

**BEHIND THE GREAT WALL:  
THE STORY OF  
THE C.E.Z.M.S., WORK  
AND WORKERS IN CHINA**

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Behind the Great Wall: the story of the C.E.Z.M.S., work and workers in China by Irene H. Barnes

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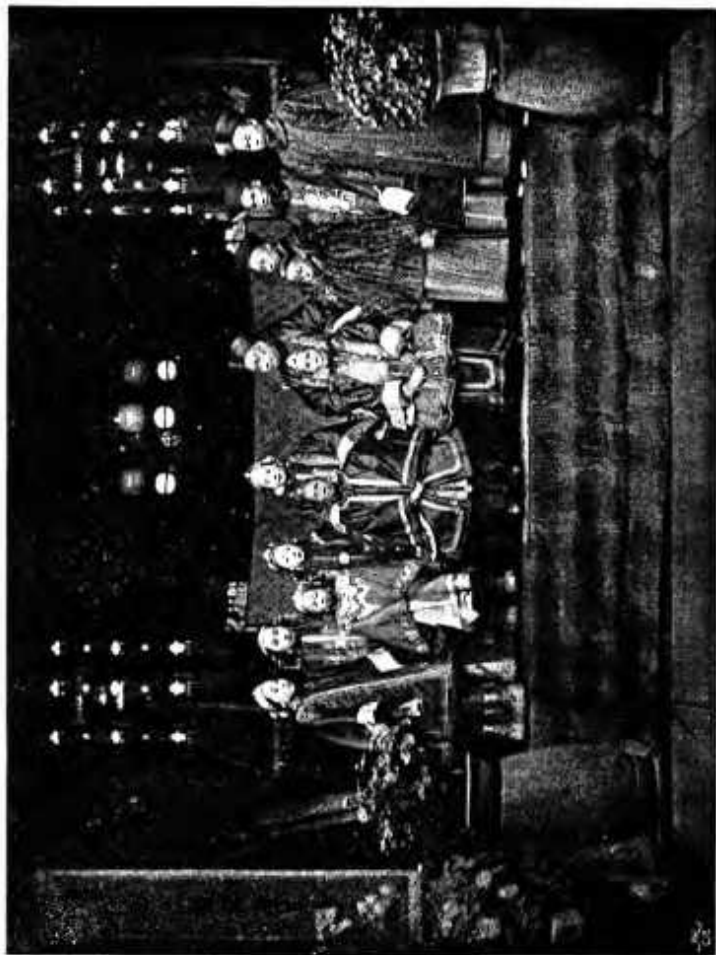
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**IRENE H. BARNES**

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THE C.E.Z.M.S., WORK  
AND WORKERS IN CHINA**





MR. AND MRS. AHOK WITH A GROUP OF RELATIVES AT THE ENTRANCE OF THEIR RESIDENCE IN FOO-CHOW.  
(See p. 61: "The Story of Mrs. Ahok.")

# BEHIND THE GREAT WALL

The Story of the C.E.Z.M.S  
Work and Workers  
in China

*With Numerous Illustrations*

BY

IRENE H. BARNES

PREFACE BY THE

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MARSHALL BROTHERS

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AND

The Church of England Zenana Missionary Society  
9, Salisbury Square

## PREFACE

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I HAVE been permitted to read *Behind the Great Wall* in the proof-sheets. It appears now in the full dress of publication, and goes to make friends in the world, the ever-widening world, thank God, of those who read missionary literature. I venture to predict for it a large circle of grateful friends and a rich fruit-bearing from amongst them. For assuredly they will find in this book a message which will do admirably well those two works always necessary to the kindling and sustaining of missionary zeal—the clear and full conveyance of facts, and the gentle yet powerful application of the appeal.

For me, China has for long years been a household word in the most literal sense. I was still a boy when I saw my beloved brother, now Missionary Bishop in Mid-China, go forth "for the Name's sake," at the age of nearly thirty, in December, 1857. And in less than four years another dear brother, now his Archdeacon, followed him, in a sailing vessel, which rounded the Cape, and was months on the way. From those days to these I have always seemed to see China, and to hear it, and have indeed learned to love it through these loved and honoured ones, and now through their children, who are missionaries in their turn, and through many another friend, close to my heart in Christ. Yes, for one who has never sailed to the Far East, I have seemed to know China well in some respects, after these nearly forty years of the

"household word." Yet when I read *Behind the Great Wall* I have found myself, in page after page, furnished with quite new sets of facts, presented with quite new aspects of Chinese life, and brought face to face with both incidents and persons full of the newest and deepest interest.

I thank God for this record of His work through the "C.E.Z.M.S.," and through those devoted *Gunions* (the reader will soon be familiar with that word) whom it has sent out in the Lord's Name. The climax of interest is reached in the closing pages, which put almost visibly before us the blessed martyrs of Hwa-sang, and stir the inmost soul to tears, and prayers, and new zeal for the Lord Jesus, over their glorified names. But the whole book is in keeping with that close. For all along it records the patient work and labour of love through which the martyr spirit breathes as truly as it did on that awful morning of death and glory.

One most delightful chapter will be prized by many—that which tells of the *Native* women-workers; and again, that which deals with medical work; and the singularly interesting story of Mrs. Ahok. But I will not particularize further.

"Goe, little boke," and the Lord of Grace and of Missions go with thee. Go, to the quickening of our faith, love, hope, and self-dedication to Him. Go, to the strengthening of the work of the much-blest Society from which thou hast thy origin. Go, to be the Master's messenger to those who shall be the messengers of His choice to the women of vast and needing China.

H. C. G. MOULE.

RIDLEY LODGE, CAMBRIDGE,  
June 1st, 1896.



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## INTRODUCTORY

*"I wanted help, and then I called for thee—  
I called and waited—and then called again :  
Oh! could it be that I should call in vain?"*

—C. P.

IN the year 1880 the Regulations of the Church of England Zenana Missionary Society were drawn up. It was then that a few important words were inserted at the earnest desire of that honoured friend of Foreign Missions, the Rev. Henry Wright, and of other wise and loving counsellors:—

"THE SOCIETY MAY, IF IT SEEM ADVISABLE, ENGAGE IN SIMILAR WORK IN OTHER HEATHEN AND MOHAMMEDAN COUNTRIES."

So runs the clause framed by those who expected that the Lord would soon open doors of opportunity for women's work in other fields than India only. And their holy anticipations were realized. In 1882 came pressing appeals which could not be lightly set aside. Members of the C.M.S. Committee and other influential friends of the Society at home, C.M.S. bishops, missionaries and workers abroad wrote to the C.E.Z.M.S., urging upon it the claims of China's ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY MILLION HEATHEN WOMEN.

Sir William Hill, our honoured and now much mourned friend, received letter after letter pressing upon him the importance of the call, and he in turn