

Wa-Lau-tau China Sep. 5 '87

W. H. Belden

Dear Bro.

Your's in regard to the proposed Simultaneous Meetings, reaches me at our summer resort—among the hills 40 miles from Ningpo and about 200 miles from my station. Had it come to me at my station in Soochow I should gladly have shown it to my colleague, Rev. J. N. Hayes.

You may be assured however of our hearty sympathy in the good work you have undertaken, and of our earnest prayers for God's special blessing upon the meetings in November.

This in answer to (1) of your letter. As to (2) I am sorry not to be able to give an instance of the Chinese, voluntarily coming and asking for ^{the} missionary to preach the gospel to them. I have heard of such cases but have not met with them personally.

* So far as my experience goes, the Chinese do not feel the need of the gospel, until they are persuaded by the word and the Spirit of God.

Their moral destitution and misery, as we know them, not as they feel them, appeal to us for help. Since coming to these hills we have had frequent

visits from Chinese, old and young, men and women
some of them walking eight, or ten miles, over
hill and dale, simply to see the foreigner, Of course
They are polite enough to listen to our preaching,
and also polite enough to invite us to their villages,
and they do sometimes ask us to preach - but
* whether it is really to learn of the foreigner's re-
ligion, or simply to hear how fluently the foreign-
er can speak their language, we do not know
* We can only rejoice that there is abundant
opportunity to preach Christ, and trust that
God's Spirit will create in their hearts the feeling
of need, and reveal Christ to them as the
only one who ^{can} supply all their need

I may mention for your encouragement that at
our Station in Soochow we have had the privilege
of receiving three men and two women into the
fellowship of the gospel, during the past year

"God is with us" and we cannot labor in vain
(3) If I meet with anything in the way of pictures
which would likely be helpful to you I will
send them

When you are holding those meetings in Nov.
* please, ask God to bless our work in the great city
of Soochow - a city of probably half a million people
that they be made to realize their need of help, and
that we have come to help them

Yours very sincerely

D. N. Lyon