MISSIONS

STATION REPORTS

KIANG-AN MISSION

Presbyterian Church in U. S. A.

1905-1906

"THIS IS THE GREAT AND HIGHEST WORK OF GOD—
TO SAVE MANKIND."

(Clement of Alexandria.)
THE KIANG-AN MISSION

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN U.S.A.

1905—1906

STATION REPORTS

I. NANKING STATION

II. HWAI-YUEN STATION

SHANGHAI:
Printed at the American Presbyterian Mission Press
1906
Nanking Station.

Report for the Year 1905-1906.

PERSONNEL OF STATION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Arrived</th>
<th>By Whom Supported</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. Chas. Leaman</td>
<td>1874</td>
<td>Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Lucy A. Leaman</td>
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<td>Rev. W. J. Drummond</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>Y. P. S. C. E., Jersey City, Morris and</td>
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<td>Mrs. W. J. Drummond</td>
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<td>Newton Presbyterian Society.</td>
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<td>Rev. J. C. Garritt, D.D.</td>
<td>1889</td>
<td>Metropolitan Ch., Washington, D.C.</td>
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<td>Miss Ellen E. Dresser</td>
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<td>Saginaw Presbyterian Society.</td>
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<td>Rev. John E. Williams</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>West End Presby. Church, N. Y. City.</td>
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<td>Mrs. John E. Williams</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>First Church, Westchester, Pa.</td>
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<td>Miss Mary A. Leaman</td>
<td>1901</td>
<td>West Church, St. Louis.</td>
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<td>Rev. J. R. Jones</td>
<td>1903</td>
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<td>Mrs. J. R. Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss J. A. Hyde</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Women's Societies of New Jersey.</td>
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Out-Station.—Tong-zing, Shuen-hua-jen, Sing-dien, Lih-shui, Tien-wang-si.

Preaching Places in City.—First Church, Han-si-men; Grace Church, Hu-bu-giai. Street Chapels: Fu-dong, Yien-liao-fang, Shwan-tang, Ban-bien-ying.

Boarding-school teachers, five; day-school teachers, four; lay helpers, three.

The thirtieth year in the history of the Nanking Station has been full of keen anxieties; fuller still of blessings and mercies. We began it with many forebodings because of our weakened forces. The Leaman family and Mrs. Abbey, absent on furlough, and Miss Lyon, who had become very helpful to us, transferred to Hangchow, meant heavy burdens for some of our number. But as we look back over the year we realize that a mighty Helper has been with each of us. He has helped us over all the hard places and to Him we would offer all praise.

It was a happy day when we returned from Mission meeting last October, bringing with us our three new members, Mr. and Mrs. Jones and Miss Hyde. Long hoped for, long waited for, it was indeed a pleasure to welcome them to our circle, and out of the vastness of our stores of Chinese learning to assist them with their first phrases. As they settled their new homes the sight of their fresh new furniture was like a whiff from the home land and gave us all much good cheer. They have given
themselves to the study of the language with great enthusiasm and faithfulness. Having more sickness than usual among us, Miss Hyde has given not a little time and strength to nursing those who were ill.

A short time before Christmas Miss Dresser was stricken with pneumonia. We had many anxious days, but our prayers were answered, and Christmas found her so improved we all had a happy day, in spite of riots and rumors of riots at Shanghai.

In January baby Christine Drummond had an acute attack of bronchitis, and again we were drawn very near together in our common sympathy and anxiety over the little suffering one, until the precious little life was fully restored.

Shadow and light! Next was the coming of Dr. Garritt and family. Ever since the appointment of Dr. and Mrs. Garritt to our station in 1904 we have looked forward to their coming. Their arrival therefore one bitter February day was a great and joyful event. Coming to us with years of experience they were able to enter at once into our station problems and to lift not a little the burden of our work.

"Mrs. Abbey has resigned." This word coming in March brought dismay to our hearts. We who knew her, with her knowledge of the language and the people, her energy, her ability to endure hardness, know too well what a great loss this is to us. At the same time we are glad she can be with her children.

We look forward to the returning of the Leaman family in the early autumn rested and well. We will then have the largest force we have had in our history of thirty years.

In April Mrs. Williams and baby Lilian were visited by measles; and for five dreary weeks were quarantined, while the east wind blew and the rain fell day after day. But this too passed away and left all well in time for the meeting of Synod. We had then a busy happy week, very refreshing after the long hard winter.

The Chinese workers have all been exceptionally free from sickness. A few changes have been made during the year; the most important being the transfer of Mr. Cheng from the day-school to the girls' boarding-school and of Mr. Liu from the girls' boarding-school to the evangelistic work; of Mr. Cheng Chuen-ho from the boys' boarding-school to the day-school at Tong-dzing.

**EVANGELISTIC WORK.**

*City Work.*—A chief feature of the church life this year in Nanking was the evangelistic meetings held in May, under the leadership of Dr. Li, a graduate of Tientsin Medical College. All five of the Missions working in Nanking united in inviting Dr. Li to conduct these meetings for the deepening of the
spiritual life of the church. The meetings lasted about three
weeks, and were remarkably well sustained in attendance and
interest throughout. At the end of the first week, after giving
instruction in the cardinal doctrines of sin, repentance, faith in
Christ and regeneration, in two meetings daily, the meeting
was thrown open for prayer and confession of sin. At once it
seemed as if a rushing mighty wind filled the house and the
spirit of conviction and repentance which had been working
deeper and deeper day by day broke forth in a storm of prayer,
weeping and confession of sin, no one paying attention to any
other, all praying aloud and at the same time. This lasted
about half an hour, when it gradually subsided and the meeting
was closed. For two days the time of the meeting was taken up
with confession and testimony. Here the women and school
girls, contrary to their usual retiring custom, were prominent.
There was not time at the union meeting for all to give their
testimony, so this was continued in the various churches under
the leadership of their pastors. In these meetings the schools
undoubtedly profited most because the pupils were better able to
understand the speaker's meaning. Life took on a very differ­
ent hue after that to all of us. Whether in church or school
joy filled all hearts. In this the missionaries shared the blessing
with the Chinese Christians. A little later Dr. Howard Agnew
Johnston came; and his message was admirably calculated to
supplement that of Dr. Li's. Dr. Li's addresses were all
Christ-centered; Dr. Johnston's message was of the gift of the
Holy Ghost and power in prayer. The whole complexion of
the work was changed. The Sunday services were better
attended and the weekly prayer meeting had more life in it.
Circles have been formed for prayer, the wandering sheep have
been prayed for and looked up. One opium smoker, the
husband of one of the Bible women and a backsliding Christian,
has broken off opium and is leading a new life in Christ. At
the communion season late in June seven of the girls in the
boarding-school, aged about fifteen, applied for admission
to the church; but were deferred until more established in their
new-found faith and experience.

First Church.—Mr. Drummond has been stated supply for
the church during the past year. The care of the country
stations has often called him away from the city, and on such
occasions Dr. Davis, or Dr. Garratt, after his arrival in
February, has conducted the regular services. Shortly after
mission meeting last year, at a congregational meeting, Mr.
Liu Keh-i and Mr. Mao Ging-hua were elected elders. Mr.
Mao has done excellent service, giving much time and care
to the church without remuneration. The Sabbath school
until Chinese new year was under the care of elder Liu; at that
time he was transferred from the girls' boarding-school to
country preaching, and his place as superintendent was taken
by Mr. Cheng, his successor in the school.

During the year thirty-seven adults and eleven children
were baptized; four of these children have been admitted
into full communion, two from the boys' and two from the girls'
boarding-schools. This number is inclusive of both city and
country.

Again we have to report that we have no native pastor.
According to mission rule no aid can be expected from the
Board and the Chinese have not been able to raise sufficient
money to call one. Last autumn at the meeting of presbytery
the foreign missionaries offered to raise half the amount if
the Chinese would raise the other half; still the elders did not
take hold with any degree of enthusiasm. Once more a
committee has been appointed and communications with
ordained men entered into. We do most earnestly hope that
before another year has passed we may have a pastor for the
two churches.

Grace Church.—The past year has been a year of teaching
and of growth on the part of the membership. The attendance,
while not large, has been regular and increasing in number.
The beautiful new chapel has been a constant source of satisfac­
tion to all. Mr. Williams has acted as pastor, and has
conducted the Sabbath morning and mid-week services. The
church has only one elder, Mr. Lu. Mr. Jao had been elected
by the congregation; but soon afterward left us to teach and
study in the Nanking University, and did not attend the
services, so he was never ordained. Mr. Lu was greatly moved
by Dr. Li's preaching and made public confession of his sins.
His absorption in his business prevents giving time to the work
of the church. Even if he took the time, it is feared that his
peculiar disposition would prevent his ever becoming an accept­
able leader. The great need of this church is for a faithful and
worthy Chinese leader.

Mr. Williams' time being taken up more and more with
teaching in the boarding-school he cannot find time for visiting
among the membership; and even if he had the time this work
could be done much more effectively by a Chinese evangelist or
pastor. At the communion season in May four of the school
boys were admitted to the communion.

This report would not be complete without mentioning our
neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Cheng. Mr. Cheng spent nineteen years
in the United States and is a graduate of Harvard College. He
is teaching in one of the most important government schools.
Mrs. Cheng is also teaching in the girls' school opened by the
Viceroy. Their Christian home in the midst of the dreary
Chinese street is as a light shining in a dark place. They are faithful in their attendance at all our church services, and our friendship with them has been most helpful and delightful. It is a growing source of joy in the work to find that the people turn to us more and more when in trouble or sorrow and learn to depend upon our sympathy and advice.

Street Chapels.

The work at the four street chapels has suffered somewhat this year from the lack of workers.

Fu Dong.—Throughout the autumn three regular services were held; two nights during the week and on Sunday afternoons. Mr. Lo, who is Dr. Davis' assistant, was very faithful in assisting Mr. Chang, the evangelist in charge. After Dr. Garritt's return he preached regularly to large and interested audiences.

Yien Liao Fang was left largely to the day-school teacher, Mr. Cheng, until later Dr. Garritt took over this work.

Miss Dresser reports of Ban-bien-ying that the work has been very encouraging this year. The two services a week have been fairly well attended and almost always the best attention paid to the message. Two women have professed to believe in Christ.

Shwang Tang.—This chapel among the satin weavers is a source of joy and satisfaction. The attendance on Sabbath service is regular and both members and inquirers take a deep interest in this service. There are now about twenty-five members, of whom five have been added during the year. There are also eight inquirers. Dr. Davis has kindly taken charge of the Sunday morning service here regularly during the year. They have a service of their own every Sunday evening, which is something of the nature of a Y. P. S. C. E. The members, besides contributing to other regular church work, have contributed about thirty dollars for the flooring of the chapel, which formerly had only a mud floor. They are now starting a day-school, one-half of the expenses of which they themselves are responsible for, the remainder being provided by the mission.

Services were regularly held for the women, Mrs. Drummond taking charge of the Wednesday afternoon meetings and Miss Hyde going with the Bible-women on Sunday mornings.

Country Work.

Tong Dzing.—A year ago this summer the old scholar of this village, a local celebrity, passed away at the age of seventy-five. He lived directly across the street from our chapel; and hardly a day passed that he and our elder Mr. Gong did
not have it out as to the relative merits of Confucianism and Christianity. Elder Gong had never gone very deeply into Confucian teaching, nor had he likely ever heard of the five points of Calvinism; but he realized the convincing power of a clean life, and when pressed in the argument, and in imminent danger of being overwhelmed by a flood of classic quotations, he would always close in on the old man's personal life. The argument usually became quite heated; yet for years they maintained the most neighborly relations, although in his heart Elder Gong always regarded old man Dai as the arch-enemy of the Faith in all that region. Though an open opponent I verily believe he was used of God to keep up interest and to impress upon the elder the supreme importance of guarding his own life and that of the flock if they were ever to prove their case. Like Edom ever on the border of Israel, it required eternal vigilance. The services have been regularly maintained by the elder, assisted by the day-school teacher, Mr. Cheng.

La Shui.—Dr. Drummond reports:—The helper in charge here is Liu Hung-sing. Since Chinese New Year he has had a day-school of twelve pupils, who pay from $1.50 to $2.00 per month. Some of them are boarders, whose homes are at a distance. Mr. Liu is also the preacher in charge, leading the public worship and instructing the inquirers. Of these there are now about one hundred and fifty, even after rejecting forty who were found to be unworthy. Twice during the year the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper were administered. Seven men were baptized, six of whom can read.

Sing Dien.—We have here an old man, Mr. Liu, who is too old to get around much among the people; but his good life and wise counsels make him a safe guide to the company of Christians who gather here. Twelve men and four children have been baptized. Up to Chinese New Year the members and inquirers had contributed $50.00; since then for general purposes they have contributed about $20.00.

Tien Wang Si.—This is a market town about six miles north-east of Sing Dien, where another chapel has been opened during the year. A Mr. Chang has been transferred from work in the city and put in charge. There have been rather more than the usual difficulties in opening this place, even the lives of the helpers being threatened. There has been an attendance of about eighty at this place.

Lih Yang.—Several visits were made by Mr. Drummond and helpers to Shang Hsing Pu, in the Lih Yang district. The object was to rent a place for a chapel; but no suitable place could be secured. No work of any kind has as yet
secured a foothold in that district. There are now quite a number of inquirers, who have either connected themselves with Tien Wan Si or Li Shui.

Itineration.

The three out-stations—Sing Dien, Tien Wang Si, and Li Shui—are about the centre of our field; all the space beyond comprising scores of market towns between Nanking and Chinkiang, through which the new line of railway will pass; a distance of about fifty miles, over which we have done much itinerating work in the past. One-half of this territory is in our field and should be worked by us. If we cannot now open any station here we ought at the very least to have men to make frequent itinerating through these towns. In spite of difficulties Mr. Drummond succeeded in visiting all the country stations at least twice, and some of them three or four times.

EDUCATIONAL WORK.

Girls' Boarding-school.—Miss Dresser reports for the girls' school:

Hurrying from Mission meeting last year to keep an appointment with several girls from the better class who wished to enter our school, we were led to pray and believe that God would give us some of these souls. Just before the close of school, one who had been with us nearly all the year confessed her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Through the year we have had eleven girls from the better class enter our school; some were with us only a short time, two leaving to enter the Viceroy's school. Four were young married women, whose husbands were studying in Japan; one, the wife of a Ku-ren; and the younger ones were the daughters of men studying or teaching. One, the daughter of a small official in charge of some of the city schools, another a daughter of an examiner of the first and second degree men in the city. All these girls have daily taken the Bible study and Christian books and attended the church services. During the year we have had forty-two names on our roll. The average attendance thirty-five. . . . Miss Hyde and Mrs. Jones have daily assisted in English. Mrs. Jones has also given one hour a week to teaching instrumental music. Without their help it would have been almost impossible to keep up all the classes. During Miss Dresser's illness Mrs. Drummond had the oversight of the school, and since the Chinese New Year she gave one hour a week to examining two classes. To no one are we more grateful than to our faithful matron, Mrs. Gu. Without her loving and efficient
help the school would have been a great burden to the one in charge. Day and night and every day and every night, without any rest, she has faithfully served the school.

Throughout the year we had been praying that God would send a revival and begin it in our own hearts. We can only say a revival did come during Dr. Li's meetings, and from that time to the close of school we have had great blessing. The half hour set aside for school prayers in the morning was not enough; the time was extended, but still not long enough; the noon prayer meeting was crowded and finally divided into two sections. Early in the morning and late at night our hearts have been made glad over hearing the crying out to God of the children from different rooms in the school. We thank God for sending us His servants, Dr. Li, Miss Yü, and later Dr. Johnston; but above all for the Master's continued presence with us.

Boys' Boarding-school.

Last autumn the school opened with the smallest number we have ever had since we have been in charge. At first only ten boys returned, and only at the end of the term had the attendance risen to twenty. After the New Year there were many new applicants; some of them younger students, who are promising, but mostly from an older class, who had been roused out of their country homes by the Imperial emphasis on the new education. We took in twelve men of this class. As they came from Hwai-yuen and the region about, we also hoped that the time given to them might, in some way, help in the opening of their home towns. This one exception from our invariable rule of only taking boys of twelve or thirteen years only proved the wisdom of the rule. These men were convinced, by frequent failures in district examinations, that to become a scholar in China was no easy matter; yet they seemed to think to master Western learning would be a small undertaking. After a few weeks' trial they soon scattered. Apart from this class there were twenty-five boys in regular attendance throughout the spring term. With the regular annual decrease in the appropriations for the school and the regular annual increase in the cost of living and the very rapid increase in the salaries that educated Chinese can command, it becomes increasingly difficult to keep efficient teachers. So Mr. Williams has had to give more and more time to the class-room work, in order, in some measure, to supplement this need. Mr. Kuei, the teacher of Chinese, who had for three years worked most faithfully and acceptably, left us at the close of the Chinese year. He had been invited by the Viceroy to take charge of a second school for girls that
the Viceroy was opening. He would here receive several times the salary we were able to pay. He still has a hearty interest in the school, and continues to send his two sons. At the New Year Mr. Cheng Chuen-ho, who had done excellent work as a pupil teacher, was sent to open a day-school at Tong-dzing. This change was made for two reasons: first, with a view to his own development through being thrown more upon his own resources; and second, because it was easier to meet the deficit by reducing the teaching force in the boarding-school.

Mr. Li, of Shantung, has continued his faithful work; and his hearty sympathy during this trying time has made it an increasing delight to work with him. When Mr. Kuei left, a Mr. Liu was secured to take up the work. He is an older man with an established reputation in the city for scholarship, a splendid disciplinarian, securing the promptest obedience without ever seeming to demand it; but he has not given the same unstinted and enthusiastic work to the boys that Mr. Kuei did. Li Ging-ping, who took up the work left by Mr. Cheng, is developing into a splendid worker. While not as thorough a student as Mr. Cheng, he has a very pleasing and sympathetic manner, which makes him a natural leader among the boys. The four boys who were admitted to communion in the spring, took this step largely through the personal influence of Li Ging-ping.

The plan of union with the Christian Mission having been approved by the Board, after consultation Mr. Meigs and Mr. Williams decided it would be better to enter upon the union in the fall term. So at the close of the summer term it was announced to the students that the two schools would be combined under one name and one management. Our small school has, in a modest way, done splendid service; but we believe that in the larger union there will be a much larger opportunity.*

Day-schools.

Owing to the opening of free day-schools throughout the city by the government, we found it necessary to close our day-schools in the city at the end of the year. We could not open our day-schools as free schools, so it was thought best to open instead three day-schools in the out-stations—at Shuen-hua-jen, Li-shui and Tong-dzing.

Mr. Cheng Chuen-ho was taken from the boys' boarding-school and put in charge of the day-school at Tong-dzing. He had ten children of Christians in regular attendance. Their examination at the end of the term showed that they had

* At this Mission meeting in Kuling the Mission approved the plan for the three missions working in Nanking to unite in a Christian university.
made good progress. Mr. Cheng has also done good work in reviewing his former studies and carrying systematic work. He expects to enter the ministry, and his reading and studying is all done with that end in view.

Shuen Hua Jen. Since Chinese New Year Feng Ging-chuen has been in charge here as teacher in the day-school. He has eight pupils, all of whom pay tuition. At this Station there are now six members and fourteen inquirers, with a regular attendance of twenty. On March 24th the communion was administered for the first time.

The day-school at Li-shui has been noticed in the report on that out-station.

*Girls' Day-school.*—This school has been under Mrs. Drummond's care. Miss Chang has been the teacher in the school, assisted by one of the Bible-women during the hour that she was occupied in the study of English at the boarding-school. Mrs. Drummond taught the little ones English and numbers. During Dr. Li's meetings Miss Chang seemed to have had a real vision of the ministering Christ, and after that it was a great joy to see her increasing earnestness and devotion to her work. She not only labored to develop the minds of the pupils, but faithfully tried to lead them to Christ. Most of these children come from Christian homes, and almost all pay a small monthly fee. We hope soon to see a new kindergarten and primary school, each in separate rooms, well fitted and equipped, owing to the kind gift of the ladies of the Philadelphia Board.

*Men and Women Training Schools.*

Owing to the pressure of other work upon both Miss Dresser and Mr. Drummond, who have had charge of these very important parts of the work, the classes had to be given up for the past year.

*Mothers' Meetings.*

During the year all the mothers of our churches were invited to meet once a month with Mrs. Williams in her home. These women are almost all poor and hard working; and it was feared they might be too busy to come to this extra meeting. But when the weather at all permitted they came gladly, bringing their babies and small children. Our largest attendance was thirty-two; our smallest, thirteen. After singing and prayer, a talk on some subject was given by a chosen leader. Sometimes it was a Bible reading, in which all who could read, took part. We tried to make them feel that
it was their meeting. At the close tea and cake were served and time given for a social visit together. At the November meeting Mrs. Cheng, a Bible-woman from our Soochow hospital, talked to them of the wonderful work of the Holy Spirit during Dr. Li's meetings. She spoke with great earnestness and frankness of her own change of heart. After the meeting she spoke quietly to many of the women of their personal responsibility. As she is an old friend this made a deep impression on their hearts.

Our carefully prepared Christmas service for the children had to be given up, as the rain fell in torrents and the little ones could not come. But two other afternoons Mrs. Williams had her dining room full of mothers, who came to say how sorry they were to miss it. The April meeting was held in the chapel, as the numbers have outgrown any of our rooms. We had a talk on minor ailments and simple remedies by a trained nurse from the Quaker Hospital. Lady Shen, the wife of the Taotai, who is also superintendent of the schools of these three provinces, was present. Lady Shen is superintendent of the girls' schools in the city and is very friendly and interested in the work of the Missions. As her husband spent eight years in Washington she is not an entire stranger to our foreign customs. She comes quietly in a chair or carriage, without a servant, without a pipe; in her lovely garments, and with her calm strong face, she seems indeed a lady. She asked to attend all the mothers' meetings; unfortunately the May meeting had to be given up on account of measles.

Mrs. Williams feels that these meetings have bound her in warm friendship to most of the women and that it has been at least a welcome change in their somewhat monotonous lives. One woman, for a long time, did not respond to anything we could say. She has a very unpleasant home, and her face seemed to grow duller and sadder every time we saw her. Just before Christmas she was invited to bring her little girl to practice hymns. The little one was very bright and sweet, and we could not help admiring her. Very soon a great change came over the mother, and we now have in her a very warm friend. At Christmas she came, bringing a gay wool hood, which she had made very carefully. She said: "I notice that Dorothy does not have as pretty clothes to wear as the other children; so I made this for her!"

**THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.**

Mr. Drummond has given no little time to supervising the work of building, and it was a great help when Dr. Garritt relieved him of this work on his arrival in February. It is a great pleasure to see some of the buildings nearing completion
and to know that the regular work of the Seminary will begin next October. We hope for the money for the other buildings needed, so that the larger number of students who wish to study, may be accommodated.

As we close we can only humbly pray that he who was able to change the water into good wine will change these attempts of ours to serve Him, often offered in weariness and discouragement, into a power that will help to bring the Kingdom of Heaven into China.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Williams,

For the Station.
Hwai-yuen Station.
Report for the Year 1905-1906.

MISSIONARIES.

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<th>NAMES</th>
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<td>1902</td>
<td>Mrs. Wilton Merle-Smith, N. Y. City.</td>
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<td>Miss Rose B. Lobenstine</td>
<td>1898</td>
<td>Mr. William C. Lobenstine.</td>
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<td>Rev. J. B. Cochran</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Mr. Robert Carter, Morristown, N. J.</td>
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<td>Mrs. J. B. Cochran</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Central Pres. Church, N. Y. City.</td>
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<td>Dr. Samuel Cochran</td>
<td>1899</td>
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<td>Mrs. Samuel Cochran</td>
<td>1899</td>
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<td>* Home on furlough.</td>
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NATIVE HELPERS.

Chu Shien-ting       ... ... Medical Assistant.
Wang Chwen-chi...     ... ... "       Student.
Fu      ... ... ...       "       "
Hsiü    ... ... ...       "       "
Suen Djing-ching      ... ... Evangelist.
Liu Choh-fei         ... ... "       "
Ch'en Dzü-ming       ... ... Boarding School Teacher.
Wan Kueh-t'ung       ... ... "       "
Mrs. Chang           ... ... "       "
|                  |         | Teacher of Girls' Day-school and Woman's Class.       |

PERSONNEL.

The first event of the past year for us Hwaiyuenians was the arrival of baby Rose Lobenstine in Shanghai, September 20th. We gave a very joyful welcome to the little lady and then Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Cochran and Mr. and Mrs. James Cochran turned their backs on Shanghai at the close of Mission meeting, and taking small Chinese houseboats started on the tedious journey back to Hwai-yuen. They arrived there about the middle of October and found Mr. Morris very glad to see some of his own nationality again after six weeks spent alone with the Chinese. On the fourth of November Mr. and Mrs. James Cochran were made very happy by the arrival of little James Blair, Jr.

Early in November Mr. and Mrs. Lobenstine, Miss Lobenstine and baby Rose joined us, and we were a united station once more and very happy to be all together you may be sure.

In February Mrs. Lobenstine was taken ill with what proved to be appendicitis; and after several anxious weeks Dr.
Cochran decided that an operation should be performed as soon as possible, and advised Mr. and Mrs. Lobenstine to take their furlough this year, when they are expected by the friends at home, instead of two years hence as they had planned, so that the operation might be at home. So toward the end of March the Lobenstines, with baby Rose, left for America; Miss Lobenstine staying behind, as she was so sadly needed for the girls' school and woman's work.

The spring was made a very busy one for the married ladies by the whooping cough, which did its fell worst to every chick and child for two long months or more. But they were all better before the heat began, and early in June the ladies and children, escorted by Dr. Cochran, left for Kuling.

CHINESE HELPERS.

There has been very little change in our staff of native helpers during the past year.

Mr. Ch'en still continues to do excellent work in the boys' school, teaching both morning and afternoon and taking his turn with Mr. Cochran and Mr. Wan in sitting with the boys during study hour in the evening.

Mr. Sun is perhaps even more zealous than before in his preaching, going cheerfully out on long uncomfortable itinerating trips, with or without a foreigner, making light of any little hardships, and never too tired, foot-sore or discouraged to give his message of hope and pardon to any one, at home or abroad, with whom he comes in contact.

Mr. Chu has continued his good faithful work in the hospital. He is able now to help Dr. Cochran a good deal in the dispensary work and even to perform slight operations. He has conducted prayers at the hospital each day, taught a Sunday School class, and done a good deal of individual work with the patients in the wards. The station all feel that we owe him a special debt of gratitude for his helpfulness in buying the Shansi Guild property, on which Dr. Cochran is now building his new hospital and residence.

Mr. Liu, too, has shown himself faithful and zealous this year, preaching in the street chapel and to dispensary patients, and itinerating. He is hoping very much to enter the Seminary in the fall, and we cannot feel it right to say a word to deter him, though we will surely need him very much in the work.

Cheo Yu-lung left Dr. Cochran at the end of last year to study medicine, and he has had three new student helpers. Wang Ch'uen-ch'i returned with him in the summer last year and Mr. Hsii and Mr. Fu, two young Shantung men from Dr. Johnson's training class, came down at China New Year's time.
As yet we have no Bible-woman and no prospect of one, though one is sorely needed, and we are almost disheartened, as we fear that Mr. Sun, Mr. Ch'en and Mr. Chu may leave us at the expiration of their contract the end of this year. We hardly see our way to take a step, but we know that it is the Master's work, not ours, who would at best bungle it so sadly, and He has some plan for it better and more wonderful than we could ask or think and so in perfect trust and confidence we leave all the future to Him.

CHURCHES.

A great improvement could be noticed in our church services this year. For one thing we have more Christians now, and they are all reverent and attentive, worshipping as truly as though our little thatch-roofed chapel were the most beautiful cathedral that ever reared its stately spires toward heaven. Then too the heathen about us are beginning to realize that our service is very different from anything that they have ever seen in the temples, and they listen at least quietly and respectfully, and even sometimes seem to understand a little of the meaning of the worship that is "in spirit and in truth." Mr. Morris has spent a great deal of time in training the school boys to sing, and they are a wonderful help in leading the rest of us, who would all be inclined otherwise to follow our own sweet wills, absolutely oblivious of any one else's notion of time or tune.

Mr. Lobenstine, who was stated supply until his departure for America, kept the services for the most part in his own hands, assisted by an occasional sermon from one of the other foreigners or native helpers.

The repeating in concert of the prayer of confession and the singing together of the Gloria and Te Deum seemed to especially appeal to the Christians as giving them each one a part in the service. Some of the women have been very faithful and attentive, and we feel that great credit is due them, for it is not easy, sitting screened off in a corner, never seeing anything but the preacher's back, with the hymns and commandments too far away to be recognised, to give undivided attention to what is going on.

The prayer-meetings this year have been especially good. The helpers have taken turns with the foreigners in leading them, and they have shown a constant growth in spirituality.

The Sunday School, under Dr. Cochran's leadership, has been made into a graded school, using Blakesley lessons, and is doing very good work for both Christians and outsiders.

We were very much cheered toward the beginning of the year to have the helpers come and ask of their own accord
that systematic giving be resumed. So after several days' hard work on the part of Mrs. and Miss Lobenstine, we were all supplied with little red calico bags to hold our pennies and have found the system to work splendidly.

OUT-STATIONS.

Feng-yang-fu was visited four times during the past year by Mr. Morris and one or other of the helpers. Mr. Morris writes: "My first trip was with evangelist Liu. We were away seven days, and on the whole felt encouraged by the willingness of the people to listen. One afternoon was spent at the Ch'en village, the former home of our Christian chapel keeper in Feng-yang. It is about fifteen li from the city, and there are several men there who seem interested in the Gospel. One man from this village has been in Hwai-yuen for some weeks, taking care of his small son, who was operated on for calculus. He is very honest and grateful to us for healing his son. On the Sunday we spent in the Fu the street chapel was well filled. On this visit we were surprised to have special attention paid us by a small official, who invited us to a feast. He was as polite and friendly as any man I have met in the Fu, and yet we found out afterwards that this man had done the most to oppose our coming there and tried to stir up a riot after we had rented our street chapel. From his polite and friendly manner one would never suspect him of "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain." We are puzzled to know what has brought about this sudden change in him. We had several interviews with our vegetarian friend, Mr. T'ong, but felt that he was less honest with us than formerly and not so willing to admit the truth of Christianity. Mr. Liu, who has many friends among the priests, found a Taoist, who invited us to his temple—a sad, dilapidated affair, in which the general air of desolation and neglect was intensified by the inscription over the door, "There is no shore to the sea of sorrow."

He told us he was trying to raise funds to restore it, but feared it would be impossible. He seemed much discouraged. We talked to him of the true worship and the revelation of Jesus, but he listened quite indifferently. He returned our call the next day."

In January Mr. Morris made his second visit to the Fu, and of this visit he writes: "The weather was stormy and cold. This and the fact that the Chinese New Year festival was drawing near made the attendance in the chapel small. We had a number of callers in the inn where we stopped, and evening prayers were well attended. A few students came every evening to get me to help them in their English lessons. They were always willing to stay to prayers, and seemed honest and respectful in their attitude toward Christianity."
In February the third trip was made, and Mr. Morris says of this: "We are trying hard to get a start in this city, but it is a difficult place to work. We are still hunting for a piece of property that can be used for street chapel and guest room work with sleeping quarters in the rear. A large number of places have been offered to us, but only two or three were satisfactory, and unfortunately in these cases no agreement could be reached about the price. The Roman Catholics have already purchased and fitted up a small property with a resident priest. I understand they are planning soon to open a large school for girls. On this visit I had a request to take a promising little boy over to the Hwai-yuen boarding-school. As the chapel keeper's boy is also in the school I decided to take him."

In March Mr. Morris made his fourth trip. He says: "On March 23rd I made another visit to the Fu with Mr. Sun; a trip of six days. We visited the Ch'en village and found some little opposition there from the most important farmer in the place. It was not, however, unfriendly in spirit, and showed that the man had done some thinking about religion. He said that he was sincere in his idol-worship, even if others were not; otherwise would he be willing to spend several thousand cash every year for incense, candles, etc. He said: 'You have the "God of heaven" as you say, but I have the god of earth, and he is my god just as yours is yours. You say you can't see your God, but I can see mine. I like to have him under my own roof with me.' We tried to make him understand the goodness and greatness of the Heavenly Father, and that He was the only true God, but evidently he could not understand, or did not care to, for his last word to us was: 'If He is the only true God why has He not revealed it to us before?' We are praying that God's Spirit may lead him into the light."

ITINERATION.

Keng-kia-ts'un.—A little muddy Chinese village. Its houses, or rather huts, a mere accumulation of the mud around. Great black pigs prowling about the threshing floor and poking their noses in friendly democracy into the doors of the houses, but a little new building is slowly rearing its mud walls and shaggy grass roof there, a building which marks a progress so great; an enlightening so sudden and wonderful that perhaps the most stately church built in all New York this year would not seem to us of more momentous importance if we could only get far enough away from this cloudy old earth to see things with the clear heavenly vision. Three years ago this little community of farmers knew nothing but, as the Chinese say, to "eat rice and wear clothes," to paste a new kitchen god over their fire place every New Year's time, to worship in a conciliatory spirit the
heaven above them, whose smile or frown meant plenty, or starvation, and the earth beneath which yielded sometimes generously and sometimes oh! so sparingly, their little all.

About three years ago one of the Keng family who was going blind heard of the foreign doctor and stumbled into Hwai-yuen in search of sight, and when he walked back to Keng-kia-ts'ün he was a new man. He had been blind indeed; now he saw not only his fields and thatch-roofed home, but on and up beyond anything that they had ever dreamed of in the little village, and they told his neighbors and his friends, and gradually they came to see too. That year three men came into the enquirers' class, and after being taught for a few months, studying in the classes and patiently plodding along by themselves at home, learning to read their Bibles, they were baptized. Now, in and about that village, Mr. Cochran writes, "there are twenty to thirty who gather for Sunday services; four have been received into church membership, and there are thirteen enquirers. Forty-eight Spanish dollars have been raised by the Chinese there and in Hwai-yuen toward building the little chapel;" and those that cannot give much in money are giving their work, carrying the lumber themselves, building the mud walls and thatching the roof. This year either Mr. Cochran or one of the native helpers have gone out the first Sunday of each month to conduct the services, and the other Sundays they have a little service themselves.

One of the Christians who was obliged to be out in the fields with cattle on a Sunday morning told Mr. Cochran that he had a little service all by himself out there. First he sang a hymn, then opened his Gospel of John and read a chapter, then he said a prayer, and then took out his red calico bag and solemnly put in it the few cash that was to be his contribution that day. Who shall say that this did not have all the elements of a church service?

Mr. Cochran writes: "At Kao-lhwang-sī, thirty li from Keng-kia-ts'ìn, are several men who appear interested, though not nearly so promising at present as their neighbors." In one of his visits there this year Mr. Cochran was at dinner in a little farm house when one of the other guests asked politely to be excused, as he had a "little affair" at home. Mr. Cochran was very much surprised to hear afterwards that the "little affair" was a family feud which had been going on for years, and that the man had gone home because he had just received a message that his enemies had attacked his clan, killed two men and carried off a young lad, whom they threatened to torture horribly. An official inquired into the affair and settled it by calmly remarking, "If they want to fight, let them fight." However Mr. Cochran felt it wise to call on this just and resourceful official on his next trip out there and tell him that
in case of any lawsuits we could not take any responsibility. Chinese justice must take its own course. We only interfere in case of religious persecution. At Chinese New Year, there being less workmen on his house than usual, Mr. Lobenstine made an itinerating trip to Meng-ch'eng and Ko-yang by boat, Mr. Liu, and Kiang, the boatman, accompanying him. They were gone about a week and had a very pleasant and encouraging trip in many ways. Mr. Lobenstine tried at Meng-ch'eng to find a place for a chapel, but could not succeed in finding anything at all satisfactory. We certainly hope to open Meng-ch'eng as an out-station some day. It is one of the busiest and most important towns near us, but it is much better to wait and find just the right place before we rent for a chapel.

On the seventh of February, it being Chinese New Year's vacation, Mr. Morris, Mr. James Cochran and Mr. Ch'en, the head teacher in the school, started for a short visit to some of the enquirers in the country south of Hwai-yuen. Mr. Morris says: "Our first stop was at Ma-t'eo-ch'eng, where we had good sales of books. We pushed on in the afternoon to see an enquirer who was a teacher and lived in a small hamlet called 'In Front of the Temple.' The temple was a small one, and would have been scarcely noticed had not the name of the village called attention to it. Our enquirer greeted us warmly, as did others in the place, and told us that he had broken his opium and truly wanted to become a believer."

"He said he had written the paper scrolls for the temple door at the New Year, and we were surprised to hear that their meaning was about as follows: 'The True God cannot be deceived by men. No amount of incense can help the prayers of hypocrites.' We thought it rather daring of him to post such sentiments on a heathen temple and could not understand how his heathen neighbors permitted it, unless their inability to read kept them in ignorance. That night we spent at a market town called K'aoh-ch'eng. As we passed along the street to our inn we were cordially greeted by a middle aged gentleman, who invited us to stop there. After our evening meal he sent around to invite us to drink tea with him. He served us with small cakes, etc., and invited in several of his friends to meet us. He was a progressive man, anxious for reform in China. We found he had read some of our Christian books and knew something of Western countries. His interest in Christianity may have been largely on the surface. It was pleasant, however, to meet so cordial a reception in this out of the way place. The next morning we visited an enquirer, an old man living a short distance from the town. It was a Chinese feast day, and many of the villagers were away at a theatrical performance. Those who were at home received us cordially and asked us to take dinner with them, which we did, much to our
20 ANNUAL REPORT.

regret. I have eaten many Chinese meals, but none worse than this one. Two of the prizes I drew were a chicken's head and a pig's tail!

We went on that afternoon and reached a rather anti-foreign place called Liu-fu. We had crowds on the streets and crowds in the inn and so plenty of opportunities for preaching. As Mr. Cochran had to return to open his school I went on alone the next day to the out-station at Feng-yang.'"

On April 17th Mr. Morris went out in the district to the north-west. He says: "The trip was shortened to four days on account of bad weather. We stopped first at the Hsii-kia village (15 li east on the Hwai river), where the two enquirers of the Chu family live. I have visited this village three times during the year—twice on my way to the Fu and once making a special trip—returning the same day to Hwai-yuen. Mr. Sun has visited it several times in addition. The old father and his crippled son are both apparently honest, earnest enquirers. They have taken down their idols, and on Sundays, when they are not able to come to the Hwai-yuen church, hold a simple service in their small thatched house. They are poor, and their house is very small. On my first visit Mr. Liu (the evangelist) warned me laughingly of three things. He said: "Don't taste the tea, for you won't be able to swallow it. Don't bump your head when you go in the door, for it's only three feet high (there are no windows), and don't fall over backwards when you sit down, for the stools are only a few inches from the ground." With these injunctions in mind I made my first call on the Chu's without mishap. In the same village is an educated man, who part of the year does business in Nan-hsü-cheo. He is very promising, and I feel sure will take the inquirers' pledge if he comes to one of the inquirers' classes. . . . The first night we spent at 'little Pen-p'u,' a market town about twenty-five li from Hwai-yuen. Here the people seemed very ready to listen, and we had unusual sales of tracts and Bible portions. . . .

"The next night we spent at the 'great sight family' village, a village built on a piece of high-made ground on account of floods. While there we learnt much of the poverty of the people. They said I was the first foreigner to visit their village, but they took me very calmly. . . . That night we spent at Wang-chwang, 70 li from Hwai-yuen. We looked up some former hospital patients and found them still interested in the Gospel, but very much afraid of public sentiment. Only one had dared to come out openly as an inquirer. The next day we saw more of these men, and found out that others had become interested through them. There were five or six men, and we tried to get them to agree to meet together on Sundays for worship. The man who knew the most and seemed most
determined to become a believer, was formerly a juggler, making his living by visiting market towns and fairs. He said he couldn't do it any longer now, that he wanted to be a better man, because there was so much deception in it. We went to his home and found he had written the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer on the walls of his house. There is a prospect of his father also becoming an inquirer. We hope that these few men may start another work like that in the Keng village. We visited an idol festival in the afternoon, when a theatrical performance had attracted a large crowd, and sold many books. The next day we returned to Hwai-yuen in the rain."

There were nine itinerating trips made by foreigners during the year, and several others by native helpers alone.

**WOMAN’S WORK.**

We feel that there has certainly been great progress made in the woman's work this year. It is not alone that we have at last two Christians—Mrs. Kiang and her daughter—who were baptized in the fall, and are living earnest Christian lives, nor that three other women have come out as inquirers, and we feel that two at least of them are nearly ready to be admitted into the church, but beside this we notice such a different kind of interest in our meetings. The women listen so much more intelligently, and seem to go away understanding far more than they used to. The meetings have been held regularly every Sunday in the front guest room of our Chinese house, where the attendance has been about thirty and on Wednesdays in the small guest room at the hospital, where though usually only from ten to fifteen women gathered, the meetings were very interesting, and I think we all went away the better for our little time together.

Mrs. Samuel Cochran writes:—"The woman's class this year has, on the whole, been encouraging, although one of the regular members was not able to attend, as she was very poor and had to support her three sons, and one new member, whom we hoped would prove a valuable addition to the class, turned out to be the manager of an opium den, one of China's vilest productions, and had to be dropped. This left only two women studying regularly on the Mission compound and then in their houses. Our hearts have been gladdened by two of the class having entered the church and three becoming inquirers. This leaves only the old teacher and one other woman, and we hope that they too will soon become convinced that they need a Savior. They have been through the second volume of Mr. Price's primer, learned either to commit or read six new hymns, the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, the Confession of Sin and the Apostles' Creed. The work was planned and given out by the foreigner and taught by the
old teacher; the foreigner spending about an hour with them going over the day's work and leading prayers.'"

The women's guest room work this year has been mostly at the new foreign house, as that is so very attractive to the people. To "go and see the foreign house" is decidedly the thing to do in Hwai-yuen these days. Miss Lobenstine writes:—"A great deal of time and strength have been given to entertain all classes and conditions of people who flocked from all the country about us to see the foreign house. Many were the rumors about the house; probably most of these guests believed we had babies hid under the floors. At any rate they had to see every corner of the house, closets, cupboards, etc., and the garret was the place of greatest interest; even the tiny-footed official ladies had to be assisted up there. We are interested to know that some Chinese in town talk of building a foreign house like ours. This at least shows that they approve of it and express themselves so to us. We have had many in to meals, and there have been the frequent time-consuming feasts, tedious and often very fatiguing, but it is time and strength well spent, for it certainly has been a factor in the Hwai-yuen station to give us the goodwill and kindly interest of the people."

We in the old Chinese house, too, have constantly received our old friends, women who come from real friendliness now and not from mere curiosity, and we were very much pleased at the New Year by a series of little "teas" given us by the women in the class. The tremendous effort that was made to have their tiny mud huts in perfect order; the table and the chairs (very rickety sometimes and having to be approached cautiously and humored like their owners) and variety of teacups, enough to go round, borrowed from the neighbors, the proud lenders being allowed to stand at the door and watch us eat, as reward for their generosity; the sweets, as many as eight kinds sometimes set out on little saucers to tempt us; and the eager trembling hostess, so anxious to do us honor and to make us happy,—all this was very touching, and we would have been stone indeed if we had failed to appreciate their little all, and more than all, so freely given for us. When we ate the greasy little cakes we knew that they would probably go hungry to-morrow to pay for them, and as we sipped the bitter tea out of the dirty cups, we realized that it seemed nectar to the people crowded about the door, and there was a new flavor, quite unlike the nasty one, natural to these viands, lent them by the self-denial they had cost.

We also went to several very delightful feasts given us by some of the officials' wives and rich women in town, and they showed us, in almost every case, the utmost courtesy and friendliness. They came with great apparent pleasure to the
feasts we gave them in return, and altogether we cannot but feel that we have some very warm friends among these higher class women.

SCHOOLS.

Boys' Boarding-school.—This boarding-school never really was started; it only happened. It came upon us, we hardly know how, and all we could do was to accept it, to do our rather inadequate best, to house it and do everything in our power to teach it, and to put before its bright-faced, eager boys, ideals which we hope will make of them some of the men who are to win China for the great Master in the years that are rushing on us so fast. Ever since the day-school was started—three years before—there have been four or five boys, whose Christian parents were so anxious to have them in school that although their homes were far away, they had them board in town, sleeping in one little cottage, under some neighbor's care, eating with someone else, and out of school hours running wild on the streets responsible to no one. Needless to say it was a most unsatisfactory arrangement, and caused us a great deal of anxiety, for we could not but feel that they were under our care, and it was simply impossible to keep track of them all the time. So it was with the greatest joy and relief that we received permission from the Mission, last fall, to collect all these poor little urchins under our roof, see that they were properly washed and fed, and call it a "boarding-school." As soon as it became known, however, that such a school was to be opened the number of boys, who really had every good reason for coming, quickly swelled to thirteen, and we were at our wit's end to find a place to put them when, like an inspiration, came the thought of the gate house and store room opposite the front guest room. It was a matter of a very few days to move out all the trunks and boxes, sedan chairs and precious empty coal-oil tins, to knock down the rickety partitions and put in a front door. In the meantime the carpenter had made sixteen wooden boxes and the old gateman spent his spare moments oiling boards to put across them, and when the New Year's vacation was over the oiled boards and wooden boxes were turned into eight luxurious beds and set up in the great bare brick-floored room; a table contributed by one of the missionaries stood in the middle against the wall, a little mud hut in the next compound was furnished with a Chinese fire place and smiling cook, and behold! a boarding-school! In writing of the beginnings of this little school and its work during the year, Mr. Cochran says: "Including boarding and day pupils, we have thirty in all, and were even forced to turn away several for lack of room, while we expect several more to enter in the fall session of school. Mr. Ch'ên, a graduate of our Shantung college, stayed
with us as teacher of Western branches. His term is up next New Year, but we are very anxious to have him stay, as he is most satisfactory. Our Chinese classics are better taught by Mr. Wan than they were by Mr. Liu. Our teachers are good and our text-books are good, and we are giving the best education of any school in this part of the province. One of our less promising boys who left us a short time ago to enter the government school here, was highly commended by the Fu official for the way he stood an examination in arithmetic and surpassed the others in their school. Our ordinary pupil is better than their best. Our work for the year has been faithfully done, and next Chinese New Year, when the new year begins in our Shantung College, we will have two boys ready to enter the entering class if we can make arrangements to send them. Owing largely to the influence of Mr. Ch'en the school seems to have a fine Christian atmosphere. Eight of the larger boys are members of the church, four of them entering last communion; two others are enrolled as inquirers. The time has scarcely come to ask them about their future aims, but I know that several are expecting to study for the ministry, and if they can be kept under the proper Christian influence they will carry out their purpose."

In speaking of the girls' school Miss Lobenstine writes: "The little girls' school which had been started last year, made definite progress this year, and bids fair, we hope, in the near future to become a strong branch of our Hwai-yuen work. Numbers were small, but an excellent class of girls came and a splendid spirit of ambition to make the school thoroughly good was noticeable on the part of almost every girl."

"The sessions were shorter than in Chinese schools and the children were taught to improve the shining moments. Until a suitable school-room was built in Mr. Lobenstine's new compound, the school met in the woman's guest room of the new foreign house.

"Mr. Lu (not the pharmacist), who has served various members of the station as personal teacher, helped teach the Chinese characters, and although he is a heathen and has had none of the advantages of Christian schools, his methods were good, and he succeeded in awakening the interest of his pupils."

"In the morning devotional hour the children learned to repeat the Lord's Prayer and the prayer of confession, the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, the 23rd and 103rd psalms and a number of hymns. Singing was entirely new to most of them and at first far from musical, but all Chinese, big or little, love to sing hymns, and it is a joy to hear them."

"At the close of the year's work Mr. Morris and two Chinese gentlemen conducted an examination covering all the ground the children had been over and expressed themselves
as being entirely satisfied and full of hope for these little girls if they continue with us. We had a pleasant social time around a table spread with sweets, and separated to meet again, we hope, in late September. We look forward to a boarding-school in the near future; now that the church is growing there will be the daughters of our Christians as a nucleus for a school of that kind. We need a native Christian, man or woman teacher, (preferably woman) for the school even now; how much more imperative it will be when we launch out into a boarding-school. Please pray earnestly that someone may be given us, for without such help advance must of necessity be extremely slow, because all the burden of the work falls on the foreigner.

"This year no fees were required; it still remains an open question as to the wisdom of pressing the parents for money when one realizes how content they are to let their daughters go ignorant, if education means any sacrifice to them."

ENQUIRERS’ CLASSES.

Two classes were held for enquirers during the year.

The first one was at the end of November. Mr. Morris says of it: "It was the best we have had so far. About twenty-five men attended, the majority being from the Keng village. With the exception of a few, the men were able to remain to the end of the class—eleven days in all—attending classes morning and afternoon. Sixteen of the men were, after examination, enrolled as enquirers, having promised to abstain from idolatry and opium and to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. This class gave us much cause for thanksgiving.

"The second class was held the last of February, and began very discouragingly, for on account of rain the roads were almost impassable, and only a few men in and very near Hwaiyuen could come. Toward the end of the first week, however, the weather improved, and Mr. Sun quietly slipped away. He was gone for two or three days, and then came back muddy and tired, but beaming; into the guest room he marched (?), and following him were a motley array. Some twenty bluff farmers in their home-spun coats with shapeless threadbare hats or battered felt caps and fuzzy earmuffs, some with straw shoes, some with their feet tied up in rags to keep out the mud and cold, all looking as if they had been down and rolled in the dirt, but all smiling and eager to learn, and for a week they sat morning and afternoon in the classes listening attentively and trying to make their slow unused minds grasp the greatest truths that have ever been revealed to men. We feel that they did get a good start, that they all went back better men with new ideals, and that for some at least of them a new light dawned, which will shine more and more unto the perfect day."
MEDICAL WORK.

"The hospital," Dr. Cochran writes, "has rather more than held its own for the past year. Its work cannot grow much more in amount in the present inadequate quarters. Last fall a good many perfectly suitable cases were turned away for lack of accommodations. At one time we had operations booked a month ahead. Little work has been done among women, as we have no place, no matron, no woman physician and, because of Mrs. Lobenstein's ill health, no nurse." But it is with the greatest joy and thankfulness that we look forward to the better day that is coming, for through the generosity of friends at home the way has been made clear to build a fine new hospital which, we hope, will answer every need. We have hoped for this and dreamed of it so long that it seems hardly possible that it is coming true at last, and we are even more inclined to pinch ourselves and wonder if we are really awake when we remember that other generous friends have offered to send a woman physician to the aid of the hundreds and hundreds of suffering women about Hwai-yuen and that they are only waiting now to find just the right physician to send to us for this place.

Dr. Cochran has been very busy over the plans for this hospital and his own residence, the overseeing of the building of his residence, now nearly finished, etc., but Mr. Chu and the other three men have kept the medical work from falling off.

Through the hospital we have opened up another most promising centre, where the lame inquirer Chu and his old father live, and everywhere, as we itinerate in the country for a hundred miles around Hwai-yuen, we meet people who have been treated in the hospital themselves, or who have had relatives there and who are most friendly to us and ready and eager to listen to our message.

Dr. Cochran has had additional help in the two young Shantung men—Hsii and Fu—but at the expense of sparing to them two of the few precious rooms for patients at the hospital. However they have been a very welcome and much needed addition to the staff this busy year.

GUEST ROOM WORK.

"There have been fewer callers this year," writes Mr. Morris. "Although our invitations out to feasts have been about the same, we have lost our hold on some of the young men we used to see much of. The novelty of the library has worn off, and we need something else to attract them. Perhaps a place in the city with a gymnasium, evening classes, etc., carried on along Y. M. C. A. lines would be a good means of getting a hold of this class. However there have been some
HWAI-YUEN STATION.

...callers almost every day at the old Chinese house, and Mr. Lobenstine has entertained many more in his drawing room in the foreign house."

Mr. Lobenstine has been also trying all winter to find a room in the city which will be suitable for work with young men, and we hope to have it suitably equipped and to be better able next year to cope with the progressive spirit that is showing itself now in little Hwai-yuen.

PROPERTY.

We have long cast covetous eyes on a beautiful piece of land which lies between Mr. Lobenstine's compound and the old Chinese houses, but it has always seemed an impossibility to buy it. It belonged to a society of Shansi men, who bought it long ago, then buried a few of their number "temporarily" (meaning to move them on to Shansi in a few hundred years or so) and then went home and died themselves or disappeared. But this fall some of them turned up, and to make a very long story of much agony of mind, discussion without end, and business meetings prolonged into the wee sma' hours; to make this long story short, I say, we succeeded in buying this Shansi property for 1,500 Spanish dollars, and on it, with a magnificent view of the two mountains and river, which many a friend at home might well envy us, Dr. Cochran is building his new residence and hospital.

Another piece of ground has been bought nearer the city, on which are several Chinese houses, and we expect to have the helpers live there and to fit up some rooms for the enquirers when they come into the city to attend classes.

In closing we can only look back over one year, seeing so plainly where we have failed, realizing, as no one else can, how much better we might have done in so many places, but full of hope and courage for the new year that is to come and faith in our Master, whose yoke has always been so easy, whose burden so light.

MARGARET HUNTINGTON COCHRAN,

For the Station.
### Table of Statistics

**For the Year ending September 1st, 1906.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Nanking, 1875</th>
<th>Hwai-yuen, 1902</th>
<th>Totals</th>
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<tr>
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*NOTE.—The Dollars are all Mexican.*