The foreign missionary and his work

Cunnyngham W G
W. G. E. CUNNYNGHAM, D.D.
THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY
AND HIS WORK.

BY W. G. E. CUNNYNGHAM,

Nine Years a Missionary in China.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
WALTER R. LAMBUTH,
Senior Missionary Secretary, M. E. Church, South.

NASHVILLE, TENN.:
PUBLISHING HOUSE OF THE M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.
BARBEE & SMITH, AGENTS.
1899.
Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1899,

By the Book Agents of the M. E. Church, South,
In the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.
Dedication.

TO MY ESTEEMED FRIEND AND BROTHER, THE
Rev. Jaung J. Allen, D. D., LL. D.,
FORTY YEARS MISSIONARY TO THE CHINESE,
THIS LITTLE VOLUME
IS AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED BY
The Author.

(3)
PREFATORY.

The following pages have been prepared with the hope that the suggestions they contain may be helpful to some Christian young men and young women who are preparing themselves for foreign mission work. The reader will observe that the treatment of the subject is not denominational, but general, embracing such matters as are common to all Protestant missionary operations. The treatise is elementary and preparatory in character, and intended not so much for those already at work as for those in preparation for the foreign field. The suggestions I have ventured to make are the result of nine years' experience as a missionary in China, and twenty-nine years' connection with a mission board at home.

Will the Christian reader please ask God's blessing upon this little book? W. G. E. C.

Nashville, Tenn., May 1, 1899.
INTRODUCTION.

BY REV. WALTER R. LAMBUTH,
Senior Missionary Secretary of the M. E. Church, South.

The conversion of the world is a conquest which makes the highest claims upon faith and demands the noblest qualities of leadership. The author of this book was for years a foreign missionary, a superintendent of missionary work, a member of the Board of Missions, and the leader of the great Sunday school movement of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In devotion, in faith, in ripe personal experience, and in his unstinted service to the cause of missions he is eminently qualified to counsel those who are in preparation for the foreign field.

In a survey of the religious condition of the world we are confronted by heathenism massed, compacted, intrenched. It is only by sounding its depths that we can fully realize the necessity for the gospel. Among a heathen people we find sin organized, that it propagates itself, is aggressive, and must be overcome by the truth incarnated in some man or woman. It is not the going of the missionary with the salt of Christianity in his hand or even in his heart, he is himself
that salt. His life which is hid with Christ in God is the savor of life unto life, as he walks in the midst of moral decomposition and spiritual death. Once realize that the heathen are Christless, and the sense of their utter need is forced upon us. This sense can be exceeded only by our obligation to carry the Christ and his evangel to those who are lost.

In speaking of the heathen world and its ten hundred millions of unsaved souls, Bishop Thiburn writes: "It is not that they have never heard of His name, that they have never felt the influence of what we call Christianity, that they have never been brought into contact with Christian institutions or Christian civilization; but that Christ is not personally known to them, is not among them in the sense in which he promised to be with his people for evermore, and that they are deprived of all the unspeakable privileges which those who enjoy personal fellowship with him so freely receive."

It has been divinely ordered that men and not angels should be put in trust with the gospel. If it is man’s greatest mission to impart a personal knowledge of Jesus to others, it is fundamental that he himself should know Jesus. This lies at the basis of all preparation. Without it there can be neither a sense of personal obligation nor sustained effort. The taproot of conviction is here, and the fruit of discipleship grows only out of this knowledge of