—1889

AND

MOST RECENT EXPERIENCES.

UNIV. OF  
CALIFORNIA

TO MRU  
ADRIELLA



*M. Geraldine Taylor.*

(Mrs. HOWARD TAYLOR, née GERALDINE GUINNESS.)



# In the Far East

LETTERS FROM GERALDINE GUINNESS IN CHINA.

(Now Mrs. Howard Taylor.)

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1901.

## Introduction.



I AM very thankful to hear that another edition of "*In the Far East*" is about to be issued; it has long been called for. It is a book that I, with many others, value highly; and I feel sure that no one can read it without being deeply interested, and really profited.

It is a photograph of the spiritual experience of a devoted worker among a most needy and interesting people. Its graphic descriptions bring the reader into the very presence of the Chinese, —to their homes, and even to their hearts. I can scarcely imagine anyone reading the book without receiving a Missionary inspiration, and being brought nearer to God, and nearer to the heathen.

To those especially who wish to acquaint themselves with the work of the China Inland Mission the book has a special value. To the writer, the deep spiritual truths which underlie the methods of the Mission are not mere theories, but have become a part of her own inner life. The reader sees these truths illustrated in the daily life of the worker, in the homes of the Chinese themselves.

And what is the secret of the deep sympathy which makes our dear friend so truly one with those she has gone to raise and bless? Is it not the very "*love of God* shed abroad" in her heart by the Holy Spirit;—love for the unloving and unlovely? *God's love* needs no attractiveness to draw it out. He loves—because He is love; just as the light shines, because it is light. And love is as constant and untiring in its operations as light, and as mighty in its results. Such love *transforms*—by the power of the Holy Spirit—the unlovely into loveliness; and really transfigures many a dark life.

We have met many workers for Missions, as well as Missionaries, to whom this book has been an inspiration. May the present issue in like manner speak to many hearts and lead many to follow in the footsteps of their Master.

Will not each reader join us in prayer that God will guide and bless the dear writer and continue to give the health and strength that are necessary for her work.

DAVOS, December, 1900.

*J. Hudson Taylor.*

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## Preface to the Present Edition.

NOT since the days of the Indian Mutiny has so much interest centred on "the Far East" as to-day. All Europe and America have recently waited with almost breathless anxiety to learn the fate of their representatives in Peking, and now that suspense has given way to relief, another problem—the restoration of peace—presses heavily on the Allied Powers.

But while the concern of the various Governments has been centred in Peking, the Christian Church has felt the deepest concern regarding the Work of God throughout the whole of China. The century of Missions in that land has closed with a Baptism of Fire such as seldom visited the Church, even during the early centuries of the Christian Era. No fewer than one hundred and thirty-three Protestant Missionaries and forty-eight children have been put to death, while thousands of Native Christians have suffered martyrdom or the loss of all things rather than deny their Lord. Dr. Morrison, in his graphic account of the siege of Peking, tells how they "heard the shrieks of victims and the groans of the dying. For 'Boxers' were sweeping through the city, massacring the native Christians and burning them alive in their houses." "The Native Christians," a Missionary writes, "have had to bear the brunt of the hate and opposition. In some parts they are nearly exterminated. Some have fled, but there are few places where they can flee to, as the enemy is everywhere. It will be a purified 'remnant' that will be the nucleus of the future native Church."

As might be expected, at such a time, the critics of Missions have not been silent, and Missionaries have been accused of being the cause of all this trouble. It would be easy to show the baselessness of such charges. Let it suffice to say that the command to "Preach the Gospel to every creature" permits no hesitation on the part of the Church of Christ. We think the following pages, with their vivid pictures of missionary life and work, cannot be read without its being abundantly manifest how much such work is needed and what such labour involves. These letters, with their narration of facts, constitute a powerful refutation to the charges brought against Missionaries.

The writer of the letters was in 1894, married to Dr. Howard Taylor (son of the Rev. J. Hudson Taylor). In this edition a new chapter has been added, giving the substance of some of Mrs. Taylor's recent addresses in England, telling of their work during the last few years in the province of Ho-nan.

In the light of subsequent experience, what does the writer say concerning the impressions recorded in her early years in China? She says that the "early convictions expressed in the letters have only deepened, early hopes have been realized, and love to the land, the people, and the work has only grown with the passing years."

During the recent visits of Rev. and Mrs. J. Hudson Taylor and Dr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor to Australia and America, the book was constantly asked for, and not a few testimonies were heard as to its usefulness. This has led to its being reprinted. The present Edition is entirely re-cast and illustrated with more modern pictures. The latest statistics have been given, and the map at the end of the volume has been brought up to date.

At the recent Church Congress held at Newcastle, Mrs. Bishop in her paper on the Far East said:—"After eight and a half years of journeying among Asiatic peoples I say unhesitatingly that the raw material out of which the Holy Ghost fashions the Chinese converts, and oftentimes the Chinese martyr, is the best stuff in Asia. The problem of China, religiously as well as politically, is now upon us. Events call a halt in missionary operations—a halt, not to admit defeat, but to bring up overwhelming reinforcements. The word 'retreat' is now on the lips of many, but the Church of Christ cannot, dare not, retire from the blood-drenched battlefields of the Far East, so long as the Captain of our Salvation is in the front, and men and women are ready to fight and die under His banner."

With the earnest prayer that it may help the bringing up of "overwhelming reinforcements," this book is once again sent forth.

March, 1901.

MARSHALL BROOMHALL.

### From Preface to the First Edition.

THE letters contained in this little book are from "the uttermost part of the Earth," and come straight from a heart that is earnestly seeking to witness for JESUS CHRIST. The reception that they met with on their first appearance in the pages of *Regions Beyond* has led to their being thus reprinted. They make no pretensions to literary merit, being written in the simple, familiar style that one would naturally use to one's home-people, and have been thrown into chapters somewhat irregularly with regard to subject-matter rather than to any special number of pages. As will be seen, the first chapter is introductory, and Miss Guinness's letters begin with Chapter II.

The "Mary" often alluded to in the letters is Miss MARY REED, youngest daughter of MRS. HENRY REED, and sister of MRS. HARRY GUINNESS. Miss REED had been for more than a year preparing for China, by living and working in one of the worst and lowest parts of East London, where she very bravely and successfully threw herself into home-mission effort, amid surroundings which

for spiritual darkness and moral depravity could scarcely be exceeded in China. She sailed with the missionary party on board the *Kaiser-i-Hind*, and she and Miss Guinness were companions in the varying experiences described in the letters until they parted at Tsing-kiang-pu (see p. 69). Miss LOTTIE MCFARLANE is the "L—" of the later Journals, and Miss MAGGIE MACKEE the "M—." A few editorial explanations will be found in large type here and there, where parts of the Journal have been omitted and connecting links are necessary.

LONDON, 1889.

### From Preface to the Second Edition.

**T**HAT five thousand copies of the First Edition of this book should have been circulated within five months of its publication, is surely evidence that the burden of the Evangelization of the World is being increasingly laid on the Church. We earnestly commend this second and enlarged Edition to the prayerful consideration of all who belong to CHRIST. Within three weeks of its first publication, "*In the Far East*" so stirred the heart and conscience of one reader that she was led to give her life to missionary work in China. Would God that the Second Edition might be used to send forth many labourers into the great harvest field!

LUCY E. GUINNESS.

CLIFF, *Christmas*, 1889.