

absurd systems of education. Time is wasted on learning some of their characters, of which there are 40,000.

The West of China University, which is situated in the south of the city, is run by a united body of Canadian, American and British missionaries. At present there are about four hundred Chinese pupils—all from Szechwan. Attached to the University is an excellent Canadian school for the children of missionaries.

A fine two-storied hospital for men and women has been established by Canadian Methodists. It is surrounded by a good compound with wooden houses and gardens. There is also an excellent French hospital attached to the Roman Catholic Cathedral.

Pereira records how fond the Chinese are of using high-flown language for the names of their cities, villages and shops. Everything is "heavenly", "perfect peace", "great calm", "golden", "bright". The usual epithet is beautiful, but generally the object is mean, squalid and dirty.

After a long spell of daily rain it became fine on June 15 and the thermometer rose to 91°—as it usually does in Chengtu four or five times in the year.