REPORT

OF THE

North China Mission

OF THE

A. B. C. F. M.

For the year ending April 30th, 1898.

Compiled by Henry Kingman.

Also

Abstract of the Report

For the year ending April 30th, 1897.

Compiled by G. H. Ewing.
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Shanghai:
AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION PRESS.
1898.

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I. Extracts from Minutes of Annual Meeting.

May 22nd–June 1st, 1897.

At the meeting of the North-China Association it was voted:

(1) To translate Association rules into Chinese. (2) To prepare a list of books to be read by candidates for licensure. (3) To license for five years eleven helpers. (4) To recommend the ordination of two helpers at P'ang-chuang and one at Pao-ting-fu.

Following are the more important actions of Annual Meeting:

That we recommend to the Prudential Committee the appointment of Mr. Mateer as Treasurer of the Mission in addition to his present work as Superintendent of the Press.

That we recommend that the Mission Press be removed to Tientsin, and that such buildings and equipment be provided as may seem best in the judgment of the Press Committee without asking any money from the Board; this action being taken upon the following understanding: (1) That the buildings be erected at the east end of the Tientsin compound, and that the rear gate be used as far as possible for the entry and exit of freight. (2) That the building erected be sufficient to accommodate the Press at, at least, its present working efficiency; it being understood that the work of book-binding may be carried on outside if this can be arranged with economy to the work as a whole.
That Mr. Mateer, in the event of his going to Tientsin to take charge of the Mission treasurership, be requested also to become the Business Agent of the Mission, and that proper steps be taken to secure such assistance as will enable him to carry on his various lines of work.

That we invite Miss Hinman to aid Mr. Mateer during the coming year, subject to the approval of the W B. M. I.

That the chairman and clerk of this meeting be a committee to revise the Standing Rules of the Mission; an edition of two hundred copies to be printed.

That the following permissions for furlough be requested from the Prudential Committee: Mrs. Noble and son, 1897; Mr. Tewksbury and family, 1898; Dr. Murdock, 1897 or 1898; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley, 1898; Miss Russell, 1898 or 1899.

That the Kalgan Station be allowed to use for its general work the $150.00 received in 1897 for the rent of Mr. Roberts' house.

That a Bible Training School for women be located at Peking; that Miss Russell be placed temporarily in charge; that a committee consisting of Miss J. E. Chapin, Mrs. C. E. Ewing, Miss Andrews and Mrs. Goodrich be invited to assist her.

That in the judgment of the Mission the period of service for missionaries in the North-China field, for the most economical administration of the force, should be in general, for the term previous to the first furlough, eight years; for succeeding terms, ten years.

That following requests be made for new missionaries: P’ang-chuang, one family; Peking, one family and one lady for the Bridgman School; Tientsin, Kalgan and Pao-ting-fu, each one single lady; Lin-ch’ing, two single ladies.

The Committee ad Interim during the year voted: (1). To request house for Mr. Kingman. (2). That the approximate sum of $1,000 may be expended from the Carr estate fund under direction of faculty. (3). That the approximate sum of $1,500 be loaned without interest to the N.-C. College to cover temporarily certain items; this loan to be refunded later from Tank estate moneys.
II. Station Reports.

Tientsin.

Miss Stanley (now Mrs. Gammon) returns to America and meets with a serious accident. Miss Chapin, of Peking, and Miss Hinman assist in girls' school. Mr. and Miss Bostwick return to America. Mrs. Wilder assumes the duties of Mission Treasurer. The station is helped by visit of Miss Child.

City chapel open daily. Audience and interest vary. Many have heard and some have turned and been saved. Often a dozen heathen remain to Church prayer-meeting, some coming in through means of the reading-room. Usual services continued through the year at the Settlement. A larger and permanent chapel needed for a growing Church and schools. During the year five excommunications, thirty inquirers and twenty-six accessions of Christians scattered over 130 miles. Contributions have increased fifty per cent during the year, and spiritual condition has improved.

Education.—No new pupils sent to Tung-cho. Dormitories full; sixteen boarders. Christian character of Church members evidenced by good deportment and influence. Small sums contributed by some parents. City day school loses most of its pupils when they reach promising age, but some enter the Church.

Country work near Hsien Hsien and Chiao-ho Hsien has been hindered by floods and persecution. Small results also due to the long absence of either missionary or native helper. Helper Chiang has moved to the region during the year, and half of his salary was guaranteed by the native Christians. Hence new interest; seven were received into the Church. A new village has been hopefully entered through the moving thither of a Christian bellows maker. The work in Hu-chia-ying is brought much nearer by means of the Peking railroad. Several promising inquirers. With Hu-chia-ying for a center one helper has spent much time in market preaching, and it is hoped to obtain quarters at or near the railroad station. At Ching-hai Hsien Sunday services conducted by helpers from Tientsin or by a resident Christian. Eight joined the Church. One unworthy Church member hindered much here.
The girls' school has enrolled 28 members, the average being 21. The girls have manifested good spirit, and conduct Sunday evening meetings of their own. Three have entered the Church. The native teacher has been restless and not altogether satisfactory. School has been graded.

Peking.

Mr. Ament's return to America the signal for Mr. Wilder's temporary transfer to this station. Miss Chapin and Miss Hinman in turn spared to Tientsin. Mr. Ament had charge of the South Chapel and Mr. Ewing of the North Chapel. At the South Chapel much to encourage and also many annoying affairs leading in some cases to severe discipline. In the wicked Nazareth of a city suburb has sprung up quite a Christian community, the result of street chapel preaching. 40 or 50 daily hear the truth in the street chapel, and personal attention is given to the hearers. Three prayer-meetings have been sustained in addition to Y. P. S. C. E.

At the North Chapel spiritual and material growth is steady, and great earnestness in Bible study is noted on the part of young Christians. Helper Jen developing under responsibility; his increasing fitness for the pastorate is marked.

Country Work.—Less touring done than was desirable. Shun-i Hsien was visited twice. Two deacons were ordained. The helper under serious charges was withdrawn. The most encouraging work is in the outlying villages. It is a hard field. Nan-méng is successfully occupied by faithful Pastor Hung. Several hopeful inquirers. Church attendance regular and Christian influence strong. Miss Russell was the means of securing chapel premises, and a day-school is in progress. Liang-hsiang is the newest outstation; the people favorable; chapel obtained, but not strongly manned. Mr. Ament spent some time there. At Cho-chou Miss Russell spent several weeks holding station class with excellent results. The helper, though but partially educated, is very useful and promising.

Education.—Older boys sent to Tung-cho boarding-school. Two day-schools are bearing fruit in renewed characters. 40 or 50 boys under instruction here.
WOMAN'S WORK.—One Bible-woman in the country; two in the city, who also assist at the dispensary. Helpful prayer-meetings and mothers' meetings maintained; kindergarten work flourishing with 30 or 40 pupils; a very encouraging day-school of 20 girls. Some 40 or 50 women taught in country station classes by Miss Russell. Total of 100 women under instruction in city and country. Ten tours made; 53 villages visited. Mite-box system of giving adopted with gratifying results.

BRIDGMAN SCHOOL.—Attendance for the first time reached the limit set for sixty. This pressure had salutary effect on diligence and conduct of girls. Two normal classes formed; their members teaching younger pupils. Pupils required to understand their memoriter lessons. Hence increased intelligence. Much sewing and knitting have been done by way of self-support. Spiritual condition of school good. Seven have joined the Church.

KALGAN.

Mrs. Williams was taken away on Jan. 23rd, 1897, after 30 years of service. Mr. Roberts left for America. The regular work has been carried on faithfully at the two city chapels and at the domestic chapel. Schools and touring have not been slighted. The city day-school numbers 30 pupils. The boys' boarding-school has been in charge of Mr. Sprague, but it is painful to see promising boys leaving for business. Some attempt has been made to require payments from the pupils; the only success thus far being with the pupils who pay half their traveling expenses to Tung-cho.

Every Monday missionaries and helpers meet to discuss the work of the past week. Colportage work has been done in several tours to regions a number of days distant, as well as at dispensary and chapel. Yü-chou has been visited twice by foreign missionaries. Helper Ts'ai is stationed here, and the little chapel is used every Sabbath. The region is very poor and food is at famine prices, owing to floods. Until New Year Helper Chou was supported at Ch'ing-kâ-ta by the Y. P. S. C. E. There have been an unusual number of deaths among our native Christians this year.

WOMAN'S WORK.—A small day-school for girls was opened at Ch'iao-tung. At its close the teacher and one of the girls were
transferred to the boarding-school. The requirement to unbind feet has kept the numbers in school very limited. Yet there were some interesting new pupils who accepted those terms. Self-support makes no progress amid these difficulties. The three Bible-women have been busy all the year with calling and with teaching old and young. Three tours have been made amidst bitter cold or through rains and washed out roads.

Tung=cho.

Miss Miner and Mrs. Wilder, Senior, were absent. Dr. and Mrs. Goodrich and Mr. and Mrs. Kingman returned. The educational institutions have demanded a large part of the time of the missionaries, and Bible revision has taken another share.

The city Church is still under the care of Pastor Chang, while the preaching at College is mainly by Dr. Sheffield. Occasional union services were held. Effort is being made to secure funds for a new city chapel. The Y. M. C. A. continues its weekly meetings, and is quite active. A new reading room in the city is proving invaluable in drawing outsiders. Unfortunately no foreigner has been able especially to care for the street chapel work. Much gratuitous help has been given. Of the 12 men in the station class two-thirds entered the Church. The boys' boarding-school, under the charge of Mr. Wilder, has especially prospered. 31 boys are enrolled.

Especial interest centers in the new work at P'ing-ku Hsien. Premises were purchased through a Christian who paid half the sum himself. Two helpers were located there. The district is populous. There were five hopeful inquirers. At Yung-lè-tien three have entered the Church and seven were received on probation. At Niu-ma-t'un is a small boys' school. Two have been baptized. Regular Sunday services were sustained at Fu-hao. All these fields have been visited several times by missionaries. Mr. Wilder is to be spared temporarily for work in Peking.

Woman's Work.—One day-school, in charge of Mrs. Wilder, has sifted out the unworthy by substituting sewing for money payments. This school, with two under Miss Chapin, is in successful operation. Seven to 10 pupils in each. Mrs. Goodrich's city school
is composed of 16 girls mainly from Christian families. These are bright and promising. Miss Andrews has had charge of three schools with an average attendance of thirty. The five station classes have been most successful, the spirit of God moving evidently in the hearts of the women. Eleven members were received on probation and four to full Church membership. Two Bible women have made 1,255 visits, and several efforts have been made by visiting and inviting to reach women in villages around the College premises. Misses Andrews and Chapin have visited Christians in 15 villages. The Y. W. C. A. has proved most effective. The sense of responsibility is most valuable. A bath-room for women is a novel feature and well patronized.

Pao-ting Fu.

The boys' boarding-school started with 25 pupils under the instruction of Mr. Kung, a Tung-cho student. The number of boarders was much reduced during the year by closer application of principles of self-support. Two day-schools were started—one in Chao-chou and one in a suburb of Pao-ting Fu. These were discontinued early for lack of funds. A station class was convened for two months, at the close of which four out of the fifteen were received into the Church. Mr. Huddle assisted regularly in street chapel preaching until he left for Shansi. Audiences have been large and attentive. Dispensary patients have heard the truth in the street chapel. A preacher and book-seller have been detailed for work among the waiting patients. Two colporteurs were dismissed for reasons of economy. Wang Tu has suffered through immorality in the Church. The Christians of Ma-huang-tou earnest and faithful. The leading Christian studied six months at Tung-cho. He freely furnishes a meeting room for services. In another neighboring village is a Christian who has offered a free room for the use of Christians. The work in Chi-chi is encouraging. The leading Christian of this village has been studying at Tung-cho. Helper Kao has been recalled from Po-yeh to assist in street chapel preaching at Pao-ting Fu. A general meeting of the country and city Christians occurred at Christmas time. There were spirited papers and discussions on various bad habits. Several
cases of persecution have been satisfactorily dealt with, and peace has uniformly followed. A two-story house was begun at Paoting Fu.

Woman’s Work.—Miss Morrill has returned to America. Mrs. Noble has done dispensary preaching. One Bible woman was retired on account of feebleness. Two others do faithful work in house to house visitation. The girls’ boarding-school opened Oct. 10th with 18 pupils. There has been a decided deepening of spiritual life and greater conscientiousness among the girls. Seven have joined the Church and two have become probationers. Two day-schools were maintained, one with attendance of 25 to 30 and the other with 10 to 15 pupils. Miss Morrill has held one country station class and one at Pao-ting Fu.

P’ang-chuang.

The field has been enlarged. Four city chapels were opened in seven months. Many inquirers round about Chiu-ch’eng. The field borders on L. M. S. work at the west, and also comes close up to Lin-ch’eng work. The most hopeful outlook is at Hsia-ch’ın with its crowded market. Counties south of Kao-t’ang now first entered. New chapels opened in regions toward Lin-ch’ing with most favorable reception. As yet little expansion to the north. At the quarterly meeting in June a Congregational Association was organized, composed of the 12 licensed preachers and three deacons. Three committees: one for Church work, one for education, and one for general business. Seven station classes held: two at Pang-chuang and five in villages with a total of 120 members. Steps have been taken toward greater measure of self-support. There were 43 pupils in the school and 15 candidates awaiting a vacancy. There are 8 village schools; the difficulty being to find proper teachers. Total of 128 boys in all schools. There is a very large sale of books; total sales amounting to $77.00 gold. Church contributions have been increased to $324.00 gold. Opposition and persecution have been met in one district from Mohammedan officials. There were ninety accessions to the Church. Total membership 550. It is felt that the work has so developed that the time has come for a native pastorate.
Woman's Work.—Village work, touring, classes for women, hospital and school work have occupied the full time of the ladies of the Station. An interesting Sunday school work has been done among fifty to seventy P'ang-chuang children with material results. The boarding-school numbers 30, with two pupils. There is only one room for school room and dormitory. The teacher is becoming more and more efficient. There is fear among parents that the large-footed girls can find no husbands, but this is proved unfounded. The women's classes have proved most helpful. Four classes were held at the Station with 90 women, and four classes in the country with 131 women. There were two results: (1) a desire to understand what was studied, and (2) ability to impart acquired knowledge to others. Four new villages have been visited. Eight tours have been made. There is need of more trained assistants. There are 233 female Church members.

Lin-ch'ing.

Some of the little children remaining for the summer were at one time very near death's door. A new piece of land was purchased for hospital premises. Dr. Wagner is in great need of a proper house. A building for boys' school has been erected, as boarding pupils have increased in numbers. Monthly payments were made by all the boarding scholars. Two boys graduated and went to Tung-cho. Three men joined the special class at Tung-cho. Only six men came to station class owing to more stringent regulations. Attendance on Sabbath services increases, and native Christians have their own prayer-meetings. The chapel consists of two rooms, in one of the houses, joined into one. Additions have been made to these narrow quarters. Fairs and markets have been visited in every direction. There is a better spirit, and in one place the time is ripe for renting a chapel. One successful union meeting has been held. There were then 15 accessions to the Church and 6 taken on probation. Three-fifths of our members are in or near Lin-ch'ing.

Woman's Work.—Retrenchment has driven the station to place the girls' school of 17 in the charge of Mrs. Chang, already
burdened with work. The arrangement was successful. In the autumn this school was removed from close connection with a mission house to another compound, and bore well the transplanting. There is much need of a boarding-school. The present school has just been graded. The out-stations, owing to lack of workers, are still untiled.

**North-China College.**

The College year opened Oct. 1st and closed May 13th. The total membership of Academy and College was 76. The full time of three Chinese teachers and of three and a half foreign teachers has been given to the school. Three lines of teaching were pursued: Chinese classics, Bible study, and Western science; hence many classes. A "news" department has been introduced. Oratory is taught with success. The culture of the heart has been placed before the culture of the intellect. The production of a Christian atmosphere has been sought. The Academy graduated ten students and the College six, three of whom wish to study for the ministry. Some attempt, only experimental as yet, has been made toward establishing an industrial department. The need of more emphasis to be laid on the study of mathematics is being felt. During the year the College premises were put in order, a ladies’ house built and Mr. Kingman’s house begun. The regular theological class was omitted and a special class convened of countrymen who were uneducated, but gave promise of usefulness. The expense of this class was borne by individual stations. There were nineteen men in this class, which was in session seven months.

**The Press.**

The employees have gained steadily in efficiency. New property has been acquired and paid for from the earnings of the Press. The working capacity of the institution has been taxed to the utmost. During Dr. Blodget’s last year 1,780,000 pages were printed. From April 30, 1895 to April 30, 1896, 7,071,000 pages were printed, and during the past year 13,064,000 pages, mainly for the Tract Society.
Report of Committee on Self-support.

Several directions where wise changes should be made to the end of self-support are as follows:

(1.) Payments of bonus to scholars.
(2.) The sale of text-books.
(3.) The payment of tuition.
(4.) Payment of traveling expenses to scholars, colporteurs, etc.
(5.) The furnishing of food for station classes.
(6.) Receipts from fees and the sale of medicines in the medical department.
(7.) The entire support of native pastors.
(8.) The adoption of the tally system of contributions.
(9.) Contributions of time and work.
(10.) Legacies for schools, etc., from Chinese.
THE Annual Meeting of the North-China Mission was held at Tung-cho, May 12–21; the date being placed earlier than usual to admit of the presence with us of our visiting Secretary, Dr. Judson Smith. An abbreviated Helpers’ Training Class was held on the three days previous; lectures were delivered at that time by Dr. Sheffield, Mr. Roberts, Dr. Peck and Mr. Kingman, with one Bible reading by Miss Andrews. Thursday, May 12th, was devoted to the hearing of reports of work from the different stations of the Mission. On Friday two discussions in Chinese were held, each being of more than usual interest. The topics were: “The helpfulness of a course of private study for our native helpers,” and “How far should the Church concern itself with the private difficulties of its members?” A concrete result of the former discussion was the establishment of an association among the Chinese to stimulate private reading during the coming year.

The Annual Meeting of the North-China Congregational Association was held on Saturday afternoon at 2.15 o’clock. Mr. Kingman was appointed Chairman, and Messrs. Roberts and Chang Yen-tsêng were elected Scribes. The chief business of the meeting was the adoption of the Chinese Constitution and By-laws. The chairman and two scribes were appointed a committee to propose alterations for the next year. The same committee, by request, selected topics and leaders for next year’s Chinese discussions as follows: “What methods should be specially encouraged in developing self-support, and what perils are specially to be guarded against?” Leaders, Messrs. A. H. Smith and Kao Hsin; alternates, Messrs. Porter and Mêng Ch‘ang-ch‘un. “What method of locating native helpers is found to be most efficient and
satisfactory?" Leaders, Messrs. Roberts and Wu Yü-hsiang; alternates, Messrs. C. E. Ewing and Chiao Tso-lin. The choice of the third topic was left to the leaders, Messrs. Kao Hsi and Jen Hsüeh-hai. Other business of the meeting was the election of Rev. Mr. Houlding, of Ta-ming-fu, as an honorary member, and the revocation of the license of Helper Ts'ui Jui. Dr. Judson Smith made an address of greeting to the Association, Pastor Chang, of Tung-cho, responding on their behalf.

The annual Chinese sermons were delivered on Sunday in the city Church by Mr. Kingman and Helper Hô Tien-yin; the English sermon was delivered in the evening at the College by Dr. Judson Smith. On Monday morning the Mission meeting was organized, with Mr. Arthur Smith as chairman and Mr. C. E. Ewing clerk. Dr. Judson Smith and Messrs. Atwood and Williams, of the Shansi Mission, were invited to sit with us as corresponding members. The meeting was a very full one, all but four of the gentlemen of the Mission being present. Among other business the following votes were passed:

That under existing circumstances the removal of the Press to Tientsin is not at present expedient.

That we invite Mr. Chapin to take up the duties of Treasurer and Business Agent for one year.

That the Mission request Dr. Wagner to take charge of the medical work at Kalgan during the present year, provided that no other arrangement can be made before autumn.

That the Mission request Mr. and Mrs. Aiken to take up the work of the Lin-ch'ing Station during the present Mission year, in event of Mr. Chapin's removal to Tientsin.

That the Mission adopt the following Press Constitution, subject to the approval of the Prudential Committee:

I.

The Press shall be under the control of the Mission, and shall be called the North China Mission Press.

II.

The Press exists primarily for the needs of the Mission. Preference shall at all times be given to work for the Mission;
such work to be executed at cost. (Cost to include labor, materials used, and a small percentage for wear and tear of plant). Outside of such strictly Mission work, preference shall be given to orders for the Tract Society, for other Missions, and for the publication of such educational or other works as are esteemed of value in the development of the Church.

III.

A Press Committee shall be elected annually by the Mission, to consist of three persons, with whom the Superintendent of the Press shall sit as a consulting member, voting on all questions directly relating to the Press.

The functions of the Press Committee shall be as follows:—

(1). It shall have charge for the Mission of the Press and of its property, and shall determine all ordinary questions relating to development of plant, purchase of new material, and general management. But all special and extraordinary questions, involving the expenditure of sums of money above $500 gold, or of radical change in Press management, shall be referred by the committee to the Mission.

(2). It shall examine and pass upon all books and tracts submitted by members of the Mission for publication under aid of Mission Funds, shall revise such as are accepted, shall determine the size of the edition to be published, and shall decide what aid is to be granted them from the Publication Fund.

(3). It shall appoint two of its members to examine and audit semi-annually the Press accounts and report to the Mission at the Annual Meeting.

IV.

(1). The Superintendent of the Press shall have direction of the Press and of its work in consultation with the Press Committee. All details, including charges for work done for other Missions, shall be left to his judgment.

(2). He shall make a detailed written report at each Annual Meeting, of work done during the year, moneys received and expended, and balance of account.
The ordinary income of the Press shall be devoted to its upkeep and to such enlargement of plant as the Press Committee or the Mission shall from time to time deem necessary. A further sum shall be appropriated from it annually, when the earnings will permit, sufficient to keep the Publication Fund at its present height of $500 gold, provided that no appropriation shall exceed the sum of gold $250. Any surplus remaining, after providing for a fair working capital, shall be returned annually to the Board.

It was further voted,—

That we authorize the Superintendent of the Press to expend from the Press fund now on hand the following sums: $200 for a jobbing press, $200 for a font of Chinese type, $75 for a font of English type. And, that we appropriate from the above fund a sufficient sum to bring the Publication Fund up to $500. (All in gold).

That on the arrival of Miss Wyckoff, Miss Porter be asked to take up woman's work at Lin-ch'ing till next Annual Meeting.

That hereafter there be prepared by the ladies, in alphabetical order, an annual report of woman's work, to be bound up with the reports of general and medical work.

That Dr. Ingram be added as an associate member of the Williams' Dictionary Committee.

That in future theological students be required to provide their own travelling expenses to and from the Seminary.

That we request the Superintendent of the Press to endeavor to bring into use the large press; and that, in event of its not being practicable to use the press, the Committee be empowered to sell it, if a suitable offer can be secured.

That we invite Mrs. F. D. Wilder to take charge of the accounts through one settlement, to aid Mr. Chapin in assuming the duties of the Treasury and Business Agency; or, in case of his declining the treasurership, to become Treasurer temporarily.

That we express as a Mission our heartfelt gratitude to the Prudential Committee and to the Board for the sending to us of the China Deputation, our keen appreciation and enjoyment
of the presence and service of the Deputation among us on the field, and our deep sense of the benefit that their visit has already brought.

That the Press Committee may, at its discretion, furnish to any station making application a grant of not more than $30 gold in any one year from the Publication Fund.

That no books, in the purchase of which such grants from Publication Fund are used, shall be sold at less than the cost price paid for them by the Station.

That all orders for books from the Mission Press shall be paid for by the Station ordering, within six months from the date of purchase; and in event of any failure to pay, the deficit shall be met out of the next grant to that Station from the Publication Fund.

That all publications of the Mission Press shall be furnished to the Station at cost, with the exception of the Catechism, which shall be furnished at $\frac{2}{3}$ cost. [This will place the price at 6 real cash for San Tzu Ching and 8 cash for Catechism].

That we request Mr. Kingman to prepare in Chinese a Manual of Congregational Church Polity.

That we further elect a committee of five to co-operate in the final revision of the above and submit it to the Mission for approval at its next Annual Meeting. Committee elected: Smith, Goodrich, Ament, Stanley, Roberts.

That the Secretary be instructed to write to Dr. Young, of the Methodist New Connexion Mission, inquiring if his services can be secured for our Mission, and that we request the Board, in the event of his willingness to serve us, to appoint him to the Kalgan Station for one year, cabling to us their action at the earliest moment possible.

That the Annual Report of General Mission Work be limited to 15,000 words; 6,000 for woman's work, 9,000 for General Work.

That in order to comply with the wish of the Prudential Committee, the Mission Treasurer be directed to charge to the individual missionaries such sum as shall be allowed on salary account as rent; such sum to be credited to an account which shall
be called Repair Account, and from which each Station shall be allowed to draw to the amount allowed as rent at such Station.

New missionaries were asked for as follows: single ladies, one each for Tientsin, Lin-ch'ing and Kalgan, and three for special lines of work in Peking. Families, one each for Pang-chuang and Peking. Physician for Kalgan.


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COMMITTEES.

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<td>A. H. Smith, Miss J. E. Chapin</td>
<td>C. A. Stanley, Chauncey Goodrich, C. E. Ewing</td>
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Self-support ... ... ... { A. H. Smith.
  Mrs. Goodrich.
  J. H. Roberts.

Entertainment ... ... ... { Mr. and Mrs. Wilder.
  Dr. and Mrs. Goodrich.
  Miss G. Wyckoff.

THE NORTH-CINA COLLEGE AND GORDON MEMORIAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

Board of Managers.

Rev. C. Goodrich, D.D., Dean of Seminary (ex-officio).
Rev. F. M. Chapin, Treasurer (ex-officio).

Term expires in 1901. Term expires in 1900.

  Henry Kingman.  C. E. Ewing.
  G. H. Ewing.  G. Owen.

Term expires in 1899.

Rev. H. P. Perkins.
  W. P. Sprague.
  C. H. Fenn.

Examining Committee.

Rev. C. A. Stanley. Assistant Examiners.
  C. E. Ewing. Pastor Jen Hsu-hai.

Advisory Board.

Term expires in 1901. Term expires in 1900.

Elbridge Torry, Esq.  H. P. Beach.

Term expires in 1899.

Rev. N. Boynton, D.D.
  E. D. Eaton, D.D.
College Faculty.

"  E. G. Tewksbury (absent).  Mt. Ting Li-kuei.

Theological Seminary Faculty.


Autumn term opens September 14, 1898.

APPOINTMENTS FOR ANNUAL MEETING, 1899.

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REPORTS FOR THE SEVEN STATIONS.

Tientsin.

Missionaries: Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Stanley, Rev. and Mrs. E. E. Aiken, Mr. J. L. Mateer, Mission Treasurer, and Mrs. Mateer. Not under appointment—Mrs. Charles F. Gammon. Returned to the United States—Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Shapleigh and Miss Susan F. Hinman.

The changes in the personnel of this Station during the last year have been little short of bewildering. Early last summer there returned from the States Miss Mary Stanley, who was married shortly after her arrival to Mr. C. F. Gammon, of the Tientsin University. Although not under appointment at that time, she has since continued in her old place at the head of the girls' school, doing invaluable service in that department. Early in the autumn Mrs. F. D. Wilder, who had been acting for two years as Mission Treasurer, returned to Peking, her place being taken by Mr. J. L. Mateer, who, with Mrs. Mateer, came down from the capital for that purpose. A few weeks later Miss Hinman's health became so seriously affected as to render necessary her return to the States. Dr. Shapleigh at the same time sent in his resignation as a missionary of the Board, and with his family accompanied Miss Hinman upon the return journey to San Francisco.

Touring.

In October last Mr. Stanley spent eight days in the Hsien Hsien field, 100 miles to the south-west of Tientsin. The promise of a year ago at Pai-chou-ssu, where two acres of land had been given to the Church, has not been fulfilled. Desire for help in law-suits, and other characteristic hindrances have intervened, as it was feared at the time might be the case. It seemed best to
remove Helper Chiang to this field and place him at his old home, that he might give his time to conserving the older work in the district, looking up the church members and ascertaining the state of the field. He has since reported some encouraging signs, but it has been impossible for either of the missionaries to make a second visit to the neighborhood. It has been suggested that the work can profitably be transferred to the care of the P'ang-chuang Station, which has a preaching place in the immediate vicinity, and which can more readily keep in touch with the inquirers through the large force of touring helpers.

Three visits were made to Hu-chia-ying, a village about half way between Tientsin and Tung-cho. This district has presented much encouragement. During the winter a distinct revival took place in the local Church. The preacher and members were alive and active. Three meetings were held daily for some time, in the closing part of which nearly all the Church members, including women and lads, took part as occasion offered. The preacher's wife, also, who had occasioned much anxiety in the past, seems to have become a changed woman. Five persons were received into the Church at that time, and a larger number were received upon probation; among the latter were two men who were leaders in the Sheng Hsien Tao, one of the best of the secret religious sects of China. It is hoped that some of their former followers may be influenced by their example to become inquirers.

Country work last summer and autumn was hindered by the popular excitement over the kidnapping rumors which were spread throughout the province. Foreigners, or their native agents, were said to be kidnapping 2,000 children to put under the newly-restored Catholic cathedral in Tientsin, and it was widely believed that a child was being placed under each of the sleepers in the new railway to Peking. Messrs. Smith and Porter had a narrow escape from serious injury at the hands of the mob in Tientsin, and every one of the Stations, except Kalgan, reports that its work was seriously affected by the violence of the popular suspicion.

Several visits were made during the year to the Ching-hai field and other districts near Tientsin. Since Helper Chiang was with-
drawn from Ching-hai, a year ago, the little gathering of Christians there has been like sheep without a shepherd, but a book-seller has now been stationed there for one or two months, and the "short-course" graduate, Chang K'uei-sheng, has now been located in their midst, so that growth may again be looked for. At the other villages visited there is nothing specially calling for remark, though at Mei-ch'ang-tzu and Yang-ch'eng-chuang-tzu there is hope of further development.

The Tientsin Church.—The usual double sets of Sunday and week-day services have been maintained in the city and at the settlement. Daily preaching has been kept up at the city chapel throughout the year. An important step forward has been taken in the formation of an I Shih Hui, or association consisting of all the missionaries and native helpers connected with the Station. The committee meets quarterly and considers, and to some extent decides, concerning matters connected with the Station. It is hoped that a greater unity and efficiency will hereby result in all the work of the field, as well as a better understanding between the missionaries and helpers.

Schools.—The work of the girls' school during the past year deserves high praise, but it is praise that must be found elsewhere in the Report of Woman's Work, which this year appears for the first time in separate form, appended to the main report. The boys' boarding-school has not yet found a wholly satisfactory teacher, but has been continued throughout the year and has made progress along some lines. A beginning has been made in the direction of self-support; the amount received from the boys for the current year being about $9 gold. Two boys from the school went last autumn to the Academy at Tung-cho. It should be noted in this connection that the Tientsin boys now studying in the Tung-cho schools are already far enough advanced to make a valuable addition to the native preaching and teaching force of the Tientsin Station and to give renewed hope for its work in the future.

The day-school for boys in the city has been continued at a great disadvantage, owing to the lack of a regular teacher. In accordance with the views expressed below by the Committee on
Education, it was decided at the present Mission meeting to discontinue its further support. Not because it has failed to accomplish any good, but because of the general conviction on the part of the Mission that the time has come to prefer agencies more immediately efficient and advantageous for the Church.

**Peking.**

*Missionaries:* Rev. and Mrs. W. S. Ament (in the U. S.); Rev. and Mrs. C. E. Ewing; Miss J. E. Chapin; Miss Ada Haven; Miss N. N. Russell and Miss V. C. Murdock, M.D. (both in the U. S.)

_Personnel._—The changes in the working force of the Station have been no less marked than in former years. The pleasantest part of the record is the coming of Mr. Wilder and his family from Tung-cho by the permission of that Station, to aid in the Peking work during the year. Their presence and aid has been invaluable. Almost at the time of their arrival Mr. and Mrs. Mateer and Miss Hinman were removed to Tientsin, having already been appointed to that Station. In the autumn Dr. Murdock returned to the United States, accompanying Miss Hinman, and in the spring of the present year Miss Russell followed them. The depleted and needy condition of this field appears from the fact that of the members of the Station present in September, 1894, six are now in America, while of those who joined the Station in the following month three are already gone. The health of the Station has been good, except for a severe attack of pleurisy in the case of Mrs. Ewing during the winter.

The compound itself has been greatly changed in appearance during the past twelve months, under the superintendence of Mr. Mateer. A two-storey house was built for the ladies, numerous old buildings, whose room was better than their company, were removed, and the compound was re-graded, until now it has open breathing spaces for the first time in its history, and even a tennis-court, which should prove one of the best assets of the Station.

**The South Chapel.**—In this long-established central Church of the Station there has been a less rapid growth in numbers than before Mr. Ament left, but a steady and more or less successful effort has been made on the part of the missionaries to raise the tone of the
Church, both morally and spiritually. An examination of the Church lists reveals a deplorably large number of those who, having joined the Church perhaps too easily, have afterward drifted away. A revision of the lists needs to be made. The barriers are to be raised, however, for the future by extending the time of probation; the limit proposed being six months. The Church services are numerous and well attended. After the Wednesday afternoon and Thursday evening prayer-meetings opportunity is generally given for those who have become interested to rise, acknowledge themselves sinners, and ask for prayer. This work for inquirers has been earnestly pressed in the street chapel under the leadership of Mr. Wilder and with the efficient aid of Helper Hung and several Church members. Every day some, often many, express themselves as persuaded that Christianity is true. Of these not a few confess their sins, give them up, and become constant attendants on Church services. Those who stand firm are later admitted on probation.

There is a circle of members at this South Church, of whom it was at one time feared that they might drift away. They live at least two miles distant, outside the Chi-hua-men, but most of the men are still regular in attendance. A prayer-meeting is held in their suburb every night, in which all of the Christians take part. Of their own accord they have begun to contribute money for Christian work in their locality and have opened a day-school for girls. It should be said that the day-school for boys at the South Church has been discontinued for the present until a better teacher is procurable.

The North Chapel.—Affairs here have been turned over more than ever before into the hands of the Chinese, owing to the necessity for Mr. Ewing's devoting himself largely to the oversight of the Press. Helper—now Pastor—Jen has answered to the added responsibilities in a most encouraging way. His Sunday sermons show that he is a man of both spiritual force and insight. In his street-chapel work he has been well seconded by a few earnest and faithful Church members. These men have taken hold of this personal work with a warm interest and tact, and not a few have been won by them as Christians. Cases have occurred also of whole families having been won
to Christ through the children attending the day-school. This
day-school has had a most encouraging development through the
year under the care of a young man who graduated a year ago at
Tung-cho. Though his suitability was at first regarded with some
suspicion, the school under his care has done more and better work
than ever before. At the North Church, as well as at the South, a
committee has been organized—the I Shih Hui—for the discussion
of the condition and needs of the Church. It has already been the
means of bringing to action certain plans that otherwise might long
have remained unsettled.

Out-stations.—Twenty miles north-east of Peking is the
station of Shun I Hsien. There have been several changes of helpers
here during the year, but in spite of this the Church has continued
to grow. A young man of excellent spirit—Mr. Han—is now in
charge, and gives promise of much usefulness in the future. Several
new members have been received, and the attendance at Church
is steady and regular. New premises were purchased in January,
and suitable buildings are now in process of erection. The Church
members have contributed toward the purchase in a gratifying
manner.

The remainder of the Peking country field lies toward the
south. Twenty miles out, on the road of Pao-ting Fu, is the Station
of Liang-hsiang Hsien. The chapel there was opened in 1896, but
as no capable helper has ever been stationed on the field the growth
of the Church has been small. There are, however, a few inquirers,
and two have been received on probation. Occasional visits have
been made to the neighboring village of P'uan-t'un, and a new
out-station is about to be opened close by at the village of Tou-tien.

Still farther on toward Pao-ting Fu, forty-five miles from Peking,
is Cho-chou, the largest of the Peking out-stations. The premises
there include a street chapel, an inner chapel for Church services,
rooms for station-classes and for the residence of the helper and a
small house used by Miss Russell for her woman's work. Under
the care of Mr. T'ang, an earnest and winning Christian, the
Church continues to have a healthy and growing life. At every
visit of the foreign pastor there are new members to be received.
The Church has a laudable desire for self-support, but its efforts are taking the now common but regrettable form of accumulating land the income of which may be used ultimately for the endowment of the Church.

Fifteen miles south-east from Cho-chou is Ping-ching. This Station was opened only last summer, a helper being sent there at that time. He is a Mr. Li, an admirable worker, under whose labors there have been many inquirers and already eight or ten converts. A chapel has been secured, and the helper's family are now living with him there, his wife endeavoring to awaken interest among the women. Still twenty miles further south-east is Nam-mêng, the market town where Pastor Hung is stationed. He was ordained for this special work several years ago. A quiet man, and somewhat lacking in lively ambition, he is yet careful and faithful. The street chapel, opened on market days, wins many hearers and some inquirers. A boys' school has been opened at the chapel, partly self-supporting. In the Pai-mu-ch'iao district, twenty miles south-east of Nan-mêng, where there are many scattered Christians who, for some years have grown cold in spirit and careless in morals, there is a promise of brighter times. It is found in the voluntary decision on their part to sell the land that they have been accumulating on the endowment plan above referred to, and with the proceeds open a preaching chapel in the large market town of the district. In accordance with this wish a chapel will be opened and a helper sent there as soon as possible. The scattered Christians in the neighborhood of Wen-an Hsien, still further to the south, are remaining faithful, even through some persecution.

One station-class was held in Peking in February, and a gathering of the preaching helpers from the out-stations was held, for the first time, in April. The results of the experiment were encouraging.

On the whole, perhaps the weakest part of the Peking work is along educational lines. The boys' day-schools are few, and until last year no one of them has been taught by a college graduate. And there is as yet no boarding-school. The result of this deficiency has been felt in our inadequate supply of trained native helpers.
The situation is only now beginning to be relieved by the students who are about finishing their course at Tung-cho.

**Kalgan.**

*Missionaries:* Rev. Mark Williams; Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Roberts (in the U. S. through the year); Rev. and Mrs. W. P. Sprague; Dr. and Mrs. F. A. Waples; Miss H. B. Williams.

The usual summer visitors were this last year claimed by the new sea-shore resort at Pei-tai-ho, but this lack of outside company was partly made up for by the increased number of Swedish missionaries, now raised to six, who have been living at the Kalgan Station. In March Dr. and Mrs. Waples were compelled to return to the United States. Mrs. Waples' health had for some time been failing, and it was evident that a speedy return home was necessary. In the three and a half years of his association with the Station Dr. Waples has accomplished much; his zeal and courage carrying him through many difficulties. With only the aid of $300 from the Board he has commenced a very satisfactory hospital. He had already prepared one valuable native assistant, and a second was under instruction. Through a system of charging for surgical operations according to the ability of the patient, he had made the hospital practically self-supporting. His new departure in establishing local dispensaries at the out-stations—Yü-chou and Ch'ing-ke-ta—found great favor with the people. It is of the greatest importance that a new physician be sent to take up his work at the earliest possible moment. The doors of both dispensary and hospital are now closed, and all the assistants are dismissed.

The two Kalgan street chapels have been kept open for daily preaching throughout the entire year. Mr. Williams has missed but few of the 365 days in preaching at one of these chapels. Mr. Sprague has preached in the upper city chapel—two miles distant—when not prevented by other duties. He has also had charge of the boys' schools and of the touring. The attendance at the chapels has been larger and more uniform than before. Some twenty inquirers, who have become interested through attendance at the outer chapel, are now received on probation.
A new departure is the opening of the outer chapel in the evening. Opened at first on every fifth evening the results were so gratifying that it is now opened on every third, and even so the small room is crowded. The audience is mostly made up of clerks and apprentices who have no leisure for listening in the day time. At this juncture, when there would naturally be a demand for more helpers, the need for retrenchment has compelled dismissal of one of our present force, who has been a tried and faithful fellow-laborer for many years. He has been taken on by the Bible Society as a colporteur.

Schools.—In accordance with the Mission action at the last annual meeting all boys in the boarding and day-school were required last summer to pay one hundred real cash per month. This caused some complaint, and several pupils were withdrawn from the school. Only six out of thirty boys in the day-school brought the money. As further retrenchment was imperative the day-school was closed and the teacher dismissed. He is now teaching a village school in a heathen temple. The school thus closed has had a history of thirty years, having been started by Mr. and Mrs. Gulick. The boys' boarding-school has been reduced from twenty-five to sixteen pupils. The remaining boys are smaller than usual, as the larger ones have been taken out by their parents and set to learning trades. The teacher is a good one, and drills the boys well in the classics. Mr. Sprague teaches arithmetic, and Mr. Williams Bible History. Most of the boys did well in examinations, and two will be ready to enter Tung-cho next year.

Touring.—This branch of the work has suffered seriously by Mr. Roberts' absence. Nevertheless, Mr. Sprague has managed in intervals from his school duties to make eight tours, aggregating 124 days. Dr. Waples also made several brief tours through the field, preaching and dispensing medicine.

In August a mass meeting of the Christians of the whole field was held at Ch'ing-ke-ta, fifty miles from Kalgan. All the missionaries from Kalgan attended, with the exception of Mrs. Waples. Six preachers, two teachers, two Bible-women and many native Christians came from other places, a gathering altogether of about
fifty. Preaching services were held morning, afternoon and evening for eight days, beside Bible readings every day. Many Christians received a blessing; several outsiders, also, were converted, and went home to destroy their idols and commence the worship of the true God. Three of these have since joined the Church, and others have joined the class of probationers. During the year ten in the out-stations have been baptized and some forty have been received as probationers.

On one of his tours Mr. Sprague was approached by the representatives of twelve families of one name, who wanted to join the Church in a body; in all about one hundred individuals. It seems that some of these families were inn-keepers; having become embroiled with the officials their inns were closed permanently by order of the magistrates. They seem to think that the Christian Church can be of service to them in this emergency, rehabilitating their characters and making possible the reopening of their inns. They have destroyed all their idols and are now learning to worship God. After stating to them plainly that they will never receive aid against the decision of the magistrate a few of them have been allowed to put down their names as probationers. But none will be received into the Church for a long time, and then only after presenting superabundant evidences of conversion.

Several of the helpers have made short tours, or attended large fairs, selling books and preaching. But book sales have been small. An experiment has been made in giving out books to reliable Church members, who have sold them at their leisure and have had the proceeds for their compensation.

With more help much more can be done for the out-lying districts than is now possible. One young man has just finished his two years' theological course at Tung-cho, while another is now in the Seminary. Six others are in the Tung-cho schools, but unless two neighboring cities are to be occupied by us speedily the Swedish mission will be glad to establish work there before us.
Tung-cho.

Missionaries: Rev. and Mrs. Chauncey Goodrich, D.D.; Rev. and Mrs. D. Z. Sheffield, D.D.; Rev. and Mrs. E. G. Tewksbury; Rev. and Mrs. Henry Kingman; Rev. and Mrs. G. D. Wilder (Peking); Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Ingram; Miss M. E Andrews; Miss J. G. Evans; Miss Luella Miner; Miss A. G. Chapin (returned to U. S. A.)

The evangelistic work of the year has been seriously crippled by the loss first of Mr. and Mrs. Wilder, who have spent the entire year in Peking to meet the pressing emergency there, and second of Miss Abbie Chapin, who left late in the autumn to accompany Miss Hinman to the United States. Just previous to the present annual meeting Mr. and Mrs. Tewksbury, with their family, also returned to the home land. The health of the Station finds mention in the medical report, while the bulk of the remainder of the Station work is accounted for in three other reports, also contained in the present pamphlet. It remains here only to gather up what may be left of other lines of labor.

Literary Work.—Messrs. Sheffield and Goodrich have continued to give from two to three hours per day to the work of Bible translation, and good progress has been made. At the last annual meeting a committee of five was chosen to revise Williams' Dictionary. Messrs. Sheffield and Goodrich have each given three or four weeks of time to this work, while as chairman of the committee Mr. Kingman has given over three months, chiefly in the summer. He has also prepared our Mission share of the Sunday School Lessons for the year. Dr. Goodrich has translated "The Greatest Thing in the World," by Drummond, and has revised the final sheets of his Lessons in Mandarin, which has just been issued by the Methodist Mission Press.

Boys' Boarding-school.—This school became fatherless and motherless by the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Wilder to Peking. Mrs. Goodrich has tried, with the help of the excellent head teacher Kao Hsin and other native teachers, to prevent the school from suffering serious loss. The boarding-school is now about as large as was the College twenty years ago, but it requires the minimum
of time as to food, clothes, bathing, care of rooms and court, behaviour and teaching on the part of the missionary as compared with the College at that period of infancy. This is not because less is done, but because the trained native teachers, under careful direction, are equal to the task.

In the autumn the school was removed to the Woman's Court adjoining the Seminary grounds, and the work for women was removed to the west end of the old school court, thus separating the work for men and women and freeing the foreign compound from the presence of so many boys. The expense of the change was met chiefly by the missionaries. There have been thirty pupils in all, nineteen of them boarders. Eight of these last were from Peking. The appropriations by the Board pay only for the teacher and the coal for heating. All other expenses—for board, fuel for rooms, matron, lighting, etc.—must be met by the pupils or the missionaries. Each boarder pays one tiao a month, and each day pupil two tiao per year. The entire sum furnished by the pupils for the school year was a little less than $50 gold, leaving three times this amount to be raised by the missionaries of Tung-cho and Peking. Mrs. Goodrich has taken charge of the accounts for the year, and until Chinese New Year taught in the school, besides conducting prayers on Saturday evening. The annual examinations showed that excellent work had been done.

Evangelistic Work.—Preaching at the outer chapel has been kept up throughout the year under the care of Deacon Liu, with aid from the Seminary students, Pastor Chang, and on Sunday afternoons from Dr. Goodrich. Preaching to the dispensary patients precedes every clinic, and further work is done with the patients in the hospital. The responsibility for all this has been on the two medical assistants, who have also kept up a weekly medical and evangelistic service at two of the out-stations.

There are now four out-stations, P'ing-ku-hsien having been opened a little over a year ago. The two preachers Kao have been stationed here with their families, but on account of the prolonged illness of his wife Helper Kao Wên-lin has been recalled to Tung-cho to aid in the work of the College. A chapel in the city
has at last been rented. It should be noted that all the expense of purchasing and fitting up the premises of this new out-station, have been furnished by the native Christians, or other sources outside of the Board. One convert has already been baptized, and others are interested in the truth.

Of the other three Stations, Fu-hao has been worked from Tung-cho; Mr. Kao, of the boys' school, and Mr. Ts'ui, of the dispensary, preaching here alternately. Dr. Ingram, with his evangelistic bicycle, has made six tours to Ping-ku and two each to Yung-lè-tien and Niu-pao-t'un. The bicycle in this vicinity may be considered as having given a new impetus to evangelistic work in the country.

The Tung-cho Church.—The Churches at the College and at the city have been under the care respectively of Dr. Sheffield and Pastor Chang, with occasional preaching by the other members of the Station. The pastor, also, has often visited the country stations for the reception of members or the administration of the sacraments. The moral lapse of medical helper Ts'ui Jui has been a terrible blow to the entire Church. For years he has been one of our most faithful and trusted helpers, and his fall came with a shock of surprise that threatened serious injury to the Church life. His name, with one other has, by unanimous consent, been stricken from the Church roll, and it is hoped that the Church will in the end be humbler, purer and stronger than before.

Pao-ting-fu.

Missionaries: Rev. and Mrs. G. H. Ewing; Rev. and Mrs. H. T. Pitkin; Dr. and Mrs. W. C. Noble (Mrs. Noble in the U. S.); Miss W. S. Morrill (in the U. S.); Miss A. A. Gould.

Early in the autumn Mrs. Noble left to join her children in the States, and Dr. Noble accompanied her as far as Japan. The day on which they left was further marked by the arrival from Pei-tai-ho—where they had been spending the summer—of Mr. and Mrs. Pitkin. They have since shared with Dr. Noble the house occupied by him for the last five years, enlarging it slightly to meet the temporary need. As the arrangement can only be a temporary
one, a new house should be provided for them as soon as possible. Mr. Ewing moved into his newly-built house in September, leaving free for the first time for its proper use the men’s hospital, which has now been opened since Chinese New Year. It is a matter for gratification that a building, erected as a hospital nine years ago, could thus at last realize its proper destiny. All the members of the station are now within the one compound.

The new members have naturally devoted their time to the study of the language, while Mr. Ewing’s time has perforce been largely given during the year to the ungrateful labors of building. Three houses have been erected by him since the last Mission meeting—the two-story dwelling at Pao-ting-fu and two smaller houses at the seaside at the Pei-tai-ho sanitarium. One of these is a mission house, and one has been erected by Miss Gould for the ladies of the Pao-ting-fu station. The evangelistic work of the station, the care of the boys’ school and the forwarding of the Shansi freight, have also all been in Mr. Ewing’s charge. During the latter part of the winter he was able to do daily teaching in the boys’ school and to preach frequently at the street chapel, but under the circumstances touring was practically out of the question.

Boys’ School.—In the so-called boys’ boarding-school of the station, nearly half of the twenty-four scholars are day pupils only. The others come prepared to furnish their required fraction of support. The year has not been as prosperous as could be wished, owing to the lack of a suitable teacher. Three different men have taught at intervals during the twelve months; Helper Meng being one of the three and rendering valuable assistance. For four years past each year has seen a new teacher of inexperience and of new and changing methods. The great need is obviously for a permanent instructor, and of this there is some hope, in the likelihood that one of this year’s graduates at the Tung-cho College, belonging to Pao-ting-fu, will accept the position. An indication of increasing interest in the study of foreign branches on the part of Confucianist scholars was furnished during the winter by the application of four or five literary graduates for
admission to the daily arithmetic classes of the school. The request was not complied with, nor similar request, twice repeated, of a Mohammedan, whose motives were questionable. One pupil has been in the school at the charges of the Presbyterian friends on the north side of the city. Others may be received later on under the same conditions.

Two small day-schools have been opened, one at Ch'ing-liang-chêng, with ten or twelve pupils, and the other with six pupils, just inside the south gate of the city of Pao-ting-fu. The former is taught by Li Lin, a former Tung-cho student, whose health broke down. He is doing good work, and several of his scholars would like to be advanced to the boarding-school at the central station. The other school is taught by a former boarding-school pupil, who was hindered at the time from going to Tung-cho.

CHAPELS.—The new premises in the city have been thoroughly renovated, and daily preaching is now going on in the new chapel; the old one having been finally vacated. The new chapel is near the centre of the city, opening directly on a busy thoroughfare, so that an audience is never lacking. At the domestic chapel attendance increases from year to year. Now that the hospital is close at hand the audience is regularly swelled by patients, numbering from ten to twelve. Mr. Ewing and Helper Meng have supplied the pulpit, assisted occasionally by Mr. Bagnall, of the C. I. M., or by a helper returning for a Sunday from the country.

NATIVE AGENCY.—Owing to the continued need for retrenchment we have been unable to recall our two colporteurs. Two other facts give cause for regret. One of these is an apparently increasing commercial spirit on the part of Pastor Meng in the attempted buying and selling of real estate, probably with a view to the appreciation of land values on the completion of the approaching railway. The other fact is that Helper Kao Jung-chai has had to be dismissed from Mission employ. The other helpers came in a body, and in a kindly and loving spirit rehearsed certain irregularities in his relations with the Church members at Po-pei, impeaching not his Christianity, but his wisdom, tact and temper. On these and some other grounds it seemed best that his official
connection with the station should cease. He has received his dismissal in a kindly spirit, and continues to assist frequently in the city chapel.

The remaining helpers are three in number—the two brothers Meng and Chao Kuang-pi. When it is remembered that the station has Christians in more than fifty cities and villages, it is evident how utterly inadequate this force of workers is. During nearly the whole of the year Pastor Meng has occupied the out-station of Ma Hung-t'ou, working out into the neighboring villages not without success. During the winter a station-class was held there, all members of the class furnishing their own food and expenses. The room now used as a chapel is an excellent three-chien Chinese building, offered freely by a man who joined the Church six months ago. The pastor has twice visited a neighboring village by the name of Chin-shan-yu. The people of the place are members of a Chinese religious society, and at the first coming of the pastor received him warmly and urged him to spend some days with them, teaching them the doctrine. Several of the men had read Martin's Evidences of Christianity, and even some of the little children had learned the beginnings of a prayer. Commodious quarters were offered the pastor by a wealthy man in the village, and it is evident that there is a promising opening here for further work.

Helper Chao Kuang-pi has spent most of the year at Ch'i-chi, where the little Church of a half dozen members of four years ago has grown to one of twenty members, with others waiting for admission. A station-class was held here during the winter at a total cost to the Board for room and fuel, of three dollars.

At Po-yeh, the year has been marked by the building of a chapel by native contributions. Nearly a hundred strings of cash had been accumulated by the Church under Helper Kao, and with this sum a building of modest mud has been erected on a piece of land furnished rent-free for 99 years by one of the converts.

It is gratifying to report a forward movement in the form of a Y. M. C. A. at the central station. It has some thirty members, with committees for various lines of aggressive Christian work, doing really admirable service.
A further special feature of the year was the special Christmas festival, at which time the new chapel bell—furnished by friends of Mr. Perkins and Mr. Ewing—was dedicated. The belfry was finished just in season for the bell to be rung for the first time on Christmas morning. In the week of prayer following, union services were held with the Christians connected with the Presbyterian Mission,—a happy series of meetings, which will not soon be forgotten.

P'ang-chuang.

Missionaries. Rev. and Mrs. H. D. Porter, M.D., D.D.; Rev. and Mrs. A. H. Smith; Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Peck (Mrs. Peck in the U. S.); Miss H. M. Porter; Miss E. G. Wyckoff, and Miss H. G. Wyckoff (both in the U. S.)

In April, 1897, Mrs. Peck, the Wyckoff sisters and Lucius Porter left for the States. In the autumn of the same year Mrs. Smith, after an absence of four years, was permitted to return to her work, full of new faith and new hope.

Native Pastorate.—The most important event of the year has been the ordination of the two pastors, of whom mention was made last year. They were first unanimously recommended for the pastorate by the Congregational Associations of the Mission and of the Station, and later were elected by the almost unanimous vote of the local Church, though no nominations had been set before them. The ordaining council met in P'ang-chuang on September 26th, with representatives of all but two of the stations of the Mission. The presence of Mr. Stanley, who opened the Shantung work, and of Dr. Goodrich and Miss Andrews, who had been the teachers of the young men, added to the interest of the occasion. Neither of the candidates were quite willing to take up the duties of the new office, and one was quite unwilling, but the result has put to shame their timidity. They confess that they have found unanticipated benefits in the new relations and no difficulties whatever. The Church also has come to understand the significance of the step, and there is but one opinion in regard to its value.

Chapels.—With aid from the Tank legacy the domestic chapel has been enlarged about two-fifths in size. At the last
general meeting, when the members of the deputation were present, it held an audience of 500 church members and probationers. The station has at present five city chapels, with buildings in fourteen other out-stations; neither in the chapel in P'ang-chuang, nor in any of the fourteen out-stations (with one exception), is there any money invested which came from the Board. During the year a new chapel has been opened in Mao-wang-chuang; seven-tenths of the cost being provided by the members there. At this place the leading member has long been persecuted, and this winter so seriously that the case had to be brought to the attention of the district magistrate, who promptly dispatched the case in a satisfactory manner.

CHURCH LIFE.—The two pastors have been actively engaged in many parts of the wide field, and everywhere with success. The Hsia-chih chapel has, as last year, been the centre of greatest apparent results, especially since the New Year, since which time Pastor Chia has been stationed there. There are inquirers in many new villages, nine of whom Mr. Chia received upon probation, while others have been received at P'ang-chuang. There are in the city 78 persons who are registered as more or less regular attendants upon the services; twice as many as one set of rooms will hold. A large work for women might be developed in Hsia-chin could Bible-women be sent thither.

A helper and a colporteur have been working in Ch’ih-p’ing city during a large part of the year; this is a very hopeful field. At all the village out-stations the Sunday attendance is fluctuating, but shows an improvement over last year.

The discipline of the Church seems now to be on a good basis. The members of the Association, in bringing in their quarterly report, are required to mention all unsatisfactory cases in their fields, and in cases requiring it action is promptly taken. There is a small but steady flow of excommunicated Church-members back into Church connection. A prayer-meeting at ten o’clock on Sundays has been started this year, and the Sunday School changed to the afternoon. At the former service a great many Church-members and hospital patients have asked for prayers.
The number received to the Church during 1897 was 107, and 137 upon probation. It would have been easy to make these numbers much larger, but long experience has taught the lesson of making haste slowly. A remarkable revival of interest took place in the village of K'ān-fen this spring, as a result of which 29 persons from this district have asked to join the Church, most of whom have already been received.

Contributions.—Much use has been made in the past of the bamboo tallies, but still further use is to be made in the future. Everyone admitted on probation receives these tallies in public at the time, making a definite promise to give as the Lord has prospered him. The salaries of the two pastors are to be met by the native Church. This involves raising 360,000 cash a year; it can be done by exercising steady pressure, but in order to get the new machinery into running order the Association voted to have the accounts kept by a missionary. It is the opinion of the pastors that finding the new step of self-support inevitable, and not inherently difficult, it will be cheerfully taken. The increase of receipts from native sources during the past three years has been marked. In 1895 it was 321 taels; in 1896, 421 taels; in and during 1897, 499 taels, though owing to loss in exchange the sum in gold appears to be less than in the preceding year.

Education.—The primary department of the P'āng-chuang school has about twenty pupils, under the care of Mr. Tu; the intermediate department, having as many more, is under the efficient care of Mr. Chang Fēng-hsiang. Applications for admission are embarrassingly numerous. The Association fixes the rate which each scholar is to pay in proportion to the means of his family. The bare cost of the food is about 20,000 cash, and those who pay least furnish one-half of this. Others pay two-thirds, and a few the entire cost.

The pressure has been so great that a new school house is being built with funds loaned for the purpose. The buildings will accommodate about sixty pupils, a part of whom will take the course of the Tung-cho Academy, going from here direct to the College. This will require the services of an additional teacher, but will
effect a considerable saving to the Mission, as the Association has fixed the assessment for the academical course at the entire cost of the food, after the first year. As soon as the Board has any funds available, an appropriation is desired to help in this most needed enlargement.

There are eight village day-schools, aggregating 74 pupils. One of these is so small that it is to be dropped this year, and one on the other hand, is endowed and self-supporting. At the recent meeting of the Association it was voted to require each school to pay all its expenses after this year. It is expected that four or five will survive the test. The increased appreciation of Christian education has made possible this step, that a few years since would have been out of the question.

The past winter has seen the successful experiment of wholly self-supporting station-classes for men. Two of these were held in P'ang-chuang and three in out-stations, aggregating more than eighty. No more appropriations will be asked for such classes.

During the absence of the medical assistants, who have been studying theology in Tung-cho, no outside dispensing has been attempted. The attendance at the central dispensary has been large, and some of the best work of the station is done in the large waiting room.

The sales of books for the year have been excellent, amounting in all to 185,000 cash. Quite as many hymn-books seem to be sold at the double rates as before. Subscriptions to newspapers are numerous, and mark the rising life of the station. There are 75 subscribers to the Shantung weekly alone; altogether 146 subscriptions to periodicals in the station.

One notable event of the year has been the outcome of an old case of persecution in Li-lu-chuang, one of the out-stations. Two years ago the local magistrate decided the case against the Church-member in question, beating him heavily; the Consul was unable to secure the reversal of the decision. Within a month past the magistrate has, on his own initiative, reopened the case, granted all the reparation that the Church demanded, punished the guilty parties, and put out an excellent proclamation in the district. The
explanation of this sudden reversal of policy is probably to be found in the German occupation of Chiao-chou and the degradation of the former governor of the province.

The Outlook.—The exigencies of the past year have necessitated many economies, and even so the station has spent much more than it has received. But it is the deep conviction of the members of the station that the continued financial stringency is the call of the Lord to us to strive to put our work on a more nearly self-supporting basis. Our greatest need must always be a fuller realization of the presence of the Lord in all our work. There is no likelihood that the Board will ever open a new station in this part of China, nor is there need. Better and less expensive work can be done by pushing out a long distance from the stations that we have. We should like to open five new chapels this year—three in market towns and two in the cities. When this is done our field proper will lie in the shape of a carpenter’s square, extending south about eighty miles, about as much to the north, and almost the same distance westward. Large as the field is, it can all be worked from P‘ang-chuang as a centre, simply by the extension of machinery already in existence there.

Each of the preaching missionaries has now been on the field for nearly twenty-six years. A third man is urgently needed, and the request for one is again repeated as for the last ten years.

Lin-ch‘ing.

Missionaries: Rev. and Mrs. H. P. Perkins, Rev. and Mrs. F. M. Chapin, Dr. and Mrs. E. R. Wagner.

The personnel of the station has witnessed no changes during the past year, save in the return of Herbert Chapin to the States; but the arrival of his infant brother in February has restored to its former size the circle of children. The only conspicuous exception to good health during the year, was in the case of Mr. Perkins, who was laid aside in the summer for seven weeks by an attack of tropical dysentery. Both the families of Mr. Chapin and of Dr. Wagner spent part of the summer by the sea at Peitaiho.
Last summer witnessed the height of the child-stealing excitement, but the local work of the station went on as usual. At such times the Mohammedan neighbors appear to act as a steadying influence, seeming much less prejudiced against us than are the idolaters. Again this spring was revived an old quarrel between the Roman Catholics and natives in a town twenty miles west of Lin-ch'ing. Declarations were made of a general rebellion, in which all Christians were to be slaughtered. The fear of an uprising spread through all the countryside, but the danger ultimately passed over. The fear itself, and the panic which resulted, show in what a state of unstable equilibrium the Chinese live.

A brighter side should be spoken of, however, in the noticeable improvement in public attitude towards us, following on the plentiful sprinkling of proclamations over the province, after the German occupation of Chiao-chou and the degradation of the provincial governor. Other influences have been active, further to break down stolid pride and rouse Chinese interest in foreigners and foreign teaching. Visitors, and more influential ones, have been more numerous than ever before.

New Places Opened.—Two new preaching centres have been opened during the last year. The first is in the prefectural city of Tung-ch'ang, an important commercial centre. A few years ago the Roman Catholics of the place began building here upon their own land, but the opposition was so bitter that the attempt had to be given up. The change in popular sentiment is evidenced by the fact that our opening of premises upon the main street met with only a brief local opposition that quickly gave way. Audiences have been large and quiet, and visitors numerous. More than once visitors have asked, "Can't you start some foreign industry here, or build a railroad?"

This year has also seen the securing of a good place in Ch'ing-p'ing, a country directly east, near our Ts'ai-chia-t'un community, where genuine inquirers are more numerous than in newer fields. The Ts'ai-chia-t'un church is at present without a meeting place, having had to give up its rooms on the expiry of the mortgage.
Besides these two cities there are a number of other country seats within forty miles of Lin-ch'ing, in which we could easily secure quarters for evangelistic work; and men whom we feel to be genuine, could be established there as helpers. If this great region is to be evangelized it must be on some such lines as these.

Fifty-five miles south-west of Lin-ch'ing, over the border in the province of Chihli, is the city of Tai-ming, into which Mr. Houlding has gone. Mr. Houlding has no formal connection with our Mission, but is highly regarded by all who know him, and cannot fail to make a deep impression upon those natives with whom he is brought in contact.

Station Work.—The improved attitude towards foreigners manifests itself also at the central station. Visitors are more often from the so-called "higher classes," and there is a greater readiness to receive instruction. The fourth moon fair brought into the compound many "myriads" of people. For three or four days the front gate had two fairly continuous streams of humanity flowing in opposite directions. A half dozen helpers were kept constantly busy addressing the crowds.

No regular station class has been held this year. The boys' school has also been small, the demand for this kind of education still being very limited. Many bright young men would come to be taught English, but it is doubtful if there are reasons to justify such a line of effort. The P'ang-chuang custom of having four large meetings each year, has also been followed in Lin-ch'ing. The chapel is too small, however, for any great extension of this policy, and the need of a larger church building grows apace. There is a small building fund already on hand—about $100 gold—but the audiences grow considerably faster than the fund. A still more pressing need is that of a house for Dr. Wagner. The station now has a second compound, just east of the river compound, and of about the same size; it is walled in, and now only waits the needed appropriation for the building of the house.

The North-China College.

The school opened Monday, September 13th, 1897, with 36 students in the collegiate department and 38 in the academic; 74
in all. There was a recess of two weeks at the beginning of the Chinese New Year; studies were then continued to May 8th, 1898; the two sessions covering nearly eight months.

Teachers.—Dr. Sheffield, in addition to the general responsibility for the government of the school, has taught Chinese history, political economy, and mental and moral science. Mrs. Sheffield has looked after the food and care of rooms, and has taught in zoology, physiology, and Old Testament typology. Mr. Tewksbury has taught two classes in physics and two in chemistry, with daily work with the students in the laboratory. Miss Evans has taught two classes in Old Testament history, one in Acts, two in universal history, and two in physical geography. Miss Miner has taught in geology, surveying, biology, life of Christ, and Paul’s epistles. Mr. Ting, the leading Chinese teacher, has had classes in the Chinese classics and in mathematics. Mr. Ts’ao has taught classes in the classics, and has listened to recitations, both in the classics and in the Bible. Two advanced classes in the classics were taught by a Confucian scholar, and several extra classes for students who were behind in their mathematics, were taught by students.

Dr. and Mrs. Sheffield have each given about half of their time to teaching and care of the school. Mr. Tewksbury and Miss Evans have given their whole time to the school. Miss Miner has done full work for the school, but has made time for considerable work for women and girls.

The faculty in determining the course of study have planned to divide the time of students into about three equal parts: first, Chinese studies; second, Christian studies; and third, general Western learning. The Chinese studies are the most easily taught and the best appreciated by the Chinese themselves. Yet even here our standard is not what it should be. Though it has steadily advanced in the school, yet the students at graduation as a rule fall short of the ability in composition of a Chinese scholar who has attained the lowest degree in the civil examinations. More attention is now given to composition, both in the written and spoken
style, through essays and debates, but a higher grade of excellence is still to be striven for.

As the school is composed almost exclusively of Christian students, the distinctively Biblical studies are highly valued. The simple aim in all these branches is to give the scholars a good knowledge of the facts of Old and New Testament history and of the great doctrines of Christianity. The working of this new leaven shows itself in their lives progressively from year to year. There is on the whole a high standard of Christian truthfulness and manliness in their intercourse with one another, and though there are occasional serious failures, yet few Christian schools could make a better report of subordination to rules and fidelity to duty.

Already there is a wide awakening in China to the value of Western learning and especially of Western science. This interest naturally shows itself at the highest in our mission schools. But as yet the ability of the students to master Western sciences is hardly commensurate with their interest, and the ambition of their teachers is chiefly directed to giving them accurate instruction in the fundamentals of these sciences. Their value in disciplining the mental faculties and sharpening the powers of observation is, however, as great here as at home. Especially are mathematics desirable here, because of the hereditary weakness of the logical faculty, which is a legacy of the one-sided Confucian training. This line of study is the best single test, apart from character, of fitness to be continued in the school. Encouraging progress has been made in this department during the last year.

The cost of education in the school should be thrown back as soon as possible upon the parents of the pupils. The boys' clothing and travelling expenses are now provided for by their families, but as soon as may be the entire cost of their text-books should also be met by the boys themselves, perhaps by making a yearly deposit with the college treasurer for this purpose. Two dollars (gold) would be sufficient in the Academy, and three dollars in the College.

The Mission has approved of the plan of establishing a self-help department in the school. No permanent lines of work have yet
been inaugurated, though a good deal has been done along irregular lines. It would seem the wisest plan to experiment in certain lines of manufacture, producing something of value, for which there would be a good market.

As rapidly as circumstances permit, teaching in the academic department should be carried back to station schools. This will save expense to the Mission, will hold the pupils for longer time in close relationship to their homes, and will enable the missionaries at the several stations to test students more thoroughly than is now possible. The only danger is that of imperfect training at the hands of Chinese teachers. Much care will therefore need to be exercised by the missionaries at the stations, and examinations must be rigorous.

Dr. Sheffield has had the pastoral care of the College, being aided by the other members of the station. The students have sustained their own special meetings, and the Y. M. C. A. activities have been well kept up. The government of the school has on the whole been easy, and the students have responded quickly to the sense of Christian obligation. Three cases of public discipline have occurred, all for giving way to anger in personal quarrels.

Eight students received their diplomas on graduating from the College, and one student, then ill, will receive his later, on passing the examinations. All of these men should give a good account of themselves in Christian work, though two of them are too young to have received the full value of their studies, or to take up at once the work that should properly be expected of them. It will be wise in future to limit the age of admission to the College to sixteen years, foreign reckoning.

**Gordon Memorial Theological Seminary.**

This last year has been the first in the history of the Seminary in which there have been two seminary classes. Hitherto each class has graduated before the succeeding class has entered. One of these classes, however, has been an irregular one, taken on because of the need in the Mission for colporteurs and evangelists, and also because there were men in every station of an earnest
spirit but poor equipment, who yet had an earnest desire for further study of the Bible. This class has been known familiarly as the "short-cuts." This year closes their two years' course of study. In ability and in fitness for service the men have been very unequal. Three or four would have done creditably in the regular class, while two have been notably deficient. The spirit of the class has been excellent, the members being earnest and attentive listeners. While it is uncertain when the Seminary can again open its doors to this class of men, we are yet hopeful that they will do a good work in their several stations.

Their work during the year has been as follows:—Mr. Kingman has taken them through the exegesis of Hebrews and the Pastoral Epistles. Miss Andrews has given half the year to the last part of the Gospel Harmony, and half to Old Testament History, up to the crowning of David. Dr. Goodrich began the year with lectures on preaching, and concluded it with a careful study of the book of Zechariah. He also gave them twenty-five lectures on astronomy, in which they showed much interest. They have further had a daily exercise in the making of sermon-plans under Dr. Goodrich's superintendence.

Of the regular class of ten men entering last autumn, seven were graduates of the College, two were men whose studies had been interrupted and who have studied medicine under Dr. Peck, and one was a young man of good spirit and ability from Pang-chuang, who wishes to give his life to the preaching of the gospel. During the year Dr. Sheffield has taken the class through the first six centuries of Church History, while Miss Andrews has taught Old Testament History with side light from the prophets and the prophetical books. Mr. Kingman has given the entire year to the exegesis of the Gospel of Mark, though his illness during the last month necessitated the omission of the last three chapters. Dr. Goodrich conducted morning prayers throughout the year, giving fifteen minutes of the time each morning to a brief practical exposition of a short Scripture passage. In this way the class covered I. and II. Corinthians, Galatians, and a part of the first Epistle of Peter.
The students have preached in the street chapel three after-noon of the week, and also one evening in five during the year. They have also preached on the street in various places on Sunday after­noon, under the direction of the Y. M. C. A., and have entered into the life and work of the church. It is much to be hoped that the men who have had the two years' course of Biblical study may continue to be guided in this study at their several stations and be aided to make the Bible the theme in their preaching rather than to give lengthy and rambling exhortations.

It is proposed to graduate the present theological class before receiving another to the Seminary, partly because of the smallness of the corps of teachers and the pressing character of their other work, and partly because the men graduating meantime from the College will thus enter the Seminary with more of maturity and experience. The waiting will also give to both teachers and taught the added inspiration of larger numbers.

Bridgman School for Girls.

The last year has been marked by enlargement in all directions. Indeed, accommodations were so limited before that any addition to the number of students meant the need for more room in every department. Dormitory room was secured by appropriatin­g the vacated court of the day-school, now moved to other quarters. As the houses in this court were old and wholly un­suited to the new demands upon them, they were torn down and a row of dormitories erected in their place at the south end of the court. This leaves a large open space for a recreation ground and other purposes more spacious than any one of the three old courts. The dining-room was enlarged by tearing down the partition between that and an adjacent dormitory. The necessary tables and other furnishings were pleasantly furnished by an old temple, which had been lately purchased with private funds and reserved for the public good. The clay of which the gods were made was buried in the temple court, while their bones served as kindling wood for the weekly wash of the school for many months. The shrines and incense tables were ignominiously hauled out and
made into bureaus for the new dormitories and tables for the
dining-room, while the standards of the rows of smaller gods made
substantial washing-benches, and the boards at the back of the
large shrines made the partition of the clothes-room. The school-
room could be enlarged but slightly, and will need further attention
at an early day.

MEMBERSHIP.—The total number of pupils during the year has
been 71, with an average attendance of 55. For the most part the
new scholars have been more carefully selected than before, all the
scholars from other stations having had trial there before being
sent on to Peking. This last has been the first year in which all
the projected classes have been in existence and the first one in
which we can properly speak of a graduating class.

TEACHING FORCE.—The full number (8) of classes in the school,
many of them having from three to five recitations in the day,
involves an amount of class-room work which it would be impossible
to overtake were it not for the aid of the normal girls, who are
growing in efficiency and are a great help in bearing responsibility.
The loss of Miss Hinman makes it the more necessary that a new
teacher from home should be sent out as soon as possible. Mrs.
Wilder has given valuable help in the teaching of singing, in
connection with which the new sol-fa hymn-book has been a great
boon. Only one new book has been added to the old course of
study—Dr. Sheffield’s Mental Philosophy, for the senior class.

THE STUDENTS.—Two of the school, the leading girls of the
second class, have been removed during the year by death. One
wedding has taken place,—that of the head pupil Dorcas to the
young helper Li Pên-yuan. The religious life of the school has
been healthful and vigorous, with a steady growth in grace in
many. At the request of the girls, a half hour at the time of
morning prayers has been given them for private devotions. Such
girls as could hardly be expected to occupy a half hour profitably
in this way, left to themselves, have prayers together in the school-
room. The public prayers of the students show a broadening of
spiritual life and a widening of outlook in their interest, in their
country and in Christian work. Thirty-four of the pupils are
Church-members, and ten have been taken on probation. More would have joined on probation had opportunity been given.

**Self-support.**—Self-support in a girls' school obviously cannot be pushed very fast, especially where many of the parents are very poor. One step, however, has been taken in refusing to allow any girl to remain for the summer without paying for her board. The enforcing of this rule will probably make it possible for more families to find other places for their girls during the summer, a consummation devoutly to be wished. The average expense per pupil for the last year has been $13 gold.

**Press Report.**

The work of the Press has been carried on at a disadvantage during the past year, owing to the absence of the Superintendent in Tientsin during the greater part of the time. Mr. C. E. Ewing has had charge of the press-work in his place. Orders, however, have been all that the Press could attend to, and had the Tract Society issued its customary amount of literature the Press would have been unable to meet the demand. The work of that Society has been done by us throughout the year. The Chinese hymn-book prepared by Mr. Lees has also been stereotyped, and 6,000 copies have been printed on foreign paper. The Catechism and Trimetrical Classic have been stereotyped, and 10,000 copies of each printed. At the present time the Press has an order for 6,000 more copies of Mr. Lees' hymn-book, considerable orders from the Tract Society, besides various lines of Mission work, now waiting for fulfillment. Under the circumstances it is evident that if the Press is to be a useful part of the Mission agency, it must speedily be placed upon a more efficient basis.

**Report of the Committee on Education.**

The committee, after referring in detail to the Bridgman School, expresses its judgment that in each of the seven central stations there should be at least one well-equipped school, where the children of Christian parents should receive careful instruction in the five years' course of primary study fixed by the Mission.
"We would recommend that as rapidly as possible the grade of studies be advanced so as finally to cover the studies in the Mission academy at Tung-cho. The support of such schools should be thrown back upon the parents of the pupils as rapidly as circumstances will permit, and their ability to assume a good portion of such support ought to be made the condition of enjoying the privileges of such schools. We would seriously question the wisdom, in the present advanced stage of missionary work, of sustaining schools at Mission expense, composed largely of heathen pupils who pay little for their education, and, in experience, go back into heathen life, contributing little to the enlargement and strengthening of the Christian church.

Mr. Wilder passed an excellent examination in the course of Chinese study for the third full year. Of the missionaries who have come to the field during the last ten years, and have now been on the field at least three years and a half, only three have taken the full examinations, while nine, for various reasons, have left them uncompleted. Doubtless in each case there seemed to be good and sufficient reasons, but all members of the Mission should feel the urgency of a thorough equipment in the knowledge of the language for best efficiency in work. We trust that those who should have taken their examinations this spring, but have been hindered from doing so, will be able to subordinate other duties to that of pressing forward to the completion of the course of study which has been suggested by the wisdom and experience of the Mission."

D. Z. Sheffield.
Luella Miner.
A. H. Smith.

Report of Committee on Self-support.

The committee lay stress upon the need of carefully instructing the Chinese as to the Biblical conceptions of giving to the Lord. All seminary students, and all station classes, whether of men or of women, should be thus carefully instructed; attention being given to the history of the tithe, to specific examples of liberal giving, as
in the Books of Exodus and Chronicles, and especially to the 8th and 9th chapters of the Second Letter to the Corinthians.

Five affiliated Societies of Endeavor in our Mission have now contributed more than 900,000 cash, which they are purposing to invest in good land.

It has been suggested that the income should be used in supporting the principal of the P'ang-chuang Academy. In the future, as in the past, contributions from the members of each of these societies will be collected. In due time a similar investment will be made for the station having contributed the next largest sum, and so on. We do not approve of invested funds as a support for native pastors, but to its use for the advancement of education there can be no valid objection.

During the year material progress has been made in the Mission in the direction of self-support by the ordination in one station of two pastors, the whole of whose support is assumed by the church. Larger sums than before have been required from the patrons of station and village schools in several parts of the field. Self-supporting station classes for men have been begun in three stations, as well as in our Shansi Mission.

One of our stations has, by vote of the local Congregational Association, determined that in future all its village schools shall be wholly supported by their patrons. One station requires of its probationers, at the time when they are received, an explicit pledge to give of their substance as God has prospered them; the bamboo tallies for their contribution being formally presented to them on the Sunday of their reception as probationers. We find the Chinese extremely alive to every aspect of the need for greater self-help, and we are greatly encouraged by the unanimity and heartiness with which they take each forward step as the way is made clear. If there are parts of our wide field to which these observations do not altogether apply, we urge patience, sympathy, and loving perseverance in presenting the matter in all wise ways, sure of ultimate success.

Arthur H. Smith, Committee.

George D. Wilder.
Report of Committee on Medical Department of College.

The committee recommend the adoption of a four years' course of graded study. Inasmuch as it is impossible for this department to be located at any central point where all the medical men of the mission could be available as a teaching force, it is recommended that students desiring to enter upon such a course of study assemble at P'ang-chuang on the 1st of the tenth moon. Eight months of study are to constitute a year. Students to provide a sum of money to cover cost of their board, estimated at 25,000 cash for the school year, to be paid in advance. Students to provide their own bedding and text-books and meet all other personal expenses, except food. Requirements for matriculation will be in general a diploma from Tung-cho College and recommendation from members of the station from which they come. Recommendation of candidates, when educational qualifications do not come up to the standard, to be passed upon by the managing committee of the medical department.

It is proposed that the instruction be class-room work, with attendance on a semi-weekly clinic.

A. P. Peck.
H. D. Porter.
E. R. Wagner.
J. H. Ingram.

Compiled by Mrs. D. Z. Sheffield.

Tientsin.

For more than a year the woman's work of Tientsin was cared for by a relief corps; first Miss Chapin and then Miss Hinman coming from Peking to give help in the girls' boarding-school. Miss Hinman remained until the close of the school-year in June, 1897. The result of the two days' examination held at close of the term reflected credit on both pupils and teacher. In May, four of the girls were admitted to the church and five were received on probation. A few who could not return home for the summer were encouraged to try and see what little hands could do for self-support, and succeeded in earning their food, while the lady in charge thought she had earned hers twice over.

In June, Miss Stanley returned from the United States barely recovered from the serious injury she had sustained while there. In July she was married, and after three weeks at the sea-side took up once more her loved work. Mrs. Stanley has been able to do regular work among the girls, besides having two classes in the boys' school. The coming of teacher Ch'üan to take charge of the girls' school has been a great help, bringing as he does a thorough knowledge of school-work and aptness as a teacher, while he and his wife have been ready to volunteer a helping hand in other lines of work. The average number of pupils has been twenty-five, with several applicants awaiting the new school year. Three pupils left during the year to be married. In their new homes they have favorably impressed their neighbors, who seem to take pride in so much culture and polish coming to their humble villages.

The general health of the school has been good, though two cases of illness were severe enough to be sent to the Methodist hospital. The fact that this hospital is available makes it easy to
check the spread of contagious diseases, and the quiet of the wards and the good care received hasten the recovery of the sick ones. That which gives us greatest pleasure to report is the growth of the oldest girls in Christian character and the effect of their influence upon the younger pupils. Each dormitory has had its evening prayer-meeting, while on Wednesday and Sundays general meetings have been held for all. During the week of prayer union meetings for women and girls were held, at which our girls took part modestly and acceptably. Some of them assist by teaching in both Sunday-school and day-school.

Besides the Christian and native books of the regular course of study, there have been classes in written and mental arithmetic, geography, physical geography and physiology, and also exercises in essay-writing.

**Woman's Work at the Station.**—Want of time and strength and suitable place have prevented undertaking station-class work for women. The Christian women have shown real advance in spiritual life, and have exerted an excellent influence upon those outside. The wife of helper Chang Yen-tséng was last year brought into the church, and we hoped for help from her, but this year she has returned to their distant home, leaving no woman at the city premises to help in doing needed work. The great lack is some agency like medical work to help in opening up the fast-closed doors of city homes. The women and girls have given regular contributions, but these have not been kept separate.

**Out-station Work.**—The out-station of Hu-chia-ying has given special cause for rejoicing. The wife of the helper at that place has not by her life in the past recommended Christianity to others, and many prayers have been offered for her. Those prayers have been answered. She was led to a public confession of sin, and a great change was wrought in her. Later she came to Tientsin, and at our prayer-meeting told of the blessing which she had received, and of her work for a band of women whom she was leading to Jesus. It has been impossible with our present force for us to make any visits to out-stations this past year. Tientsin cries for relief of its great necessities. It is hoped that the blessed spies who
have come to our midst may prove faithful Calebs and carry back a true report of the resources and needs of this promised land.

**Peking.**

The coming of Mrs. Wilder has been a great help to woman's work. She has had care of the south-chapel day-school, the primary Sunday-school, and the work of a Bible-woman, and also assisted in the weekly prayer-meeting. Mrs. Ewing has helped at all points, arranging leaders for prayer-meetings and mothers'-meetings, having care of the memorial school, and for several months keeping up two kindergartens. She has made one trip to the country.

*Bible-women.*—Three Bible-women were employed until Chinese New Year, when one was dropped. The ladies have not been able to give this line of effort the direct oversight, without which untrained Bible-women cannot work efficiently. Several new women have, through them, been drawn to the north chapel service, and a few new doors have been opened. Two women have given some months to country work, and some time in the dispensary.

**Touring.**—Miss Russell has given nearly all of her time to country work, touring in villages about the five country stations. Eighty-two visits have been made in fifty-two villages, twelve of which were visited for the first time. At one new place six persons came six miles to hear the new doctrine. In one new village an old woman was visited, who for thirty years had risen every night to repeat for two hours her prayers to the Goddess of Mercy. She had failed to find the peace she sought, and wanted instruction as to how to worship the true God. At a third new village nine have been taken on probation. In one well-to-do family were two unmarried women, the one fifty-three, the other thirty-three years old, who had read the Chinese classics and were bright, interesting women. They entered a station class, and have since, with another sister, been taken on probation.

**Station Classes.**—During the year three station classes have been taught, one at Cho-chou, of twenty members; one at Shun-i-hsien, of nineteen; one at Nan-meng, of twenty. Of this fifty-nine,
ten were new women who had had no previous instruction. One woman on her return home was greatly persecuted by her father, but held steadfast to her new faith. One woman came thirty-five miles at her own expense to attend the class.

**Day-schools.**—The day-school in the compound has been taught by the wife of Deacon Wan under the supervision of Mrs. Wilder, and also a primary Sunday-school, in which she was assisted by two of the Bridgman school-girls. The examination at Chinese New Year showed careful work in both Christian and Chinese books. The youngest children had learned to combine characters into sentences, thus learning the meaning and use of the characters. The regular attendance at the day-school has been fifteen, and at the Sunday-school twenty. The Emily Ament memorial school was closed for a time in order to make a change of teachers. The two kindergartens were kept open until Christmas. The attendance was good, and the children made progress in their study and conduct, giving proofs of the value of this kind of tuition.

The report of the Bridgman School is given separately with the general Mission report.

**Kal'gan.**

The report of which the following is an abstract was prepared by Miss Williams, who was taken ill with typhus fever during the absence of the other members of the station at the Annual Meeting, and died three days after her father's return.

**Girls' Boarding-school.**—The whole number of pupils enrolled this year is twenty, though three were present but part of the year. One of these married a former student of Tung-cho College. She was in the school nine years, and was the first pupil to unbind her feet. While not very bright as a pupil she is a reliable Christian, and is now teaching a few little girls of the village. It is a little country village where a Chinese woman with natural feet was never before seen, and she has to suffer from the curiosity of the neighbors. Thirteen of those now in the school have unbound feet. The older students show decided growth, especially in Bible knowledge. The spirit of the school has been excellent, the three lead-
ing girls being Christians and having a strong influence over the others. The health of the school has been good. Outsiders remark, "How fat these scholars look," as great a compliment here as in Dahomey. Mrs. Sprague has taught some in the Chinese character, and has charge of the younger girls' sewing hour. The present teacher will probably soon go to an out-station as preacher, making it necessary to supply his place the coming year. We hope to send away the larger part of the scholars for the vacation, although the long distance to their homes or extreme poverty makes it difficult to do so in many cases.

_Bible-women._—Three Bible-women have done work at three centres—Mrs. Yen at Kalgan, Mrs. Yü at Ch'ing-k'ê-ta, and Mrs. Chao at Yü-chou. Two thousand nine hundred and seventy families have been visited by them. Mrs. Yen was absent from her work for part of the year. Mrs. Yü, although aged and feeble in health, is quite useful. She has three great grand-daughters in school. Mrs. Chao came from Yü-chou to the Ch'ing-k'ê-ta conference and aided much in the success of the meetings. She carries on her work in the city of Yü-chou as before, also visits the village of Li-p'u-sa monthly, where she is helping several inquirers to prepare for baptism. During the week of prayer several women were under special instruction by the Bible-woman. Mrs. Larson, of the Alliance Mission, has given valuable help in holding a Bible-class for the women of the church.

_Tours._—The conference at Ch'ing-k'ê-ta was attended by Miss Williams and Mrs. Sprague, where friends, old and new, were met among the crowds of women who attended the meetings. Two of Miss Diament's former pupils attended all the week. Miss Williams spent two weeks in Yü-chou during October, accompanied by the former Bible-woman, Mrs. Feng, as far as her home at Shui-chüan. While in Yü-chou many of the women of the city visited the missionary, and both heathen and Christian were taught by her. Family circumstances retained Mrs. Feng permanently at her home, and she has gathered a school of girls, which now numbers eleven, and is well taught and cared for. In April a tour was made by Miss Williams with the school-matron and one of the girls to Tso-
wei, a walled town fifty li from Kalgan. This girl's father had sold his family during the famine, and they had never met since. She had learned that her sister was living in Tso-wei, and after much searching succeeded in finding her. The whole town was moved by the meeting of the sisters after their long separation. The school-girl was very anxious to convert her sister, and labored faithfully while with her.

The closing words of the report seem to be Miss Williams' last message to the home churches: "We have more opportunities than we know what to do with. We have good helpers, but they need more oversight. May God, whose work it is, soon fill the treasuries, send more workers, and above all send His Spirit abundantly on us who are in the field."

**Tung-ch'ao.**

*Workers.*—All of the ladies of the station have had some share in the work for women during the year. Miss Andrews and Miss Miner divide their time between teaching in theological seminary or college and woman's work. Miss Evans and Mrs. Sheffield give much time to college work, but assist in meetings, day-schools, and village work, as do also Mrs. Tewksbury and Mrs. Kingman, although the two latter can give but limited time from the care of their little ones. Mrs. Goodrich has had charge of the boarding-school of thirty boys, has taught the large Bible-class of Christian women, and led occasional meetings. Mrs. Ingram has used her valuable experience as trained nurse in the hospital and dispensary. Mrs. Wilder, who went to Peking, and Miss Chapin, who went to America, have been greatly missed from their places in the station work.

*Bible-women.*—Mrs. Chao and Mrs. Ch'ên are the two Bible-women in the station, women of undisputed Christian character, kind in heart, and who know how to tell well the story of the Saviour. During the year they have made one thousand and eighty-six visits into one hundred and sixty-four homes, in which one hundred and seventy-nine women and girls have been taught. Mrs. Kao, of Fu-hê, has done voluntary work among the women of her village.
The Woman's Christian Association.—The Association, although losing its president through the departure of Miss Chapin, has carried on its work through its efficient committees. The children's committee, wholly native, has kept up the Sabbath meetings of the Junior C. E. Society. The Reception Committee, also native, has given welcome to outside women attending Sabbath services, serving tea at the noon hour and conversing with each person about the truth. The Prayer-meeting Committee has furnished leaders for the Friday meetings; two of these each month are prayer-meetings, one a mother's meeting, and one a missionary meeting, with a tea-meeting on an occasional fifth Friday. The Look-out Committee has carried on meetings and Sunday-schools in two neighborhoods, and occasionally in Christian homes. The Hospital Committee has this year done all the work of talking to patients in the dispensary and hospital wards. Thus the work of the Association has accomplished a large amount of gratuitous service for the Master, developing the workers and bringing a blessing to those for whom they labor.

Station Classes.—Owing to the absence of Miss Chapin only two station classes have been held. One in September was held for Bible-women and school-teachers, in which Miss Hinman gave valuable assistance. Along with daily Bible lessons evidences of Christianity, arithmetic and physical geography were studied, and talks on physiology were given. The second class was in November, and was made up largely of women from the country, of whom several have entered the church. A small class was gathered at the week of prayer. The first and third classes were mostly self-supporting.

Village Work and Touring.—One hundred and twenty-eight visits have been made in nineteen villages. Miss Andrews has given much time to village work. Miss Evans has made several visits. Miss Chapin spent four weeks in June at Yung-lé-tien, visiting the neighboring villages. In the autumn, Dr. and Mrs. Ingram made a tour to Ping-ku Hsien, accompanied by Miss Chapin, where medical and evangelistic work were combined. The villages near the college have been visited somewhat by the ladies living there. One of them, Miss Miner, visits regularly, and has there the
Beginnings of a little school. Many women from city and village visit the college from curiosity, and it is hoped that a special place may soon be prepared for encouraging such visits, and through them developing a work for women in the villages.

**Day schools.**—Seven day-schools are in successful operation, four in the city and three in the country. Miss Andrews has charge of those at the West Gate, at Fu-hê, and at Tung-pa. Miss Miner has charge of the North Street and South Gate schools. Mrs. Tewksbury visited the Western Sea school until Chinese New Year, since which time Miss Andrews has cared for it. Mrs. Sheffield has visited the school at Ssû-hsin-chuang. Each of these schools is taught by a capable Chinese young woman in the Bible and Chinese classical books, also in elementary arithmetic and geography; in one school physiology is also taught. Once a week the lady in charge visits the school, reviewing all lessons and conducting the Bible review so as to make it instructive to the women who gather in the school-room at the time. Special mention should be made of the new school at Tung-pa, which has prospered from the beginning. The teacher has reduced the wild village children to order, and they have made rapid progress. Partly through this school a new interest in the truth has developed in this village, and nine were recently taken on probation. The number of pupils in these seven schools is ninety.

**Foot-binding.**—The battle against foot-binding has been fought and practically won by the Tung-cho church. There are ninety-five women and girls with unbound feet, thirty married women and sixty-five girls.

The special points of promise in the woman's work of the station are the growth in willingness and ability of the Christian women to work for others and the new interest awakened in the villages about Tung-cho.

**Pao-ting Fu.**

**Workers.**—The ladies engaged in woman's work have been: Miss Gould, Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Ewing. Mrs. Pitkin, newly arrived, is preparing herself for a future share in the same labour.
The departure of Miss Morrill left a heavy burden upon Miss Gould, who "felt like a young fledgling pushed out of its nest before it had learned to fly." Mrs. Noble took up the work of visiting the dispensary waiting-room until her own departure in September for America.

**Bible-women.**—The work of two Bible-women is reported. Mrs. Kao does regular teaching in ten homes in the city. Miss Gould meets several of those taught at Mrs. Kao's home for a weekly review. Mrs. Chang, who lives in the west suburb, not only visits that quarter, but carries her visits from the south suburb to the north corner of the city. Regardless of heat, cold or rain she goes daily to homes one or two miles away. Besides these regular Bible-women not a few church members have voluntarily carried the gospel to their heathen neighbors and invited them to the Sabbath meetings.

**Station Classes.**—In September a ten days' class was held for teachers and Bible-women. Christian Evidences and the Life of Christ were studied. In November a six weeks' class was held for the country women, Mrs. Kao being the teacher. The total number taught was twenty-two. Nearly all were Christians or earnest inquirers. Miss Gould gave four Bible lessons a week and conducted weekly reviews of their studies.

**Boarding-school.**—The total number of pupils has been twenty-three. The advanced class, besides the Chinese books, has studied Old Testament History in the reign of Solomon, higher arithmetic and physiology. All of the older girls have united with the church, and three younger ones have been taken on probation. In November Mrs. Ewing organized the Christian Endeavor Society. The older girls have assisted in teaching the women at the Sunday noon hour, and in company with an old woman some have gone out Sunday afternoon for teaching in homes near by. Special attention has been given to cultivating the habit of private Bible study. Mrs. Ewing has continued her sewing class, and the school has organized a sewing society, working an hour a week to earn something towards self-support.

**Day-schools.**—Last spring the south suburb school was full, with thirty-two pupils; several applicants were turned away. A
school was started at Chih-fang-t'ou, a village near the mission, for
the children of church members. During the winter the two schools
were united, and in all as many as seventy pupils have been taught,
though only half of the number have been regular in attendance.
The west suburb school has ten now in attendance. For two
months of the summer one of the school-girls taught a school of
eight pupils at Ma-huang-t'ou, from which two entered the boarding-
school.

_Tours._—In June, Miss Gould and Helper Mêng Chi- tsêng went
on a twelve days' trip, visiting six out-stations. They were well
received everywhere. In October the two Bible-women were sent
to Chi-chê, and six women became hopeful inquirers.

The woman's missionary society has contributed 13,000
cash during the year.

_P'ang-chuang._

_Workers._—The return of Mrs. Peck and the Misses Wyckoff
to America left only Mrs. and Miss Porter at the station at the
beginning of the mission year. The absent ones are abundant in
their labors for missions in the home land. In November Mrs.
Smith was welcomed back to her old place and work, bringing new
power and inspiration.

_Native Agency._—The native assistants available for woman's
work have been fewer than before; the most efficient being too
young to go about alone, and the older women being detained at
home through illness and other causes. Mrs. Hu has not the
position of Bible-woman, and is only furnished with her food when
giving her full time to teaching, but she has done faithful work to
the limit of her capacity. Mrs. Ma has given her entire time to the
hospital and dispensary.

_Girls' School._—In the absence of Miss Grace Wyckoff the care
of the school passed to Miss Porter, but with so many demands of
the wide field upon her, more responsibility was thrown upon the
native teacher, who was furnished with an assistant. Both have
proved worthy of their trust, and the older students have shown
their loyalty to their absent teacher in striving to keep up her
standards in the school, thus greatly lightening the burden of the one in charge. The examination at the New Year showed excellent class-work, but some falling off in memorizing recitations. The matron has carried cheerfully her many cares, and has added the weight of her example in unbinding her feet, so now the whole household has natural feet. There have been a few cases of severe illness in the school. The number continues to be thirty boarders and two day scholars. The change from the cramped quarters of the old school-house to the roomy new one has been appreciated by all. After the New Year Mrs. Smith organized Christian Endeavor Societies, senior and junior, among the girls. On Fridays she gives them an hour of normal training in preparation for the Sunday-school for village children, in which several of them are her assistants. The large picture of Marie Smith, placed in the school-room on her birthday, gives vividness to the tender memory of her, which is an inspiration and help to the students.

Station Classes.—Owing to the reduced force the classes which have been held at the out-stations in recent years have been given up this year, leaving many needy ones untaught. Nine classes have been gathered at P'ang-chuang, in which one hundred and fifty-four women have been taught for periods of ten to twenty days. Nine women and girls have acted as teachers in some classes and pupils in others, while Mr. Chou has taught the more advanced pupils in each class. One new feature is a training class to prepare some of the most advanced women to help others. This was held during July and August, the new school dormitories furnishing comfortable quarters during those hot weeks. The gentlemen of the station each gave a course of lectures to them. This class proved to be eager learners and made great progress in their studies. Each pupil was in turn made the teacher of some one else. Its effect has been manifest in the help they have given in recent classes. Another new feature was that of inviting a circle of well-to-do women to come and provide their own food for the time in which they were under instruction. Ten responded to this invitation, and it is hoped that self-supporting classes will multiply in the future. Each class gathered is like and yet unlike all the others.
Great docility and contentment have prevailed, and not only knowledge of the truth has increased, but growth in habitual prayer, while lessons learned from the Holy Spirit have been manifest in their lives.

**Village Meetings.**—These have been kept up as far as practicable with reduced force, and while semi-monthly visits have been changed to monthly, and monthly to quarterly, no village has been dropped from the list, and regular meetings have been started in two and revived in two other hamlets. Mrs. Porter has watched over the circle nearest П'янь-чэуань, Miss Porter and Mrs. Smith carrying on the work in more distant places. There have been twenty-three regular appointments, and twenty-three other places have had occasional visits. While the work in some places has manifestly suffered, in others the women have diligently striven to supply the lack of service, and have grown thereby themselves.

**Hospital Work.**—Mrs. Ma, the hospital matron, has received a personal blessing, and has since done much more effective work. During the spring, the throng of patients was far more than she could teach and wait upon. The women and girls in station classes joyfully assisted her. Many patients have learned to pray, and many returned home full of joy in their new faith.

**Contributions.**—The women have this past year been encouraged to turn their contributions towards the support of the two newly-ordained pastors. To this they have responded well, and the sum passed to the church treasury was 64,000 cash. Two special gifts are mentioned in addition to this, one of 50,000 cash from a well-to-do woman to purchase a chapel in her own village, and one of 6,000 cash, which was brought in at a time when special prayer was being made for funds to send someone to a distant point to teach the women. The giver gladly designated this sum for that use. Since the return of Mrs. Smith, special efforts have been made to reach the people of П'янь-чэуань itself, and especially to bring back some church-members who had fallen away. At Chinese New Year, an all-day reception was held for village women in the chapel, and a prettily mounted scroll with a text of Scripture was given to each one who came; the lesson of
the text was explained by Mrs. Smith. During New Year's holiday two temporary day-schools were held, one for boys and one for girls, which had a good influence in withholding them from the temptations of that period.

**Lin-ch'ing.**

The work for women this year has been entirely confined to Lin-ch'ing itself; the missionary ladies being unable to leave home for country work, and the one Bible-woman having so much to do at the station that it seemed best not to send her away. The families of a number of village church-members should be under instruction. The Chinese Christians have almost ceased to pray for the long desired single lady to do this work, but with the growth of work at the station, and the needs of the villages about us, it is again urged that an unmarried lady soon be found for this station.

**Bible-women.**—The Bible-woman, Mrs. Chang, has given her whole time to teaching women, having been released from school-work for that purpose. During July and August she attended the P'ang-chuang normal class, from which she returned with new zeal, better fitted for her work, which she has carried on faithfully through the year. The whole number under instruction is not given, but twenty-five have been very faithful in study, Mrs. Wagner giving them a weekly review. Some are well advanced, reading in the gospels and epistles. One home visited is that of the Christian young widow recently remarried into a heathen home, who has persuaded the family to give up their idols; the Bible-woman is made welcome there. Mrs. Chang spends an hour a day with Mrs. Wagner and a Chinese teacher in continuing her own studies. Mrs. Chou, the mother of the medical helper, has given voluntary work in the dispensary, talking with women patients, also helping faithfully during the fourth-month fair, when crowds of women visited the chapel.

**Women's Meetings.**—The women of the Church have been given a more active part in the weekly prayer-meetings, taking turns in leading under Mrs. Wagner's directions. On Sunday there is a Bible-class, combining all ages and grades of women. After Sunday
School comes the reviewing of Scripture lessons prepared during the week.

*Girls' Day-school.*—The fall term opened in October and continued twelve and a half weeks. The attendance was excellent. After Chinese New Year an old gentleman, of high reputation, was secured as teacher, and the pupils show improvement under his teaching. Four hours are given each day to study and one to sewing. Arrangements have been made for receiving the older girls into the P'ang-chuang boarding-school, thus making it possible for them to continue their studies when they can no longer attend the day-school.
Medical Report of the North-China Mission of the A. B. C. F. M. for 1896-1897

The compilation of this report is unavoidably incomplete, as several reports have not been sent in. Also, in a summary of this character much of interest is of necessity left out. It is hoped, however, with the material at hand enough has been noted to show the character and importance of the work accomplished.

For the Mission,

W. C. Noble, M.D.

Tientsin.

Dr. A. L. Shapleigh.

Dr. Shapleigh arrived in September, 1896, and his report covers a period of seven months.

There being no established hospital Dr. Shapleigh’s work has consisted of visits to patients at their homes and of seeing patients at a temporary dispensary fitted up in his own residence. The only statistics at hand show some five hundred prescriptions filled during the seven months. No report of his work for the year ending May 1st, 1898, has been received, due to his retirement from the work.

Peking.

Dr. V. C. Murdock.

In 1895 dispensing was done at three dispensaries; two of them in the city and one at an out-station.

In 1896 two more dispensaries were opened at out-stations, each about a day’s journey from Peking. Dr. Murdock was enabled to so arrange her time, that is, was possible to care for these outlying centres without interfering with the city dispensing; on the contrary, there has been a growth in the work. The premises secured several years ago in the city for hospital and dispensary, on
account of their retired location, have not proved suitable for medical work; hence the work has been confined principally to out-patient treatments at the various dispensaries. This work appears to have been especially helpful in bringing many women under Christian influences. Bible women have found abundant opportunities to teach in the waiting rooms, and Dr. Murdock, notwithstanding the amount of work entailed by the examination of patients and the filling of prescriptions, has also given much time and strength in this direction. Several conversions are reported, and others are noted as under conviction of sin. Classes for Bible study were formed at several of the out-station dispensaries, and much interest is noted in connection with them.

Many visits have been made to the homes of patients, but no record has been kept.

Statistics.

| Number of dispensaries | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| visits to out-station dispensaries | ... | 40 |
| patients seen at dispensaries | ... | 8,550 |
| prescriptions filled | ... | 11,400 |

Tung-cho.

Dr. J. H. Ingram.

Dr. Ingram reports several serious cases of illness as having occurred among the members of the station during the two years covered by this report. Mrs. Tewksbury, Miss Andrews, Mrs. G. D. Wilder, Mrs. Goodrich and Mr. Kingman were all quite ill, but the good hand of God brought them all back to their usual health. In 1896 some fifteen students of the college were examined for eye troubles; the greater part of them were suffering from serious errors of refraction. In the majority of cases these errors of refraction were such as are brought on by studying or using the eyes in improperly lighted rooms.

During this year the dispensary and hospital were opened during eight and a half months. The number of dispensary patients has been greater than any previous year during the history
of the station. There has been a falling off in the number of in-patients, owing in great part to the coldness of the wards during the winter months. The custom of charging for certain drugs, and for the treatment of certain diseases, has been instituted and has been found to more than meet the expectations of Dr. Ingram.

Fortnightly visits to some of the out-stations have been made by several of the assistants, and good results are reported. Two medical students have been under instruction during the year. The assistants have alternated in preaching to the men in the men’s waiting room before the dispensing hour. Morning and evening prayers have been conducted in the wards, and several of the patients have made public their determination to live a Christian life. A Bible woman has instructed the women in the women’s waiting room, and Miss Andrews has frequently visited the women’s ward.

In 1897 owing to the severe cut in appropriations Dr. Ingram has tried several plans in order to see how repairs might be made on the hospital buildings, procure fuel and purchase the year's supply of drugs. The plan of reducing the number of dispensing days was first tried, opening only on the even days according to the Chinese month. Not finding this plan wholly satisfactory it was next tried charging each patient ten cash for each treatment. This plan, while having many good points, was found to seriously reduce the number of patients, but those who came received better treatment, as more time could be given to the examination of their ailments, and opportunity was afforded to become better acquainted with each patient and to help them spiritually. The small charge for each treatment has yielded the hospital about $6.00 (Gold) per month.

The building of the railway between Tientsin and Peking has caused a general stagnation in all lines of trade. The river has been what Tung-cho has depended on for its very existence; its sixty or seventy thousand inhabitants have been engaged in handling freight or in providing for the comfort of travelers. But now all passenger and most of the freight traffic is done by rail, leaving this city and its residents absolutely dazed, amazed and hungry.
Statistics.

1896. First treatments, male ... ... 2,120

" " female ... ... 871

Subsequent treatments, male ... ... 9,102

" " female ... ... 4,331

Cases seen by helpers ... ... ... 982

Total treatments... 14,415

Operations performed ... ... ... 53

Number of in-patients ... ... ... 32

1897. First treatments, male ... ... 1,828

" " female... ... 675

Subsequent treatments, male ... ... 8,528

" " female ... ... 3,595

Cases seen by helpers ... ... ... 1,695

Total treatments... 13,818

Number of operations performed ... ... 85

" " in-patients ... ... ... 79

Kalgan.

Dr. F. A. Waples.

The first thought that claims attention in the report from Kalgan is that of the death of Mrs. Williams. Her efficient command of the Chinese language, her complete devotion to her work, her bright interest in all enterprises and her endless generosity are so well known that we hope the loss and weakness now felt at Kalgan will prove an effective plea for some young, new hand to keep and carry on the work so self-sacrificingly established.

The dispensary work has been carried on daily with rare interruptions. The attendance, although not large, is good, and the totals steadily grow. In common with the other physicians of the mission Dr. Waples has keenly felt the lack of funds for the
carrying on of his work. From various sources sufficient funds were secured for the erection of a small hospital, and Dr. Waples considers it the cleanest and brightest in North-China, and hopes never to see it otherwise. It was dedicated on December 16th, and on that day its first two occupants were received into the church as probationers, a happy augury for its future usefulness. As there were no funds for supporting the hospital all in-patients have been charged a small fee. This plan has seemed to work well, and a balance of Taels 10.22 was reported at the last settlement.

All employés are earnest Christians, and the atmosphere of the place is decidedly evangelistic.

Statistics.

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<th>1896</th>
<th>Total cases</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Number of operations</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pao-ting Fu.

Dr. W. C. Noble.

The report from Pao-ting Fu shows the usual routine of hospital and dispensary work.

The presence of the Great Physician has been so manifest that much which otherwise would have been unendurable drudgery has been lifted into loving service in His name.

Regular preaching has been done in the waiting rooms, and morning prayers have been conducted in the hospital wards.

The medical assistants are growing in evangelistic zeal, and show hearts in the right place. In connection with the recently organized Young Men's Christian Association they take their turn in street chapel preaching and village work.

It is a pleasure to note the interest they have shown in teaching the in-patients, and four hopeful conversions are reported from these efforts. The building of another missionary residence has made it possible to remove the hospital to the suburb, and now after many years of waiting we are domiciled in our own premises with convenient wards and a large, bright and airy dispensing room. We lack, however, an operating room, the funds for which
we hope the Board will soon be able to grant. Some advance has been made toward making the work self-sustaining. A fee is required for all visits made, and we also charge a small sum for treating certain diseases at the dispensary. As yet we have not required regular fees from our in-patients, but we explain the character of our work to them and urge upon them, as far as practicable, our desire to make the hospital self-sustaining. We have been agreeably surprised at the readiness with which these appeals have been met during these two years.

Statistics.

1896.  
First treatments, male and female ... 3,425
Total treatments ... 10,772
Number of operations ... ... ... 305
" " in-patients ... ... ... 100

1897.  
First treatments, male ... ... ... 2,098
" " female... ... ... 881
Subsequent treatments, male ... ... 6,035
" " female... ... 2,774

Total treatments ... 11,788
Number of operations ... ... ... 351
" " in-patients ... ... ... 112

P'ang-chia-chuang.

Dr. A. P. Peck.

An encouraging feature at P'ang-chia-chuang is the proposed change in the hospital buildings made possible by the bequest from the Tank estate. The old adobe buildings are to be replaced by substantial brick structures, one of them a new operating room.

The location of this hospital, in a small country village where other accommodations are lacking, brings a very large in-patient class to the hospital. Four hundred and thirty-eight (438) in-patients are reported for the year. Evangelistic work among these has been constant throughout the year (1896).
A special feature of the year's work has been again itinerating by the hospital assistants; two members of the staff at a time have been thus employed, and with the determination of time and place arranged by the Congregational Association of the station a better systemization of the work has been made possible. The question of securing a partial support of the work from the patients is constantly borne in mind, and efforts are being made to increase the amount of voluntary contributions from this source. Among the notes on cases Dr. Peck reports "a very interesting and remarkable instance of the dwarfing power of nicotine. A stunted and undeveloped girl of seventeen, who looked about half that age, had acquired in infancy a taste for the oil from tobacco pipes; the morbid craving has grown so that she cannot see a pipe without scraping out and eating the contents of the bottom of the bowl. She will eat the leaf if she cannot get anything stronger. Her dwarfed condition may not be due to this habit, but it seems likely that it is."

It is to be regretted that the very interesting report of this large and important hospital for 1897, although submitted at the recent annual meeting of the Mission, has not come into the compiler's hands.

**Statistics for 1896.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treatments</td>
<td>12,241</td>
<td>8,442</td>
<td>20,683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of surgical operations</td>
<td>1,367</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in-patients, male</td>
<td>333</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in-patients, female</td>
<td>98</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average number of days in hospital, male</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average number of days in hospital, female</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Linzhing.**

**Dr. E. R. Wagner.**

Dr. Wagner's long cherished plan of finding accommodations for the dispensary and hospital in buildings adjoining the rest of the work of the station, has at last become an accomplished fact.
The buildings erected are only temporarily for dispensary and hospital use, as they are built on land which has been set apart for a third dwelling house. The location and style of the buildings is such that they will be suitable for out-buildings connected with this house. The dispensary and hospital work is steadily growing in the number of treatments and of surgical operations. In 1896 there was an increase of $28\%$ over the number of treatments reported in 1895. The number of treatments reported for 1897 also shows an increase over 1896. The severe and long continued illness of Dr. Wagner's infant son in the spring of 1897, necessitated the taking of his family to Pei-tai-ho in July, where the bracing and invigorating sea breezes did much toward giving renewed health and strength. During this interval Mr. Perkins attended to the dispensary as well as to the entire evangelistic work of the station. While thus engaged an attack of dysentery was of so serious a character that Dr. Peck left his work at P'ang-chia-chuang for a week to render assistance.

There appears to be much friction between the Roman Catholics and their heathen neighbors in this region, and last year a mob of several hundred attacked their chapel, looted their homes and drove them out at a village sixteen miles west of Lin-ching. They numbered some twenty families. During this attack three men were killed and many others were severely wounded and were brought to the hospital for treatment. Since then many rumors have been afloat, seemingly having their origin in the reported kidnapping of children at Tientsin and elsewhere. The medical assistants, two in number, have been earnest in zeal and full of good works in their relations to the patients. The force of assistants is wholly inadequate to the needs of the work, and it is hoped others may be secured.

**Statistics.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Treatments, Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total Treatments</th>
<th>Surgical Operations</th>
<th>In-patients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>2,057</td>
<td>921</td>
<td>2,978</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,057</td>
<td>921</td>
<td>9,463</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1897. First treatments, male ... ... ... 2,497
  , , female ... ... ... 648
  , , Total treatments... ... 9,789
Number of surgical operations ... ... ... 281
  , , in-patients ... ... ... 246
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Station, Town or village</th>
<th>When established</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Annual Salaries</th>
<th>Position of Field</th>
<th>Total Native Helpers</th>
<th>Total Out-stations</th>
<th>Total 51 Out-Stations</th>
<th>Graduates (Churchmen)</th>
<th>Total Students</th>
<th>Total Native Contributions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>7 Stations.</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals, 51 Out-stations</strong></td>
<td>1880</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ka...</td>
<td>1868</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lin-ching</td>
<td>1886</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P'ang-chung</td>
<td>1888</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pao-ching</td>
<td>1879</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Peking</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tientsh</td>
<td>1891</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T'ung-chung</td>
<td>1867</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 2 Churches not considered fully organized, but they cannot be counted as Out-stations.
+ 10 for Evangelists, 5 years course; 10 for the ministry.
2 Students in North-China College.
§ Including Station Classes.

**TABLE OF STATISTICS for the Year ending Dec. 31, 1897**

**North China Mission.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MISSIONARIES.</th>
<th>NATIVE HELPERS.</th>
<th>CHURCH STATISTICS.</th>
<th>EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS.</th>
<th>NATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHAUNCEY GOODRICH,

Secretary.