

**THE HEART OF SZ-  
CHUAN, NO. 2**

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The heart of Sz-Chuan, No. 2 by Edward Wilson Wallace

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**EDWARD WILSON WALLACE**

**THE HEART OF SZ-  
CHUAN, NO. 2**





Dr. V. C. Hart and his friend Laotto Shang, the Priest of Mt. Omei.

**The Heart : : :  
: : of Sz-Chuan**

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BY  
EDWARD WILSON WALLACE

The Methodist Young People's Forward  
Movement for Missions  
Text-Book No. 2

THIRD EDITION

PUBLISHED AT THE METHODIST MISSION ROOMS  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S FORWARD MOVEMENT  
DEPARTMENT  
F. C. STEPHENSON, *Secretary*, Toronto, Canada

TO THE  
**Rev. V. C. Hart, D.D.**  
FOR THIRTY-FOUR YEARS A MISSIONARY  
IN CHINA  
AND •  
THE FOUNDER OF THE WEST CHINA  
MISSION OF THE METHODIST  
CHURCH, CANADA

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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THE author wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness in the preparation of this text-book to the missionaries on the field, from whose letters extensive quotations have been made ; to the Secretaries of the various missions at work in Sz-Chuan for information regarding the field ; to members of our West China Mission on furlough in Canada ; and especially to Dr. Hart, the founder of the mission, for his kindness in reading proofs and for many hints and suggestions.

A list of books consulted has been appended. The small number of these is due to the fact that most of the information contained in this book has been gathered from the letters of missionaries, and has never before appeared in book form. Wherever possible extracts from letters have been credited to their author.

Toronto, *August, 1903.*



## PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

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THE publication of a second edition of this book has given an opportunity to bring it up to date. Additions have been made to several chapters, figures have been altered, and one new chapter added. Aside from these necessary changes no attempt has been made to re-write the book.

The author wishes once more to record his great indebtedness to his friend, the late Dr. Hart, who read the proofs of the first edition; also to Dr. W. E. Smith and Dr. R. B. Ewan, the latter of whom made a number of suggestions for the second edition, the majority of which have been incorporated in the text.

In sending out this book again the author's wish is that it may lead many of our people to take a deeper interest in our wonderful heritage in Sz-Chuan, and may perhaps turn the thoughts of some young men and women to China as a field for life-service.

Toronto, *March, 1905.*

## INTRODUCTION TO THE THIRD EDITION.

Since "The Heart of Sz-Chuan" was first issued, two large editions have been exhausted, and the demand, so far from abating, seems to be on the increase. This is a remarkable testimony not only to the merits of the book itself, but to the deep and growing interest of our young people in the West China Mission. When the second edition went to press, a number of changes and additions were made so as to bring the contents down to date, and as conditions are rapidly changing in the Middle Kingdom, it seems as though further additions would be in order; but the author himself is now a laborer in the field he so graphically described, and much time would be consumed in having the book revised by him who wrote it. But such revision is, after all, unnecessary. The numerous interesting letters from individual missionaries, published in the *Bulletin* and elsewhere, have kept the young people, and indeed the whole Church, informed of the progress of the work, and all that is needed at the present time is some general statements respecting existing conditions by way of emphasizing the Church's duty in this day of large opportunity.

Years ago a noted statesman said, "When China moves, the whole world will move." In

## Introduction to the Third Edition

the light of passing events the words seem almost prophetic. For the first time in centuries China is moving with a rapidity that is simply bewildering. Change is following on the heels of change, and what the near future may have in store one may vaguely conjecture but cannot predict. As yet there is only a partial awakening and some half-conscious movements, like one who stirs in unquiet sleep, but it may be taken as a foregone conclusion that these movements will gather—are gathering—increased momentum, and when China's four hundred millions are in motion the world will shake beneath their tread. The magnitude of the problem is simply appalling. The conditions are unparalleled except, it may be, among the peasants of Russia. Ignorant, superstitious, immoral, without leaders, without religious or national ideals, blown to and fro by strong gusts of passion and prejudice, there is not, perhaps, on the face of the globe a people less capable of intelligent self-government. When such a people break with their past and begin to move in masses on new and untried paths, it may be like a stampede of wild cattle on the plains—they will trample down everything that stands in their way.

The causes which have brought about existing conditions in China are chiefly twofold—national and religious. Her defeat in the war with Japan opened the unwilling eyes of the