



REV. HUDSON TAYLOR, M.R.C.S., F.G.A.S.,

Founder and Director of the Chinese Inland Mission. Dr. Taylor was in Auckland in March last.



DR. HOWARD AND MRS TAYLOR, OF THE CHINESE INLAND MISSION, who were in Auckland in March last, and are now in England.

Sir Robert Hart, K.C.M.G.

The following extracts from a sketch of Sir Robert Hart, K.C.M.G., Inspector-General of the Chinese Maritime Customs, is of special interest at this moment, when the fate of Sir Robert and those with him at Peking is, so far as we are concerned, one of mournful uncertainty. The sketch appeared in the "Pall Mall Gazette":

THE GREAT "I.G."

"The I.G." These letters, meaningless at Home, call up instantly in the mind of every foreigner in China a very distinct and striking image—tho' as familiar here in the Far East as H.R.H. or D.T. are at Home. And a remarkable proportion of those who hear them tremble. For the image is that of the benevolent despot, whose outstretched hand unites or severs the Celestial Kingdom and the outside barbarian world; through whose fingers five hundred millions of dollars have run into the coffers of the Son of Heaven, and never a one of them stuck; to whom the proudest



DR. HUDSON TAYLOR AND GROUP OF CHINESE MISSIONARIES IN GAN-KING. Mr John Falls, late of Auckland, in the foreground.

Miss Irwin.

Chinamen that ever wore pig-tails turn for advice in difficulty or danger when other helpers fail; who have stayed off a war by writing a telegram; who has declined with thanks the proffered dignity of an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty; who has ringed China round with an administrative commercial organisation the whole world cannot surpass; who, finally, born to struggle for the poet's boys, has laboured late and early all his life over dollars and duties, with a diplomatic nut which other people have failed to crack, thrown to him now and then for relaxation. "The I.G." signifies a person and a post; the former is Sir Robert Hart, K.C.M.G., the latter is Inspector-General of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs. And the transcendence of the Customs Service in China may be judged from the fact that a Commissioner once took personal affront and quitted the sacred edifice when a missionary implored the Almighty to "deliver this people from their wicked customs"—just as Mr Gladstone is said to have interpreted a pious allusion to



MISS IRWIN, OF THE CHINESE INLAND MISSION, AND A GROUP OF CHINESE CHRISTIANS.