

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH,

FOR 1895-96.

Including Minutes of the Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, held in Washington, D. C., June, 1896.

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SESSIONS OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Annual Meetings of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions have been held as follows:

Date.	Place.	Date.	Place.
First, 1879....	Louisville, Ky.	Tenth, 1888....	Nashville, Tenn.
Second, 1880....	Nashville, Tenn.	Eleventh, 1889....	Little Rock, Ark.
Third, 1881....	St. Louis, Mo.	Twelfth, 1890....	St. Louis, Mo.
Fourth, 1882....	Nashville, Tenn.	Thirteenth, 1891....	Fort Worth, Tex.
Fifth, 1883....	Lynchburg, Va.	Fourteenth, 1892....	Lexington, Ky.
Sixth, 1884....	Kansas City, Mo.	Fifteenth, 1893....	Kansas City, Mo.
Seventh, 1885....	Knoxville, Tenn.	Sixteenth, 1894....	Atlanta, Ga.
Eighth, 1886....	Augusta, Ga.	Seventeenth, 1895....	Meridian, Miss.
Ninth, 1887....	Catlettsburg, Ky.	Eighteenth, 1896....	Washington, D. C.

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EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT,
WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY,
M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

MRS. S. C. TRUEHEART, *Foreign Secretary.*

1896.

God's redemptive scheme is as broad as humanity, and every soul under its divine influence is like its Lord: a missionary in heart and life. "Discipleship and apostleship are one, since to know Jesus is to tell of him." For eighteen years, as an organized band of Christian women, the Board has aimed to send the gospel into heathen lands. Much has been accomplished, but very much remains to be done. The foundation of the enterprise consists of a membership of 71,470, organized as follows: 34 Conference Societies, 270 districts, 3,417 auxiliaries, adult, young people, and juvenile. The Conference Societies, district meetings, and auxiliaries are under the direction of a Conference Secretary, who, with the assistance of the District Secretaries, has the oversight of all the auxiliaries, supplying them with literature, answering inquiries, giving and receiving information indispensable to vigorous life. All these as branches of one vine—the Woman's Board—constitute a systematic whole whose grand object is to build and maintain mission schools and send out missionaries among heathen women and children. It is distressing to know that any human being is starving for that which maintains physical life, but infinitely worse to know that they have not that bread of eternal life which, if a man eat, he will never hunger.

The Woman's Board, the only legislative body of the organization, touches the heart of our whole Church, is indeed a child of the Church, goes forward under its advice and protection. The Board issues two monthly organs: the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and the *Little Worker*. The former sends out monthly thirteen thou-

sand numbers, which contain choice reading matter from the foreign field, interesting reports of the operations of societies at home, programmes for monthly meetings, valuable original material, and delightful selections. The *Little Worker*, the children's paper, with its attractive missionary news and bright messages of love for God and man, kindles in the hearts of thousands of the children holy impulses that will prepare them to strengthen a missionary Church and lead the hosts of God's elect to final triumph.

This literature is supplemented every quarter by thousands of leaflets, ably prepared or selected, and gratuitously distributed. These health-giving leaves enter many homes, otherwise destitute of all kinds of periodicals, and take with them the fragrance of the heavenly gardens in the paradise of God.

Our Missionaries.—There are at this time thirty-nine under the care of the Board. Of these, thirty-six are in active service, and three at home recruiting. Four were sent out last year, but the working force was reduced by the marriage of Miss Bessie Moore and Miss Mary Turner. Six are now ready to go out, and four being prepared. Of the six now ready, four are graduates of the Scarritt Bible and Training School. Four more will complete the course at that institution in May, 1897.

STATISTICS OF FOREIGN WORK.

In addition to the regularly appointed missionaries, including one medical, there are 112 assistant teachers and helpers, 12 boarding schools, 41 day schools, 2 hospitals, 15 Bible women, and about 5,000 women and children receiving instruction.

CHINA.

The signs of promise that soon this wonderful country will be Christianized greatly encourages the hearts of God's people. The forebodings which followed the massacres are giving place to confidence and bright anticipations. The roll of probationers and Church members has increased beyond other years. The following, through Bishop Hendrix, from the American Minister, Mr. Charles Denby, and the Consul General, Mr. Thomas R. Jernigan, fills all Christian hearts with gratitude. The Emperor of the Chinese has given orders to all the local authorities throughout the empire "to expunge from the various editions and compilations of the Chinese code all clauses placing restrictions upon the propagation of the Christian religion!" The country is now fully open to Christians, and

rapid extension depends solely upon the faith and liberality of the Church.

Medical Work.—Dr. Anne Walter, in charge of the hospitals in Soochow, has made gratifying advance along all lines. Through her influence it was laid upon the heart of the Board to erect a hospital for children near the one for women. In honor of Mrs. Mary Black, of blessed memory, the “Bright Jewels,” of North Carolina, asked the privilege of furnishing the means needed to put up the building, and the “Mary Black Memorial Hall” has been completed. Within the Hall is the “Alice Bonnell Ward,” a gift of the North Georgia Conference Society, so named because of the affection and respect felt for the wife of a returned missionary. The medical work in Soochow now embraces scientific instruction to a class of ten native women who are making creditable progress in the healing art. A blessed work it is to prepare these women for ministering to the bodies as well as to the souls of their countrywomen.

Some years ago a memorial fund was set apart to found a Bible School in China. The thought was sent by the Spirit to Mrs. Davidson, of the Baltimore Conference Society, in the early years of our work, and through her quite a sum of money was collected from stricken hearts that gladly used little mementos and gifts of dear departed ones to swell the amount necessary for this Bible School. A year or so ago the funds for this purpose were divided, and a Bible School for both Soochow and Shanghai was determined upon. The ground at Soochow has been purchased, and the near future will witness the hopes of long ago materialized in the “Davidson Memorial Bible School.” Why not plan at once for Shanghai? The “McGavock Bible Institute” there would be a suitable memorial for the late beloved and honored Foreign Secretary, Mrs. D. H. McGavock.

Sung Kiang was presented to the Woman’s Board at the last annual meeting as a suitable place for opening new work in China. No doubt this inviting field will soon be entered, and other cities open their gates to the gospel, and receive it through the women of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

MEXICO.

For the amount of seed sown, this field has returned a hundred-fold. At Laredo there has been no abatement of growth, and the call for more missionaries, helpers, and teachers warrants the belief that the forces marshaling there will capture the whole of Mexico.

Already the work has passed far beyond the Rio Grande, and pushes west, north, and south. Mexico needs all that the Board can give, that the dark places may be penetrated by the light of divine truth, and that this country, so close to us, may have a knowledge of a full salvation from center to circumference.

BRAZIL.

Beautiful Brazil, under the curse of the worst form of Romanism, appeals to the heart of every lover of the Lord Jesus. It is safe to say that the vast territory, with few exceptions, is shut off from a living Christ, and is as heathen as the far west plains of China or the jungles of India.

INDIAN MISSION.

This mission is among the uncivilized and benighted, who appeal to our sympathy and greatly need our ministrations for body as well as soul. The untiring activity and consecrated, self-denying efforts of Miss Brewster and Rev. J. J. Methvin command the admiration of all. A hospital is called for, that the sick may be better cared for; and also an addition to the buildings at Anadarko, which would increase the efficiency of the school at that place. Alas that the want of God's gold should so retard God's work! Is our Lord not holding a controversy with those who bear his name and repudiate his claims? From every quarter of the earth, if the people would listen, can be heard the cry of distress, the voice of lamentation, the appeal for light and peace. If the words of the old prophet Malachi, through whom the commands of Jehovah come with startling distinctness, were heeded, these appeals would not fall upon so many deaf ears. "Bring ye the whole tithe into the storehouse." Then would the windows of heaven open, and blessings abundant and refreshing would fall upon the Church. The number of years that this Board has been at work but increases its responsibility, and it must go forward. The nineteenth year, upon which it now enters, leaves many mistakes, many failures in consequence, no doubt, but it bears onward the prayers of faith, the gifts of love, the blessings of heaven.

The death of the Secretary of the Board, Mrs. D. H. McGavock, and the death of the President, Mrs. Juliana Hayes, cause great sorrow throughout our borders. Though shorn of its strength and the right hand of its might, the work has advanced, because the feeling is universal to honor these beloved officers of the Board by larger liberality, more entire consecration, and by truer self-abnega-

tion, more cheerful self-sacrifice. Their deeds of loving service, their loyalty to the cause of Missions, their abundant labors, embalm their memories with the fragrant spices of deep emotions of reverence and tenderness. They rest from anxiety, toil, and suffering upon the bosom of their divine Lord, the Lord Christ whom they honored and served, and doubtless look upon us with an interest all aglow with heavenly light.

REPORT OF FOREIGN WORK.

OFFICIAL.

CHINA.

WORK OF WOMAN'S BOARD OPENED IN 1878.

Shanghai District.

MISSIONARIES.

MISS LAURA A. HAYGOOD,
MISS ELIZABETH HUGHES,
MISS MINNIE BOMAR,
MISS ENMA GARY,

MISS HELEN RICHARDSON,
MISS SALLIE B. REYNOLDS,
MISS CLARA STEGER,
MISS ELLA COFFEY,

MISS LOCHIE RANKIN.

Work in charge of married women.

MRS. M. B. HILL.

Shanghai District, embracing Shanghai, Nantziang, and Käding, has had success during the past year, remarkable success, considering the unrest of the country consequent upon war, massacres, and revolutions. The Lord's hand averted the threatened danger, and the workers took courage and pressed forward in his name, their hearts being greatly cheered as one after another of the natives asked for baptism and Church membership.

Of McTyeire Home and School, Miss Helen Richardson, who has special charge there, says:

The year just closing has been full of the blessing and goodness of God. The school opened with seventeen pupils, which was increased by the addition of thirteen and the loss of one, making twenty-nine in all. Of these, thirteen are Christians, nine are from Christian families, while the remaining seven are from heathen homes. Nine have bound feet, six have unbound their feet, and fourteen never had bound feet. It is very gratifying and encouraging that the sentiment against binding the feet is increasing. All who are truly Christian repudiate the sinful custom. This school has an important work in this matter, since it specially reaches the girls of families of high position. We have already three girls, daughters of mandarins; one, the sister of a mandarin's wife; and we are looking for the sister of another. We have also the daughter of the manager of the Imperial Telegraph, and another

the daughter of the editor of the Chinese paper, *Hupao*, and all who are self-supporting are members of well to do Chinese families. Five of the girls are daughters of Episcopal and Methodist ministers. Valuable services have been given the school by Misses Bomar, Steger, Waters, and Anderson, in the English Departments at various times, when circumstances rendered it necessary. Two of the native teachers, Huh-Sien-Sang and Miss Yung Tsoe-di, have been efficient during the whole year. Their qualifications, patience, and faithfulness cause much thankfulness. Not long since Huh-Sien-Sang was offered a more lucrative place. He has been in McTyeire School from the opening, and considered that his place was here, so he declined. He seemed to feel the value of greater loyalty because of Miss Haygood's absence in America, and stood bravely by me. His sense of honor is of no ordinary type.

Chinese, English, and music are taught daily; embroidery, three times a week. Miss Reynolds's services are invaluable. Her kindness of heart and her ready sympathy win all and render her influence healthful and lasting.

Seven and a half hours a day are given to study, with prayers for the whole school morning and evening. The gospel is bearing much fruit in the lives of our girls, in self-control, patience, burden-bearing, and unselfishness. I have faith to believe that many of them will adorn the doctrines of Christ and be shining lights in this dense darkness. I am sure that to set forth Christ is the great desire of my heart and the avowed object of all our teaching, both English and Chinese. The prospects of the school are flattering, and if all come, now so proposing, we will have to enlarge our borders. I hope that prayer goes up for us continually, that this vine of the Lord's planting may prosper abundantly.

Miss Elizabeth Hughes, who superintends *eleven* day schools, made up of native teachers and 315 pupils, writes:

There are two facts to be noted with interest in connection with these schools. First, the enrollment is twenty per cent above that of last year, with a much better average attendance at Sunday school, which sometimes numbers ninety or a hundred. Secondly, the increased interest manifested by the pupils in their studies, especially in those books in which regular examinations are held by the foreign teacher. A class of little girls in geography was going through a map drill when the bell rang for recess. Much to my surprise, the children begged me to go on, though losing *tiffin* was no small matter to Chinese children.

There are some discouragements, of course, while there is an increase in attendance and a deeper interest in study. A lack of system on the part of the teacher continues, which seriously interferes with a more rapid progress. Think of putting a boy, scarcely able to read, to study a science, for no reason, of course, except, perhaps, the fact that other boys of the same age were beginning the study! Of course all such matters demand constant oversight on the part of the foreign teacher.

Clopton School continues to furnish most satisfactory teachers. Untrained teachers can never do so well as trained ones.

In the report for the year I take special pleasure in calling attention to the faithful work of Mrs. Waung in No. 9. In the spring of last year she rented a house at her own expense and taught for six months without compensation. The return of Miss Zi (Hannah Norris) made it possible to open another day school in Trinity Compound, which has flourished from the first far beyond our expectations. The bright young teacher has done good work. The supporters of the Alice Hunter School are to be congratulated that they have so excellent a teacher in charge. The cholera did not interrupt the school, though one teacher and several pupils fell victims to the fearful scourge. Lila Full was one of the earliest victims last summer. We greatly missed Miss Smithy (now Mrs. Collyer) in our work. She was very helpful in supervising this day school work. To look after eleven schools is too much for one, so Miss Bomar now assists. Several pupils from the various day schools have been transferred to the boarding schools. A boy from the Richmond District School was sent to Buffington College, and has since joined the Church. A little girl from the George Dillard School (now a day pupil at Clopton) has also joined the Church, with her brother. We rejoice over the gathering in of the little ones. Our Epworth League at Trinity has claimed some of my time. This society is being helpful to our women and girls.

From Mrs. Julia Gaither we have an interesting account of work among the women in Shanghai.

I have devoted my time to the women. The Bible woman and myself have done much house to house visiting. Sister Reid too has assisted me in visiting the sick. In most places we are well received, and often have invitations to come again. I am trying to prepare a class of five, who meet with me every Monday afternoon for special Christian work. I want them to know all the characters in the hymn book. Chinese women love to sing, even when they do not know the tune. One has begun to read the Gospel of Luke. I think that many are growing in grace. I heard one say to another not long since: "When I find it hard to learn I just whisper to God to help me." Let me tell you of one of our Church members who is wealthy, and socially and intellectually above most of our Chinese women. Her husband died a few weeks ago, and she sent for Mrs. Reid and myself. The husband was not a Christian, and died suddenly. When the family gathered about the dying man to worship him according to custom the wife went in secret prayer to plead for forgiveness of his sins. She was in great sorrow, feeling that her Heavenly Father had left her. Mrs. Reid and I prayed with her and told her to believe that God had forgiven her husband's sins before he died. Some days after, while she was attending the probationers' meeting, she got very happy, and exclaimed: "Is it not wonderful, wonderful? I thought that my Heavenly Father had left me, but

he has not!" I think that all of her sons will follow her into the Church. One of them has already become a probationer. One Saturday in every month I give to our native missionary society. The average attendance at this meeting is sixty, and they often begin to assemble long before the time, so eager they are. It requires patience, energy, and fortitude to train these poor heathen, but results show that the work is not thrown away. My health has been perfect during these three years of work, and this is cause of special thankfulness; but besides this I rejoice in special mercies and direct manifestations of divine goodness.

The report of Miss Sallie B. Reynolds, who teaches music as well as other subjects, is full of interest.

In summing up the work of our year it is difficult to choose out of its treasury "things both new and old" that will seem neither untried nor moth-eaten. The days are filled to overflowing with experiences, "rich, rare, and racy," as well as "dull, doleful, dolorous." There are the blessed Sabbaths of sunlight and happiness, when the presence of His love and care make the "rest that remaineth" near to our workaday world. Then there come the blue Mondays, in which no Christian blessed with "consecrated common sense" will indulge; but they just come of themselves, and must be lived out and down. Recite to the children, at length and in the most carefully prepared Chinese, the story of the Good Samaritan. Emphasize its strong points with vigor, and on next Sunday have some urchin venture to tell about the Samaritan who went down from *Peking* to Jericho, fell among Soochow thieves, who took him to a Chinese inn and set him upon a beast, who fed him upon oil and wine! Yet all the pictures in my scrapbook are not like this.

A few Sundays ago a call for volunteers to repeat the Lord's Prayer was made. One dear boy stood and, closing his eyes most reverently, recited, without a break, the prayer grown precious to many, many children on this side of the world. In answer to my question, "Why do you love Jesus?" a poor, ragged little girl, almost blind, replied, smiling brightly: "Because Jesus loves me."

Printed on the blackboard in red, yellow, and blue chalk are the words: "Jesus is the children's friend." One after another is learning to copy these characters, receiving as a reward of merit (not penmanship) a lovely picture card. What an incentive do these small squares of coloring become to children whose lives are lived mostly among the "monotones of life!" Our Father is blessing and helping us continually to better things, and through discouragements is giving us to see some of the difficulties of these, his little ones, "in seeking after the Lord, if haply they might feel after him and find him."

Among the girls of McTyeire School the year has truly been one of privilege and progress. We are not exactly "Jack and the Bean Stalk," but one *can* see these girls grow along all lines. Let me give some of their thoughts about music. Because of the question, "Why do you think music a gift from God?" one says: "There is something in me

that makes me fond of music, but neither pen nor pencil can write out my competent idea. Music makes me feel the love of God, which he gave us to enjoy. It alleviates one's gloominess. When one is sad, if he goes and plays a sweet piece, then he is somewhat a little comforted." Another writes: "I love music because it can help others sing and praise God. It cheers us in sorrow." Yet another: "I love music because it helps me in many ways. First, it helps me to sing. Secondly, when I am lonely it comforts and makes me glad to play. Thirdly, when I am sorrowful it shares my sorrow and takes away my grief. With all my heart I love music."

A child of twelve, who comes to us from a purely heathen home, yet who herself is, we trust, coming to the light, says of music: "It is God's gift to us. I love it because it makes me happy, and because, if I learn, I am amused by it." One of our more advanced pupils, whose musical studies for the past year have included bits from Stephen Keller, Strelzki, and Chopin, says: "Music is something born in us. Those who have the most musical thoughts transfer them into written language that we may learn; thus the music *in us* can be cultivated and grown to a fuller extent. God has given music not only to human beings, but also, more or less, to the lower animals. He has given this to us that we may be happy and sing praises to him as the little birds do. They cannot help singing praises to their Maker. We can pray to the Father with music just as much as if we use words."

Can anything be more encouraging, to one who loves this good gift, than to see how these Chinese girls, to whom Western ideas of singing, instruments, and music are so comparatively new, acknowledge it to be from the bountiful hand of the Father of Lights? Let us thank God and take courage that through so many avenues the light is coming, and will come.

From all the dark places
Of earth's heathen races,
O see how the thick shadows fly!
The voice of salvation
Awakes every nation;
"Come over and help us," they cry.

Exercises in *solfeggio* and calisthenics are executed with precision and gusto. Transposition, major and minor modes, intercal, steps and half-steps are no longer bugbears, but boon companions to our dusky daughters of the far East. We no longer shake and tremble at the sight of a tune that must be sung at sight, having for accompaniment a handful of chords running up to five or six flats, or sharps, as the case may be. It is interesting to see these Chinese girls fight shy of sharps! Quite like beginners at home.

The class is doing solid work; two of their number are having lessons in elementary harmony, and already manifest a laudable degree of ambition.

Our little Wightman Literary Society has been, and is, a source of much pleasure. Two months ago a small box of books from England re-

ceived a very large welcome from our workers. These and a gift from the Young People's Auxiliary at Sumter, S. C., are a much-longed-for addition to McTyeire School. If those Palmetto leaves could only see the joy of these Bamboo Shoots, they would rejoice for them during all the moldy days of our rainy season! During the year our stock of translated stories, intended for little folks round and about Shanghai, has been increased by two, but we have great hope of this winter finishing our collection, making, so far as we know, the first translation of Hans Christian Andersen into the child life of China.

Once again may we not praise God together for his will concerning us here? He *is* leading, and surely we will follow.

So take Joy home,
And make a place in thy great heart for her,
And give her time to grow, and cherish her;
Then will she come, and oft will sing to thee,
When thou art working in the furrows; aye,
Or weeding in the sacred hour of dawn.
It is a comely fashion to be glad.
Joy is the *grace* we say to God.

Miss Bomar writes:

How the years go by in China! Much faster, it seems to me, than in the home land.

To-day I stand near the close of my third year in this land of my adoption, and I can say with all my heart: "I am glad to be here." At times, however, when I have been meditating upon the attainments, spiritual, physical, and intellectual, desirable for a messenger unto those who "sit in darkness," my heart has cried out: "Lord, who is sufficient for these things?" And at such times, I confess, I would rather have been anywhere else than here, had it not been for those precious promises, and many others like them, such as, "My strength is made perfect in weakness," "My grace is sufficient for thee."

About the middle of October, 1894, after a most delightful and helpful meeting of our Annual Conference in Soochow, I returned to my appointed work in Clopton School. We began the year with an enrollment of twenty-four pupils, but the demand for teachers and wives has reduced our numbers to nineteen. There have been additions, but they have not balanced the exits.

Miss Hughes will doubtless give you her opinion of Clopton girls as day school teachers, for she has made a draft upon us for four this year. There have been applications from other missions also, but we have not been able to supply them. I am always sorry when we cannot meet the demand for teachers, for the girls who have had the advantages of the boarding schools may be greatly used of God in that capacity, whether in our own or in other missions. There are two of whom I can speak most highly who are rendering assistance in Clopton School. Miss Mo (Daisy Fant) has been teaching several years, and is one of the main props of the school. She is an earnest Christian, and is loved and respected, with scarcely an exception, by all of the pupils over whom her

influence extends. Miss Tsang (Mollie Carroll) has only been teaching since January, but I think that with training and experience she will develop into a fine teacher. Her mornings are still devoted to study.

Consumption has laid its blighting hand upon the oldest, and in some respects one of the brightest, of our numbers. She is now a hopeless invalid in the London Mission Hospital. This and a severe case of typhoid fever are the only instances of illness that have occurred in the school.

For some time the spiritual welfare of the girls has given me much anxiety. That great enemy of souls has been very busy of late, as, indeed, he always is, and "wild grapes" have appeared where fruits of the Spirit were hoped for. However, I have not lost heart, for God will not forsake his vineyard, nor will he fail to answer the prayers in behalf of his wandering ones.

During the year there have been four additions to the Church, and most of the girls have become members of the Epworth League.

Personally I have done very little in the way of teaching this year. Owing to the uncertain condition of my health, class work in Clopton School was discontinued in January. Later on I was permitted to take classes in three of the day schools, a work which I thoroughly enjoyed.

During the year Miss Richardson has taught an hour each day in Clopton School. On Saturday mornings Miss Reynolds has given lessons in vocal music.

In October our hearts were gladdened by the coming of Miss Steger to share our home and life in China. Her presence has been a joy and comfort, and in Clopton School she has lent a helping hand in looking after the sick ones.

Miss Steger reports as follows:

"How excellent is thy loving-kindness, O God!" How truly does my heart echo the words of the Psalmist to-day as I take a retrospective and introspective glance over the past year, and in it all see His loving hand molding and guiding, withholding and blessing, through every step of the way! One year ago the longings and hope of my life gave way to glad reality when I reached China. Dearest ties had been severed, tearful "good-byes" had been said, and native land and loved ones were far away; yet He who has said "I will go with thee" was with me in abiding joy and sustaining peace. I count as best among all the blessings that have crowned my way the gift of my traveling companion to this strange land, Miss Atkinson. Acquaintance ripened into deepest friendship during the long days of ocean travel, and the experienced missionary gave to the new, untried one many lessons of preparation, invaluable, from her own rich store; and throughout the year her love and counsel have been a bulwark of strength and consolation.

Who but one coming, as I came, to a land over which my heart had yearned from earliest childhood, and to which I had for years looked forward with hope and expectation, can fathom my feelings as I drew

near to its shores? As our brave ship lightly tossed the yellow waves from her side, while we sped up the mighty Yang-tse, the low shores of China visible on either horizon, Miss Atkinson said to me: "This water is a picture of the people to which you are coming; their moral pollution is as great as that which has changed this water to its present hue." How often I have recalled these words, as I have gazed with heart of compassionate sorrow on these people who know not the depths of their degradation!

Soon we were at the wharf in the midst of the missionary band, who had come down to receive us. I shall never forget the loving welcome that was given me; and I felt, at once, that they had opened their hearts and taken me in, and that I was from henceforth *one* of them.

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love.

How strange a Sabbath morning in a heathen city! Despite its sunshine and beauty, there seemed in it all no type of rest or peace, save as it dwelt in the silence of the heart; certainly there was none in the busy, thronging multitudes that surged unceasingly through the streets. It was with a deep sense of relief that the gate at last closed upon Miss Hughes and me, shutting us out from that noisy world and ushering us into the peace and quiet of dear old "Trinity Home." How vividly that first impression has remained! A square of beautiful green grass; on one side the little ivy-clad church, and opposite it the large old house, with its long veranda and wide, cool hall, its doors standing open in mute welcome—home! And as I entered I felt indeed at home. Miss Bomar, in her quiet, gentle way, added her welcome to the warm, loving one which had been given me by Miss Hughes, and now the trinity of Trinity was complete.

A few moments alone in my room, which were spent on my knees in tearful thanksgiving to God for leading me hither, and then I was in the little church worshiping with a strange people, who used a strange tongue; and, though I could not understand, my heart joined in the glad melody of the sweet old familiar tunes sung by voices which had been redeemed from heathenism to God. Memory lingers like a golden halo around that first Sunday in China! How sweet to look into the faces and feel the warm hand clasp of those who were giving their lives to the Master here, and to see the light of welcome from their eyes as they looked into mine—these dear ladies whom I had learned to love long ere I saw their faces!

I must not linger. Conference, rich in blessing and joy, came and passed, and I had, in the beginning of my life here, met all the representatives of our Church in China, and thus became more thoroughly identified with them. When I stood face to face with the beginning of my work—the study of the language—the task seemed impossible; but a teacher was secured, and, with the kindly assistance of Miss Hughes and Miss Bomar, I made a beginning. Study has, of course, been my chief employment throughout the year, but outside of that I have been

permitted to assist occasionally in teaching English at McTyeire—a privilege which I have enjoyed very much, and which made a pleasant break in the monotony of studying the Chinese characters.

One of my deepest pleasures has been my Sabbath school class. It is composed of the most advanced pupils of McTyeire School, and lovely girls they are, who study and recite the lesson in English. It has been a perfect love feast to talk over the lesson with these thoughtful, earnest girls, who had carefully prepared it, and who advanced such intelligent and thoughtful views on the teachings that the teacher was as much taught as the pupils.

Later, Miss Rankin, who was alone at Nantziang for a time, invited me to spend a month with her, which was delightful. Almost immediately after my return home Miss Atkinson claimed me for a visit to Soochow, and right gladly I went. There was a triple pleasure in visiting Soochow, for Dr. and Mrs. Parker, whom I had met at home, and Miss Pyles, from my own Conference, were there. Two delightful months sped swiftly by in that visit, while Soochow and her people grew very dear to my heart. How I enjoyed going sometimes with Miss Atkinson to her day schools, which are the pride and joy of her life, and watching the bright faces of her children as she instructed them; and with Dr. Walter to her clinics, where crowds of suffering people were to be found, bringing vividly before me many a New Testament scene, with the Great Physician as the central figure! Especially did I enjoy the trip made with Dr. Walter to Zaung-Zok, where we spent two days, and where the eager throngs pressed around us every moment, each individual scarcely able to wait his turn to make known his needs to the Doctor. It was sweet to see the simple trust oftentimes displayed in the face of the applicant, and the tender skill of the young physician, who ministered to their suffering bodies. It brought to me more forcibly than ever what a wonderful power for Christ is the hand that can minister to the soul through the suffering body.

I cannot close without mentioning the strength and pleasure that have come to me through personal touch with the dear ladies of McTyeire. Each in her own characteristic way has been a blessing. I can only say: "What shall I render to my God for all his benefits to me?" Each step of the way sparkles with the jewels of his love. I feel now, at its close, that it has been, despite the failures in myself, a year of steady growth. The Father has been dealing gently, but firmly, with his child; and while he has been teaching me many lessons that were hard to learn, he has, through every one, drawn me closer to himself and prepared my heart the more fully to sympathize with him and earnestly work for these people, who sit in the region and shadow of death. And as truly as I felt one year ago the sentiment breathed in these words, I say to-day:

Few years, no wisdom, no renown,
 Only my life can I lay down,
 Only my heart, Lord, to thy throne I bring, and pray,
 A child of thine, I may go forth
 And spread glad tidings throughout the earth,
 And teach sad hearts to know thy worth,
 Lord, here am I.

Nantziang and Käding, in Shanghai District, are in charge of Miss Rankin and Miss Coffey. The city of Nantziang marks the first extension of work in China under the Woman's Board. Miss Lochie Rankin and her sainted sister laid the foundation stones of the mission, both here and in Käding. Miss Lochie Rankin continues the work, assisted now by Miss Ella Coffey. Nantziang has enrolled 66 pupils; Käding, 138.

The following is from Miss Rankin, and will clearly show how systematically and successfully the work advances in spite of difficulties:

Although the Conference year has not yet ended, the bare record of its events would fill volumes. Still, in summing up the items, they seem commonplace enough, and scarcely different from other years.

The first quarter, closing so near Chinese New Year, always seems disconnected—a fragment of the former year, broken by the annual meeting, Christmas holiday, and often a general exodus of the older pupils who are ready to enter business. At its close I dismissed two lazy Christian teachers, and secured instead a heathen equally lazy and an ambitious pupil, who gave promise of becoming a useful Christian worker. The latter has long since gone into the telegraph office, but the lazy heathen will remain, a thorn in the flesh, until another China New Year. Fear of man has thus caused me to be impatiently patient of this unsatisfactory individual, and he owes the riots a debt of gratitude.

There were no special changes in the regular routine during the first quarter. Mrs. Hill continued looking after the Nantziang schools on Tuesdays and Fridays, and, buoyed with the hope of speedy relief, I kept all the schools in session and gave some special instruction in each. The girls' school proved the most difficult, and the bitterest sorrows that I have known in my mission life were in connection with this part of the work.

After the holidays, at Mrs. Hill's request, I took entire charge of the day schools until Miss Coffey's arrival, March 23. She took charge of the three schools under Christian teachers, and the one at Ta Tsang, leaving me free to give myself entirely to my own special work, the Anglo-Chinese schools. A fresh and wonderful impetus was given to the work by Miss Coffey's coming. In no way was this more apparent than in the increased number of little girls and their rapid improvement. Only those who have lived alone in a Chinese village thirteen months can appreciate what a benediction her presence has been to Louise Home.

At the reopening of the Nantziang schools there were very few of the old pupils and not many boarders. In Käding nearly all the former pupils returned, and there were new ones to fill every vacancy. There are eight departments in this Anglo-Chinese work, numbering one hundred and thirty-eight pupils. Of these, ten study English only, twenty-four English and Chinese, and the remainder are in the primary class,

which includes only Chinese and arithmetic. Six years in this department and a good examination on its course entitle a pupil to a three years' course in the English department. Each department is a special school, in charge of a native teacher and supported by special societies at home. Of these, four are in Kädin. The teachers are all natives of Kädin, and are highly connected. Two of them have been in the employ of the mission more than six years. There are seventy-two pupils enrolled and a regular attendance of nearly sixty. Of these, one has gone into business, one died, and one was transferred to Buffington College. The first mentioned was one of the original six who entered as day pupils when the school was opened nearly seven years ago. Three are still in school.

Too much praise cannot be given the native pastor, who has taken charge of the Bible classes on the days that I am in Nantziang. The Bible teacher too has done well, and seems to care for the advancement of his pupils, both in the knowledge and spirit of Christianity. Recently he proposed to take a class in geography, saying that it would be a great help in studying the Bible. The daily prayers held in the chapel under the girls' school are like Bible class meetings. All who can read take part, and the few hymns they have learned to sing sound very soft and sweet to one who knows what *Chinese singing can be*. Our greatest encouragement is that the older Bible students are beginning to make practical applications of the lessons taught. Two weeks ago, when asked who was our "City of Refuge," they thought awhile and then answered: "Jesus Christ."

I am glad to be able to speak rather hopefully of the Nantziang schools. Sixty-six pupils have been enrolled, of whom twenty-six are in the regular Anglo-Chinese class. Three are members of the Church, five are probationers, and all attend the daily prayers. The Bible woman assists in the primary department, teaching vocal music and giving the larger boys special readings in Matthew, easy *binli*. There has been a marked improvement in the singing, but we would be ashamed to say so before a stranger. Only Bishop Galloway (and ourselves) could believe it.

My own Bible classes have been a great pleasure and encouragement. For the English class I selected readings from every book in the Old Testament, and for those who only read Chinese I took the creation and Matthew. Sometimes the pupils are all attention and the lessons are delightful, but not always. One day, while attempting to explain Matthew vii. 10, 11, one little fellow, having heard something about a serpent, began telling about the number of snakes that had been found this year in his father's granary, and how it all portended a dreadful national calamity!

Of the schools in general it may be said that there are, perhaps, fewer cobwebs, less dust, and more ink stains on the wall. The seating capacity remains the same, although the books show an expenditure for a dozen new stools and half as many tables. This is a Chinese characteristic inexplicable to foreigners.

Despite the riots and massacres that have cast such a fearful shadow over the China Mission, we are sure that there are earnest inquirers among the people and that many are halting between two opinions. May it be our happy privilege to help them choose the "better part!"

Miss Coffey writes:

Six months ago I was introduced to my field of labor, consisting of four day schools—two for boys and two for girls—all under the care and instruction of native Christian teachers. Before I proceeded to take charge formally it seemed best that a personal teacher should be employed, and a few words and phrases, so necessary for communication, be learned. Accordingly, a heathen of good reputation as a teacher among his own people was called. The Celestial professor, with his face deeply buried in his sleeve, handkerchief and fan firmly grasped, was ushered into a foreign house, and with ceremony and difficulty seated near a coal fire, a luxury of civilization to which he had not been inured. Much shaking and trembling, accompanied by a profuse perspiration, followed, which necessitated frequent application of the much-prized fan and handkerchief. For the latter he seemed to have quite an aversion.

Hoping that an open window would relieve the sweltering Oriental, an attempt was made to open one. Trembling, shaking, anxious glances, and general trepidation on his part caused one to think that a host of evil spirits must be expected to enter as soon as the window was opened. As he regarded the new foreigner as such a formidable creature and a foreign house as such an unhealthy place, one more accustomed to foreign ways was substituted.

A first visit to one of the day schools was made. Foreigners entering the precincts in which "picket fence characters" were taught was a signal for nerve-rending, head-splitting yells from fifty sets of vocal organs, evidently well developed. Upon inquiry, the twofold purpose which this yelling served was revealed: First, the desire to be regarded as especially diligent; secondly, to drown the shrieks of two victims who were receiving full benefit of bamboo sticks, which were as well applied as could be expected of teachers trammelled by long sleeves and finger nails. The inhabitants of the land of Sinim "do by nature" at least one thing "contained in the law"—namely, use the rod.

Many strange and wonderful things have been observed about this people. Some of these unique characteristics and eccentricities are complimentary, and others have to be classed among "ways that are dark and tricks that are cunning." One observation is that they are the most economical people that I ever saw. Only two household utensils are absolutely indispensable—the mop and the face basin. Beds, chairs, and furniture of every other kind may be wanting, but the floor mop and basin—never. This mop is, at once, handkerchief, towel, sponge, dish cloth, broom, Solomon's rod, broomstick for both husband and wife, and general weapon of defense, especially when snakes and centipedes are numerous.

As for the face basin, time would fail us to enumerate its uses; suffice it to say that it serves as vessel of all work, from washtub to drinking mug.

This economical streak in their composition extends to soap and water also. Only in the length of cues, finger nails, and pipe stems can they be said to be extravagant.

I have watched with interest and increasing gratitude the deep spiritual growth of some of the teachers and the unfolding spiritual life of the pupils. It is very gratifying to look in upon a group of little girls and see them, with heads bowed reverently, returning thanks for a simple meal of rice and salad. We thank God and take courage when we hear the very practical prayers of the young teachers and Bible women. When they supposed that the foreigner did not understand, there were sorrowful confessions of sin, and prayers offered for the disobedient, untruthful, unfaithful pupils. Pathetic references to their sad home life, unfortunate street associations, and temptations to idolatry are frequently made in the afternoon prayers.

Owing to inability to speak the Chinese language, only instruction in the simple branches has been attempted. With the knowledge of a few words an attempt was made to direct devotional exercises. Counting on fingers the number of the hymn desired proved a success; then an effort to make a Bible woman understand that I wished her to lead the prayer followed. All signs and gestures, as well as "Pigeon English," and broken phrases of Chinese, failed. In desperation I resolved that I could show her better than I could tell her, so I knelt, which had the desired effect. I learned later that she understood at first, but that politeness forbade her to pray when an older woman was present.

All women and children coming to the home or schools are received with tea, rather than conversation. After these numerous and protracted calls, I find myself as well informed as the countryman who attended service at the Episcopal Church, and said: "All I know about it is, I riz and fell every time they did." As to the benefit the visitors derive, I am not so well informed. A well-known American professor has said: "Curiosity is the key to knowledge." Chinese have that key beyond a doubt; for, indeed, it is wonderful, passing the curiosity of woman.

Personally, the half year has been a happy, contented season. The work has been, from necessity indeed, neither in word nor tongue. Heart language, unmistakable, has taken the place of spoken. All such barriers as fear, timidity, diffidence, and formality have been dispelled. Now the children can speak to the new foreigner without trembling, stammering, blushing, and hiding both eyes behind their hands and arms. Further results remain to be seen.

Sung-kiang.—Although the Woman's Board has not entered this inviting station, the General Board entered several years ago, and the work among the women and children has made progress under the direction first of Mrs. Addie Gordon Burke, and recently under

the oversight of Mrs. Parker, whose husband is the present station preacher. From Mrs. Parker comes the following report:

As we look back over the past year, although we cannot see all the effects of our labor, yet we feel that it has not been in vain; for we know that whatsoever is done in His name will bear fruit to the glory of God the Father.

Since December I have been giving from two to four hours daily to the study of the language. I began my first regular work in March of this year. From that time we have had two meetings a week—one in our church reception room, on Monday afternoon, for the outsiders, which has been very encouraging, in that the same faces are seen at successive meetings. Not unfrequently our room is too small to hold the crowds that come. A meeting on Friday is held at the native parsonage. My plan was to devote this hour to Bible study with the Christian women, but after a few meetings the room was filled with outside women, so that most of our time was consumed in talking to them.

The first of April our working force was increased by the coming of an earnest and proficient Bible woman, Mrs. Zung, from Soochow. She has been a great help in many ways: visiting from house to house, teaching in the Sunday school, never missing an opportunity of telling the story of Jesus and his love. May God, through her, bring many of these poor women to a knowledge of the truth!

We were very much disappointed when we heard that the Woman's Board had decided not to open work in Sung-kiang the coming year, as we feel that the undivided attention which the young ladies could give the work would result in an abundant harvest. The harvest truly is great. We pray, therefore, the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into that inviting field.

We rest upon this promise: "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Soochow District.

MISSIONARIES.

MISS JENNIE ATKINSON,
MISS MARTHA PYLES,
MISS ALICE WATERS,*

MRS. J. P. CAMPBELL,*
MISS EMMA GARY,
MISS ANNE WALTER, M.D.*

Married women in charge of work.

MRS. A. P. PARKER,

MRS. DR. FEARNSNOW.*

*Home on leave.

In Soochow there are 12 day schools, 1 boarding school, 1 hospital for women, 1 hospital for children just completed, 328 children under instruction in the various schools, and 5 Bible women. The Annual Conference, held by Bishop E. R. Hendrix, brought together all the missionaries in China, and was a delightful occasion. In mak-

ing the adjustments for the year, the bishop moved Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Parker from Soochow to Shanghai. This caused distress in Soochow, but joy in Shanghai. Miss Laura A. Haygood was made agent of both districts, as we have only one for the other fields of work. The other missionaries returned to their old stations, except Mrs. Gaither and Miss Gary, who were exchanged, Mrs. Gaither being sent to Soochow and Miss Gary to Shanghai. Good work has been done at every point, and many converted and admitted into the Church during the past year.

Miss Atkinson reports:

The character of my special work, taken up at the beginning of the year just closing, has differed so little from that of past years that I feel that it needs little comment.

Bishop Galloway intrusted the day school work in Soochow to Misses Gary, Waters, and myself, and it still remains "day school work in Soochow," as of old, in its essential characteristics.

I well remember those summer, autumn, and winter days of 1889 when Mrs. Campbell and I took charge of this work—how happy I was to go to the interior and what great things I felt that God was going to do for those interesting children through us! The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions had three schools at that time, and the Parent Board, through Mrs. Parker, gave us three—six in all. We have been on the mountain tops and in the valley since then, have had successes and defeats to record; but in October, 1894, we numbered ten schools, with about 210 pupils. Now we have twelve schools, and the greatest number enrolled during the year has been three hundred.

Miss Waters, being in every way fitted for this important branch of work, especially in her constancy and true devotion to the best interests of the schools, did faithful service until we saw that her health demanded a change. After this change Miss Gary and I divided the schools between us, she taking Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, in which she has done good work, and of which she has something good to tell.

At the beginning not one of my seven teachers was a Christian, though all were doing faithful work. Now four of the seven have asked for Church membership, and are living consistent lives, so far as I know. One of them seemed to make up his mind fully while he was helping me revise and put in the Soochow dialect a little book of New Testament stories entitled: "The Sayings and Doings of Jesus."

If we cannot procure teachers who are Christians, the next best thing is that the books that are taught in the schools and the principles that we endeavor daily to enforce, should reach and change the lives of teachers as well as pupils.

Five of the seven schools are brought together on Sunday afternoons for Sunday school, conducted by Mrs. Campbell and myself, until her return home in May. Since then the natives have come to my assistance and rendered valuable aid. These five schools are in the same

building, and I have taught a little English in them, which did not require much time, but which helped wonderfully in keeping a hold on the older boys. One bright boy entered the school just for the English, but of course was required to take the regular course. In a few weeks he was taking more interest than any of the others in the Christian books, and sent his name, as a probationer, on the same day with his teacher. None are allowed to study English who do not take the regular course in the day schools.

If, as we hope, chapel services can be opened in this building this autumn, the schools will be greatly helped, and that will, no doubt, prove an unusually profitable center for work, as it is situated in a most important part of the city.

Mrs. Parker and I have been planning to open up woman's work in this place, and I trust that a meeting for women can also be carried on in connection with School No. 1.

No. 11 is a new school, opened about the middle of December. At China New Year it had five pupils, but the number has since run up to thirty-four. Six probationers have been received during the year from this corner of the work.

When Mrs. Campbell returned to America in May the Board appointed me to take her place as Agent of the district during her absence. There has been too little work done in that capacity, however, to require a separate report. I have missed Mrs. Campbell's mature judgment, and have felt keenly my inability to fill this position; but have done the best I could with the light and strength that I have had.

Repairs were needed right away on both homes, boarding school, and hospital; and what is still unfinished is, or will soon be, in the hands of the carpenters. The incidental fund was not sufficient for all these repairs, and I have had to draw more heavily than usual on the Contingent Fund to supply the deficit.

I can only speak in terms of the highest praise of the work done by my collaborators. Each in her own department—Miss Pyles in the boarding school, Miss Gary, with her share of the day schools, Dr. Walter in her tireless work of healing in the hospital, city, and country, and Mrs. Parker in woman's work—is doing efficient, conscientious work that no one else could do.

Despite the war and the unsettled state of the country, we have had more visible signs of God's presence in our work, and more to satisfy the longing in our hearts to see China brought to Christ, than any one year previous.

This report of the boarding school is given by Miss Pyles:

As we turn our eyes backward upon the year that is just closing, and attempt to formulate its events into something like facts on paper we are reminded again of the disparity existing between life and work as it is in reality, and in any account of it that can be written.

There are anxieties, perplexities, difficulties, joys and sorrows, heart-aches and failures, rejoicings over victories that go to make up our

work as inseparably as life itself. There is, too, the fullness of joy that abides through all, in the blessed consciousness that his hand is upon us for service.

With all my heart I give him praise for blessings and support and strength that have filled my life this year, and which have made my life and work so infinitely different from any representation that I could bring before you.

Our year began with a wedding, it being the marriage of our oldest girl, Martha Scarritt, to one of our young preachers. Two others of our girls have been betrothed during the year, one to a preacher, the other to a Christian teacher of high standing. There have been thirty-five pupils enrolled during the year. Three of this number have gone to our hospitals to study medicine. One or two proved to be unsatisfactory and were dismissed, so that twenty-seven and twenty-eight have been the standing numbers of attendance. Two pupils have joined the Church, and seven have become probationers. There are fourteen Christians in all.

One of the chiefest joys of the year has been the special work with my class of young Christians and with my class of probationers and religious instruction given to still another class, a class of little ones.

I have tried to carry into effect my theories in regard to personal work in school government and religious life; and though it requires more careful supervision, a greater expenditure of time and sympathy, yet it has proved a wonderful means of controlling Chinese girls. I find that private talks with pupils do much good, and sometimes a prayer offered, kneeling with the girl alone, does not only do more for her, but touches through her the whole school more than a month of general work. What every life needs is personal love and sympathy from one who would help her. It is Christ's personal love for each of us that we appreciate and appropriate, and which touches our life. O that our hearts might open to love the *souls*, the *lives* personally of those we work for!

I hope that I may be pardoned for admitting that this boarding school work for girls has quite filled my heart. The great need of our Church in China is educated women. The demand for such Christian women is already far beyond the supply, which fact causes me to ask that our borders be enlarged that a greater number of Chinese girls may be reared and taught to meet this great need.

McTyeire Home and School, in Shanghai, has its special work. Clop-ton School has its own work to do; and, situated as it is, where there are many other boarding schools of like grade, the limitation of twenty-five pupils may perhaps be the best possible regulation for that school; but for our school in Sochow—the only one in the region round about—this doorway to the interior, it is a serious drawback to our Church.

Dr. Parker is every year sending out preachers and teachers, whose life work and power for good will be lessened by half if their wives are to be heathens. There are many Christian families now where children are growing up ready to be educated. Shall provision be made for the

boys and not for the girls? Hence we ask for an appropriation this year for a new building to replace the already shattered old one, and prepare for a larger number of pupils, which we hope may not be denied.

Miss Emma Gary reports the day school work as follows:

The closing year has had its own peculiar trials and perplexities, mixed with many joys and blessings. Whether following the pillar of cloud or guided by the pillar of fire, we have realized alike the blessed presence of the Lord.

For some weeks after our last Conference Miss Atkinson, Miss Waters, and I were all in the Soochow day schools, and during that time only three were my charge. Early in the spring, when Miss Waters found it necessary to go to Shanghai, one of hers was added to my number; and, on Mrs. Campbell's leaving for the home land, another, a most flourishing school, fell to my lot. So, for the greater part of the year, I have worked in the five schools that I had last year and the year before. One is for girls, and at present has seventeen pupils; and the other four, while open for girls, are filled with small boys. There are more pupils, the average daily attendance has been better, and the outlook would be hopeful but for one fact: as soon as the children are large enough to be of use they are withdrawn and put to work. The larger boys have recently gone from all the schools to learn trades. One earnest, studious boy, who had long been in school and was longing to go to Dr. Parker's school, has just been put to work to support an opium-eating father.

Two little girls from a nunnery were in the girls' school and were doing well, but had no sooner learned enough of Christianity to tell the story to the older members of their order than they were both withdrawn and put to studying Buddhist books. All efforts to get them back were vain. The old nuns said: "We know that the Jesus doctrine is good, but if they learn it, they will not believe in Buddha." They spoke more wisely than they knew.

Too much cannot be said of the faithfulness of the native teachers, who through the long, cholera-scourged summer stood by their work and kept the little folks interested and busy. And they were blessed, for while hundreds all around were dying of that dread disease, not a teacher nor pupil had an attack.

With the closing year we lose two of the teachers, who have resigned in order to study medicine. Mr. Oo, who has taught for us for five years, goes to Dr. Park for medical training; and Miss Z., the teacher of the girls' school, goes to Dr. Walter for instruction. Both are Christians, and we hope will be blessed in the medical work.

All the schools attend Sunday school and church, and two of them have the benefit of a children's service, conducted every Sunday afternoon by Mr. Anderson.

Meetings for the women and girls are held weekly in two of the schools by Mrs. Parker and the Bible women.

One little girl has gone to the boarding school, and four boys to Buntington College.

Day school work, by Miss Alice Waters:

As I review the work of the year my heart is saddened because I have been able to do so little in the Soochow day school, which was my appointment for the year—so much less than I had hoped and planned to do. Because of ill health I have been obliged to “make haste slowly.”

At the beginning of the Conference year my work was changed from the west side of the city, where I had been laboring for a year and a half, and I was given much lighter work. I immediately took charge of two*of the boys' schools near here—those taught by Mr. Oo and Mrs. Tsu. These I visited several times a week until China New Year, teaching them to sing our Christian hymns, praying with them, and giving instruction in Christian books. Most all of the pupils are from heathen families, having no knowledge of the truth, except as they have learned it in the schools; and it is my one desire that the Lord may enable me to give them such a conception of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus that they can no longer be heathen when they leave our schools.

Never have I been happier in my work, and never have I really enjoyed teaching so much. As I come to know more of the language it grows easier and can be pursued with greater interest and pleasure.

As my health did not improve, it was thought best by my physician and the Agent that I should be transferred to Shanghai for a few months, hoping that I would thereby regain my former strength. At the opening of the McTyeire School, after the China New-year holidays, I began teaching English two hours in the morning.

Bible woman's work, reported by Mrs. A. P. Parker:

I am always thankful when the Lord can use me for carrying out his purposes; thankful that he is willing to take my bungling work and make it fit into his plans for his universe. He has given me a small corner to fill, yet I trust that it is the corner that he would have me fill; and as the year draws to a close, and the time for reporting that work draws near, it is with a prayer on my lips that he will bless what has been done.

To give a proper, honest report of a year's work is never an easy task, for one is apt to exaggerate either the difficulties or the importance of her own branch. I hold that there is no work of greater importance, and likely to do more good, than that which may be done by efficient women workers, going about from home to home and talking with the women they meet there. Nor is there a work set about with greater difficulties, one for which special gifts are more required. It takes tact to bring people to listen to an unpopular truth, tact to gain their confidence. It needs love in the heart to deal kindly with those who have only unkind words and ridicule with which to answer you. It requires great faith in God to keep at the work, day by day, without seeing greater results.

Our working force has been diminished by one this year. Mrs. Jen left to take up the work in Sung-kiang. We still have five women, four

of whom (Mrs. Loh, Mrs. Sen, Mrs. Jen, and Mrs. Oo) have been coming to me daily for their Bible lessons and other studies, and to report the previous day's work. Mrs. Mo, since Mrs. Campbell's departure, has joined our class. She has been occupied mostly with her work in the hospital, talking with the dispensary and ward patients, and trying to tell to all that come the gospel news. We are now holding our class in the hospital chapel, and the nurses and hospital servants unite with us in the daily reading and prayers. The patients too attend, and enjoy learning with us the Golden Texts.

The women have been visiting daily, as usual, in the homes of the day school pupils, and wherever there is a door open, or where they are specially invited. They have not made as many visits as usual this year; but we have held more meetings for the women, to which they invite those they do visit. These meetings are held on four days of the week in the afternoons: one at the Kong Hong church, two at the day school buildings, and one is our regular native woman's prayer meeting, held in the hospital chapel, at which we often have our room half filled by other than Christian women, the grand ladies rigged out in their satins and laces and the poor country women in their coarse, blue garments. The young, simpering girl and the grandmothers all come. I have attended all the meetings at the Kong Hong, accompanied by Mrs. Anderson, at the day school places by Miss Gary, as the meetings were held where she had her schools, while all the ladies, when they have the time, attend the Christian prayer meeting and take their turns in leading it.

On Saturdays, whenever possible, I accompany the Bible women on a boat into the country to the villages that are within two hours' run of the city. To some of these villages we have been time and again, and the country women, when they come to the city, like to be received into our homes, where they talk to us very friendly. I like to have these poor, simple-minded women come to my own home to see me; and they are glad to find friends in the Bible women, when they come to the city, and enjoy having a place at which to stop and talk.

We have been attended on a number of these trips by Dr. Walter or one of the hospital nurses, who dispense medicine to those who come to the boat for it, while the Bible women go out on shore to the women and spread the news that a physician has come to them, besides giving other messages. Often they think it a rare chance and are glad to avail themselves of it, and the Doctor is kept busy all day. Again they are shy, and only a few come. Some of the villagers are very friendly; others will have nothing to do with us, and repeated visits only seem to make them fear us the more.

The Bible women have been moved into a home nearer the church, occupying a vacant house in the ladies' compound. Here they are enabled to invite the women who come in from the country, or any others who wish to talk or wait for service.

We are glad to be able to report that land has been purchased for the Bible Woman's Home, and we are now ready to put up the building.

Purchasing land is a very slow and soul-vexing business in China. We hope that the home may be ready for occupation before the New Year. My desire is to have a place here where we can invite any woman in the district, who has any interest in the truth, to come and spend a few days, to learn more fully what we desire to teach; and if there are any who wish to learn to read, or are willing to be taught, to come here for a few weeks at a time for instruction. For this work I propose to ask for a slight increase in the appropriation for the incoming year. This work with the Bible women, together with what teaching I have been permitted to do in Buffington College, has filled my time and my heart. I have done what I could, but it has been imperfectly done. I hope another year to take the time to visit the homes more frequently.

Dr. Walter's report:

During the year just ended there have been treated from the hospital 7,327 women and children. This increase of more than three thousand over the number treated last year is really encouraging. The following figures give some idea as to the work done:

Patients treated in dispensary	3,412
Out clinics	530
Return patients	1,339
Stay patients	960
Out practice	372
Patients treated in itinerating trips.....	708
Patients treated in the wards.....	218
Operations	211
Out nursing	147
Mortality in wards	2
Prescriptions recorded	7,740
Total number treated	7,327
Nurses	4
Bible women	5

Just one year ago I asked for a children's ward, and now the land has been bought, the money appropriated, and we hope that the workmen will soon be at work on our new building. We all know how the North Georgia Conference, after a short talk by Mrs. Bonnell, enthusiastically contributed \$500 to this use, stipulating that the ward should be called the Alice Bonnell Ward; and at the same time, how the North Carolina Bright Jewels asked to be allowed to give \$1,500 to the same purpose, and to call it the Mary Black Ward. The difficulty was settled by calling the new building the Mary Black Hall, and the children's ward shall go by the name that is very dear to us, the Alice Bonnell Ward.

In this new building we will have six or eight small rooms, two large wards, and the Bright Jewel Sun Room. It seems a fitting name for this room, for it is through the work of the children—through the generosity, self-denial, and many heartfelt prayers of the little ones in the home land—that this good gift has come to God's wee ones in this land, where even the richest are more needy than the poorest in our own

loved land of fresh air and cleanliness. In this sun room our Bright Jewels will give health to many a starving baby and strength to the weak, and many a little heart shall be made glad in this, the most glorious of all our God-given medicines, the sunshine. I think that the external application of sunshine is more efficacious than plasters, and generates more warmth and love and sunshine in the heart than any drug extant.

We have a very promising nucleus for our medical college in our twenty students, ten of whom are Dr. Park's and ten mine, and we hope to begin our regular course of lectures at once. All the branches will be taught that are taught in our home colleges, and, in time, we hope to work it up to a very high standard.

I feel that something must be said about our nurses, for as nurses they leave nothing to be desired; nor can too much be said in praise of Dr. Leach, who certainly excelled in their training. During my summer vacation one of the nurses partially kept the hospital open and treated, with exceptionally good results, more than three hundred patients, while yet another went about, like a ministering angel, in the native city of Shanghai, and out of more than two hundred cases treated by her fully one-half that number were cholera patients. Only those who know of the secluded lives led by Chinese girls can appreciate the true courage and genuine Christianity shown in their conduct. I know that there is a grand opening here for Chinese women who have the courage to undertake this work. For this reason I believe that our medical college, which will grow out of the hospital, will be the real blessing to the Chinese. The present hospital work is but the foundation, laid years ago by wise master builders for the grander, fuller work of the future, for our Chinese medical men and women.

Since Mrs. Campbell left us Mrs. Parker has done invaluable work in the chapel, where she holds morning prayers with the nurses, Bible women, patients, and servants; and although her hours have been so fully occupied, she has yet found time to visit the patients in the wards and to tell them the sweet old story that is ever new, "of Jesus and his love."

Mrs. Mo, our hospital Bible woman, has been faithful and earnest in her work in the wards and dispensary. When the wards are full all the five Bible women come in to assist her for an hour or two every morning. During the year Mrs. Campbell's *protegee*, whose arm was amputated some five years ago by Dr. Leach, was received into the Church, and the same night her baby girl was baptized.

Mrs. Park has kindly taken from my shoulders one of their heaviest burdens, the Chinese guests. She is ready and glad to come at any hour in the day, thus leaving me time to attend to other pressing duties. We are planning to do some visiting together in the official homes, where we have been so cordially invited. Through her generosity we hope always to have flowers in our wards, and that she may be able to make daily visits to the ward patients.

I cannot express my appreciation of Dr. Park's ever ready assistance.

Last year I asked for a colleague. Surely God always gives us just what we need, for I do not think that I would have kept the hospital open if Dr. Park had not come and if he had not been the friend and coworker that he is. Not only I, but the whole mission has much to be thankful for in his return.

With all it has been a happy year, for we have been busy. More failures than successes have brought seasons of discouragement to physician, nurses, and patients, but the Great Physician has shed the sunshine of his love about us, and has shown us that, even when the shadows are darkest, we can run and not grow weary, walk and not faint.

MEXICO.

MEXICAN BORDER MISSION CONFERENCE.

WOMAN'S BOARD COMMENCED WORK IN 1881.

MISSIONARIES.

MISS NANNIE E. HOLDING,
MISS LELIA ROBERTS,
MISS DELIA HOLDING,

MRS. A. E. MCCLENDON,
MISS HARDYNIA NORVILLE,
MISS ELIZA CASE.

Mexico is a growing Mission, with increasing need of buildings and teachers. Laredo Seminary is the largest and most important point of the work. It is nearly three times as large as any other single mission. Besides its educational, social, and internal work generally, it has many outside calls, hence the necessity of larger expenditures here.

The following from Miss Nannie E. Holding, Agent and Superintendent of the work of the Board in Mexico, gives a clear statement of the present condition of affairs. Summing up the work at Laredo, she gives *nine hundred and twelve* as the number under instruction, with a teaching force of about twenty-three.

It is with a heavy heart that I take up the pen to write my annual report, for the loved name of her to whom I have addressed every one during the twelve years of my mission life is now but a memory, "neither know we what to do" in these first weeks of the great sorrow that has fallen upon us. Heretofore we have come, full of enthusiasm and gladness, to the time of the telling of our year's work, but now the pen moves slowly, and we cannot but wish that the time had not followed so quickly upon our grief.

Mrs. McGavock's life and thought were so closely interwoven with that of our mission, and we felt that she was following with loving interest every word we wrote, so it is with an effort that we turn to a record of the year's doings, its trials and its triumphs.

In a greater measure it has been marked by severe illness in the family, besides an innumerable array of small complaints. Early in the year Mrs. Driver, who has been at the head of the School of Music for some time, was suddenly stricken down, and for weeks we despaired of her life. She was graciously spared to us, and we could say in the tender words of St. Paul, "for indeed" she "was sick unto death; but God had mercy on 'her;' and not on 'her' only, but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow."

Later in the school term my sister became completely prostrated, and it became evident that entire change and rest, as well as medical atten-

tion, would be necessary. Dear Mrs. McGavock, as was her custom, came promptly to the rescue, and had her sent to the hospital of the Scarritt Bible and Training School, where she remained for three months, at the end of which time I went with her to our home in Kentucky. After a long stay of two months we again found ourselves in our loved mission at Laredo.

Sister returned to the work apparently well, and very much stronger than she had been for many months; but as the Board had prohibited her resuming her duties until the expiration of a year, she took up no regular work, though she kept constantly busy at something. The kindness and attention—I will use a stronger term and say loving care—that she received at the Training School will ever endear to our hearts the inmates of that noble institution. May God's blessing be upon it!

Among the small complaints the mumps proved the most persistent and annoying. I think I can safely say that there were one hundred cases. During its prevalency the domestic machinery was seriously disarranged, and the absence of so many necessarily broke into the harmony of the school work.

Death came to us once, carrying away one of the loveliest of the household, Elena, the niece of the Candelaria, who has been our comfort for so many years. Her last words were: "I am going to die, but I am not afraid; I am glad to go to be with my Saviour." There never was a gentler spirit than Elena's. In the seven years that she dwelt in our midst her life was without reproach. Can many lives leave a better record than that of this young Mexican girl? We are learning to rejoice in the "gathering home" of our Mexican children, who are the fruit of our labors. When we too are called, may they not be the first to clasp hands with us on the eternal shores?

Early in the year we were blessed with a revival, which equaled in power that of the "Harvest Year." Many of our household were brought to the saving knowledge of the Christ. Brothers Onderdonk and Cardenas conducted the services. The Spirit of the Lord was present from the first sermon in his reviving and converting power, and our souls were made to rejoice over the "found."

We have a full and most interesting Sunday school. We use the International Lessons, both in English and Spanish. We have nineteen classes. Several of the girls and one of the boys have proved efficient teachers. Servando Esquwel, as reported last year, continues the Sunday afternoon jail work, in which he has been assisted by Mrs. Catching, one of our teachers from Kentucky, and Miss Philpott, from Texas. Many of the prisoners have said to Servando: "I have learned of the truth, and feel my sins forgiven." This will be Servando's last year with us, as he will graduate in May. He often expresses a wish to become a preacher of the gospel. We trust that this desire may strengthen until it becomes a burning purpose, which shall not be satisfied until it reaches realization.

This boy of ours has also been the "right hand" of Mrs. Driver, who for six months has had the work of the West End Sunday school. This

school has shown good results, though at the cost of time and strength. Often Mrs. Driver and Servando, after waiting sometime for the children to make their appearance, would have to visit them in their homes and literally "gather them in" before the school work could go on. The pupils of this school are drawn almost entirely from the day school of the same name.

We still employ Lola in this work. She has been faithful throughout the year, and the school shows an increase in numbers over last year.

The New Laredo School, as for several years, has been taught by Constanza. The school is better organized, and it also, as West End, has increased in numbers.

Mrs. McClendon will give a full account of her work, which has grown out of all bounds. Really I do not know what we will do with it unless it can get into a home of its own. The school has a broad influence for good. Many of the pupils are gathered into the Sunday school of the Mexican Church, this having a regular course of Bible study, in addition to the religious teachings of Mrs. McClendon, which will be sure to bring forth good results.

Owing to the crowded condition of Mrs. McClendon's school, there has been no place for the woman's class, except as Mrs. McClendon made way for it one afternoon in the week. Yet, had there been a place, the workers could not have given more time.

Until my visit home Mrs. Catching and I gave every Wednesday afternoon to this class. It was all the time that she could give, as the rest of the week was filled with school duties.

During the latter part of the year Miss Ford, one of our Kentucky volunteers, has kept the West End woman's class at work. This work among the women is incalculable in its results, for it reaches the mothers in their homes, and I feel that we should be able to give it more time. In the class of the present year quite a number have shown a great desire to learn to read, and it has been my pleasure to teach them. It is a most touching sight to see these mothers of families bending intently over their books. One may imagine the labor that it requires for them to master their task, for they have never known the discipline of fixed thought. Sometimes one will say to me as she seeks a better-lighted corner: "The sight is short." I have furnished a number with spectacles, the possession of which seems to have opened a new world to them. So many of these women are very poor. Their poverty causes them to manifest gratitude for any garment, no matter how old, that we may give them. We have not received this year as many boxes of second-hand clothing as were sent us last year; still we have not been forgotten, and, by the help thus received, have been able to render a number of families comparatively comfortable.

The school work of the seminary has been up to the usual standard. To see that it is properly carried on has been Miss Norville's duty during my sister's rest. Miss Norville has been a member of our family for several years; this year we are glad to have her a member of our missionary force. She is full of interest and enthusiasm, and desires

nothing better than to spend her life in the Mexican Mission. In addition to the superintendency of the school she taught the senior class.

We had only four graduates this year, one of whom, since graduation, has assisted Mrs. McClendon; one has also taught at the seminary, while the other two returned to their homes.

Among the pleasant incidents of the year was the visit of Bishop Key during the session of the Mexican Border Mission Conference. One Sunday afternoon he preached in Faith Hall. Just before the service he baptized Anita's baby, Emory, and after the service performed the marriage ceremony of Antonia, one of our girls, and Señor Valasquez, a native minister of the Mexican Border Mission Conference. It was a full afternoon, and one of pleasant memories.

Soon after the Conference we lost, by marriage, from our missionaries Miss Mary Turner, who had served with us for five years. She still makes her home in San Luis, and says that she never expects to lose interest in the woman's work, of which she had charge before her marriage.

The boys' home has been under the control of Miss Edith Park. We have had a larger number of boys than for several years. Miss Park was placed over this department at the opening of the fall term. The first part of the year Miss Watts, from Missouri, had the boys. The latter did not return until the close of the year, so Miss Park continued to keep them, and has proved herself in every way competent to manage them. We trust to hold her as a fixture in our Laredo work.

Miss Anderson is still our mainstay. I left the domestic work and the finance in her hands while I was in Kentucky with my sister.

I thank God for the band of noble workers that we have had throughout the year, who have so patiently assisted me in bringing the work to its successful issue. With those named already we have had a number of bright young girls, giving their strength for the advancement of the Master's kingdom. They have taken much interest in the two branches of the Epworth League, and have not failed to attend a meeting throughout the year.

Report of Laredo Day School, in charge of Mrs. McClendon:

We have enrolled during the year 303 children. Of this number there were fully sixty who could not receive the attention that they needed, for there was no regular teacher for them; and many children I turned from the school, it was so useless to take them when there was no one to teach them.

The year 1895, like all the years of my work, had its lights and shadows; but I am thankful to say that its work brought to my heart joy that no shadow could obscure, for each year has established me more firmly in the hearts of many of my pupils and those of their parents.

My teachers have done their work faithfully, and Miss Thomas's fifth grade in English will be able to enter the sixth grade in the public school next September. I have pledged myself to buy the books for some of them; otherwise they cannot go. I have decided not to carry my pupils

higher than the fifth grade in English and the sixth in Spanish. These pupils study everything in two languages except the Bible and catechism, which are taught entirely in Spanish.

I do not care to count or remember the sorrows of 1895; the joys and blessings I could not count if I would; but here I would like to mention a few, and chief among them were the sympathy and prayers of the dear loved ones at home, the timely aid furnished me by the North Georgia Conference and the La Grange (Ga.) District, which Conference and district I proudly claim my own; and the loving help of the Mt. Crawford Juveniles, of Virginia, who so faithfully tried to pay the salary of one of my teachers. May the blessings of Heaven rest upon them all! The loving-kindness of Miss Holding and Miss Delia and the ladies at the seminary brightens my life. In conclusion I want to say that I have done the very best I could with the means at my disposal; and I think it best, for the year 1896, that we receive fewer children unless we have more means every way. The Sunday school is almost entirely composed of my pupils; then in my day school I have a very large class in catechism, a class in sacred history, and a Bible class.

SALTILLO.

Miss L. Roberts, in charge of this work, reports:

The rest at my home in Texas given me by the Board during our vacation in December and January helped me physically, and the Christian association spiritually, for the work of 1895. Coming back to Mexico the latter part of January, I knew not what awaited me. The year 1894 has been freighted with inevitable changes and trials. Miss Case, my faithful companion, had "stayed by the stuff" and looked after the flock during my absence.

On consultation, we found that to enlarge the work as circumstances seemed to demand would involve us in debt, and we had decided to retrench a little when friends, who learned this fact, came in and volunteered to help us with special classes without remuneration. These friends are Don Luis Gonzales, a Congressman, who taught physiology; Don Melchor Cadena, a lawyer; Don Francisco Sanches Urestii, a fine teacher of drawing; Rev. Andres Osuna, our pastor in charge; his brother, Gregorio Osuna, a normal professor and member of our Church; Dr. Otilio Cavasos; Don Alfonso Rodriguez, a mathematician; Don Eduardo Garial, the principal musician in the city; and Don Ruperto Gonzales, a notary public, who has so often helped us in time of need. I mention this for two reasons: to show our appreciation of and gratitude to these gentlemen, and to let the home workers know how our school is recognized and helped by these representative men.

We tried on every convenient occasion to impress the truths of the gospel on some of them who do not profess Christianity, believing that for this purpose the Lord had sent them to us. Will not the Church pray that the seed sown may produce fruit? All of them, except three, are familiar with the Bible and consult it continually. Would that we

could give them all the real knowledge of Jesus Christ in return for the scientific knowledge that they gave our class! This has been and is our earnest prayer.

Our employed teachers were 5; missionaries, 2. We enrolled 191 pupils, of whom 61 belonged to the strictly charity department, and 130 to the primary and collegiate departments. Eight women were members of our Bible and sewing class, making a total of 229 under instruction.

We found that better results were obtained by teaching the Bible to students by grades, and personally, rather than to the school as a whole, so our chapel services and Bible lessons were taught in separate rooms by our pastor, Miss Case, myself, and other Christian teachers, including students.

We have a new edition of "Gospel Hymns," the best that has ever been published in Spanish. The songs are such an inspiration and afford our children so much pleasure that, whether in chapel services or family prayer, they nearly always ask to sing "one more," although the allotted time may have passed. When children or older people will voluntarily leave play, or their own pursuits, to praise the Lord with song and learn to do his will, we know that the Spirit is leading them. There were a few last year who were not led in this way, and for them we are trusting. They are as sheep which have no shepherd.

It was our purpose during the year to make at least three visits among the people every week, though we often made more. In each visit we had a special object in view; sometimes it was to get acquainted with new families, encourage them to come to church and send their children to Sunday school; sometimes to look after the women of the Bible and sewing class; to distribute tracts; to comfort the distressed, succor and relieve the sick, or help prepare the dead for burial. There are always deeds of mercy for willing hands to do, and the heart is more easily touched when the needy body has been cared for.

The income of the school paid two-fifths of its expenses. One thousand dollars was spent on improvements. We are indebted to the Northwest Texas, St. Louis, and North Carolina Conferences for special contributions to help support and educate girls.

The Governor has recommended our school to parents in other parts of the State, who ask him for information respecting the best place to educate their girls. We have a relative of his wife with us.

Each year we can see that the streams of influence started here are widening and deepening. The heaven, though small, is doing its work.

Miss Case reports the work in Saltillo as follows:

The past year—really my first year of mission work, since I was here only four months of 1894—has been a very busy one; but the work was of such a varied character, and so much of it was *little things*, that I am at a loss to know how to tell about it.

As our grade work is Spanish, I could not go into the schoolroom as a regular teacher, but was given the English classes, which comprised

one class daily in the boys' and charity schools and one class to each grade of the girls' school. Besides this, I taught the daily Bible lesson in Spanish to the children in the primary department, and, for a part of the time, in the charity school as well. If any part of my work gave me more pleasure than another, it was those morning lessons with the children, teaching them passages of Scripture, explaining them as well as I could in the Spanish, and singing and praying with them. I taught also singing in this department, and for awhile before school closed had one music pupil.

For three months I was one of a class in normal training in Spanish, and during this time practiced some, teaching a class in Spanish daily. Much of my time was spent in study. I was so fortunate as to exchange lessons with a very intelligent lady, a teacher in one of the public schools, who wanted to learn English, and who gave me Spanish lessons in return. Outside of school and study hours I did some house work, having charge in part of the housekeeping.

My Sunday school class was made up of children from the charity school.

I often went with Miss Roberts to visit the people, and was many times saddened to witness the poverty and suffering of the poor and the want of real religion among *all*, rich and poor. We did what we could to relieve the wants of the needy bodies, and by counsel and a word dropped here and there tried to point the sick souls to the Great Physician, who alone has power to heal them.

NORTHWEST MEXICAN MISSION CONFERENCE.

MISSIONARIES.

MISS KATE P. MCFARREN,

MISS LUCY C. HARPER,

MISS ELLIE TYDINGS,

MISS LIZZIE WILSON,

MISS HATTIE G. CARSON.

Durango and Chihauhau are included in this Conference, and both are important and promising stations.

MacDonell Institute is located at Durango, with Miss McFarren in charge. Miss Tydings and Miss Carson, with assistant teachers, conduct the work with gratifying success, though many difficulties have to be met and overcome.

Chihuahua, under the care of Miss Lucy C. Harper and Miss Lizzie Wilson, has made decided advancement during the past year. Collegio Palmore has received necessary repairs and additions. The building purchased from the General Board recently has greatly increased the facilities for school work. But the missionaries in charge fully represent the missions in the reports which follow.

Miss Kate P. McFarren, writing from MacDonell Institute, says:

The year that has just closed has been full of mercies, and among our many blessings during this eventful year we count the *death* of one of our pupils as a special mercy. She was the first member of our family ever lost by death, but her end was so full of hope and so peaceful that we all felt it an occasion for the lifting up of our hearts to God in thanksgiving. The child had been with us a little over a year, but she had received so truly the assurance of the pardon of her sins, and her heart was so full of the Holy Spirit and of love for the Saviour, that her influence was felt not only in the school, but by many friends outside.

The school has been very prosperous, notwithstanding some removals. Our teachers have been so earnest and faithful as to make their influence felt, and the children have made marked progress mentally and spiritually. Miss Lizzie Cherry began the year with us. Her great love for the cause constrained her to *give* her services to us, and she did most earnest and zealous work in the schoolroom from the beginning of the term in January until the last of July, at which time her health gave way, and Miss Hattie Carson, our new missionary, took her place. We are very thankful that Miss Carson has been sent to us. She is a true helper in the Lord, and did efficient work until the close of the session.

We had a very pleasant entertainment, which was well attended by the Mexican people, and we feel this to be a step forward.

My accumulating duties, as my family grows larger, prevent my visiting among the women as often as I would like; but I am frequently sent for, and these special visits I always make.

Durango Statistics.—Missionaries, 3; foreign teachers, 2; native helper, 1; pupils enrolled for the year, 87; outside pupils in private, 15; enrolled in woman's work, 22; pupils in Sunday school, 51; boarders in family, 19; members of the Church, 10.

Miss Tydings reports:

As we have more and more outside classes, and Miss McFarren wished me to take charge of them and the sewing society for the women, I asked to be relieved of the music class; so she engaged another teacher for that and gave me several hours' work in the schoolroom each day.

My work among the poor becomes more interesting all the time, and in connection with the sewing society for them I have decided to begin teaching those who do not know how to read or count.

Several of our girls are members of the society; and, if necessary, I am sure that they will gladly assist me; also Mrs. Elliott, who has always helped me so much. Very few of these poor women can read and many cannot even count, and they will be so delighted to learn to read their Testaments, and it will be such a great help to them to know how to keep their own accounts. All of my society, and almost all of our pupils, are regular attendants at Sunday school and all of our religious services, and most of them are members of the missionary society and have their mite boxes.

We have had the satisfaction of seeing several of our pupils become

members of the Church during the year, and a deep interest has been manifested by many others, for all of which we are so thankful.

The outside classes are in the houses of those who are yet afraid to send to us, but willing to pay to have us go to them.

Among the number are four nieces of the archbishop, who has his palace here. I am more and more convinced that these classes in their homes is one of the surest means of breaking down the fearful prejudice that they have against us; and although we are not allowed to teach them the Bible as we do in our schools, yet we often have excellent opportunities of talking with them upon religious subjects, and of course we try to improve every such opportunity by sowing the seed of truth in their hearts.

During vacation Miss Carson took charge of my classes; and not only did she give entire satisfaction as a teacher, but endeared herself to all with whom she came in contact.

Miss Carson reports the following:

Arriving in Durango on Friday, July 26, I went into the schoolroom the following Monday, and by Wednesday had entire charge of the higher classes. This work always keeps me busy until four o'clock in the afternoon. Although being accustomed to teaching children of the same grade, I soon became used to the change, and really like the variety.

Five services during the week demand our attention, three of these services being on different nights. Of course I immediately connected myself with the Sunday school, and the larger American children were given to me.

As only four of the girls went away during vacation, I had the responsibility of quite a family, but I am glad of the experience, and on account of it feel a little better fitted for the work.

The English classes were really a pleasure to me; and although the pupils are strict Catholics, they seemed glad to have me instruct them. Miss Tydings accomplished a good work when she gained admittance to these wealthy families. When they first learn that we believe in God and Christ they are very much surprised; but as we do not worship Mary, our religion is to them almost the same as no religion at all.

Miss McFarren returned on the 10th of January. It is not necessary to say that she received a hearty welcome.

On January 13 the school again opened under the most promising circumstances. One great advance which we have made is that the people are beginning to lose their fear of entering our institute, and are now coming to us for English. Two young ladies who were quite bitter against us at one time, and generally made derogatory remarks as they passed, now spend an hour here every day.

The main schoolroom has been greatly improved. We now have a board floor in place of bricks and a good supply of nice single desks.

The children are delighted with their new algebra, physics, physical

geographies, etc., that have just arrived, and altogether the future looks bright.

I have found everything in Mexico so much better than I expected, and my work is a great pleasure to me. Every day I feel so thankful that God, in his good providence, has led me into this particular service.

CHIHUAHUA.

Miss Lucy Harper reports the following:

January, 1895, found our school in good running order, and it made no change, except for the better, throughout the year. It is divided in two departments: Spanish and English. Pupils preferring the English course entire take up Spanish, if they wish it, as a branch in the fifth year. Pupils taking the Spanish course are required to study English as a branch after completing the fourth year. The Spanish Department has only the first four grades; the English runs no higher than the fifth, which means that our school is young, and we have trained our pupils only so far as yet. In the English Department nearly all the pupils pay; in the Spanish, most of them expect and receive free tuition, as in the State schools.

We have three English teachers: Miss Julia Smither, of San Marcos, Tex., first and second grades; Miss Annie Churchill, of Burnett, Tex., second and third; Miss E. S. Shera, fifth. Miss Shera has divided the Spanish and English schools into five drawing and writing classes, and gives them her mornings. All of the girls over the first year of the two schools have been divided into two calisthenic classes. To each of these she gives two periods a week, our Spanish professor giving the boys over first year a daily period in military exercises.

We are certainly getting solid work done in the grades, thanks to the decided character, ability, and energy of their respective teachers.

Miss Wilson has the whole school carefully divided into eight Bible classes, and there is where her heart is.

The four Spanish grades are in the hands of Señorita Barrantey and Prof. Gomez del Campo, both capable, untiring teachers, who have taught in the State schools and know that their work with us must bear the test of State examinations.

Recognizing the fact that a large part of our Spanish course girls must be prepared to make a living in some way, we engaged our kind friend, Mrs. Guadalupe Elias, to teach drawn work and embroidery. This class was opened four months ago. About the same time the Governor opened an industrial school for girls, where they learn much, from stocking knitting to typewriting. His movement met with great favor. Ours must have been God's leading; four young ladies came for this class only, who would otherwise be away from our influence, probably in the industrial school. The girls have turned out some pretty work, some of them already finding sale for it. We have drawn six pupils into the school from Mrs. Elias's circle of friends.

We send out our announcements once a year, try to keep the place

looking thrifty, and try to do work that will merit success, depending upon our God to bless our efforts and incline the hearts of the people toward us. And he is doing it. Two of the friends who interest themselves most constantly, heartily, and successfully in our favor are Romanists—one of them an American, the other a Mexican.

The music class is a thriving one. Twenty-eight pupils were enrolled during the year. These, except in the case of a very few, deserving special lessons and for whom we have had the services of two Mexican professors, have been in Miss Morrow's care. Some of the girls are from the Spanish course and are preparing themselves to play for the congregations in their home churches. Two did not appreciate this opportunity, and dropped out. One of the Mexican girls came from a little Mexican town, two or three hours down the Central road, where there is a company of believers, but no preacher. She came to learn to play the organ. She was twenty, and knew no music and little else. She will make a better home and a better Christian by her stay among us. She wrote home after the last quarterly meeting: "There is nothing like the comfort of the Holy Spirit in the heart. It is very necessary that you all should have prayers night and morning." This remembrance takes me out of the grade work to the "waving palms and water springs by the way." Brother Corbin held a meeting with us in the early spring that was a time of blessing to both teachers and pupils. In the fall we had the week of association with Bishop Key, Brothers Corbin, Winton, Elliott, and others, and Sister Corbin and Miss Kelley. Again, in December, there was a good time when Brother Corbin came down to hold the first quarterly meeting.

Our Christmas was made far sweeter and brighter by the loving help of friends in San Marcos, Fort Worth, and Huntsville, Tex. Most of these kindnesses reached us through Miss Julia Smither, whom our little children call "Santa Claus's cousin."

The Texas children have helped in our quilt making by sending package after package of cut pieces. Much happiness and comfort have been provided for the children supported by the school by bundles of clothing received from Texas.

When I made my last report we had five boys in a borrowed house, and I was their school mother. Now the house is surely ours, and twenty-six boys have called it home this year. A feeling of loneliness comes over me when I think that we cannot tell Mrs. McGavock about it, and get back loving words of cheer from her to treasure up as prophecy and promise of good. The boys' house is a good, comfortable, pleasant home. I want to be a faithful mother to the boys asleep in it to-night, and to others who shall come; and I want to keep always bright in their hearts, as in mine, grateful memory of those friends by whose efforts it is secured to us.

We have had heavy work this year. Miss Wilson and I could never have accomplished our part had she not secured for us each a good stand-by. Carolina takes many heavy burdens from her shoulders, and Maria from mine. They belong to the faithful few. Florencio, the

good *mozo* left us by Miss A. V. Wilson, and Refugio, who has been so long with Miss Toland, are like them.

Miss Wilson often says: "Sister, we are rich!" And we are—rich in remembrance of the mercies of the year, rich in comforts provided for us, rich in our Faculty, rich in the love and prayers of our friends, rich in opportunities, rich in the subduing influence of the Spirit of God that rests on our children now, rich in the promises of God for the future.

WOMAN'S WORK.

Miss Lizzie Wilson reports as follows:

"Thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee." (Deut. viii. 2.)

Looking back over the past year, our hearts are filled with gratitude and we are constrained to say: "What hath God wrought!" Our work has been blessed and prospered beyond our highest hopes. We remember again that it is written: "A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the Lord will hasten it in his time." (Isa. lx. 22.) To him we render grateful thanks. We have had favor among the people, and feel that our work has taken hold and is making a way for itself. The difficulties that stood in our way a year ago are a thing of the past. The property has been enlarged and improved. By the bounty of our Board we now own a good house and ample grounds for our boys.

At the close of school our examinations were very good, bringing to me the compliments of the Governor. This meant much, as they were conducted chiefly by a committee sent by himself.

It is a blessed trait that old Father Time has of minifying the trials and magnifying the blessings as we turn to the past, for our summer was not without real and serious difficulties. The first thing we undertook was a new dining room. The walls were about five feet high when the rainy season set in, this year with unusual severity. The rain would have made work hard anywhere, but especially so in Mexico, where we build with sundried brick. Another difficulty that we were compelled to face was a leaking house. An improvement was the getting in of water pipes. This need we had felt from the first, as in dry weather the supply was always short or cut off altogether.

Two new teachers have been added to our number—good, faithful helpers that we hope to keep from year to year. As our school grew we were compelled to make quite an outlay for new furniture, tables, chairs, beds, etc.; and bed and quilt making have gone steadily forward in every spare hour. At the beginning of the year I had said that I would be willing to see our family grow to fifty, but the close of the year showed that we had made a home for eighty. In the domestic department Miss Price has proved herself a valuable helper.

In the early part of the year I had much comfort in the women's classes. They were well attended. Since the opening of school in September I have not reorganized the work for lack of a suitable room. Now that we have gotten our new property, we will begin at once. My

especial joy lies in teaching the Bible classes in school. This work has not been without good fruit; five of our boys and girls have been converted and have united with the Church. One of these, a sweet young girl, came to me a few days after and asked if she could see me by herself. I said: "Yes, Juana; come after the other girls go to their rooms." She came, and, kneeling down beside me, said: "Miss Wilson, teach me how to pray to God. I have never prayed to him, only to the Virgin and the saints, and I don't care to pray to them now. I want to thank God for my conversion." She and her brother bought themselves Bibles, and sent one to their mother for Christmas, so we thank God and take courage.

We had a great pleasure in the fall. The Northwest Mexican Mission Conference met with us in Chihuahua. We rejoice in the fact that God has given us a good native pastor, and just the best pastor's wife. We have given them a home with us, and hope that they will not be moved for the full four years.

The Governor takes special pride in the public schools and in the education of his people; but we alone give them the bread of life, the true knowledge of God as revealed in the Bible.

During the year we enrolled one hundred and eighty-six in school and woman's work. We hear of good words of appreciation of our school, going out into the mines and mountains and adjoining towns. The arrival of pupils and letters of inquiry is sometimes an everyday matter for weeks together.

May our work serve to spread the light, and may the time soon come when the knowledge of God shall cover the whole land and the night of superstition be a thing of the past!

CENTRAL MEXICO MISSION CONFERENCE.

MISSIONARIES.

MISS REBECCA TOLAND,
MISS A. V. WILSON,

MISS VIOLA BLACKBURN,
MISS MATTIE DORSEY.

The schools at San Luis Potosi are telling upon the place, and number at this time about two hundred and fifty pupils. Miss Turner's marriage necessitated the immediate removal of Miss Blackburn from Laredo to San Luis Potosi in October. Miss Toland continues in charge and has much success, notwithstanding the want of suitable accommodations for a growing school.

Guadalajara, the youngest of our Mexican missions, has already given indications of large success. The school is no longer in a "hired house" subject to the caprice of a Romanist or his spiritual adviser, but in the building purchased a year ago. The money, it is hoped, may all soon be in hand to complete and equip the purchase. Miss A. V. Wilson and Miss Mattie Dorsey are our regular

appointed missionaries here. They were kindly assisted by Miss Laura Strider, of West Virginia, who gave her valuable services during the year. Over one hundred and three pupils have come within the influence of these consecrated women since the school opened last May, making a total of 1,783 under instructions in Mexico.

SAN LUIS POTOSI.

Miss Toland makes the following report:

The past year has been an uneventful one in the history of our school. The year opened with only one missionary in the work, five American teachers, and one native pupil teacher. With these only one department of the work was opened, a pay school for girls. We began with many of our old pupils and all the arrangements much the same as the preceding year. As ours is only a day school, with never more than three or four boarding pupils, we do not have the varied experiences in the home life of a boarding school.

It is not for lack of children who apply that we do not have boarding pupils, but on account of the want of room. In our very small house it is impossible to take them. Applications from pupils desiring board have come in from quite a number of cities besides our own. Many parents prefer to have their children board in the school they attend, even though they live in the same town. It is quite a tax on them to send a servant with their children to and from school twice a day. They do not consider it safe for the children to go alone. On the whole, they dislike to have them on the street.

We have had exceptionally good teachers the past year. They were all so faithful to duty, and took such an active interest in the children and school, and were a great help in Sunday school.

We still keep to the English course, with only a few classes in Spanish. The demand is still for English.

We have had a good music class; toward the close of the year we had more than we could accommodate with our three pianos. All of our pupils are paying pupils, and, as a rule, pay promptly the tuition required. As the tuition we receive is in Mexican money, and we pay our American teachers on a gold basis, the school is still far from self-supporting.

The school, as a whole, has attended chapel exercises more regularly than ever before, and the Bible classes have given their teachers much pleasure by the interest they have shown in their lessons. Occasionally we have made some of the pupils presents of Bibles, which they seemed to appreciate very much.

Early in the year Miss Turner (now Mrs. Jessup) came to take charge of the charity school and woman's work. Her success has justified what I always thought: that a missionary could accomplish much more with the school, teaching it herself, than could ever be hoped for from a Mexican teacher.

After Miss Turner resigned Miss Blackburn soon came to supply her vacant place. Miss Blackburn has been very brave in taking up the whole work, including the visiting. As she understood so little of the language, her Mexican assistant has been of great help to her, being with her all the time to interpret.

The missionaries have always lived with us, while Mr. Winton, of the General Board, has been very kind in renting us rooms for the charity school and woman's work.

In our English Department we cannot do much more than we are doing now unless we have more room. We are too crowded as it is. The music teacher and I have no place to teach but in our bedrooms. I regret that.

We trust the Lord to guide us to do his work acceptably.

Total number of pupils enrolled during the year, 116; number in music class, 25; number who have attended Sunday school, 41.

WOMAN'S WORK.

Miss Blackburn makes the following report:

It is with feelings of deepest gratitude to God for his goodness in permitting me to be here in this, my chosen, field of labor for him that I attempt to tell you something of the work that has been committed by you to my care.

As I have been here only two months and a few days, the work done by myself is scarcely worthy of mention. When the news of my appointment to San Luis Potosi reached me I was in Laredo, engaged in mission work in the seminary, where Miss Holding is in charge. This is a large school and is doing much for Mexico.

Miss Virginia Winton, sister of Rev. G. B. Winton, of the Parent Board, was in charge of the charity school and woman's work when I arrived, and everything was moving on nicely. She remained with me, at my request, in the school a week longer, and was of great assistance.

Miss Turner had left everything in order, and as I had an interpreter the work was not so difficult as I had imagined that it would be. The greater part of my time is spent in teaching. I begin at half past eight in the morning and teach until four in the afternoon, with an intermission of an hour and a half at noon. I have the same children in school, with a few exceptions, that I found when I began. Some of them are very bright and appreciative, and have already found a warm place in my heart.

Mrs. Cox, the wife of the missionary under the Parent Board, has been of great assistance to me in the religious service of my school by playing on the organ. She comes in every morning and plays while the children sing. They are very fond of singing the Spanish hymns, and some of them have very sweet voices.

We have no school Friday afternoons, and the women meet to sew. After they are through with the sewing we have a missionary meeting, conducted usually by the native pastor. These meetings are very in-

teresting. It is touching and very beautiful to see these poor women, who have themselves been benefited by the gospel, giving their hard-earned *centavos* to send it to those who have it not. I think that I enjoy the house to house visiting among the poor more than any other part of my work. My interpreter goes with me and reads the Bible and prays. Nearly all of the families are Catholics, and some are too fanatical to have the Bible read in their homes.

I have a native teacher and am trying to learn the language, but have very little time for study. I have three lessons a week.

We have a lovely home, presided over by Miss Toland, who understands so well how to make everything pleasant and attractive.

GUADALAJARA.

The report of Miss A. V. Wilson is as follows:

In great weakness of body, and sometimes in suffering, I have spent in Guadalajara the year that is past, but I am glad to report that I have at no time been unable to do the work that depended upon me. The coming of Miss Strider to my help was a token that the Lord remembers our infirmities. I do not see how I could have passed through the winter without her.

At no time was our school suppressed. In September we moved into the lower half of our own property—a great relief, for the house that we entered was so greatly out of repair that we were at the mercy of the summer rains, and too far from our church for our smaller children to attend the school. We have been pressed for room. My boys were taught in the corridor, and such girls as lived with me made their beds on the benches or brick floor of their schoolroom. Still all have had good health, and it has been a peaceful time.

Miss Dorsey will report her charity school. The numbers have fluctuated; but, on the whole, there has been an increase; and not only so, but a greater number of Catholic children are coming in.

As I learn more about it I am more pleased with our purchase of property for the school. All opinions concur with ours in believing that it is desirable and moderate in price. The city is improving rapidly in our section, and property is increasing in value. Houses for rent are scarcely to be found. The Congregational missionary is ordered to leave his home, and sees no other suitable place in reach, and the school of another missionary is forced into an extreme suburb. I am happy that we cannot be turned out.

Our pay school is small. It will be slow work to gain an entrance into the richer families of Guadalajara. The sentiment does not yet obtain that girls need more than an ornamental education. It will come in time, for the Mexicans are a proud and an ambitious people, and as they learn the difference will not allow us of the United States to remain ahead of them.

I wish that I could tell of great religious progress among our pupils. Not many of them are large. Several of them have united with our Church during the year; others are asking to be received.

The Lord is faithful to his promises. We are sowing the seed in reliance on his word that it shall bring forth.

My pupil teacher, Florentia Alvarez, deserves mention for her piety, sweet disposition, and faithful, earnest work. In school, house, and Church work she is untiring and efficient.

Miss Dorsey writes:

My time has been given almost entirely to the Spanish school; and though it has been a year of hard work and study, it has been a very pleasant one to me. We have enrolled over seventy boys and girls in this school. It is divided into three departments—one for the girls, another for boys, and the primary grade. While the attendance has not been what we desired, still it has been fairly good. Our own children have only been absent on account of sickness.

We have taken in about twenty Catholic children, and all of them read and study the Bible. One boy, about twelve years of age, who rings the bells of one of the prominent churches of the city, asked me for a Bible to take home. I gave it to him, and he told me a few days ago that both he and his father read it carefully every day. A soldier made the same request not long since; so did one of the street car conductors. We have given a large number of Gospels to the prisoners. A night guard at the penitentiary told me that a hundred of them came out believers this year. The guard is a Christian, and comes to the college for all the books and tracts that we can get for him. Most of the pupils are bright, happy children, loving their studies.

We have formed a Bible Society, only admitting as members those who promise to read a portion of the Scriptures each day. We meet once a week to talk over the lessons that they have read during the week and to have a prayer meeting. A large number of them attend Sunday school and Church, so we are hoping and praying that they may soon be brought into the Master's fold.

SOUTH AMERICA.

WORK OF WOMAN'S BOARD OPENED IN 1881.

BRAZIL MISSION CONFERENCE.

MISSIONARIES.

MISS MATTIE H. WATTS,	MISS LULA ROSS,
MISS A. V. MOORE,	MISS SUSAN LITTLEJOHN,
MISS AMELIA ELERDING,	MISS LAYONA GLENN,
MISS MARCY W. BRUCE,*	MISS WILLIE BOWMAN,
MISS ELIZA PERKINSON,	MISS MAY UMBERGER.

* Home on leave.

São Paulo District.

The work here has had its foundations laid deep and broad, and no more interesting mission is under the care of the Woman's Board. The opportunity of extension in every direction is only limited by the resources of the Board and the fewness of the workers. Miss Watts, now in charge of the work at Petropolis, is the agent of the Board and supervises each of the stations. She best presents the work under her charge herself. Miss A. V. Moore and Miss S. Littlejohn are in charge at Piracicaba. Miss Ross and Miss Perkinson are carrying on the school at Juiz de Fora. Miss Elerding and Miss Bowman are at Rio, and Miss Glenn and Miss Umberger are with Miss Watts at beautiful Petropolis. Very interesting accounts are presented by each which show untiring effort and cheering results, Miss Watts's report being as follows:

To begin with, I must say to you that, having had the work of Directress of Collegio Americano de Petropolis since May 7, I have not been able to do the whole duty as Agent, as marked out by the Foreign Secretary of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions.

Since I came to Petropolis I have made one trip to Juiz de Fora, two to Piracicaba, and five to Rio de Janeiro in the capacity of Agent. Rio is near, and I can combine other business with my trips there. I have kept up a constant correspondence with the directresses of the work at these points, and in that way have kept in touch with them and their work. As I understand the functions of my office to be not only Treasurer for the mission and reporter of the work, but a helper in a general way, I have made many plans for unifying the work, but have not been able to carry them all out, owing, as I said above, to my duties in the Collegio Americano de Petropolis. If I could have the time to carry them out, I am sure that I could assist the Principals to perfect a system of education for Brazilian girls, the foundation of which would be the Gospel, of course. I hope to arrange my work so as to work out at least some of them in the near future. Our schools now are better than any of the Catholic schools, either Church or private. The sisters'

schools have beautiful discipline, but little or no real instruction; certainly no development in our pupils who have come from them. We want the discipline, too, and we have it; but we want true education as well, and we will not rest satisfied until we secure it. "The twain shall become one" beautiful whole, which may be called life in a high sense—the education of body and mind. Our schools are better than any others that we know, but they can be improved in the details of the methods of teaching and general organization.

The school at Piracicaba has gone right along since I left there, showing, as I believed and declared, that the school is established on its own basis, and does not depend on any one person. Miss Alice Moore and her sympathetic assistant, Miss Susan Littlejohn, have, with hired assistance, worked on through the year, and had the satisfaction of seeing the closing exercises pass off amid the cheer of admiring friends. Miss Moore thought the work and attending trials too much for her, but she has recovered from the fatigue, and absence from the scene has restored her courage. I believe that she is stronger than before and is better able to direct the school of which she is the appreciated Principal. Miss Littlejohn wants to go on with the work, but sometimes feels that she cannot. She thinks that perhaps she could continue if she could have a change of work for awhile, so as to be freed from the class room so constantly. The coming session will determine what is best to be done in her case.

The school at Juiz de Fora, according to the report of the directress, Miss Ross, is in better condition than ever before. I went to visit that school in May, and found things moving on in the usual routine. One of the questions at that time was as to whether the school should adopt the new plan of giving its longest vacation in cold weather, which, after due consideration, was decided upon. The other was in regard to the nonpaying or part paying pupils that the school should carry. It was decided that the school could no longer carry the burden that was on its shoulders then, and so, when vacation came, a number of them were dismissed. In point of numbers this change was felt in prejudice to the school, but from a financial standpoint it was to its advantage. We yearn over every child who knocks at our doors; but we have found by experience that the schools cannot sustain many of those who do not pay at least enough to cover the expense of the table. We have done much for children that we have taken in to do the housework in payment for board and tuition. They have gained by it, for they have gotten a knowledge of housekeeping as well as book knowledge, and I deplore greatly that we cannot push this work, but results show that it cannot be done.

Miss Bessie Moore went home on business. Miss Perkinson came just before she left, and was on hand and able to take a part of her work, thus preventing the interruption in the school that otherwise would have occurred, and the school moved on.

I visited the Rio day school twice, both times seeing what I could, and inquired into its workings. I went to take part in the closing ex-

ercises on November 29. After seeing the school before and corresponding with Miss Elerding at length about it, with her consent, I declared the school closed until May or June, at least—that is, until the fever season had passed. To wait for reënforcements or to spare a teacher from somewhere will be the care of the next few months.

While Miss Elerding was in the schoolroom the visiting work was kept up by Miss Hamilton until the coming of Miss Bowman, who accompanied Miss Hamilton in her rounds.

I send with this a letter from Miss Hamilton, written me soon after one of my visits. Miss Bowman's coming gave new impetus to this department of the work, and now that Miss Elerding is free from the school work they are planning for greater things. The fever season rises up in our minds as a gaunt specter that threatens disaster to these plans, however.

The work at Petropolis is so new that it can hardly be considered on a footing with the others; and as the Agent is directress of the young establishment, she cannot be supposed to see it from so high a plane, and consequently cannot report it in the same way. Miss Glenn and Miss Umberger are applying themselves to the study of the language, while giving assistance in the household as well as other school departments.

These representatives of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions in the various fields of labor are doing all they can to build up the Church in Brazil. They attend the services and the Sunday school and contribute liberally to all the enterprises of the Church. When the brethren need money they know for a certainty where they can get at least a part of it. All are loyal to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions and are anxious to represent you well in the field. We are thankful to our Board for giving us the workers and the money that we have, and this year we are asking for more women and more money. We must have more women to carry on our work as it stands; for while it is possible to hire assistance to do the work of teaching, we cannot hire influence for good, we cannot hire Christian work. We must have women who come to work and to stay for the work if we want to reach the end that we came to attain. We must have a home and school building in Juiz de Fora, for the school is widening in its influence and it should have its own house. We want to buy ground and build on it, instead of buying a house built for other uses to do over to adapt to ours.

We are asking for more rent for Rio, for we must have a house large enough to accommodate the day school, and, at the same time, have a home for the missionaries. They must be cared for better than heretofore.

We know that times are hard in the home land and that the good people's pockets are open, but we do not believe that they are drained. We believe that our Church ought to give more to establish Christ's Church in the heathen world; and if we ask, and have faith, we believe that we shall receive that we ask for. Dear sisters, give us what we ask for, and we will do your work for you in this field by God's help.

PETROPOLIS.

Miss Watts reports as follows of the work at this point:

While we were gathered together in Piracicaba for our annual meeting a telegram came from Brother Tucker telling us that the property was secured and that we might ask for appropriations to that field. We did this, and the Board responded generously.

The property was bought, and it was to be my work to organize and direct the school for the present. I commenced to get the Piracicaba school in shape to leave in Miss Alice Moore's hands, and wrote to Mr. Tucker that I would be in the new field in April, so that he might announce it to the public. I had decided to bring Miss Glenn with me as assistant missionary, and secured the services of Mrs. Fannie Kennedy Brown as music teacher. I also brought with me one of my Brazilian girls to assist me in house and school. When we arrived, on the 5th of April, we found the new missionaries, Brother and Sister Lee, installed as boarders for the future. Their presence and kind cheer made our coming far more agreeable than it could have been without them. A large house with almost no furniture is not famed for cheerfulness, and this one, on a hill far from any other, was no exception. Thanks to generous friends, who had given or loaned us money, we were enabled to buy furniture and dishes for the home, and tables and chairs, with books and other school appliances, for the school department, and on the 7th of May we opened our doors to the public. Three children appeared, and we went to work with them. No one of us was busy all day, but we all had something to do for the three. As each one constituted a distinct class, and each had several studies, there was more to do than any but a teacher would think. In June two more came and July brought others, and until November new names were enrolled from time to time until we had twenty-four matriculations—twenty-one in the daily occupations, two with special studies, and one had withdrawn, leaving us with twenty-three at the close of the session on December 20, 1895. Besides the assistance above mentioned we had a French and Portuguese teacher, and in July Miss Umberger came, giving us assistance with the children of English and American parentage, as well as in the housekeeping. With the work in the school, assisting in the home departments, and the study of the language the ladies have been kept busy enough, but not too busy for health and happiness. The difficulties of learning the Portuguese discourage newcomers always. I would have had too much to do if I had tried to do all that I think I ought to have done as Agent.

I have tried to prevent the Agent's work from conflicting with my duties as directress of the school, but I fear that it would have done so but for the good will of my assistants, who have done what they could to supply the lack when my duty as Agent has called me away from home. Indeed, but for their willingness "to spend and be spent" for the cause, I should not have been able to carry forward this work to

the point it has reached to-day. Ever one congratulates us on our good beginning and prophesies success for us in the future. We have quite a number of pupils promised for next session.

All who come ask about what religion we teach, and I tell them that we teach the Bible. When they learn that we do not teach catechism they seem satisfied, for in Catholicism the catechism is "religion." It took me a long time to learn this. They call it "Christian doctrine." I have started the small children in the "History of Jesus," as we call it, from the Gospels; but, with the arrangements that we were obliged to make, for lack of teachers, we could not organize a class of large girls. They all went to church and Sunday school, however, and got a beginning there. When we begin again our Bible study shall be the nucleus of the work, and not a mere appendage, as it has been the last session.

In the beginning we were not known and it was hard to find teachers, and those we got made terms with us; but I think that the time is near when we shall have the privilege of making the terms. What is most difficult of all is to find native teachers. There are very few women outside of government employ who know enough to teach, and the few men who teach want an exorbitant sum for their services, and even then the question arises as to their moral character, and as to whether we may have them in our school or not.

Our very efficient music teacher, Mrs. Brown, has decided to return to her home in the States, and that will leave a vacancy that must be filled, so we beg our Board to send us a well-prepared teacher in that branch. We do not ask to be asking merely; we need the worker. We need also one more well-prepared teacher for the school to relieve the Agent and directress from such close confinement in the class room. We must have these workers, so please give them to us. We shall have to ask for one teacher's salary for the next year at least, while we are waiting for these to come and get ready for work, or while our school is getting established. We must have these Christian helpers to make our work a success spiritually considered, for when we have so many assistants who are not interested in the gospel we cannot expect the results that we come to obtain. Some say that we ought not to have any but converted teachers, but if our Church does not furnish these, what can we do? Shall we have only parish schools? We cannot certainly meet the demands of the patrons we have with the small force that the Church gives us at present. While we may not have a full Faculty of converted women, we ought to have enough of these to perform the duties in the home, as well as to assist in the school.

We are thankful for the Training School, and pray that it may prosper and do all that it is doing and more to prepare the young women of our Church for Christian work at home and abroad. As the graduates from her halls mature on the field they will wield an influence over the work in the *Alma Mater* that we, who have not studied there, cannot hope to do. They will be able to point out difficulties that may be overcome by preparation at home, and thus prevent many mistakes that the new

missionary nearly always makes. We pray God's blessing on all our dear home workers in every department.

We are so grateful to the Board for the appropriation of last year. It has furnished our house and paid our music teacher, and has given us much in the way of school furniture and other appliances to make our school the best in this part of the country. Friends of our enterprise have given us quite a sum for furnishing, and the Seashore Camp Ground Missionary Society, of Louisiana, sent us \$35, and the children's society in Wytheville, Va., sent us \$14. These last sums will be applied to special objects.

The income of the school has about paid our current expenses. God has blessed our work, and though some of us have not been at our strongest, yet we have gone on with our work. We have made many enthusiastic friends, and we are encouraged. We closed on the 20th of December with an entertainment that pleased all of our visitors.

I am glad to tell you of all these things, but am sorry that I cannot tell you of greater conquests of the gospel.

Miss Glenn's report:

Since my report of last year much has passed, and we hope that a great forward impulse has been given to our work in Brazil by the establishment of our school at Petropolis. In April I came here with Miss Watts to assist her in opening this work. Our beginning was small, only three girls, representing three different nationalities, for Petropolis is cosmopolitan; those three have remained with us, and others have come until, at the close of school for the Christmas holidays, we numbered twenty-three.

We had no regularly organized church here when we came, just preaching by the Presbyterians sometimes, sometimes by the Methodists; but when the Presbyterian brethren knew that we had permanent work here, and could send a man to take charge of the Church work, they turned over their part of the work to the Methodists, bidding them Godspeed. Since then we have had service every Sunday, conducted by Rev. J. L. Kennedy, and Sunday school every Sunday morning, in which I have a class consisting of girls from fifteen to twenty years of age, all of whom are very intelligent and bright. Some are fervent Christians, other strong Catholics, attending Sunday school only because they are in our school. While it has been very unsatisfactory trying to teach in Portuguese without sufficient command of the language to feel sure that I have made clear the teaching of the Word of God, I have done my best, and hope that it is not all in vain, for we have the promise that the word of God shall accomplish that whereunto it is sent.

In the school my work has been varied, ranging from woman-of-all-work up to directress, for sometimes we have been without the first mentioned, and when Miss Watts is away on business, or visits the other schools, I have had to take her place. At such times Miss Umberger and Mrs. Brown have been very kind to me, helping me in every possible way, and trying to make my inability to use the language as little em-

barrassing as possible. O, how I wish that the languages of the mission fields were taught at the Training School!

My class work has been reading, phonetics, grammar, geography, arithmetic, map drawing with pupils in English and some in Portuguese, some advanced, others beginning.

With the written examinations and preparations for the *feira* all had additional work; and as the hot season was upon us, both teachers and pupils were glad when the *feira* was over with credit to all who took part in it, and we could feel free to rest, or at least have a change of occupation.

We look forward to a larger school next year than we have had this. Many have already entered their children. Pray for us that we may go forward in the strength of the Master, and that he may give us favor with the people.

Miss Umberger writes:

I sailed for Brazil June 22, 1895. Then I began hearing two first reader lessons, two arithmetics, one third reader, and one geography. After that I took up more reading lessons, making eight recitations a day. The rest of the time I looked after the housekeeping and studied the language. I had no teacher until the 8th of October, but had some help in my studying. During the past quarter I had only six classes a day, as I recited Portuguese one hour.

I was agreeably surprised to find the school here so well started in such short time; also to find the house, grounds, and situation advantageous for a boarding school.

We have reason to rejoice for the work just opening here and for that already established in this country.

While in Rio, the first few days after we arrived, I visited the day school there, where I received my first impressions of a Brazilian school. I also enjoyed worshiping there, listening to Dr. Morrison or Bishop Granbery in English, and hearing it interpreted. So my introduction to the language was not such a shock. I did not understand a word of the prayers, but joined in the familiar tunes, pronouncing the words, I now know, incorrectly, but enjoying them from the heart.

Rev. J. L. Kennedy, who preached his first sermon near my home in Virginia when I was a tot, has opened work in Petropolis, both English and Portuguese, so I have the blessed privilege of hearing the gospel in my own tongue, a privilege which most of the missionaries miss so much at first.

Mrs. Brown, our music teacher, is an old acquaintance of mine, and Miss Glenn a schoolmate, so I am surrounded by friends. Knowing of all the missionaries, and their cordial reception of me, make them seem as old friends. Though not coming for pleasant social surroundings, we must thank God, who ever raises up friends for his own, giving them just those things they need.

I appreciate these things and enjoy the work in this part of the vineyard, and pray his blessings upon each one of his workers here.

PIRACICABA.

Miss Alice Moore says:

Our school session at Piracicaba opened February 5, 1895, with Miss Watts still with us. She opened school for us, arranged the programme, and did all the outside work, such as examining pupils, receiving the parents and visitors, but did no regular teaching work. It soon became known that she was going to Petropolis, and we feared that some of our pupils might drop out, but none did so that we know of; and apparently the interest in the school was sustained until the close of the session, for which fact we are grateful. The attendance was good, and we closed with between 120 and 130 pupils. We have had a most interesting set of children, well behaved and orderly as a whole, most of them bright, attractive, and teachable. While I have felt the responsibility very much at times, my heart swells with gratitude at the privilege that is ours of impressing eternal truths upon so many young hearts and minds. One little boy, who has been with us some years, said that he was not coming back, that he was going to a male school. I thought to myself: "Well, I know that G. is a better boy for having been with us." He has learned many things that he would otherwise never have acquired. I am grateful that we have had the opportunity of teaching him these many years. Once he said that he would come to our church all the time, but his father would not let him.

Just lately I have realized more that the moral and intellectual tone of our schools is above that of the Brazilian schools—but I am not reporting my work.

I began the year with the music class, the Bible class, the drawing classes, and a geometry class; but after Miss Watts went away her work fell to me and some extra music pupils came in, and I found it impossible to continue with so much, often being engaged from 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. The last of April I succeeded in getting a music teacher, and turned over to her nearly all the music pupils, I myself having work five periods out of the seven. But from force of events, little by little my work changed, and at the close of school I had the Bible and drawing classes and the dictation class for the older pupils. When my teacher was absent I took her classes when I could do so. I felt much gratified when I was first able to take a Portuguese grammar class.

Our school is well organized, with competent teachers. We have a most excellent French teacher, and a good Portuguese teacher, who also teaches Miss Littlejohn and myself, and is one of the best teachers I ever knew.

I appreciate very much both the teaching work and assistance rendered by Miss Littlejohn; and, while she has not been as strong as one would wish, and often sick, though not often out of the schoolroom, she has never failed to give me the sympathy that I have asked for, and I shall be most grieved should she find it necessary to return home because of her health.

Some of these Methodist preachers, instead of being our friends, are

great enemies of our work, robbing us of our workers. A year ago Brother Hamilton took Sister Phillips from us, and now one of our native preachers has enticed from us our kindergarten teacher. We shall miss her very, very much, for, besides being a good teacher, she was a decided Christian worker, and helped so much in the school and also in the Church and Sunday school work.

A much worse trial came to us in the death of one of our little boarders from typhoid fever. She was thirteen years of age, and so bright and studious! She had been pale and without much appetite for about a week, and I felt uneasy about her. Saturday night I doctored her as best I could, and the fever did not leave her, so a physician was called. He came twice to see her, and said that she would be up in a few days; but on Wednesday her brother took her home, and Sunday night she died. It seems really the most crushing thing that ever happened to me, for I was responsible for her while she was with us. She wanted to join our Church; was very much impressed by the gospel, and was waiting her mother's consent. She was buried from the Catholic church, and although the doctor sent word that she died of typhoid fever and for the school children not to go, quite a number of them went, and they looked very pretty dressed in white, with long lighted candles; but not one word did the priest utter. He came in and mumbled something and shook something over the coffin. It seemed as if my heart were borne down by a crushing weight, but not one word of hope or of consolation did the priests offer. There were two other cases of fever among our pupils, one in the house the last week of school. The doctor pronounced our outdoor water closets unhealthy and the cause of the fever. I had them cleaned out the last of June, and lime sprinkled and water run through the larger one only since then. I have had them filled with earth, and mean to have new pits dug and a siphonic water arrangement put in as soon as I get back to Piracicaba.

I have had only the room put up for the bathroom—have used half of the money so kindly donated by the Board—and will have the bath tubs, water closet, and plumbing put in as soon as I get back home.

There has been a great deal of sickness in Piracicaba this spring. The two weeks after Benidicta's death there were sixty-eight burials in the cemetery. The Town Council greatly feared an epidemic, and much work was done fumigating the city. They have no system of drainage for lack of funds, and yet they have a subscription started to build a new theater! I do not mean to censure them too severely, for they have lighted the city beautifully with electric lights, and the public treasury was drained during the time of the revolution.

Miss Watts kindly graced our public examinations and *fiesta* with her presence, thus lending us her support, for she is much appreciated by the patrons of our school. The evening entertainment was attended by the crowd, always too great to be comfortably accommodated in our limited space.

Just at the close of the school session came several additional trials to which all schools are liable, such as one little boy's being asked to

withdraw and another pupil's stepping out because scolded rather severely by a teacher, and still others needless to mention.

I think it wonderful how I stood up under so much, with the additional work of having the bathroom built, getting ready for the *feita*, having the house cleaned, etc.; but after it was all over my nervous force gave way, and I have been sick ever since coming to Petropolis; have not had courage enough to live, but somehow I did not die, and am some better, though by no means myself.

I shall return to Piracicaba next Friday (day after to-morrow) praying that I may be guided by a Providence that makes no mistakes.

Miss Littlejohn writes :

It seems only a few weeks ago since I came to Piracicaba to help Miss Alice Moore in Collegio Piracicabano, but it has been one scholastic year. My work has been very much the same as it was in Collegio Mineiro—studying and teaching. There is always a sameness in the routine of work of a boarding school teacher. So, when I say that my work has been principally class room work, that is about all that I can say. Sometimes in moments of physical weakness I have felt discouraged, and have thought my duties commonplace and monotonous; but when I remember that all I do is as unto the Lord every feeling of dependency vanishes, and I feel glad that I am where I am. We have a nice, orderly set of children, and, on the whole, I have really enjoyed teaching them.

Just before Conference Dr. Morrison visited Piracicaba. We were very much encouraged and cheered by his kind words. It was refreshing to have some one in our midst full of missionary zeal. He seemed very much pleased with our school, and was not slow to express his appreciation. He gave our children an interesting talk, which they enjoyed thoroughly. Bishop Granbery and Mrs. Granbery also made us a visit, but did not see the school in session. We regretted this very much, for they missed seeing as bright an array of merry, intelligent school children as is to be seen in Brazil.

Many times, when I see them assemble in the study hall, a silent prayer ascends to the throne of grace for all the souls under our care. We are sowing, sowing day by day. What shall the harvest be? God grant that each one, as she goes out from our school, may carry an influence that may be exerted to the honor and glory of Him who died to save her; and we pray that the seed sown may produce abundantly, and the harvest be such that the very angels in heaven may rejoice and be glad!

JUIZ DE FORA.

Miss L. Ross writes of the work here as follows:

We began the year with forty-eight pupils and closed with thirty-eight, a decrease in numbers instead of the increase that was confidently expected of all. To others this may seem discouraging, but to me the way appears brighter and more hopeful than ever before. Why should we consider the loss of ten pupils when we have gained tenfold in ev-

ery other respect? Five of those withdrawn from the school were charity pupils, and would gladly have remained if it had been possible for us to keep them. Four more were paying less than it cost to feed them, and would not have been accepted had they wished it. Nine more have been refused because they could not agree to our terms. From this statement it can be seen that our boarding department is smaller this year because we are not receiving girls on as easy terms as heretofore. Many of our best-paying pupils have not returned on account of the hard times caused by the interruption to trade from cholera. Even this, it now seems, may prove a blessing, for the Catholic schools have suffered even more and the principal ones are about to close, it is said, for want of money to carry on the work. If this is true, we have every reason to expect a full school.

Early in the year I found it necessary to take charge of the school-room myself. I dreaded this more than I can tell, for our pupils seemed to have no idea of discipline, and were as unruly as children could possibly be. When I say that I now pass the day pleasantly and quietly, without getting nervous or tired, I suppose I will give a correct idea of the change that has taken place.

I have found in Miss Perkinson an efficient and sympathetic helper. She finds plenty of work to do without waiting for a knowledge of the language, which, by the way, she is acquiring rapidly, and by her cheerfulness and readiness to help in every way adds much to the brightness and comfort of our home. This was especially true during the time when our school had to be closed on account of illness. Notwithstanding the fact that the disease was thought to be one of the most contagious, when I offered her the choice of taking my place in directing the house and children or nursing the sick, she, without a moment's hesitation or thought of the great danger to which she would expose herself, chose the latter, feeling that she could not possibly fulfill the duties of directress with no experience whatever in the work. This she felt would be impossible; the nursing she had been especially trained for, and felt that she could do. Only her refusal to undertake my work would have made me consent to her exposing herself to such a danger.

As I have already stated, we began with forty-eight pupils. During the year forty-five have entered, and fifty-five have withdrawn. Most of these were girls, who did not return after the long vacation. Of the ninety-three who have been with us, nineteen were members of the Church. More would have joined had it not been thought best to hold them back until they could be taught that a change of heart was necessary in order to become a Christian. Fifty-four have attended Church and Sunday school. Thirty-nine have lived in the house with us. Only one of these left us as strong a Catholic as when she came. She is still a day pupil in our school, and I trust that we may yet be able to make some impression on her. We have some real earnest Christians among our girls, whose influence is helping to make our school what we wish it to be.

Miss Perkinson's report:

I reached Brazil July 12, 1895, and after delightful visits with the missionary friends in Rio de Janeiro and Petropolis, accompanied Miss Ross to Juiz de Fora, to which point I had been appointed while in Petropolis.

My real work as a foreign missionary began with the opening of school in Collegio Mineiro August 21. I was surprised and glad to see the bright, interesting faces of so many Brazilian girls, and really felt glad that my lot had been cast among them. In arranging the programme for the year the writing, calisthenics, drawing, sewing, and a few classes in English were assigned me. These, with the time that I hoped to devote to Portuguese, kept me fully occupied.

At the end of the first week our work was interrupted by the illness of one of our teachers, the care of whom fell to me, and the school closed for two weeks. Since that time, however, nothing has happened to interfere with the regular routine of school life.

It has been a great pleasure to watch the progress and development of our girls, and to note the real interest that they seem to feel in their lessons.

As the warm weather approached it was thought best to relieve me of a part of my work, and so another teacher was arranged for the sewing class. With this exception, no change has been made on my account since I entered the school.

In addition to the work already mentioned I have had one art pupil. I am fond of painting, and these extra lessons have been a recreation, and in no sense a burden.

The necessary preparations for the examinations and closing *feira* increased the duties of both pupils and teachers; but each did her work faithfully, and when school closed welcomed most heartily the two weeks' vacation, which would afford her an opportunity to rest, or at least a change of occupation.

In conclusion let me say that the outlook for Collegio Mineiro is encouraging; and although the school was, at one time, larger than at present, I am sure that it has never had a class of girls more earnest or eager to know the truth.

RIO DE JANEIRO.

Of the mission here, Miss Elerding writes as follows:

After our annual meeting in Piracicaba last January we returned to our various homes to get ready for a new year's work.

The Rio day school opened the first of February. A few days later Mrs. Tucker went to Petropolis for a vacation, and during her absence I had an hour's extra work in school. Including the time it took for going and coming, four hours per day were given to the school work, and nearly all the evenings to attend services of some kind, and the visitation work was somewhat neglected until the end of March, after Mrs. Tucker's return, which gave me an hour's extra time in the morning for preparation work. I then began the visitation work in earnest.

I had reached the point where I could understand and make myself understood with less difficulty, and could take real satisfaction in the work. I was still alone. Occasionally I would ask one of the brethren to accompany me, which was always done cheerfully; but usually I went alone.

By this time the house that had been occupied by Brother Tucker, and in which a part of the school was conducted, was sold. On the first of May the entire school was moved into the church, and I took charge of it. On the same day Miss Hamilton, from São Paulo, arrived to assist me in the visitation work. At first I tried to do the two, but found it impossible to go on with the visitation branch, as unexpected little things would constantly arise in school demanding my time; and from the first of July on my entire time was given to the school. When the school was moved into the chapel a number of pupils left, and during the seven months that the school was in my charge pupils came and left. Only three of the new pupils were girls; all the others were boys, and at the close there were only three girls in school.

Changes in teachers and other incidents, springing up from unexpected sources, caused disorders to creep in, which, I am sorry to say, still existed when school closed. This and other inconveniences, caused by having the school in the chapel, led us to decide to rent a house for the school for next year, combining the rent paid for the chapel and that paid for the house to secure a house large enough to furnish a home for the missionaries and schoolrooms. We shall have to pay more rent for the large house than we are now spending, but hope to meet the additional expense for the present year with money that accumulated during the revolution, when we could not carry on the visitation work. We shall have to ask for an appropriation for the year to come, hoping that our Board may be able to buy property in the near future.

I am exceedingly sorry that our Board could not afford to buy the property in which the school was formerly held. Rent is so high, and is constantly rising. Man proposes and God disposes. It may be all for the best, yet, at the present, it does seem like a great loss to our cause not to have been able to purchase that house.

In July, when I began to give my entire time to the school, Miss Hamilton became ill, and for four or five weeks nothing was done in the *estalagem* work. When help was needed most Miss Bowman came and nobly stood by my side, relieving me where and whenever she could. She began with the study of the language at once, accompanied Miss Hamilton in the visitation work, and took charge of the housekeeping in our little home.

Miss Hamilton did what she could in the visitation work. Her whole heart was in the cause; but being in feeble health when she came, the climate proved rather trying for her, and it was considered best for her to discontinue work in Rio, and for me take up the visitation work again with Miss Bowman's help.

From July on I have not been as strong as usual, and have not been able to do as much as I have been accustomed to do, nor as much as I should like to have done. It was with feelings of sincere regret that I

was not able to visit the people in cases of sickness or affliction, as I was accustomed to do, yet when my school duties for the day were over I was all tired out.

In February I began to teach a Sunday school class of young girls in the Portuguese language. Before that I had been teaching English classes. This class afforded me great pleasure. Two of the girls were received into the Church during the year.

The year's work has been mingled with joy and sorrow, encouragements and discouragements. I will now leave it in the hands of Him who searcheth the very secret recesses of our hearts, who judgeth our acts according to our motives, asking him to accept that which has been pleasing in his sight, and to forgive and overlook the faults and mistakes, which have been many, and may the past year's experience enable me to do better work in the future!

Miss Bowman writes:

I left home and friends for Brazil June 18, 1895, after a pleasant trip across the United States and on the Atlantic arrived in Brazil July 12, 1895, spent a week pleasantly, in Petropolis, and returned to Rio to begin work July 22. I did not begin with the visitation immediately, as Miss Hamilton was not well, and went to São Paulo for two weeks for a change. I began at once with the language, taking three lessons a week, assisted with the housework, taking charge of the bookkeeping for the house, looking after supplies, doing the marketing, and relieving Miss Elerding wherever I could.

On the return of Miss Hamilton we began with the visitation work. Three afternoons of each week I accompanied her in visiting; one afternoon we reserved to be at home, to give our friends a chance to visit us; and one day I was obliged to have my lesson in the afternoon. After this lesson I usually called on some English-speaking family alone, as Miss Hamilton always got some one to go with her on these afternoons. We visited among both Portuguese and English-speaking people. Among the Portuguese I was not able to do any of the work. I went with Miss Hamilton for company, and tried to show by my presence and manners that I was interested in them and in the salvation of their souls.

I began with a class of English-speaking children in the Sunday school, but, on account of the warm weather, have not been able to keep it up, as the parents would not allow the children to come through the heat. So I have been attending the English Bible class.

I enjoy my work very much. It is so varied and different in character that the constant change from one kind to another keeps it from getting monotonous or tiresome.

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.

WORK OF WOMAN'S BOARD OPENED IN 1886.

There are many hindering causes in the effort to Christianize the Indians on our Western frontiers. The difficulty of holding those of the wild tribes who profess to accept Christ because of their environments. The large majority live in nature's darkness, and those trained in the schools a few years only find themselves too weak to resist the temptation to return to the wild life of their kindred. Rev. J. J. Methvin, the superintendent of our mission, advocates a high school that will take up these girls of thirteen and fourteen when they leave the lower grades, and give them longer and better opportunity to become rooted in civilization, that their influence on their fellows may be more powerful than the influence of heathenism upon themselves. Brother Methvin and Miss Helen Brewster, with their assistants, are doing a good work at both Fort Sill and Anadarko, as their reports show.

ANADARKO.

Rev. J. J. Methvin reports of this mission as follows:

This has been a year of trials in our work here, but the gracious promise of the Lord, "Lo, I am with you alway," has all along been a blessed reality, and our work, in spite of hindrances, has made steady progress, not so much in visible numbers as in the silent, permanent impress made upon heart and life.

At the opening of the session, on account of the reduced appropriation and in order to conserve the fund and make it hold out, I took a teacher's place myself; but after a two months' trial I found that I could not do the other work efficiently and continue teaching. I secured the services of Miss Lou Hall, of Kerby, Tex., the first of November, and she has in every way met the demands of a teacher. She is an earnest, consecrated worker, and ready for any work that has as yet fallen to her. Miss Swanson still gives faithful, efficient service as principal teacher. The matron, Mrs. Ferguson, is faithful and efficient, and studies the interests of the work. Miss Bartlett in the laundry, and Miss Hoss in the kitchen, have taught the girls some important lessons in laundrying and cooking. Andres Martinez, industrial teacher and interpreter, still performs his part well. The pupils in the various industries have made substantial progress.

The boys are making commendable progress in the several industries peculiar to them. Their schoolroom work has been more satisfactory this year than ever before. More real progress has been made in the text-book and in learning and in speaking English. The chil-

dren had their first public entertainment, consisting of songs, recitations, dialogues, etc., Christmas Eve night, and they performed as well as any ordinary group of white children of like training. Much of our work that is lost to us from year to year could be conserved had we somewhere to send them away for further training under other surroundings.

I am gratified at the moral and religious impress made upon the pupils. Their ideas of ethics, on account of the bent of their early home life, may not be of as high order as we would want to see, but the blessed truth of divine inspiration is surely doing its work and lifting them to a higher plane.

The farm the past year, on account of continuous drought, was almost an entire failure. I am arranging so that the farm will not be any expense to the school, but the school will get a benefit if anything is produced.

Our buildings are in good condition, but we are cramped for room for school and chapel purposes. The force of our religious instruction would be greatly increased had we a chapel for such services. Besides, with a larger building we could nearly double our boarding capacity, and thus increase our work greatly, for the present schoolrooms would be most suitable for dormitories, and could, without any change, save that of furniture, be converted into such.

The camp work, under Miss Brewster, among the Comanches, makes progress and enlarges. You will see from inclosed report from her how earnestly she wants a hospital established at or near Fort Sill. Could her wants be met, it would be a wonderful blessing there and to the work at large. The camp work projected from the school here is also potent for good. We have not been able to carry it on as extensively during the present year as in past years, for, on account of reduced appropriations, we were compelled to reduce the number of our working force.

In closing this report I wish to say that we all here feel a sense of real bereavement in the death of Sister McGavock. In all her communications to us, even her business letters, the spirit of Christlike interest and love was so manifest that they always brought fresh courage and a new inspiration. The fragrance of her consecrated life will still linger with us, but we shall sorely miss her from the counsels of the Woman's Board.

FORT SILL.

Report of Miss Helen Brewster's camp work:

The most urgent need here is a hospital for the sick. At Anadarko you have the school to anchor your work; here we have nothing.

We are so far away from Anadarko (forty miles) that the good influence, shed like a light, from the school does not reach us. There are twelve hundred Indians drawing rations here that are untouched by its beneficent influence.

Already the Indians here are asking the Agent for medical services;

and if we do not give them a hospital, this precious opportunity *for good, great good*, will be gone from our hands forever. I have been collecting in a private way, and have about a fourth enough on hand to build a small house that would do for a beginning; and could, I am sure, have enough by the last of August to build a small-sized house, such as we would need in the beginning of the work, and which would be deeded to the Woman's Board.

What we need to put this enterprise on its feet is an appropriation from the Woman's Board, that would be sufficient to pay the salaries of a medical nurse and cook, provide sustenance for from twelve to twenty patients, and pay for the attendance of the Fort Sill surgeons in the worst cases.

Already my attendance on the sick takes up a big part of my time at "issue," and would take it all, could I spend it thus. Last "issue" I must have walked twenty miles in all, going back and forth to see sick patients. I cannot trust them to give the medicine, and so I go back and forth to give it myself. So it is a serious business to have a good many patients that are scattered about from a mile to a mile and a half apart.

A word as to the rest of my work. God has greatly blessed and prospered my camp work for this year, and I have had his *constant* help in the difficult task of talking, singing, and praying in another language, and that an unwritten one. I feel that, best of all, his blessing is with us.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Missionaries	39
Teachers and native helpers	112
Boarding schools	12
Day schools	42
Pupils	2,850
Women under instruction (about).....	700
Pupils in Sunday school	1,500
Communicants	325
Bible women	14
Hospitals	2
Medical missionaries	1
Number of missionaries employea since organization.	65
Married	14
Died	3
Retired because of ill health, etc.....	10
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Value of property owned by Woman's Board.....	\$225,000
Training School	75,000
Total	\$300,000

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.	Number of Auxiliaries in the Conference.	Number of Members.	Number of Auxiliaries Organized During the Year.	Number of Members Added During the Year.	Number of Young People's and Juvenile Societies.	Number of Juvenile Members.	Number of Young People's and Juvenile Societies Organized During the Year.	Number of Juvenile Members Added During the Year.	Total Members.	Life Members.	Honorary Life Members.	Honorary Life Patrons.	Scholarships Supported.	Day Schools Supported.	Subscribers to the Woman's Missionary Advocate.	Subscribers to the Little Worker.
	Alabama.....	82	1,254	11	112	43	1,161	6	140	2,415	18	34	506	226
Arkansas.....	35	678	15	202	17	500	3	113	1,178	7	2	.....	1	.....	103	50
Baltimore.....	74	1,641	2	.....	27	825	2	.....	2,466	141	6	3	4	1	337	188
Denver (no report).....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
East Texas.....	20	385	1	12	13	293	.....	.....	678	30	1	.....	.....	.....	150	60
Florida.....	86	1,530	1	7	37	921	2	48	2,451	78	.....	.....	.....	.....	327	189
Holston.....	71	1,226	.....	.....	68	1,460	.....	.....	2,686	225	.....	.....	.....	1	379	328
Indian Mission.....	6	105	1	16	5	200	1	12	305	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	.....
Kentucky.....	91	1,397	6	249	56	1,283	12	207	2,680	149	6	1	2	.....	430	103
Little Rock.....	34	526	4	34	21	698	3	49	1,224	33	3	.....	3	.....	126	178
Los Angeles.....	11	190	.....	.....	3	59	.....	.....	249	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	81	.....
Louisiana.....	22	400	3	46	13	300	.....	42	700	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	90	49
Louisville.....	91	1,448	.....	.....	53	901	.....	.....	2,349	61	.....	.....	.....	.....	320	.....
Memphis.....	75	1,234	7	284	73	1,608	3	108	2,842	120	9	.....	2	1	448	758

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1895-96.

*MRS. H. N. McTYEIRE, Treasurer, in account with Woman's
Foreign Missionary Society, M. E. Church, South.*

Dr.

Alabama Conference	\$ 2,102 31
Of above, \$175.80, thank offerings; \$72.85, Little Worker Fund; \$62.24, mite boxes; \$40, scholarship; \$14, Memorial Fund.	
Arkansas Conference.....	750 64
Of above, \$24.75, thank offerings; \$97.36, scholarships; \$60, Bible woman; \$24.75, Little Workers' Special.	
Baltimore Conference.....	3,336 92
Of above, \$82.77, thank offering; \$37.18, mite boxes; \$75.50, scholarships; \$15, Bible woman; \$65.47, Little Worker Fund; \$760.92, Wightman appeal; \$109, special for Mexico; \$200, day schools.	
East Texas Conference.....	493 23
Of above, \$39, thank offerings; \$40, scholarships; \$38.50, Little Worker Fund.	
Florida Conference	1,433 25
Of above, \$67.46, thank offerings; \$21.89, mite boxes; \$24.15, scholarships; \$61.77, Little Worker Fund.	
Holston Conference.....	2,781 68
Indian Mission Conference.....	99 76
Kentucky Conference.....	5,553 77
Of above, \$37.79, mite boxes; \$80, scholarships; \$70.51, Little Worker Fund; \$60, Abbott Fund; \$18, Hayes-Wilkins memorial; \$3,122.63, Bowman bequest.	
Little Rock Conference	938 13
Of above, \$45.84, thank offerings; \$3.08, mite boxes; \$40, scholarships; \$50.07, Little Worker Fund; \$60, Bible woman.	
Los Angeles Conference.....	204 31
Of above, \$27.12, thank offerings; 74 cts., mite boxes.	
Louisiana Conference.....	1,202 02
Of above, \$11, thank offerings; \$14.95, mite boxes; \$4.45, Little Worker Fund; \$6, day school; \$60, Bible woman; \$9, Indian Mission.	
Louisville Conference.....	2,474 93
Of above, \$91.03, thank offerings; \$40.19, mite boxes; \$42.20, scholarships; \$4.96, Little Worker Fund; \$60, Bible woman; \$583.70, Wightman appeal.	
Memphis Conference.....	3,368 34
Of above, \$193.85, thank offerings; \$10.28, mite boxes; \$79.20, scholarships; \$182.02, Little Worker Fund; \$15, Miss Brewster; \$128.26, Rankin memorial; \$120, Bible women.	
Mexican Border Mission Conference.....	8 00
Mississippi Conference.....	828 22
Of above, \$32.40, thank offerings; \$15.05, mite boxes; \$12.45, Little Worker special; \$50, Hayes-Wilkins memorial.	
Missouri Conference.....	2,135 64
Of above, \$298.07, thank offerings; \$31.32, mite boxes; \$364.82, Miss Perkinson; \$2.90, Little Worker Fund; \$20, day school; \$7, memorial.	
North Alabama Conference.....	1,692 95
Of above, \$22.56, thank offerings; \$21.68, mite boxes; \$40, scholarship; \$1.10, hospital; \$22.05, Hayes-Wilkins memorial; \$1.50, Training School.	
North Carolina Conference.....	3,383 61
Of above, \$29.46, thank offerings; \$10.43, mite boxes; \$14, Little Worker Fund; \$1,212.44, Mary Black memorial; \$25, memorial.	
North Georgia Conference.....	7,871 24
Of above, \$136.71, thank offerings; \$10.31, mite boxes; \$146.40, scholarships; \$83.92, Little Worker Fund; \$414.61, Bible women; \$456.03, Alice Bonnell ward; \$41.90, day school.	
North Mississippi Conference	2,890 15
Of above, \$159.35, thank offerings; \$15.07, mite boxes; \$40, scholarship; \$108.55, Little Workers' Special; \$150, Wightman appeal.	
North Texas Conference.....	1,054 52
Of above, \$146.41, thank offerings; \$140, mite boxes; \$10.42, Little Worker Fund; \$14.82, Wightman appeal; \$40, bed in hospital.	
Northwest Texas Conference	1,539 7
Of above, \$31.16, thank offerings; \$15.68, mite boxes; \$25.56, Little Worker Fund; \$48.60, special Mexico; \$62.90, Wightman appeal; \$8.60, Indian Mission.	
Pacific Conference.....	422 2

South Carolina Conference.....	\$ 4,939 16
Of above, \$7.70, Little Worker Fund; \$600, Wightman appeal; \$80, scholarships; \$60, Bible woman.	
South Georgia Conference.....	5,186 78
Of above, \$17.45, Petropolis; \$17.87, Little Worker Fund; \$181.85, Bible women; \$141.50, Wightman appeal.	
Southwest Missouri Conference.....	2,835 08
Of above, \$468.06, thank offerings; \$12.15, mite boxes; \$1,299.82, missionaries; \$12.30, Little Worker Fund; \$240, Bible women; \$16, bed in hospital.	
St. Louis Conference.....	885 54
Of above, \$21.63, thank offerings; \$8.60, mite boxes; \$56.62, special Mexico; \$53.50, Hayes-Wilkins memorial; \$5, memorial; \$40, scholarship; \$7.65, Little Worker Fund.	
Tennessee Conference.....	3,050 67
Of above, \$5.45, thank offerings; \$46.61, mite boxes; \$80, scholarships; \$18, Little Workers' Special; \$60, Bible women; \$70, special Mexico.	
Texas Conference.....	1,742 52
Of above, \$23.70, thank offerings; \$8.72, mite boxes; \$45, Bible women; \$8.50, Training School.	
Virginia Conference.....	5,235 21
Of above, \$135.85, thank offerings; \$324.45, mite boxes; \$349.06, scholarships; \$169.50, Bible women; \$250, Wightman appeal; 75 cts., Little Worker Special; \$360.27, special for Laredo; \$120.35, day schools.	
West Texas Conference.....	354 68
Of above, \$28.95, thank offerings; \$46.15, Little Worker Fund; \$1, Memorial; \$14.65, Training School.	
Western Conference.....	102 25
Of above, \$1, mite box; \$5, Little Worker Fund.	
Western North Carolina Conference.....	1,594 80
Of above, \$19.86, Little Worker Fund; \$85.70, hospital; \$20, scholarship; \$100, missionary; \$85.96, Wightman appeal.	
Western Virginia Conference.....	842 87
Of above, \$16.10, mite boxes; \$23.40, Little Worker Fund; \$50, Wightman appeal; \$8.10, thank offerings.	
White River Conference.....	923 22
Of above, \$34.37, thank offerings; \$4.22, mite boxes; \$35.84, scholarships; \$11.50, Little Worker Fund; \$109.77, Wightman appeal; \$25.15, day schools.	
Memorial Fund.....	61 05

MISCELLANEOUS.

Received of Mrs. J. D. Hamilton, mite boxes.....	1 48
Received of Mrs. G. M. Hill, Center Point, Ark.....	8 80
Received of Mrs. McGavock, from Georgetown, Tex., for bed in hospital.....	20 00
Received of Mrs. R. Hill, Sparta, Tenn.....	3 40
Received of Mrs. Carwide, Naruna, Va.....	75
Received of Mrs. J. M. Barker, Mexico, Mo.....	3 00
Received of Mrs. W. F. Kinnard, Callie, Tenn.....	1 90
Received of Mrs. A. A. Aikin, Stockton, Ala.....	8 55
Received of Miss Mattie Durham, Mulberry, Tenn.....	4 50
Received of Miss A. M. Barnes, Little Worker Fund.....	31 35

\$ 74,403 16

CR.

1895.		
April	8. Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, printing and postage.....	\$ 236 06
	Paid Western Union Telegraph Co.....	14 14
	16. Paid Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets.....	62 50
	26. Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of <i>Little Worker</i>	62 00
	30. Paid Mrs. D. H. McGavock, clerical help.....	50 00
	Paid Miss A. V. Wilson, for piano.....	200 00
	Paid W. H. Schieffelin, Mrs. Campbell, order.....	179 25
May	15. Paid expenses to Board meeting at Meridian.....	464 80
	Paid for outfit for Misses Umberger, Perkinson, and Bowman.....	600 00
	18. Paid Miss Hattie Carson.....	200 00
	23. Paid Miss Lucy Harper, health trip.....	150 00
	24. Paid Mr. D. M. Smith, for Miss Holding.....	208 00
	Paid Mrs. D. H. McGavock, clerical help and postage.....	94 55
	28. Paid Miss Bessie Moore, traveling expenses.....	225 00
	Paid M. H. Watts, freight bill.....	63 23
	Paid Busk & Jevons, agents steamship line.....	112 50
June	1. Paid Miss E. Perkinson, travel to Brazil.....	202 50
	Paid Miss M. Umberger, travel to Brazil.....	202 50
	Paid Miss W. Bowman, travel to Brazil.....	202 50
	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Memphis Conference.....	3 05
	6. Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, office expenses.....	250 00
	7. Paid Mrs. L. W. Plummer, Treasurer Memphis Conference.....	5 47
	15. Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor.....	62 50
	19. Paid Miss N. E. Holding, Mexico.....	4,000 00
	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, Mexico.....	3,535 00

1895.			
June	20.	Paid Western Union Telegraph Company.....	3 27
		Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, leaflets.....	176 18
	21.	Paid Miss M. H. Watts, for Petropolis.....	5,550 00
		Paid Mrs. Annis Glenn, account of Miss Glenn.....	20 00
		Paid Mrs. S. H. Littlejohn, account of Miss Littlejohn.....	187 50
		Paid Dr. S. N. Barker, order of Miss Watts.....	183 94
		Paid Miss Laura Haygood.....	187 50
		Paid Mrs. J. P. Campbell.....	93 75
		Paid Miss M. H. Watts, for Piracicaba.....	287 50
		Paid Miss M. H. Watts, Rio, Brazil.....	387 50
		Paid J. J. Methvin, Indian Mission.....	825 00
		Paid J. H. Fulton, Cashier, China draft.....	3,457 50
		Paid Miss M. H. Watts, Juiz de Fora.....	1,362 50
July	27.	Paid Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets.....	87 50
	8.	Paid Mrs. D. H. McGavock, clerical help.....	50 00
		Paid Miss Lena Freeman, Agent of <i>Little Worker</i>	25 00
	13.	Paid Miss A. V. Wilson, Guadalajara.....	442 00
		Paid W. R. Cornelius, Board meeting.....	5 00
		Paid Mrs. H. N. McTyeire, Treasurer, postage.....	8 00
	19.	Paid Miss Lochie Rankin, special, Memphis Conference.....	38 00
	23.	Paid Mrs. D. H. McGavock, clerical help and office expenses.....	450 00
	31.	Paid American Paper Company, mite boxes.....	59 23
Aug.	7.	Paid Mrs. A. E. McClendon, special Baltimore Conference.....	36 00
		Paid Miss A. V. Wilson, special Baltimore Conference.....	12 75
		Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor of <i>Little Worker</i>	170 53
	24.	Paid Miss Lizzie Wilson, special.....	11 25
Sept.	3	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, itineraing.....	300 00
	8.	Paid J. H. Fulton, Cashier, China draft.....	40 00
	10.	Paid R. L. Morris, legal services.....	75 00
	12.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor.....	62 50
		Paid J. J. Methvin, Indian Mission.....	750 00
	14.	Paid J. H. Fulton, Cashier, China draft.....	60 00
		Paid J. H. Fulton, Cashier, China draft.....	3,690 75
		Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, expense accountant.....	28 90
Oct.	1.	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, first quarter for Mexico.....	7,685 00
	18.	Paid J. J. Methvin, first quarter for Indian Mission.....	762 50
		Paid Miss M. H. Watts, first quarter for Brazil.....	2,904 00
	22.	Paid Miss L. A. Haygood, missionary.....	187 50
		Paid Mrs. J. P. Campbell, at home.....	93 75
		Paid Miss Bessie Moore.....	187 50
		Paid Miss M. L. Richardson.....	100 00
		Paid R. L. Pyles, by order of Miss Pyles.....	75 00
		Paid Miss H. G. Carson, travel and salary.....	120 83
		Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, Editor.....	51 60
		Paid Miss Lena Freeman, Agent.....	25 00
	26.	Paid Mrs. D. H. McGavock, clerical help.....	100 00
	30.	Paid Miss Leah Roberts, special Saltillo.....	37 30
		Paid Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets.....	62 50
		Paid Miss H. Richardson, Treasurer, for hospital.....	810 58
		Paid Bartee & Smith, Agents, printing.....	999 90
		Paid American Paper Company, mite boxes.....	60 62
Nov.	8.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, salary and office expenses.....	237 50
	16.	Paid T. B. Holt, order of Miss Watts.....	64 00
		Paid Miss Helen Brewster, special.....	15 00
		Paid Miss Laura Haygood, special.....	60 00
	22.	Paid Miss V. Blackburn, outfit.....	200 00
	29.	Paid First National Bank, China draft.....	40 00
		Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, November salary.....	62 50
Dec.	9.	Paid Miss Lena Freeman, Agent.....	25 00
	16.	Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Secretary office expense.....	75 00
		Paid Miss N. E. Holding, Mexico.....	9,047 50
		Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, December salary.....	62 50
1896.			
Jan.	2.	Paid Miss L. A. Haygood, travel and salary.....	537 50
	3.	Paid Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets.....	87 50
		Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, leaflets.....	210 05
	16.	Paid Mrs. J. P. Campbell, missionary.....	93 75
		Paid Miss Mary L. Richardson, order of sister.....	100 00
		Paid Miss M. H. Watts, second quarter for Brazil.....	2,398 50
		Paid J. J. Methvin, second quarter for Indian Mission.....	912 50
	20.	Paid Mrs. H. N. McTyeire, Treasurer, office expenses.....	10 00
	25.	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, Chihuahua.....	500 00
Feb.	11.	Paid American Paper Company, mite boxes.....	57 50
	14.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, salary and expenses, Little Workers' Special.....	85 59
	15.	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, special for Laredo.....	365 60
	18.	Paid Western Union Telegraph Company.....	92
March	2.	Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, printing.....	25 05
		Paid Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, clerical help and office expenses.....	250 00
	4.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, February salary.....	62 50
	14.	Paid Miss L. Wilson, special from Baltimore Conference.....	25 00

1896.			
March 14.	Paid Miss L. Roberts, special from Northwest Texas.....	\$	26 35
	Paid Miss A. V. Wilson, special from Baltimore Conference.....		24 00
	Paid Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor of Leaflets.....		62 50
24.	Paid Barbee & Smith, Agents, leaflets.....		177 54
31.	Paid Miss A. M. Barnes, March salary and expense account.....		96 53
April 1.	Paid Miss A. Waters, missionary.....		93 75
	Paid Mrs. J. P. Campbell, missionary.....		93 75
	Paid J. J. Methvin, third quarter for Indian Mission.....		915 50
	Paid Miss N. E. Holding, third quarter for Mexico.....		6,972 00
	Paid Miss M. H. Watts, third quarter for Brazil.....		2,212 50
	Paid C. Ellerding, order of Miss Ellerding.....		187 50
	Paid Miss A. V. Wilson, special for Guadalajara.....		94 00
	Paid Miss A. V. Wilson, third quarter for Gaudalajara.....		625 00
	Paid Miss Lena Freeman, Agent.....		25 00
	Paid Miss L. Roberts, special for Saltillo.....		38 27
	Paid Miss M. L. Gibson, for Training School.....		10 00
	Paid Miss H. Richardson, Treasurer, for Bible women and hospital....		1,543 59
			\$73,592 92

RECAPITULATION.

Balance April 10, 1895	\$ 46,754 03	
Amount received for fiscal year 1895-96.....	74,403 16	-\$121,157 19
Amount paid out for fiscal year 1895-96.....		73,592 92
		\$ 47,564 27
In banks as follows, April 14, 1896:		
First National Bank	\$ 17,139 29	
American National Bank.....	15,303 65	
Fourth National Bank.....	10,381 13	
Commercial Bank.....	4,740 21	
Memorial Fund from last year.....	\$3,415 47	
Received this fiscal year.....	113 05	-\$ 3,528 52 ✓
Commercial deposit.....	4,740 21	8,268 73
Balance subject to check.....		\$ 39,295 54
Fourth quarter drafts due July 1.....		14,162 00
Balance in banks to appropriate.....		25,133 54
Thank offerings received this fiscal year.....		\$ 2,340 85 ✓
Mite box collections for fiscal year.....		956 48 ✓
Little Workers' Special.....		1,085 68

REQUESTS RECEIVED THIS YEAR.

Mrs. Bowman, Georgetown, Ky.....	\$ 3,122 63
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RECEIPTS SINCE ORGANIZATION.

Amount received for fiscal year 1878-79.....	\$ 4,104 27	1888-89.....	\$ 68,165 34
1879-80.....	13,775 57	1889-90.....	75,476 54
1880-81.....	19,362 10	1890-91.....	85,969 44
1881-82.....	25,609 44	1891-92.....	66,148 59
1882-83.....	29,647 31	1892-93.....	71,199 12
1883-84.....	38,873 52	1993-94.....	66,377 90
1884-85.....	52,652 12	1894-95.....	63,951 98
1885-96.....	51,588 76	1895-96.....	74,403 16
1886-87.....	50,092 63		
1887-88	69,729 65		\$927,427 84
Amount received for Training School from 1889 to 1896.....			

Grand total.....

Respectfully submitted.

MRS. H. N. MCTYEIR, *Treasurer.*

Examined and reported upon May 1, 1896.

THOMAS S. WEAVER, *Auditor;*
T. E. HOLT, *Treasurer,*
Board of Missions, M. E. Church, South.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS FROM CONFERENCE SOCIETIES

From April 10, 1895, to April 14, 1896.

Alabama Conference.....	2,102 31	North Mississippi Conference.....	\$ 2,890 15
Arkansas Conference.....	750 64	North Texas Conference.....	1,054 52
Baltimore Conference.....	3,336 92	Northwest Texas Conf. rence.....	1,539 78
East Texas Conference.....	493 23	Pacific Conference.....	422 20
Florida Conference.....	1,433 25	South Carolina Conference.....	4,939 16
Holston Conference.....	2,781 68	South Georgia Conference.....	5,186 78
Indian Mission Conference.....	99 76	Southwest Missouri Conference.....	2,835 08
Kentucky Conference.....	5,553 77	St. Louis Conference.....	885 54
Little Rock Conference.....	938 13	Tennessee Conference.....	3,050 67
Los Angeles Conference.....	204 31	Texas Conference.....	1,742 52
Louisiana Conference.....	1,202 02	Virginia Conference.....	5,235 21
Louisville Conference.....	2,474 93	West Texas Conference.....	354 68
Memphis Conference.....	3,368 34	Western Conference.....	102 25
Mexican Border Mission Conference.....	8 00	Western North Carolina Conference.....	1,594 80
Mississippi Conference.....	828 22	Western Virginia Conference.....	842 87
Missouri Conference.....	2,135 64	White River Conference.....	923 22
North Alabama Conference.....	1,692 95	Miscellaneous.....	83 73
North Carolina Conference.....	3,383 61	Memorial Fund.....	61 05
North Georgia Conference.....	7,871 24	Total.....	\$74,403 16

"He giveth His beloved sleep."

Mrs. D. H. McGavock,

December Twenty-three, Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-five.

"In the clear morning of that other country,
In Paradise.
With the same face that we have loved and cherished,
She shall arise!"

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
WOMAN'S BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

COMING to Washington, our nation's beautiful capital, to hold its eighteenth annual session, marks an era in the history of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions. The glimpses of the city's wonders permitted by the small space of time not devoted to business aroused delightful emotions in every breast. We are proud of the land of our birth, and that we are daughters of the broad United States, claiming ownership and right to all the glories of our nation's capital. This broad sense of citizenship impressed upon the Board, and the tiny view caught of the great world lying across either ocean from the stores of knowledge gathered in the public buildings of Washington, brought to many hearts most profitable lessons—viz., a deeper sense of responsibility, a fuller realization of how little we have already accomplished compared to the vast work spread out before us, and a truer determination to be more faithful to our God, broader in our sympathies for mankind, and more worthy of this beautiful country in which, by God's favor, we claim heritage.

The Board opened its work this year with a consecration service at 8 P.M., Friday, June 5th, in which officers and members all participated. God was present in great power, and from the first reading of the Scripture lessons (Psalms xxvii. and cxxi.), by Mrs. Wightman, to the last, dying notes of the Doxology, earnestness, deep devotion, and strong faith were everywhere manifest, and the fact was clearly apparent that these women knew and loved their Lord. Many had penetrated into the deep things of God, led by chastening and sorrow to a more intimate communion with the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and all expressed a growing love for the Saviour and the perishing souls for whom his blood was so freely shed.

The anniversary was held Saturday evening, June 6th, at eight

o'clock. Mt. Vernon Place Church, the largest Southern Methodist church in Washington, threw her doors wide open, and most cordially greeted and welcomed the members of the Board through representatives of the Conference Society, the local Auxiliary, and the Juveniles. Mrs. J. T. Williams, on behalf of the Baltimore Conference Society, spoke hearty, sisterly, beautiful words of greeting and welcome. Mrs. T. H. C. Strong, representing the local Auxiliary of Mt. Vernon Place Church, in graceful, tender words expressing joy and appreciation at the coming of the Woman's Board, and little Miss Nina Follin, one of the "Shining Stars" of Mt. Vernon Place Church, welcomed the Board in a lovely address full of interest in the cause of Missions and reverence for the workers engaged therein. Mrs. S. N. Jones, of the Southwest Missouri Conference Society, responded for the Board, referring in a most tender way to our gathering as a band of sisters for the first time since the death of our dear mother (Mrs. Hayes, the President of the Board) "here in her old home, the Baltimore Conference; and together we lay flowers on her grave." The annual address of the President was patriotic, full of adoration for our God (who gave this nation liberty), and of tender pity for the darkened countries where gods are of wood and stone. Her words of hope and trust for the advancement of the work of the Board, followed by a stirring appeal for one hundred thousand dollars and one hundred thousand members during the coming year, thrilled the heart of every hearer.

The report of Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Foreign Secretary since the death of Mrs. D. H. McGavock, contained a broad, comprehensive review of the past year's work, which encouraged all hearts. The report of the Treasurer, Mrs. H. N. McTyeire, showed an advance in the collections over last year of \$10,451.18. True, several thousand dollars of this amount came to the Board as special bequests, yet the regular collections were larger, and "we thanked God and took courage."

Bishop Wilson preached the annual sermon on Sunday, from Revelation xi. 15: "And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign forever and ever." It was indeed a masterly effort, showing the world's need of Christ, and the certainty of its final subjugation to him through the power of his gospel, secured through his life of suffering and cruel death.

The children's meeting on Sunday afternoon was addressed by

Mrs. Park, Miss Barnes, Mrs. Campbell, and Rev. C. G. Collyer. The last named, recently from China, appeared in the dress of a Chinese student. The talks were bright and interesting, though fully within the comprehension of the children.

At seven o'clock Sunday evening the Christian Endeavor Society of Mt. Vernon Place Church held a missionary service, and were addressed by Miss Strider on behalf of Japan, Mrs. Bishop Wilson on Brazil, Rev. Mr. Collyer on China, Miss Belle Bennett, of Kentucky, and Miss Mamie Bayes, of North Carolina. These five minute talks were pointed, stirring, and inspiring. This Endeavor Society is well organized, well officered, and is doing a fine work.

The addresses at the eight o'clock service on Sunday evening, by Mrs. Campbell and Rev. Mr. Collyer, both missionaries from China, were remarkably clear and impressive and full of instruction. Mrs. Campbell's account of our Soochow Hospital, and the good being accomplished by the work of Chinese girls trained there, was deeply interesting. She exhorted her audience to greater faithfulness in prayer for China and more intense zeal in behalf of souls. Many pledged themselves to *daily* prayer for these objects.

The memorial service Monday night, in memory of our honored President, Mrs. Juliana Hayes, and our Foreign Secretary, Mrs. D. H. McGavock, as well as of Bishop Haygood, was a time of holy, tender memories. While the Board fully realized its loss in the death of these honored leaders, and look with reverence upon the work that they accomplished, still their eternal gain and everlasting joy comforted our hearts; we sorrowed not without hope. The tributes of Mrs. Wightman, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Dowdell, Miss Gibson, Mrs. Humbert, Mrs. Cheatham, and Mrs. Park were most touching, and appreciative of the characters and labors of these devoted pioneers in woman's work for woman. Mrs. Butler read a paper found in Mrs. McGavock's desk after her death, containing a wonderful incident in her Christian experience, showing a nearer approach to the Saviour, and a clearer consciousness of his presence, than is often accorded to the children of God. Mrs. Callaway paid a loving tribute to Bishop Haygood's memory, commending the work that he did for the cause of Missions, and the great interest that he ever felt in the work of the Board.

Thursday evening was given to the interests of the Scarritt Bible and Training School—a work under the supervision of the Board. Miss Bennett's address on "The Inception and Purpose of the Training School," and Miss Gibson's on "The Fulfillment of

the Promise," as shown in the present condition and success, were listened to with deep interest. More and more as the years go by does the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions appreciate the value of this grand Training School. We owe a debt of gratitude to Miss Bennett, who originated the thought of our having such an institution, and to Miss Gibson, the competent Principal, who so wisely conducts its educational interests.

A visit to the White House, as a body, and a reception by President Cleveland were one of the pleasant incidents of the annual meeting, and all appreciated the opportunity of thus visiting the White House.

Another incident, also worthy of note, was the reception accorded the Board by the Chinese Minister and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Yang. The invitation was unexpected, but providential, so it seemed; certainly it was full of significance, and many prayers went up that God's blessing would rest upon the Minister and his home, especially that the Spirit of the Lord would accompany the truths contained in the Bible presented by the Board, and most graciously received by Mrs. Yang. China and our own country seemed to clasp hands during this memorable interview, and the Word of God was the bond of union.

The Lord God omnipotent help us to improve every opportunity of extending his kingdom! Great, awful indeed, the responsibility that rests upon the women of the nineteenth century!

MARY L. HARGROVE, *Recording Secretary.*

MRS. M. D. WIGHTMAN, *President.*

OFFICIAL MINUTES.

THE Woman's Board of Foreign Missions met in Mt. Vernon Place Church, Washington, D. C., Saturday, June 6, for the first business session of its eighteenth annual conference. The meeting was opened by singing Hymn No. 1 of our Standard Hymn Book, "Come, Thou Almighty King," after which Mrs. Wightman, President of the Board, offered fervent prayer for a fresh anointing from on high upon each member assembled, that wisdom and spiritual power might characterize each session and be manifest in every deliberation. The Scripture lesson for the morning was the first chapter of Colossians. The Board was then called to order, and, after a few kindly words of greeting and exhortation from the President, the Recording Secretary, Mrs. Hargrove, called the roll of officers and Conference Secretaries. The following answered to their names:

OFFICERS.

Mrs. M. D. Wightman,	Mrs. S. C. Trueheart,
Miss M. L. Gibson,	Mrs. H. N. McTyeire,
Mrs. T. B. Hargrove.	

MANAGERS.

Mrs. W. G. E. Cunyngham,	Mrs. E. C. Dowdell,
Mrs. J. D. Hamilton,	Mrs. Adam Hendrix,
Mrs. W. B. Higginbotham.	

CONFERENCE CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES.

Miss Mary Samford (reserve),	Mrs. F. D. Swindell,
Mrs. V. V. Harlan,	Mrs. Morgan Callaway,
Miss Virginia Massey (reserve),	Mrs. E. J. Robinson,
Mrs. S. S. Harris (reserve),	Mrs. J. P. Mussett,
Mrs. Matt McClung (reserve),	Mrs. J. W. Humbert,
Miss Belle Bennett (reserve),	Mrs. R. W. MacDonell,
Mrs. James Thomas,	Mrs. S. N. Jones,
Miss Cleora Murphey,	Mrs. T. P. Weakley,
Mrs. E. J. Fullilove (reserve),	Mrs. S. S. Park,
Miss Laura Bradford,	Mrs. H. C. Cheatham,
Mrs. J. B. Chatfield,	Mrs. F. M. Bumpass,
Miss Elizabeth Billingsley,	Miss Lida G. Moore,
Mrs. C. W. Brandon,	Mrs. J. C. Hawthorne,
Mrs. J. E. Musick.	

Five officers and five managers were present. Twenty-one Conferences were represented by their Corresponding Secretaries, six by reserve delegates, and seven had no representation. Total number present, thirty-seven. Four Conference Societies have elected new Corresponding Secretaries during the past year, and thus several faces long familiar to the Board are missing at this session. Among this number we can but mention the benign, motherly face of Mrs. Avis, for seventeen years Corresponding Secretary of the St. Louis Conference Society. May the God who honors the hoary head when "found in the way of righteousness" lead her gently and lovingly until she awakes satisfied in his likeness!

The vacancies in our official ranks caused by the deaths of our loved Honorary President and Foreign Secretary were deeply felt by the Board. Both had been kept away from these gatherings in the past by sickness, but to know and realize that they were gone from our midst to return no more, cast a shadow over our hearts, but turned our thoughts heavenward.

The Secretary read a report of the preliminary meeting of officers and managers, held on Friday, June 5, at four o'clock P.M., which was adopted, and the following committees appointed:

On Extension of Work.—Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Chairman; Mrs. W. G. E. Cunyngham, Miss Maria L. Gibson, Mrs. S. S. Park, Mrs. Morgan Callaway, Mrs. J. W. Humbert, Miss Cleora Murphey, Mrs. M. G. Hamilton, Mrs. W. B. Higginbotham.

On Missionary Candidates.—Mrs. C. W. Brandon, Chairman; Mrs. J. P. Mussett, Mrs. E. J. Robinson, Mrs. F. D. Swindell, Miss Laura Bradford, Mrs. H. C. Cheatham, Mrs. E. J. Fullilove, Mrs. J. B. Chatfield.

On Finance.—Mrs. H. N. McTyeire, Chairman; Miss Belle Bennett, Mrs. Matt McClung, Mrs. T. P. Weakley, Mrs. Adam Hendrix, Mrs. R. W. MacDonell, Miss Elizabeth Billingsley, Mrs. J. C. Hawthorne.

On Publication.—Mrs. E. C. Dowdell, Chairman; Mrs. S. N. Jones, Miss Lida Moore, Mrs. V. V. Harlan, Mrs. J. E. Musick, Mrs. James Thomas, Mrs. F. M. Bumpass, Mrs. S. S. Harris, Miss Mary Samford.

On Platform Courtesies.—Mrs. Cauter, Miss Virginia Massey, Mrs. Alice Strother.

The following were appointed to lead the devotional exercises during the session of the Board:

Saturday morning — Opening service, Mrs. Wightman; closing service, Miss Gibson.

Saturday afternoon—Committee meeting, Mrs. Cunyngnam.

Monday morning—Opening service, Mrs. Brandon; closing service, Mrs. Dowdell.

Monday afternoon—Committee meeting, Mrs. Hendrix.

Tuesday morning—Opening service, Mrs. Higginbotham; closing service, Mrs. Hargrove.

Tuesday afternoon—Committee meeting, Mrs. Humbert.

Wednesday morning—Opening service, Mrs. Jones; closing service, Miss Bennett.

Wednesday afternoon—Opening service, Mrs. Swindell; closing service, Mrs. Cheatham.

The following hours for meeting and adjournment were adopted—*viz.*, Nine o'clock A.M. to 12:30 P.M., the last half hour to be spent in devotional exercises.

The report of the Secretary of Home Affairs was called for, and read as follows:

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

A writer full of enthusiasm, as well as faith and intelligence, says: "Nothing can be more plain than that God is bent on the conquest of the world. He shapes history in the interests of his Church. He has mapped out the world for his kingdom. We have not to-day to create the opportunity. It is here. All we have to do is to accept the double gift of the field and the force and go forth to overcome the world."

Faithfulness in embracing the opportunity and diligence in working out results will not only multiply opportunities, but greatly add to resources. "Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God" declared William Carey when he preached the great sermon that inaugurated the missionary movement of the present century. Faith must be strong, the hand ever active, or *failure* in carrying forward God's purposes will be written over the lintels of our doors. Failure, as mildew, takes away the beauty and brightness of everything it touches. As a Board of Foreign Missions we cannot afford to fail, and that we do not many prayerful, trusting hearts are seeking to avert such disaster. That we may not we must get out of selfishness, which means self-service rather than God's service. When this is done information will be eagerly sought, indifference will vanish, "Thy kingdom come" more sincerely prayed for, and all hearts will be full of the love that longs for the world to come to Christ. Then sacrifice will be a delight and the crucifixion of self a blessed reality.

The world is in sad need of a divine Friend, a gracious Comforter, and we, as a Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, have been commissioned to send out the knowledge of such a Saviour to every creature. If each has done her best in fulfilling the trust committed to her, she has the blessed consciousness of a "conscience void of offense toward God and man." Eighteen years ago the trust was accepted, and soon four open doors were

entered: China, Brazil, Mexico, and Indian Territory. We still hold these stations, and have extended to neighboring points within and have strengthened our stakes, but have not opened into other countries; have not ventured, for fear of imperiling the work projected already. No Church enterprise nor any system of work based upon the faith and loyalty of a voluntary membership should be extended unless there is an increase of numbers. Bequests and donations should not be underrated, as they bless the donors and enrich the treasury greatly; but these should not be relied upon for sustaining work which continues from year to year. An increase of membership is an increase of resources. Ten new members brought into loving touch with the organization, each paying only the fees demanded, will be of more permanent worth to a society than fifteen dollars from one person who may not give but once. Work for *new* members, work for *renewed* life in old members, and thank God heartily for all contributed occasionally by loving hearts who wish thus to show their love of souls and their gratitude to the Giver of all good.

The work should *advance*, never retrograde. *Progress* is life. For this purpose more perfect organization, better methods of work, more information, unceasing prayer, and full consecration should be prime factors of our creed. Then the generations following us will escape mistakes, and a glorious consummation follow. We must not suppose that three hundred missionary organizations and more than nine thousand missionaries in active service and a million native Christians leave nothing to be done. What are these among so many? Does not our Lord say to us: "Give ye them to eat?" Does he not *command*, "Give ye them to eat," until the last hungry soul is fed?

Work, *much* work, as well as great self-sacrifice, are indispensable if we obey. How many people are there who sacrifice even a little *time* to the work, to say nothing of giving up comforts and luxuries? Suppose Christians in this country determined to have only one pastor to every one hundred and thirty-seven thousand people, or even one pastor for every five thousand churchgoers, and send the surplus out into heathen lands. A good plan this, if Christians wish to know the value of the ministry. Very soon there would be loud calls for the precious privileges to be returned and a wonderful impulse given to collections for sending out help to those who have never had the sacred ministrations at the altars. Brazil has only one preacher of truth to every one hundred and thirty-seven thousand people, and China is worse off. Is selfishness a virtue? Where much is given is not much required? The responsibility of eighteen years of history rests upon this Board. Eighteen years of missionary culture, of training in methods in foreign missionary work, bring upon us such tremendous responsibility that one hardly dares to dwell upon the thought. Duty performed brings a conscious blessing, and duty done in obedience to God's commands gives the assurance of "Lo! I am with you always." Answering His call, coming in touch with the needy and suffering, using the utmost diligence to relieve their wants and soothe their sorrows, makes the heart softer, more sympathetic, more Christlike. As the warmth of the human hand will change a certain kind of opal from an ordinary, unattractive stone to a bril-

liant gem, flashing and sparkling with indescribable luster, so every heart upon which the warmth of Christ's love comes, whose sympathies go out for the woes of others, will be transformed into the grace and beauty of the Christlikeness. What is the value of "earth's fairest gems" to the gems from all nations, a wondrous array, "whose luster back to our efforts be traced?"

Since the last annual meeting the Board has been called to suffer in the death of Mrs. Juliana Hayes, for many years the honored President; and the beloved Foreign Secretary, Mrs. D. H. McGavock, for many years in charge of all the business connected with the general affairs of our Board. Their names are inseparably linked with whatever success has been attained, and as long as the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions has a place in Church history so long will their names and deeds and devotion live. I need not attempt to emphasize their worth, so spoken of in all our land. How can we more truly honor their memory than by devoting ourselves earnestly to the cause so dear to their hearts, and leading forward to greater triumphs the enterprise they loved?

The Board sustained a serious loss also in the death of Bishop Haygood, who was ever helpful in word and deed from the inauguration of our Board until the sad winter day at the beginning of the past year when he was called up higher. No doubt it is your purpose to make suitable mention of these noble, true, successful leaders of God's cause in some appropriate way.

Our work during the past year, judging from the correspondence, seemed to move forward more satisfactorily, because upon a more solid basis and with more effective methods. There seems a more serious determination on the part of the officers to secure a fuller coöperation of the women of the Church and to work more systematically and steadily. There has been reaction from spasmodic effort which was found hurtful to a somewhat more even, educated, continuous, persistent policy, which, flowing like a mighty river, deepens the channel as it moves. This is encouraging, because more abiding than the intermittent flow and ebb of wet season streams. Difficulties still confront, dangers still threaten, but the eye is more steadily fixed upon the mark and "prize of our high calling." What if obstacles impede the way? Success, victory, is worth all. That which may be a rough, "thorny way in the passage may be a pavement of gold in the retrospect." Keeping in view the recompense, discouragements will not distress nor depress. Though our losses in numbers have been considerable, our gains have been greater, and we take courage.

At the last annual meeting there were reported the following: Conference Societies, 34; districts, 270; auxiliaries, 2,184—with 39,569 adult members, 1,127 Young People's and Juvenile Societies, and 29,990 members. This year we report the same number of Conference Societies and districts, but 3,417 auxiliaries and 71,470 members, an increase of 160 auxiliaries and 1,811 members; 266 new adult organizations have been made during the year, with an addition of 3,687 members; also 120 new Juvenile and Young People's Societies, with 3,399 new members. A fine increase! If there had been no losses, we could rejoice greatly. However, all growth involves loss. Losses are to be dreaded only when they outnumber the gains. Under such conditions death will soon follow.

Our increase during the past year should have been much greater than it is, as gracious revivals swept over the country and thousands were brought into the Church, and thousands should have been added to all the Church organizations. Only a *working* faith is a saving faith. Called to carry the gospel to all nations, we rejoice over these outpourings of the Spirit, but we should see to it that new converts are enrolled in our societies and become working members of the same. Joining the Church means enrolling for service, and Foreign Missions is a most important branch of this service. While we are glad to know that our membership and collections have increased, we must regret that there is no increase in the subscription list of either organ of the Board. We reported thirteen thousand subscribers to the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* last year, and report the same now. The *Little Worker* had about nine thousand subscribers last year, and has no more now. It is not true that the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* with its present subscriptions meets expenses of its publication. With an adult membership of forty thousand, we should have at least twenty thousand subscribers. The paper is necessary to the intelligent prosecution of the work. How is it possible without it to know anything of the stations opened and the success of the missionaries?

To attend the monthly meetings is helpful (thousands fail to do this), but not sufficient. It is hardly possible to crowd into an hour all the information as to the destitution of other lands and the trials and hardships of the workers, etc. Then the impression made would not be permanent. The reading, thinking, and study between the meetings are essential. The paper, though so cheap, furnishes interesting reading matter on all the foreign work, as well as notices of societies at home, new organizations, programmes for monthly meetings, notices of books and periodicals, as well as choice selections and fine editorials. The interests of this paper lie near your hearts, I am sure, and you desire to see it sustained. May not some method be adopted that will insure renewals, as well as new subscribers?

Little Worker.—This gem of juvenile monthlies has not increased its last year's subscription, as I have said, though thirteen thousand subscribers were promised at Meridian. The difficulty in sustaining this paper lies not in the indifference of the children nor in the lack of delightful materials furnished by the editor, but in *nonrenewals*. When new subscribers are secured some one should be appointed to see that the subscriptions are not suffered to expire. The Secretary of one of the Conference Societies pursued a plan which I most heartily recommend. At the annual meeting of the Woman's Board she pledged so many subscribers and at her Conference Society presented her pledge, which was unanimously adopted, and the number of subscribers promised divided among the District Secretaries. From time to time these Secretaries reported to her, showing the number of papers in circulation. When any falling off was reported immediate attention was called to the fact, and by this watchfulness and industry her pledge was redeemed.

No juvenile paper is more happy in pleasing the little ones and in drawing out their hearts toward the wants of heathen children, thus enlisting their active sympathies. All the benevolent impulses of their souls are

kept alive and deepened. As they grow in years they will grow more Christlike, and for the future Church there is being trained cheerful, willing workers to follow this generation, a cause of profound gratitude.

I have been able to gather approximately the cost of the *Little Worker*, that you may see how necessary a large subscription is if it becomes self-supporting:

To subscriptions from May, 1895, to May, 1896.....	\$1,951	36	
Balance May, 1895.....	17	00	
Amount paid by Board to supplement expenses of <i>Little Worker</i>	629	40	—\$2,597 76
By printing, cuts, etc.....	\$1,586	02	
By Agent's expenses and salary.....	126	95	
By Editor's salary and incidentals.....	884	79	— 2,597 76
Appropriated for Little Workers' Special.....	\$ 300	00	
Balance	88	52	—\$ 388 52
Paid for office expenses, etc.....	368	57	
February, 1896, material furnished by Barbee & Smith, by Publishing House.....	19	95	— 388 52

Without counting mite boxes, etc., the *Little Worker* and Little Workers' Special cost over its subscription rates \$717.92.

There are a number of little papers at the subscription price of this (twenty-five cents), but I notice that they either suspend or advance their subscription price in the course of a year or two. Shall we raise the subscription price of the *Little Worker* to fifty cents? Suppose this plan was adopted, would it not interfere with the circulation of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*? Shall we give up the Little Workers' Special? It seems to me that any legitimate means that will induce children to give is worth much in developing their benevolence. They enjoy giving to an object which appeals emphatically to them, and at the same time they are taught the value of offerings which accumulate by saving the mites. Look at it as we may, the conclusion seems inevitable that we must not only have the *Little Worker*, but also the Little Workers' Special. Increase the number of subscribers, see that the subscriptions are renewed promptly, and the whole question settles itself.

Leaflets.—The demand for these little messengers, with three exceptions, is as large as ever. In some cases it is larger. It would be a disaster to cut down our literary supplies at a time when all branches of trade and industry are multiplying theirs. Guilds, Granges, Leagues, and Societies spend hundreds of dollars in printing and scattering broadcast their tracts, statistics, and slips, and would feel that an arm of power was lost without them. Such means have become a notable feature in propagating religious information and keeping attention riveted upon any important enterprise. We should not hesitate to expend when grand results follow. The liberal seed-sowing promises abundant harvests, and the children of God should be as wise as the children of Mammon. As well expect a bountiful harvest after a sparse sowing as a well-informed, lively, spiritual organization, without study, without labor. Of course the question of expense should be consid-

ered. No more should be paid out than necessary; but a too cheap policy should not be encouraged, since that would defeat the object to be promoted. Certainly no one would advocate the kind of pauperism that would stultify the heart and brain of the workers. Some plan might be adopted by which the expenditure in printing and mailing could be reduced. I recommend the issue of the same number and variety of leaflets, sending out for gratuitous distribution one-half, keeping the other half on hand ready to send when ordered, the order being accompanied by a small fee and the postage, or simply the postage. If expense can be lessened without damage to the work, by all means let it be done; but cutting down the supply of literature will damage the work. Neither do I think that cutting off the supply of leaflets will increase the circulation of the organs of the Board. Thousands *do not* and *cannot* subscribe to these periodicals, and would be without missionary literature of any kind were no leaflets gratuitously distributed. I protest against an economy that may so impoverish the life current of the enterprise that a loss of power would result. We commenced a gratuitous distribution, which brought an immediate and vigorous growth, and we should be careful that this vigorous growth continues. From various parts of the work during the past year I have been called on for leaflets to help in arousing lifeless auxiliaries. Sometimes I have been asked to send leaflets containing accounts of the sad condition of our heathen sisters; others asked for something containing incidents from the lives of our missionaries. Success costs time and money, and self-sacrifice is one condition of self-preservation, and we must pay the price of success or cease to hope to sustain or extend the work abroad. A letter to-day from one of the Gulf States says: "I write to ask for something to add to the interest of our foreign missionary meetings. Please send me a few leaflets. We have not had the leaflets called for by the programmes for several years, and I said not long since to my society: 'I'll have some leaflets if I have to send to Nashville for them.' Please see that we are supplied."

Who is to blame for failure to send this auxiliary a supply of leaflets? Did the Conference Secretary, or did the District Secretary, or did the Auxiliary Corresponding Secretary, to whom all literature for the auxiliary is forwarded, put her society's supplies in her wastebasket? You see, while here and there one may feel "I do not care for leaflets," the vast majority insists upon having them. If the Conference Secretaries will send the addresses of their District Secretaries in good time to the Publishing House, the literature can go directly to the District Secretaries; and if each District Secretary will pay the postage on her supply, much would thus be saved. Do anything to save cost, but do not cut down the supply of literature.

The "Decade of Mission Life," by Miss Nannie E. Holding, is well worth the money it costs. An auxiliary I know purchased the book and circulated it at ten cents a reading until it went the round of the society, and some who read were willing to pay ten cents for a second reading. Please see that every society, if not every member, has one of these valuable books.

"The Circuit of the Globe," by Bishop Galloway, was fully endorsed by this Board at the last annual meeting, and I hope that many copies have been purchased and read.

"Letters from the Orient," by Mrs. A. W. Wilson, is full of interest, and should be in every missionary library.

Mission Studies, the *World for Christ*, the *Methodist Review of Missions*, the *Evangel*, and other delightful missionary publications may be used by the societies with profit, in addition to our own organs. They are cheap as to price, too.

Special Work.—Quite a revival has taken place in scholarships, Bible women, and day schools recently. Since Miss Haygood's visits to the societies many have been incited to have a representative of their own in the field. To have some one in training to teach Christ, or some one doing Bible work in lands where spiritual darkness reigns, appeals to the feelings as well as to the judgment of those who have not been educated to give simply because of the command and the need. A scholarship in China costs \$40 a year, and, while it may be undertaken for one year, should be taken for five years at least. A Bible woman costs \$60 a year, and may be adopted for one or any number of years. To maintain a school requires at least \$150 a year, as the native teacher should have about that amount of salary. In raising money for these purposes it would be well to secure subscriptions from each member of an auxiliary and collect the whole amount and send to the Treasurer at one time.

In Brazil, Indian Territory, and Mexico scholarships cost \$75, and schools and Bible women cost about the same as in China. The China scholarships are the cheapest.

A life membership should be secured in every auxiliary by the payment of \$20. Mite boxes may be used for this purpose. Indeed, mite boxes may be used for sending out new missionaries or for raising any means to increase the general collections.

Arrangements are being perfected by which special work, such as scholarships, schools, Bible women, etc., may hereafter be kept in direct touch with the individual or society supporting it. The Agent or Superintendent of each field will appoint one missionary in each station, whose duties will include this correspondence. At home some one should be appointed to respond when these communications are received. A very successful, devoted missionary not long since wrote on this subject, saying, "I wish the parties supporting special work in my field would write to me on the subject occasionally;" and, as Secretary of Home Affairs, I should be informed of such matters as well.

Week of Prayer and Thanksgiving.—This is always a season of special blessing from the presence of the Lord, and should be observed by every society; indeed, every member. Our beloved Foreign Secretary, whose health, you know, prevented her from meeting with a society, never omitted the observance each year. Each day, at the appointed hour, she had devotional exercises according to the form suggested by the programme. I was with her on one of these occasions, when she seemed to draw very near the throne of God in prayer and in thanksgiving, the thank offerings following, as a matter of course. She never omitted this means of grace, from its institution to the end. Weak and suffering, unable to kneel, she continued it year after year. True, she seemed ever to dwell in communion with God,

but the thought that her prayers ascended with thousands of her sister workers' made the hour doubly precious to her, and was ever eagerly looked forward to. At such times the whole connection is drawn more closely together, and united petitions going up to God, like the smoke of the altar, touch the heart of the Infinite and bring his benediction.

Public Meetings.—These meetings should not be neglected. Whenever a society holds one and notes the effects of presenting the claims of the work to the public, the new names enrolled, and the new subscriptions secured for our periodicals, they will need no further arguments to establish their value. This is one of the surest means of extension, of giving the public, as well as the Church, knowledge of its value and necessity. Personal and private effort do much to induce the women to unite with us, and should never be omitted; but a public meeting is even more effective.

Organizers and visitors are so needed that I hardly think anything I can say would deepen your conviction on the subject. Every Conference Society should have one. Every Conference Secretary should attend the district meetings, if possible, and every District Secretary should see her auxiliaries herself once a year, or send a substitute. The fact that every branch of work in Church or State employs these visitors or agents is a proof of their value. Certainly the workers in the kingdom of Christ should not show less skill or forethought than those in trades and professions. New life has often been put into a dead society by the visit of one person whose heart is on fire with missionary zeal. After a returned missionary has secured health and been fully rested she should visit as many societies as she can. Miss Haygood visited about twenty Conferences and Conference Societies, the results of which gave new life to the work; and many letters come, saying: "Miss Haygood was with us, and we want to take up some special work for China."

Mrs. Campbell has kindly consented to visit the Conference Societies, for a time at least, and will no doubt carry light and inspiration with her. Pray for her success as she takes to your people the divine enthusiasm animating her own heart.

Scarritt Bible and Training School.—The work done here is approved and honored at home and abroad. I cannot too strongly emphasize its importance and its worth. A petition from Brazil came last winter, asking that the study of Portuguese be placed in the curriculum, that missionaries may be ready to begin work in that field as soon as they land.

The home office has had increased expenditures since the last annual meeting, owing (1) to the fact of thirteen months' work, instead of twelve as heretofore; (2) the long, painful illness of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and the great anxiety of the Board to hear of her condition; (3) the frequent meetings of the Local Board for business and the transmission of the same to other members of the Board. Often circular letters went out two or three times a month, instead of once as formerly.

REPORT OF MRS. J. D. HAMILTON, FROM APRIL 1, 1895, TO APRIL 1, 1896.

Mite boxes sent out.....	8,522
Number of life membership certificates.....	70

Number of honorary membership certificates.....	1
Treasurers' books.....	79
Received for sale of Treasurers' books (amount turned over to General Treasurer).....	\$31 60
Bonus on sale of two copies of "Christian Womanhood" (also turned over to General Treasurer).....	1 00

STATEMENT OF EXPENSES OF SECRETARY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

Balance May, 1895.....	\$ 14 00
Amount received June, 1895.....	250 00—\$264 00
Office expenses from May, 1895, to June, 1896.....	\$176 45
Mrs. Hamilton's expenses....	73 55—\$264 00

Libraries.—This means of spreading missionary information has multiplied, but hundreds of our membership do not read and do not want to read. Good, telling missionary work could be done by a Reading Committee, whose duties would consist in visiting those absent from the monthly meetings, and, after reporting something of the meeting, read the leaflet and talk it over. If the members cannot or will not come to the monthly meetings, take the monthly meetings to the members. They will be benefited, and the committee will be blessed in the effort.

Treasurer's Books.—There is still on hand a good supply of these books, which can be had by sending forty cents to Mrs. Hamilton. A new treasurer's book has been planned by a wide-awake business man, Mr. Robert L. Hawkins, of Kansas City, Mo., which I hope may be introduced when these are used up.

A trying year the past has been in the death of our chief officers, but a blessed one as well. A common sorrow is a strong bond, and the removal of a human arm of power causes the soul to more fully turn to the omnipotent Source of all strength.

Miss Gibson moved that the items of this report upon which action was required be referred to the proper committees. Adopted.

Mrs. Park moved that the home work be now considered. This motion prevailed, and discussion of home work became the special business of the hour.

Miss Gibson strongly recommended the Auxiliary Treasurer's Book recently prepared for the use of the Southwest Missouri Conference Society by the kindness of Mr. Robert L. Hawkins, of Kansas City.

The following subjects were brought forward and freely discussed during the remainder of the morning session:

1. Shall Literature Be Sent from the Publishing House to Conference Corresponding Secretaries or Direct to District Secretaries? Optional with Conference Secretary.

2. Shall Leaflet "Duties of Auxiliary Officers" Be Revised? Revision not needed.

3. Methods for Advancing Juvenile Work.

4. The Necessity for Using the Press More Largely in Our Work, Sowing Missionary Literature and Information Down "Knee Deep."

5. The Necessity of Supplying Our Auxiliary Corresponding Secretaries and Treasurers with Record Books.

6. The Necessity, Absolute Necessity, of Enlarging Our Membership in Every Conference.

7. The Good Resulting from More Painstaking in the Oversight of Our Auxiliary Secretaries' and Treasurers' Books, Having These Examined at District Meetings, and the District Secretaries' Books at Annual Meetings of Conference Societies.

The President called for memorials or petitions to be referred to committees. Mrs. Weakley brought forward a memorial from the Tennessee Conference asking for a construction of resolution on page 82, Sixteenth Annual Report; and of item 7, page 81, Seventeenth Annual Report. Mrs. R. W. MacDonell presented a memorial from the South Georgia Conference asking for a change in the time of holding Thanksgiving Week. These memorials were referred to a special committee to be afterwards announced by the President.

Railroad certificates were called for and announcements made.

Mrs. Chambers, of Mt. Vernon Place Church, came forward and invited the Board as a body to attend President Cleveland's reception at one o'clock. The Board extended thanks to Mrs. Chambers, and arranged to go to the White House at 1:15 P.M.

Twelve o'clock having arrived, devotional exercises were conducted by Miss Gibson. The thoughts presented so earnestly by her on Joshua i. 1-9 were impressive and helpful. She closed by begging each member of the Board to follow Martha's example, who, after communion with her Master, went and called her sister secretly, saying: "The Master is come and calleth for thee." Miss Bennett closed the meeting with prayer.

MORNING SESSION.

Washington, D. C., June 8, 1896.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions met for its second business session in Mt. Vernon Place Church, Monday, June 8th, at 9 A.M. Hymn 873 ("Draw Me Nearer") was sung, after which Mrs. C. W. Brandon read the twelfth chapter of Romans for the morning lesson. She called attention to the need of preparation for service: as the good housekeeper when wishing to use a vessel for a specific purpose prepares that vessel most carefully, so the Divine Master, when he would use human instruments or earthen vessels, pre-

pares each for the work in his hand, purifying and strengthening and directing. She commended the twelfth chapter of Romans to the Board for daily perusal as a perfect code for our guidance in practical, everyday life. Hymn 440 ("O for a Heart to Praise My God") was sung, after which Mrs. Brandon led in prayer, and then the business of the day was taken up.

First roll call, rules of order were read, and minutes of Saturday's session were read and approved; then Mrs. Cunnyingham brought regrets and loving words from our Manager, Mrs. John, who was unavoidably absent from this session of the Board. The Secretary was instructed to send a telegram in reply to Mrs. John; also one of loving greeting to Mrs. Avis, former Secretary of the St. Louis Conference Society, and for seventeen years a member of the Woman's Board.

The President appointed Mrs. Callaway, Miss Bennett, and Mrs. Park a special committee to consider the memorials presented Saturday morning.

The report of the Local Board was called for next, and was read and approved as follows:

MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE LOCAL BOARD,
From May, 1895, to May, 1896.

The first meeting of the year was held in the room of the Foreign Secretary, Mrs. D. H. McGavock, to consider the adjustment of some business between the General Board and the Woman's Board in regard to property in Chihuahua, Mexico. The matter of exchange of the amount due from the General Board to this Board for the American parsonage was effected. This parsonage, on the same square as Palmore Institute, is a two-story building well adapted for our school purposes.

Miss Barnes's request for mite boxes of more substantial make was next taken up, and the request granted on condition that the appropriation was sufficient.

A letter from Mrs. Newman Carr, in which she offered her services for Brazil, was considered, but the offer was declined.

Miss Bessie Moore, of the Brazil' Mission, asked to return because of failing health, and her request was granted.

On May 31, 1895, the Board met in the office of the Secretary of Home Affairs, and directed lawyers to wind up the Bowman will case, if possible.

Miss Worth's request to withdraw from the Woman's Board was granted.

The papers of a missionary candidate were not accepted because not wholly satisfactory.

On June 6, 1895, the Board convened to take suitable action in regard to the death of Mrs. Juliana Hayes, the first President of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, and the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Long before the organization of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society by the General Conference at Atlanta, Ga., in 1873, Mrs. Hayes had been intensely interested in the salvation of the heathen. She rejoiced that, by the authority given the women of the Church by this organization, she had better opportunities for putting into execution the desires of her heart. Elected first President of the Board, she at once entered actively upon her duties, traveling throughout the Church, organizing auxiliaries, and by her own ardent enthusiasm inspiring our women to listen to the cry for help that came from the women of distant lands; and making them realize that to each individual Christian was given a grave responsibility concerning those 'sitting in the region and shadow of death.' The gratifying success of the Society, humanly speaking, is largely due to her efforts. Her faith claimed 'great things of God,' and her zeal corresponded to her faith. She lived to see thirty-five Conference Societies, with their numerous auxiliaries, in active operation. For several years the infirmities of age have forbidden her accustomed activity, and when the Board met in its sixteenth annual session, at Atlanta, Ga., in 1894, she declined reelection because physically unable to discharge the duties of the office. The Board honored itself in making her Honorary President for life. A message received from her by the Board, while in session at Meridian, Miss., in May, 1895, proved that her interest in heathen women had not abated. On June 2 she left earth and entered the 'saints' rest.' God has called her to 'come up higher,' and rest from her labors. She had not counted her life dear, nor did she ever hesitate, when, by the sacrifice of home comforts and personal ease, she could do aught that would help to advance God's kingdom in the world. Thus did she put to shame the slothful indifference of many. The Board, realizing that in her death a loss has been sustained which is beyond compensation, would express high appreciation of her Christian worth and character; and, thankful for having known and loved her personally, would hereby tender to her family and numerous friends sympathy in this bereavement. May the consolation given to a suffering world through 'Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,' be their portion! May the sadness of the present hour be modified by the thought of the bliss that she now enjoys, and the hope of reunion 'some sweet day,' when they, like her, shall have 'finished their course!' In memory of the dear departed, this action shall be recorded in the minutes of the Board, and a copy thereof sent to the family; and it shall also be published in the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and the *Christian Advocate*."

On September 27, 1895, the Foreign Secretary called the Board to

consider Miss Mary Turner's request to be released as a missionary. Her request, based upon her feeble health and approaching marriage, was granted.

The request of our General Treasurer to send drafts to the fields, and to Miss Barnes for her salary, was granted, because of the inability of Mrs. McGavock to write the necessary orders.

The necessity of immediate action to save our property at Chihuahua and Soochow called the Board together on October 30, 1895. The buildings were so exposed to rain that a new roof in one case and repairs of the roof in the other were ordered, and the money needed taken from the contingent fund.

The continued illness of the Foreign Secretary led to the presentation of the following preamble and resolution, which were carried and placed upon record:

"Whereas Mrs. D. H. McGavock, in her present physical condition, is incapable of discharging the duties of Foreign Secretary; therefore be it

Resolved, That we hereby elect Mrs. S. C. Trueheart to act as Foreign Secretary until such time as Mrs. McGavock may be well enough to resume the work of the office."

On November 20, 1895, the Board, finding that the vacancy made by Miss Turner's marriage should be filled, ordered Miss Viola Blackburn, who was accepted at the last annual meeting of the Board, to go to San Luis to enter upon that work, and her outfit forwarded at once from the contingent fund, her traveling expenses being paid from the amount for the quarter in Miss Turner's hands.

Miss Norville's outfit and travel were referred to the Board in annual session.

Mrs. Campbell's request to travel in California in the interest of China was granted at this meeting. She was urged to collect as much as possible on the Pacific Coast toward opening work at Sung-Kiang; and the Secretary of Home Affairs was directed to ask the Societies to supplement the bequest of \$2,000 made by Miss Wilkins, of Baltimore, through Mrs. Hayes, that the Hayes-Wilkins Memorial might soon be erected at Sung-Kiang, and the names of these good women honored in the way which seemed most suitable.

The next meeting of the Local Board, December 23, 1895, was a very sad one, as it was on the occasion of the death of Mrs. D. H. McGavock, the beloved Foreign Secretary of the Woman's Board.

Mrs. W. G. E. Cunyningham was made Chairman, and Mrs. J. D. Hamilton Secretary. The fourteenth chapter of John was read by the Chairman, who led in a fervent prayer in this our time of need and bereavement.

The following preamble and resolutions were presented and adopted:

"In the presence of a severe loss, in the shadow of a great bereavement, there is no consolation out of Christ. To-day we come to Him

as a Divine Helper; to a Friend, who was once a 'Man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,' for courage and sympathy. We pray that our faith fail not, that our zeal does not relax, that our hearts do not faint. In the death of our valuable and beloved Foreign Secretary, Mrs. D. H. McGavock, each member of this Board has lost a precious friend and a wise leader, whose firm hand and ready pen carried the host of consecrated women to success in all our fields of labor—in China, in Brazil, in Mexico, and in Indian Territory.

"Seventeen years have passed since our General Conference authorized the women of our Church to organize for special work for foreign lands, and placed Mrs. D. H. McGavock in the front. During these seventeen years, by her foresight, prudence, and consecration, the 'little has become a thousand,' and mission stations have been opened and maintained, without being involved in debt even when the country passed through a great financial crisis.

"Our representatives in far-off lands have had in Mrs. McGavock a helpful, sympathetic friend, who loved them, cared for them as a mother faithful and true; therefore be it

"1. *Resolved*, That as servants of the Most High, submitting to his holy will, we thank God for her example, her unflinching heroism in discharge of duty, her perseverance, her courage, strong faith, and consecration.

"2. That we pledge ourselves anew to the work she loved, and to which she gave time and strength and talents; that we put upon the altar of sacrifice, as she did, the best of all that we have and are through Christ; that her memory is a sacred legacy, which we will cherish while we wait and work.

"3. That we extend our sympathy to her husband, her only son, and a grandson; and pray that they may have the strong arm of her God about them, guiding, consoling, and strengthening until called to join her in the 'blessed beyond,' where loved ones never part.

"4. That, as a Board, we will be present at the funeral, thereby showing in some sense our profound respect, as well as love.

"5. That a copy of the above preamble and resolutions be spread upon the records of the Board, published in the various Church papers, and a copy sent to the family."

January 1, 1896, Miss Haygood was present with the Local Board. All felt that her presence was a benediction. The special business was Miss Bessie Moore's request to retire from the work in Brazil, as her return, which had been delayed, would put her in the field during the fever season. Her marriage, which was to take place in a few months, would necessitate an early return, hence it was thought advisable to grant her wishes, and she was released.

The demands of the work seemed so urgent that the Secretary of Home Affairs was directed to ask the President, Mrs. Wightman, to visit the work as much as possible until the meeting of the Board. An

instructive and delightful talk from Miss Haygood, and the reading of the action of the General Board in regard to Mrs. D. H. McGavock's death, closed the proceedings.

On March 10, 1896, a telegram from the Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, New York, was answered by the Secretary, saying that the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, M. E. Church, South, would join her sister Boards in a petition to the President, Mr. Cleveland, to assist our Armenian sisters in distress.

The matter submitted to the Local Board by the Board in annual session at the last meeting, in regard to granting the General Board a few feet of ground to enlarge Trinity Church, Shanghai, China, was decided in the negative.

Dr. Anne Walter's letter announcing her marriage was considered; and while she was to live in Soochow, it was thought best to ask her, as she was willing, to continue in charge, at same salary, until some one could be sent out to take her place in the hospital.

The papers of four missionary candidates were considered, and, being found satisfactory, they were accepted, three for appointment at the next annual meeting, and one to continue in the Training School.

An urgent request from Miss Haygood for permission to purchase the ground at Sung-Kiang, offered at greatly reduced figures just now, occasioned the meeting of the Board on April 15, 1896. It was a cause of regret, but as the Local Board cannot appropriate money, the request could not be granted.

A petition to send evangelists to Japan had to be refused on the same grounds.

Miss Watts's request to open a kindergarten in the city of Petropolis was referred to the Board in annual session.

A very promising missionary from the Northwest Texas Conference was considered, but her papers coming too late, her case was referred to the Board in annual session.

The last meeting of the Local Board received and accepted Dr. Margaret Polk's application to take up work in our Soochow Hospital, to which she had been appointed when Dr. Walter was sent as her substitute, and thankful we are that circumstances permit Dr. Polk to go herself now.

The Secretary reported the following telegrams ready to be sent to Mrs. John and Mrs. Avis, subject to the approval of the Board:

To Mrs. I. G. John, Nashville, Tenn.

Love and regrets from the Board. Philippians iv. 19.

MARY L. HARGROVE, *Recording Secretary.*

To Mrs. E. A. Avis, St. Louis, Mo.

We miss your sweet face and smiling presence. 2 Thessalonians iii. 16.

MARY L. HARGROVE, *Recording Secretary.*

Rev. F. D. Swindell was introduced to the body, and in suitable words expressed his sympathy and deep interest in the work of the Woman's Board.

Misses Moses, Fowler, and Burton were introduced as pages for the day, and rendered efficient service.

Miss Bennett moved that Mrs. Campbell, our returned missionary from China, and Mrs. Strother, former Secretary of the Baltimore Conference Society, be invited to seats within the bar, and given a voice in our proceedings. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Herbert, Treasurer, and Mrs. Waite, Vice President, of the South Carolina Conference Society, and Miss Fentress, Recording Secretary of the North Carolina Conference Society, were introduced.

The report of the Agent for the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* was read by Mrs. Butler, editor, and referred to Committees on Publications and Finance.

Woman's Missionary Advocate.

Mrs. F. A. Butler, Agent, in account with Woman's Missionary Advocate.

Dr.

Balance on hand May 1, 1895.....	\$ 370 02
Amount received for subscriptions from May 1, 1895, to May 1, 1896.....	4,762 10
Amount received from advertising.....	157 10
Amount received from sale of maps.....	6 90—\$5,296 12

Cr.

By amount paid Publishing House.....	\$ 3,294 58
By amounts paid Editor and Agent.....	1,200 00
By amount paid Assistant Agent.....	500 00
By amount paid for incidental expenses.....	91 80
By lost check, \$3, and money order, \$4.50.....	7 50
By amount paid for new maps.....	10 50— 5,104 38

Balance May 1, 1896.....	\$ 191 74
Balance due Publishing House to May 1.....	\$ 411 13
Amount due for May and June (\$295 each).....	590 00

Total \$1,001 13

MRS. F. A. BUTLER, *Agent.*

The report of the Agent of the *Little Worker* was read by Mrs. Butler, and referred to the Committees on Publications and Finance.

Report of Agent of Little Worker.

Dr.

Balance on hand May 1, 1895.....	\$ 17 00
Amount received from subscriptions from May 1, 1895, to May 1, 1896.....	1,951 36—\$1,968 36

Cr.

By amount paid per vouchers:

Publishing <i>Little Worker</i>	\$ 1,565 43
Incidental expenses of Editor.....	134 79
Incidental expenses of Agent.....	26 95
Editor's salary.....	31 25
Cuts.....	20 59—\$1,779 01
Amount on hand May 1, 1896.....	\$ 189 35

MISS LENA FREEMAN, *Agent*.

The reports of T. B. Holt, auditor of accounts of *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and *Little Worker*, were read and approved.

The Secretary read the report of Thomas S. Weaver, auditor of Treasurer's books. It was accepted, and his recommendation regarding the former deposit in the Commercial Bank approved.

The report of Miss Virginia Cloud, Treasurer of the Memorial Fund, was read and accepted.

Report of Memorial Fund.

Amount of contributions for Memorial Fund from June 1, 1895, to June 1, 1896, \$30.40. I regret to say that the contributions are less each year. Information has been requested of me with regard to the object of this fund.

With kindest greetings,
Front Royal, Va.

R. VIRGINIA CLOUD, *Treasurer*.

Mrs. A. W. Wilson read her report as Editor of Leaflets, as follows (approved):

Report of Editor of Leaflets.

Number of copies of leaflets issued from June, 1895, to June, 1896.	529,000
Number of pages in the same.....	1,856,000
Cost of publishing and mailing.....	\$768.32

Thirty-seven leaflets were issued: 16 of 2 pages each; 16 of 4 pages each; 4 of 6 pages each; and 1 of 8 pages.

MRS. A. W. WILSON, *Editor of Leaflets*.

Rev. M. B. Chapman, of Baltimore; Mrs. Maston, of the South-west Missouri Conference; and Mrs. Brown, of Lynchburg, Va., were introduced to the Board.

Miss Barnes, editor of the *Little Worker*, made her annual report, pleading with the Secretaries for more active, loyal support of the paper.

Discussion on methods of advancing the circulation of our periodicals followed, and earnest desires were expressed for greater enlargement of the subscription lists.

Miss Gibson presented the following report of the Scarritt Bible and Training School (adopted):

Report of Board of Managers of Scarritt Bible and Training School.

The record of another year has closed, and with a deep sense of gratitude to God for his abiding presence and gracious assistance the Board of Managers of the Scarritt Bible and Training School present to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions this, our fourth, annual report.

Each year the trust committed to our care grows more sacred as the institution increases in numbers and influence. The present year has been the most encouraging in the history of the school in the enrollment of students and in its mental and spiritual advantages.

At the annual meeting held May 19, 1896, the Principal presented her fourth annual report, which was received and ordered filed. We present an abstract of said report for your information.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF PRINCIPAL.

Thirteen months have passed away since the third annual report was presented, months freighted with duties and responsibilities, yet made memorable by manifold mercies and blessings. Once more we give praise to God for the gifts of his providence and of his grace.

At the date of my last report (April 15, 1895) the school session had not closed. The second annual Commencement was held May 21, 1895, in Central Presbyterian Church, at which time eight graduates received diplomas. Six were from the Biblical and two from the Nurse Training Department. Of these, three are now in Brazil and one in Mexico, doing effective work as missionaries of our Board; one is in Japan, sent out by the General Board of Missions, and giving valuable assistance to our veteran missionary, Mrs. M. I. Lambuth, in Kobé; two are missionaries under the auspices of the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society in Tampa, Fla., and Brevard, N. C.; and two are nursing in Kansas City.

The recommendations made by your Board at the last annual meeting have been carried into effect. Instrumental music was made an extra, and sight reading in vocal music substituted in the course. The class has been taught by Mrs. Effie Hedges, to whom our thanks are due for voluntary services, as well as for the proficiency gained by the students under her able direction.

Mrs. Emily H. Marriott, of Elizabethtown, Ky., the unanimous choice of the Executive Committee, entered on her duties as matron September 9, 1895, and has filled the trying position acceptably.

The fourth school session opened September 14, 1895. The enrollment of pupils this year reached forty-four: twenty-two in the Biblical Department, eleven nurses, and eleven pursuing special branches of study. These students represent four denominations and twelve States. Twenty-two are preparing for missionary work—eleven in the foreign and eleven in the home field—while the others are entered as Bible students and nurse pupils.

The Bible course—especially the book itself and the study and lectures in connection with it—has been the most attractive and most important feature in the year's work. Our students, without exception, have expressed their appreciation of the instruction received and the spiritual impetus gained from the study and the teacher. Miss Holding reports the class as intelligent and responsive, and is pleased with their progress.

The study of Church History was transferred to the Senior year this session, and the wisdom of the change is manifest as the Junior course has been lightened, and the studies of the two years made more nearly equal by the transfer.

The class room work throughout the entire Biblical Department has been uniformly good. The physicians have expressed their pleasure because of the receptiveness of the students in medical lectures. Dr. S. C. James, who fills the chair of general medicine, bestowed a gold medal on the student gaining the highest grade in his examination. Miss Mamie B. Rudy, of Pleasant Hill, Mo., one of our Junior nurses, won the honor.

The course in bookkeeping was extended this year to meet the demand for practical knowledge of this important branch.

Household work continues to be a wholesome test of character. The matron reports favorably on the work of the students. In response to suggestions from students in the field, the Seniors have had an enlarged sphere of activity since February, taking turns in discharging the matron's duties: ordering the meals, giving out the household supplies, inspecting the rooms, etc.—all under the matron's direction, and reporting to her anything amiss. The experience has been very helpful. As our aim is to prepare students thoroughly for their future fields of labor, we invite suggestions from our students in active service, and will adopt them when practicable.

Miss Emma D. Cushman, Superintendent of Nurses, reports the work in her department as follows: Since our last annual report, April 15, 1895, six probationers have been received into the Nurse Training Department. Of these, five were accepted at the end of probation. The class now consists of eight nurses—four Seniors and four Juniors. The work of the nurses has been satisfactory in theory and practice.

Aside from the medical lectures, the Senior studies are anatomy, materia medica, embryology, and fever nursing, while the Junior course is physiology, text-book on nursing, and nursing in pelvic surgery. Lessons have been given weekly in invalid cookery. One week the receipts were written and a quiz given on the food elements; for the next week's lesson the class went to the diet kitchen, where the theory was put into practice, each member of the class preparing some article of food. The class numbered ten—six Bible students and four nurses.

Three demonstration lessons were given—one in preparation of band-

ages, one in massage, and one in emergencies, where a Bible student served as a subject, and "what to do till the doctor comes" was shown.

The examinations have been satisfactory, showing a higher standard of scholarship than heretofore. We are striving each year to attain to a higher degree of excellence in training nurses. As the number of patients has increased there have been better advantages for practical training.

Our physicians and surgeons comprise some of the best in the city, and several notable operations have been performed. Not once during the past year has a patient gone away dissatisfied, but all have united in love and praise, and many have said: "There is a delightful Christian atmosphere here that is restful to mind and body."

Of the six deaths since our last report, one was in the last stages of cancer, another had tuberculosis, and the others were hopeless operative cases willing to take the last chance. Counting our death rate at four, it brings the percentage down to $2\frac{1}{2}$.

In September, 1895, the large ward was converted into three rooms, the price charged for one being \$20 per week and the other two \$12 each. Since that date the receipts from these three rooms have been \$1,582.84 from 31 patients with 677 days of treatment, an increase of \$905.84 over the old arrangement in the ward at \$1 per day.

The largest monthly receipts since the beginning were in December, 1895: \$776.75, against \$343.25 in December, 1894. April, 1896, was second—\$749. Total gross receipts of the hospital from September 21, 1892, to May 15, 1896, \$17,843.14.

The most pressing needs of the hospital are a new operating table and more room; for although the increased number of rooms has been a great benefit, yet the demand exceeds the supply. During the past three weeks fourteen persons have been refused private rooms, while six of the seven patients now in the wards would have preferred rooms. The capacity of the hospital is only eighteen beds, and it is our belief that a separate hospital, enlarged and well equipped, would be successful and self-sustaining.

Patients admitted during the year (males, 11; females, 149)	160
Number of births	2
Number of deaths	6
Number of operations (capital, 58; minor, 80)	138
Religion of patients:	
Protestants	154
Jews	4
Catholics	2

With gratification we review the work of the year, feeling that it has been successful, and that God has been with us every step of the way.

The house to house visitation by students in the Biblical Department

has been helpful and fruitful of good results, although this department is still without a special teacher. The Principal guides this branch of the service. The students this year were more mature, hence more self-reliant.

Two sewing schools have been conducted: one in Melrose Church, in charge of Miss Billingsley; the other in the Helping Hand Institute, superintended by Miss Jennie Gibson. Both schools have made an impress for good on the families of the children in attendance.

REPORT OF OUTDOOR WORK.

Visits made	2,599
Prayers offered	447
Bible read	349
Literature distributed:	
Papers	1,426
Tracts	167
Bibles	14
Testaments	5
Scripture texts	527
Bibles sold	11
Garments bestowed	188
Baskets of food	60
Baskets of fruit	1
Bouquets of flowers	37
Thanksgiving dinners	6
Christmas dinners	2
Cottage prayer meetings	45
Visits to Helping Hand Institute.....	10
Visits to Door of Hope	2
League meetings conducted	10
Junior League meetings conducted	3
Sunday school reviews conducted	12
Number taught in industrial school	1,245
Number taught in Sunday school	5,049

Our lecture course for the year has been admirable. Thursday morning from eleven to twelve is the time set apart for outside lecturers. Forty-five have been given during the year by eminent men and women, and the intellectual and spiritual uplift of such a course cannot be estimated. To these friends our thanks are due for their gifts of time and talent.

LECTURE COURSE, 1895-96.

The Bible and the Ministry: A Study in Paul's Letter to Timothy; The Divine Idea of a Divine Book: What Men Dream and What God Does; The Bible as a Text-book in the School of the Church; Bible Difficulties, and What to Do with Them. Bishop John H. Vincent, Topeka, Kan.

The Four Gospels: A Series of Four Lectures; The Land of Lands. Rev. C. B. Mitchell, D.D.

The Song of Songs, two lectures; Hermeneutics, six lectures; Ecclesiastes; Messianic Prophecy; Ezekiel; Daniel. Rev. James A. Duncan, D.D.

Difficulties Concerning Creation; Difficulties Concerning Immortality; The Earth's Future. Rev. T. E. Vassar, D.D.

Witness-bearing. Miss Emma Burgess.

The Jewish Church of the Present Day. Rabbi Samuel Shulman.

Sunday School Normal Work. Mr. W. J. Semelroth.

Sunday School Primary Work. Mrs. W. J. Semelroth.

What Is Education? Normal Lesson on Teaching. Prof. J. M. Greenwood, Superintendent of Schools, Kansas City, Mo.

The Epworth League. Rev. E. P. Ryland.

Student Volunteer Movement. Mr. J. Marshall, Jr.

Rescue Work and Florence Crittenden Mission. Mr. Charles Crittenden.

City Mission Work. Mrs. John Mathews.

Missionary Requisites. Bishop J. M. Thoburn.

Condition of Woman in India. Rev. M. J. Oldham, D.D.

Missionary Work in the South Sea Islands. Rev. E. H. Henry.

Alaska. Mrs. J. P. Devore.

China. Rev. and Mrs. Graves.

Syria. Miss Arbeed.

Chinese Customs, and Incidents of Mission Work. Mrs. Lucy Lane.

Medical Work in India. Dr. W. J. Wanless.

Hospital Work in China. Mrs. J. P. Campbell.

Work in Greece and Cyprus. Mrs. T. C. Fluhart.

The Medical Faculty, besides their valuable instruction, have been most kind in attention to students when ill, and special mention should be made of Drs. Logan and Tyree, also Drs. Merriman, Wainright, Avis, Smith, Sloan, and Wilson for services rendered in sending certificates to the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, and other kindnesses to our missionary students.

Gifts of money have not been wanting. An important event in the year was the founding of the Emily Kyle Ainsworth Scholarship, begun by a bequest of Mrs. Ainsworth, who died in January, leaving \$1,000 to the institution for the benefit of some needy students. Her husband, Mr. N. B. Ainsworth, of McAlester, Ind. T., added \$1,500 and founded the scholarship which bears his wife's name, and which will cause her to be held in loving remembrance by students who shall enjoy its benefits.

A nucleus for a Students' Loan Fund has been formed. Twenty-four dollars in money, two gold watches, Japanese embroidery, and small pieces of jewelry have been sent to the Principal as tokens of interest in this plan for aiding students.

Another plan which merits and promises success is the Evangel Scholarship Fund. We offer a scholarship for one school year to any student securing 600 new subscribers for the *Evangel*, the editor paying the school \$100 and retaining \$50. Several scholarships of this kind have been begun, and we hope for increased interest and a larger enrollment as a result, although the financial returns to the paper barely meet the expenses of publishing and mailing the additional copies.

The Easter Programme Committee appointed by your Board last year completed its work at the appointed time. Ten thousand leaflets on the work of the school, 25,000 programmes, and 50,000 collection cards were issued. The returns will be reported by Miss Elizabeth Billingsley, Corresponding Secretary.

Unceasing effort has been made throughout the year by the members of the Faculty for the prosperity of the school. By correspondence, by appeals in the *Evangel* and other papers, by public addresses before Churches and missionary meetings we have sought to disseminate information in regard to our plan of work. In most cases all expenses of travel have been assumed by those who invited us. We are seeking to correct a false impression that has gained a foothold—viz., that this school is for foreign missionaries only, and also that some pledge of service is exacted by us of students completing the course. Over and over again we have found it necessary to repeat that while the institution belongs to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, yet its doors are open to students of all evangelical denominations, who may prepare for any kind of Christian work, and who, after graduation, may use the knowledge gained here in any sphere to which God may call them.

In looking back over the year just closed I am able with gratitude to record it as the most prosperous in the history of the school financially, and the peer, if not the superior, of those that preceded it mentally and spiritually.

Judging the future by the past, and noting the increase and development, gradual but steady, from the very beginning, we look forward rejoicing in hope, expecting larger blessings on the years to come.

SUMMARY OF FINANCES FROM APRIL 15, 1895, TO MAY 15, 1896.

Balance in Midland National Bank April 15, 1895.....	\$ 89 56
Balance in National Bank of Kansas City (defunct).....	140 11
Receipts from J. S. Chick, Treasurer.....	849 50
Receipts from hospital	7,362 87
Receipts from students' board and other sources.....	2,854 83
	\$11,296 87
Disbursements from April 15, 1895, to May 15, 1896.....	\$11,046 45
Balance in Midland National Bank May 15, 1896.....	192 99
Balance in National Bank of Kansas City (defunct).....	57 43
	\$11,296 87

Respectfully submitted.

M. L. GIBSON, *Principal*

The third annual Commencement was held Monday, May 18, 1896, at eight o'clock in Independence Avenue M. E. Church, Kansas City, Mo. The graduates were six in number: Misses Lizzie Reid Martin, Chapel Hill, N. C.; Miss Johnnie Sanders, Union, S. C.; Miss Ella D. Leveritt, High Shoals, Ga.; Miss Ida Shaffer, Carrollton, Mo. These are all missionaries who expect to go out under your Board, and we commend them to your care and love. Miss Florence Hunt, Burlington, Kans., and Miss Kate Gordon, Lexington, Mo., graduated from the Nurse Training Department, and will do credit to the school as its representatives.

The transfer of accounts from Miss Bennett to the Training School was made in June, 1895, when Miss Elizabeth Billingsley entered on her duties as Corresponding Secretary. In addition to her duties in connection with the Endowment Fund, Miss Billingsley has relieved the Principal of the charge of the current expenses of the school.

The popularity of the hospital and the frequent requests to admit charity patients has led to an appeal for contributions to a "Free Bed" in the hospital. Five thousand dollars endows such a bed continually, and it is hoped that the one lately begun may under the blessing of God be soon richly endowed. It is sorely needed.

At our annual meeting our present officers were reëlected unanimsly. We feel it a mark of divine favor to have the wise counsel and careful oversight of our presiding officer, Bishop E. R. Hendrix, whose interest in the institution and its welfare knows no abatement despite his excessive labors.

We recommend for reëlection the managers whose terms expire in 1896: Mrs. M. D. Wightman, Miss Belle H. Bennett, and Mrs. R. F. Mastin.

We also recommend that Miss Belle H. Bennett and Mrs. Wightman be reappointed Agents at Large, leaving to their ability and discretion the amount of service that they can render. Mindful of our great indebtedness to these elect women, we feel that we still need their valued help.

An enlarged endowment is one of our pressing needs. The plan for the observance of Easter this year in behalf of the school met with ready response in many churches and societies; but there were many conflicting interests, and numerous regrets were expressed that the observance could not have been more general. In view of this fact, we request you to appoint Easter Sunday, or some other day that you may approve, for collections for the Belle Bennett Chair. We owe it to ourselves to endow this chair without delay.

Anticipating your sanction, we recommend Mrs. S. N. Jones, Miss E. E. Holding, and Miss M. L. Gibson as the Programme Committee.

The next school session opens September 10, 1896. An increased enrollment and an enlarged endowment are two points toward the accomplishment of which we bespeak your earnest coöperation and prayer.

The representatives of the school already in the field reflect honor on their *Alma Mater*. They are yours, the school is yours; we lay them on your heart, asking you to pray for them daily, and not for them only, but for all the students of the coming year.

On behalf of the Board.

MARIA LAYNG GIBSON, *Recording Secretary*.

Rev. Mr. Edwards, of Leesburg, Va., and Rev. Mr. Knott, of Epworth Church, Washington, D. C., were introduced to the body.

Miss Billingsley read the Financial Report of the Secretary of the Scarritt Bible and Training School. Accepted.

FINANCIAL REPORT, MAY 1, TO JUNE 7, 1895.

Alabama Conference	\$ 1 00
East Texas Conference	30 00
Florida Conference	28 00
Kentucky Conference	361 79
Louisiana Conference	2 00
Louisville Conference	39 00
Mississippi Conference	40 00
North Carolina Conference	5 00
North Georgia Conference	5 00
North Texas Conference	45 00
South Georgia Conference	24 00
St. Louis Conference	911 23
Tennessee Conference	16 35
Texas Conference	17 00
West Texas Conference	32 00
Western North Carolina Conference	10 50—\$1,563 87

BELLE H. BENNETT, *Agent and Treasurer*.

Richmond, Ky.

RECEIPTS FROM JUNE 1, 1895, TO JUNE 1, 1896.

Balance on hand June 1, 1895	\$ 71 05
Mississippi Conference	8 00
South Carolina Easter offering	175 82
South Carolina Conference	13 95
Interest	3 30—\$ 272 12

DISBURSEMENTS.

To J. S. Chick, Treasurer, May 7, 1896.....	\$104 73
To J. S. Chick, Treasurer, May 12, 1896.....	169 39— 272 12

Mrs. M. D. WIGHTMAN.

REPORT OF ENDOWMENT FUND FROM JUNE 7, 1895, TO JUNE 1, 1896.

Alabama Conference	\$ 45 00
Arkansas Conference	6 08
Baltimore Conference	26 55
East Texas Conference	168 12
Florida Conference	96 67

Kentucky Conference	\$927 10
Little Rock Conference	50 27
Los Angeles Conference	6 05
Louisville Conference	394 53
Memphis Conference	77 60
Mississippi Conference	44 04
Missouri Conference	153 47
North Alabama Conference	62 83
North Carolina Conference	11 75
North Georgia Conference	381 74
North Mississippi Conference	61 10
North Texas Conference	8 00
Northwest Texas Conference	102 86
Pacific Conference	12 00
South Carolina Conference	31 26
South Georgia Conference	278 95
Southwest Missouri Conference	572 32
St. Louis Conference	22 10
Tennessee Conference	385 91
Texas Conference	28 45
Virginia Conference	25
West Texas Conference	93 32
Western Conference	5 80
Western North Carolina Conference	192 99
Western Virginia Conference	10 00
White River Conference	97 97
"Christian Womanhood"	1 00—\$4,355 08

DISBURSEMENTS.

To J. S. Chick, Treasurer, July 13, 1895.....	\$800 00
To J. S. Chick, Treasurer, December 31.....	600 00
To J. S. Chick, Treasurer, March 20, 1896, to refund salary paid Elizabeth Billingsley	333 30
To J. S. Chick, Treasurer, March 30, 1896	400 00
To J. S. Chick, Treasurer, May 7, 1896.....	600 00
To J. S. Chick, Treasurer, May 12, 1896.....	700 00—\$3,430 30
To office expenses	\$ 63 42
To sending out Easter literature	165 82
To E. Billingsley, salary for three months, May 15, 1896.	112 50— 341 74
Balance on hand June 1, 1896.....	583 04
	\$4,355 08

APPROPRIATION OF RECEIPTS.

Belle Bennett Chair: Alabama Conference, \$45; Arkansas Conference, \$6.08; Baltimore Conference, \$26.55; East Texas Conference, \$88.12; Florida Conference, \$96.67; Kentucky Confer-

ence, \$402.31; Little Rock Conference, \$50.27; Los Angeles Conference, \$6.05; Louisville Conference, \$41.45; Memphis Conference, \$77.60; Mississippi Conference, \$22.04; Missouri Conference, \$110.22; North Alabama Conference, \$62.83; North Georgia Conference, \$51.21; North Carolina Conference, \$11; North Mississippi Conference, \$11.10; North Texas Conference, \$3; Northwest Texas Conference, \$102.86; Pacific Conference, \$12; South Carolina Conference, \$31.26; South Georgia Conference, \$3.80; Southwest Missouri Conference, \$572.32; St. Louis Conference, \$22.10; Tennessee Conference, \$11; Virginia Conference, \$0.25; West Texas Conference, \$92.32; Western Conference, \$5.80; Western Virginia Conference, \$10; White River Conference, \$97.97. Total receipts for Chair...\$2,073 18

LECTURESHIPS.

Stephen Noland Lectureship: Kentucky Conference Auxiliaries, \$79.24; Kentucky Conference, private donor, \$400.05. Total..\$	479 29
Kavanaugh Lectureship: Louisville Conference	353 08
Frances Bumpass Lectureship (completed): Western North Carolina Conference	172 99
	<hr/>
Total for lectureships	\$1,005 36

SCHOLARSHIPS.

Memorial Scholarship: East Texas Conference	\$ 80 00
Sam Jones Scholarship: Kentucky Conference	41 50
North Georgia Scholarship: North Georgia Conference.....	330 53
S. Myra Smith Scholarship: North Mississippi Conference, Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society	50 00
Weyman Potter Scholarship: South Georgia Conference.....	275 15
Tennessee Scholarship: Tennessee Conference	374 91
Texas Scholarship: Texas Conference	6 50
	<hr/>
Total for scholarships	\$1,158 59

Students' Loan Fund: Kentucky Conference, \$4; Missouri Conference, \$20. Total	24 00
Free Bed Fund: North Carolina Conference, \$0.75; Missouri Conference, \$23.25. Total	24 00
Hallie Stafford Memorial Cot: Texas Conference.....	21 95
Carrie Steele Waterhouse Room (completed): Mississippi Conf.	7 50

Undirected Funds: Mississippi Conference, \$14.50; North Texas Conference, \$5; Western North Carolina Conference, \$20; "Christian Womanhood," \$1. Total	40 50
Total receipts	\$4,355 08

Respectfully submitted.

Kansas City, Mo.

ELIZABETH BILLINGSLEY, *Corresponding Secretary.*

Mrs. Trueheart asked for an extension of time, that she might present memorials from Bishop Hendrix, Dr. Lambuth, and the missionaries of the Parent Board in Japan, begging the Woman's Board to open work in Japan. Granted. The memorials were read, and referred to Committee on Extension of Work.

The Board adjourned for devotional exercises. Mrs. E. C. Dowdell read various passages from God's Word promising answer to prayer. She urged direct, constant, and frequent prayer that God would hear the prayers offered for the salvation of the heathen.

After prayer the Board adjourned for the noon recess.

MORNING SESSION.

Washington, D. C., June 9, 1896.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions convened at Mt. Vernon Place Church at 9 P.M., Tuesday, June 9th, for its fourth session. Devotional exercises were led by Mrs. W. B. Higginbotham. The forty-sixth Psalm was read, and its exulting strength and power were felt by the Board. Rules of order and minutes of last session were read and approved.

Miss Melissa Baker, for many years one of our Managers, was introduced, and received with profound feeling by the Board.

Mrs. Wells, of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, was next introduced. She brought love and greetings from Miss Frances Willard, President of the N. W. C. T. U., now in London, sent to her in a letter received last evening. Mrs. Wells expressed real love for the cause of Foreign Missions, deep interest in our work, and would be engaged in the same if not fully occupied with the work of national temperance. The Board instructed Miss Gibson to prepare a letter of thanks and regards to be sent immediately to Miss Willard, in response to her greeting, with thanks to Mrs. Wells for her encouraging words.

The Chairman of the Committee on Extension of Work made Report No. 1, on China. The appropriations for both the China districts were adopted after some discussion. See Reports of Standing Committees.

At the request of Mrs. Trueheart, Mrs. Campbell came forward and explained to the Board the conditions which make the opening of work in Sung-Kiang imperative. Mrs. Campbell presented graphically not only the geographical position of this large Chinese city, but its almost absolute spiritual darkness, there being only one Protestant mission in the city. This is under the charge of

the Presbyterian Church. Our Church entered Sung-Kiang a few years ago, and much has been done by Mrs. Addie Gordon Burke, of the Parent Board, formerly of our Board, to prepare the way for us. Rev. Mr. Collyer, of China, also made an earnest plea for Sung-Kiang, and insisted on its immediate occupation.

The committee, consisting of the President and Vice President, appointed at the last session of the Board to confer with the Central Committee of the Parsonage and Home Mission work, requesting their coöperation in endowing and sustaining our Scarritt Bible and Training School, reported. A letter was read from the Central Committee, containing thanks and appreciation of the opportunities afforded them in the Scarritt Bible and Training School for the preparation of their home missionaries and workers, but absorption in other lines of work prevented any effort on their part to enlarge the endowment fund of said school at this time.

The following was introduced by Mrs. Park, and signed by every member of the Board:

We realize that as a Foreign Missionary Society we have been highly favored in our leaders, having those from the first to whom we could look for guidance with confidence; and when they were taken from us, we see clearly that the loving providence of God has not failed us; that his guiding hand was manifest in giving us the needful help in the person of our Home Secretary, who was enabled to take up the work laid down by Mrs. McGavock, and carry it on to the present time, in addition to the duties of the home office; therefore,

Resolved, That we do appreciate the work and untiring diligence of our Secretary of Home Affairs, and tender to her our heartfelt thanks, assuring her that our prayers have been offered for her and for the work laid upon her in the providence of God.

The Secretary read a telegram received from Mrs. I. G. John, in reply to the one sent by the Board yesterday:

To the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, Washington, D. C.

Greetings. Read 2 Corinthians iv. 5, 6, 7.
Nashville, Tenn.

MRS. I. G. JOHN.

The Committee on Publication presented their report through the Chairman, Mrs. E. C. Dowdell. After much discussion and some amendments the report was adopted as a whole. See Reports of Standing Committees.

Announcements regarding the proposed visit to the Chinese Legation were made, and a short afternoon session agreed upon, after which devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Hargrove, and the session adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Humbert; Scripture lesson, the fifty-third chapter of Isaiah.

The Committee on Missionary Candidates presented their report through the Chairman, Mrs. Brandon. On motion, the report was received by items. Two items were recommitted to the committee, and the remainder of the report was adopted.

The Board adjourned for committee work.

MORNING SESSION.

Washington, D. C., June 10, 1896.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions assembled at the appointed time and place, Mrs. Wightman in the chair.

The opening service was conducted by Mrs. S. N. Jones. Hymn 644 ("Talk to us, Lord, thyself reveal") was sung, and the Scripture lesson (Isaiah lv.) was read. Mrs. Jones called attention to the wonderful privilege accorded us of communion with God, and urged each to be fully alive to the messages of the "heavenly voices." After prayer, the meeting was brought to order for business.

The Secretary asked permission of the President to bring before the Board the present arrangement of matter in their published minutes, and desired to know the pleasure of the body as to the unofficial reports of meetings outside of business sessions, usually preceding the official minutes in the Annual Report. The Board almost unanimously desired the continued publication of such items.

Mrs. Trueheart presented a memorial from Dr. Lambuth, asking for united action on the part of the two Mission Boards regarding the larger circulation of missionary literature. Referred to the Committee on Memorials.

Mrs. Cunningham presented a memorial from the Pacific Conference Society, asking that they be allowed to use all their funds, including dues, for the support of some special missionary in the foreign field. Mrs. Campbell, in this connection, brought forward a request from the Los Angeles Conference Society, asking that a superintendent of missionary work on the Pacific Coast be appointed by the Board, whose duty it shall be to visit and supervise their Woman's Foreign Missionary Societies. After considerable discussion of these questions, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas our extreme Western Conference Societies, the Pacific and Los Angeles, are so separated from the great body of the Church, and from the

inspiration which fellowship and communion with the Board and other Societies give:

1. *Resolved*, That Mrs. C. Price Brown, of Los Angeles, be appointed an organizer or superintendent of our Pacific Coast work, her traveling expenses to be paid from the treasury.

2. That while the request of the Los Angeles and Pacific Conference Societies to be allowed to use all their funds, *including dues*, for the support of a special missionary is unconstitutional and cannot be granted, still we urge them to make a special effort to support one or more missionaries in the field, to be sent out by the Woman's Board and selected by their Conferences, using all their funds raised for this purpose, *except dues*.

MRS. S. N. JONES,
 MRS. H. C. CHEATHAM,
 MRS. J. W. HUMBERT,
 MRS. C. W. BRANDON,
 MRS. S. S. PARK,
 MRS. T. P. WEAKLEY,
 MISS BELLE H. BENNETT.

Mrs. Campbell brought forward at this time a beautiful set of diamonds, the gift of a lady of Los Angeles, whose name is withheld, for mission work in China. Mrs. Campbell requested that this gift be the beginning of the McGavock Memorial Bible Institute. Mrs. Campbell also brought news of the recent pledge of the Epworth Leagues of California to support a missionary provided by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions. She further informed the Board of a most promising candidate for missionary work in California, who, after a year of training in the Scarritt Bible and Training School, would offer herself to the Board for appointment to a foreign field of labor. Mrs. Hargrove also brought to the Board the present of a day school in Sung-Kiang, China, the gift of Mrs. Clara Fant, of Holly Springs, Miss., to be named, in honor of her sainted husband, the "James T. Fant Day School." Just at this juncture Mrs. Adam Hendrix made a gift of twenty-five dollars to the McGavock Bible Institute. This succession of good tidings and gifts filled every heart with gratitude, and the doxology was sung and prayer offered, led by Miss Gibson. After prayer the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That Mrs. J. P. Campbell, our beloved missionary, be commissioned to bear the hearty thanks of the Board to the generous donor of the set of diamonds, as the foundation of the McGavock Bible Institute in Shanghai, China. It is the earnest desire of this Board to put up the building *at once*, in memory of our late valuable Foreign Secretary, Mrs. D. H. McGavock, and we are grateful indeed to be able thus early to honor her faithful service in the cause of Missions. MRS. S. C. TRUEHEART, and others.

Mrs. Swindell offered the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be conveyed, through Mrs. Campbell, to the Epworth Leagues of California for their generous gift to the woman's foreign missionary work of the M. E. Church, South.

MRS. F. D. SWINDELL,
MRS. F. M. BUMPASS,
MRS. ADAM HENDRIX.

Dr. Smithson, of the Baltimore Conference; Mrs. Moore, of Knoxville, Tenn.; Mrs. Isaac Hitt, Evanston, Ill.; Mrs. Gilbert, wife of Dr. Gilbert, of the American Society of Christian Education; and Mrs. Eva Stewart, Western Virginia Conference, were introduced to the Board.

The following telegram was received from the W. C. T. U. State Convention, North Carolina:

Greetings. Read Psalm cxxvi.

NORTH CAROLINA W. C. T. U.

Report No. 2 of Committee on Extension of Work was received. (See report.)

The report of Committee on Finance was considered by items, and after discussion adopted as a whole. (See report.)

Miss Lipscomb, of Washington, D. C., and a member of the Woman's Board of Missions of the Protestant Methodist Church, was introduced to the body.

Mrs. Swindell presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions express their sincere thanks to Judge Chambers for the kindness and courtesy extended to them by communicating with the Chinese Minister, and making it possible for us to have the unprecedented privilege of being received by that official and his wife, and giving us the opportunity of leaving in their home, as a present from this Board, a copy of the Holy Scriptures.

MRS. F. D. SWINDELL,
MRS. E. C. DOWDELL,
MRS. C. W. BRANDON.

Mrs. McTyeire moved that the Board hold an evening session, beginning at 8 o'clock. Carried.

The Board now adjourned for devotions, led by Miss Bennett. Selections from the eighteenth chapter of Luke were read, followed by an earnest talk on "Hindrances." At the close of the devotions Dr. Milburn, Chaplain of the Senate, came in and was introduced, giving to the Board fatherly encouragement and blessing. Rev.

Mr. Dashiell and Rev. Mr. Whaling, of the Baltimore Conference, were also introduced.

Board adjourned with benediction.

EVENING SESSION.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions met in Mt. Vernon Place Church Wednesday, June 10th, at 8 p.m. Rev. Mr. Canter opened the services with Scripture reading and prayer. The roll was called, and minutes of the morning session read, amended, and approved.

The President called for Report No. 3 from the Committee on Extension of Work, relating to our work in Brazil and Indian Territory.

The appropriations for Brazil were read and approved.

Mrs. Trueheart then read a most interesting and enthusiastic letter from Brother Methvin, Superintendent, relating to the progress of our missionary work and school in Indian Territory. The appropriations for work in Indian Territory were then read and approved.

The Committee on Extension of Work submitted the following preamble and resolutions, in reply to memorials from Bishop Hendrix, Dr. Lambuth, and the missionaries of the Parent Board in Japan:

The papers in regard to opening work in Japan have been carefully considered, and the following submitted:

Whereas the pressing claims of the several stations now being supported by the Woman's Board could not be fully met; and whereas the appropriations already made are in excess of receipts; therefore be it

Resolved, That this Board cannot now undertake mission work in Japan, but being most anxious to enter so interesting a field at as early a day as possible, we ask that a committee of three—Mrs. Cunnyngham, Mrs. McTyeire, and the Foreign Secretary—after conferring with our Advisory Committee of the General Board, present to this Board at the next annual session the result of said conference in regard to the cost of the work and the management of the same.

In the meantime,

Resolved, That the sum of \$500, in quarterly payments, be made to Misses Gaines and Bryan, each, now employed by the Parent Board in their girls' school in Hiroshima, Japan.

The salary of Miss Ida Worth, of Kobé, would also have been included in this appropriation had not that been provided for by the Epworth Leagues of Alabama.

After some discussion this part of the report of Committee on Extension of Work was approved, and total for all appropriations called for.

Total for all appropriations, \$93,300.

The report was then adopted as a whole.

The following resolution was presented by Miss Gibson:

Whereas the provision made by the Local Executive Committee and ratified by this Board in annual session for the supply of the office of Foreign Secretary made vacant by the death of Mrs. McGavock has been satisfactory; therefore be it

Resolved, That the present arrangement be continued during this quadrennium, so that the Secretary of Home Affairs is empowered to act as Foreign Secretary *pro tem.* until the regular election in 1898.

MISS M. L. GIBSON,
MRS. S. N. JONES,
MRS. MORGAN CALLAWAY,
MRS. W. B. HIGGINBOTHAM,
MISS CLEORA MURPHEY,
MRS. S. S. PARK.

This resolution elicited considerable discussion, the question being, Is such an arrangement in accord with the constitution of the Woman's Board? Mrs. Swindell protested most strenuously that it was unconstitutional and should not pass. The resolution was, however, approved by a large majority.

Report of Committee on Memorials was presented, and adopted by items.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS.

The special committee to whom the several memorials sent up to this body were referred beg leave to submit the following:

1. The first paper considered was a request from the Tennessee Conference with reference to employing an organizer, said organizer to be paid from the general treasury..

It is the unanimous opinion of your committee that the three items in the constitution and by-laws referred to in this memorial—viz., Section 8 of Constitution and By-laws of Conference Societies, Resolution on page 82 of Sixteenth Annual Report, and Item 1, page 73. of Seventeenth Annual Report—do not give Conference Societies the privilege of paying the salary or expenses of organizer out of the general fund—*i. e.*, dues or specials raised for foreign work by the Conference Society.

2. The memorial from the South Georgia Conference Society asking for a change of time for the Week of Prayer and Self-denial was considered. Your committee recommend nonconcurrency.

3. In response to the memorial from Dr. W. R. Lambuth, your com-

mittee recommend that a committee of three be appointed from this Board to act in conjunction with a committee of three from the General Board to inaugurate a plan for the wider circulation of missionary books.

MRS. MORGAN CALLAWAY,
MRS. S. S. PARK,
MISS BELLE H. BENNETT.

The following places were put in nomination for the next meeting of the Woman's Board: Birmingham, Ala.; Raleigh, N. C.; Huntingdon, W. Va.; Memphis, Tenn.; New Orleans, La.; Key West, Fla.; and Frankfort, Ky. Birmingham, having received nineteen votes on the first ballot, was made unanimous.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions was presented by Mrs. McClung, and adopted by a rising vote.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

It is a pleasing coincidence and singularly opportune that this eighteenth annual session of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions should be held in Mt. Vernon Place Church, in Washington City, within the bounds of the Conference Society so much beloved by our late honored President, Mrs. Juliana Hayes. It would seem that her spirit might love to linger here where such cordial greetings from her own associates have made us feel that we have been admitted into the inner circle of their friendship—one in Christ.

1. Our loving and grateful thanks are due to every one who has extended such generous hospitality and kindness as have been received by this Board. The careful forethought that provided the daily luncheon served in the church is highly appreciated, as it was of great advantage in the dispatch of business.

2. We feel grateful to the pastor of Mt. Vernon Place Church for the interest manifested in our work, and regret that business of importance called him away a part of the time. To the sweet young pages, who were so untiring in their attentions, our thanks are especially due. May the love of this work take hold of their hearts, and may they prove faithful to it as long as they live!

3. Signal blessings and favors have made this session memorable. Notably among the privileges enjoyed we as missionary workers will ever remember with thanksgiving the reception accorded the Board by the Chinese Minister and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Yang, at their official residence. In view of the recent edict of the Emperor of China concerning missionaries, this presentation of a body of Christian women to the Minister representing China seems to us of peculiar significance. For this privilege, fraught with responsibility as well as pleasure, we recognize our indebtedness to Judge Chambers, and desire to express to him our thanks. To Judge Chambers we are also debtors for the happiness of being presented, as a body, to President Cleveland. For these and numerous daily kindnesses we express our obligation.

4. Special thanks are given to Bishop A. W. Wilson for the strong, uplifting sermon on Sunday morning, which prepared us in spirit for the labors and grave responsibilities of the session.

5. The presence of our own returned missionary, Mrs. J. P. Campbell, Soochow, China, and her talks before the Board, have given a fresh and joyous inspiration to the members for the work for God, which lies so close to our hearts. We esteem it also a pleasure to have had the presence of Rev. Mr. Collyer, formerly Agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society in China, whose instructive addresses on China, its needs and possibilities, deepened our interest in that great nation.

6. With profound gratitude, mingled with humility at our doubts and fears in view of the goodness and grace of God, we record our acknowledgment of a gift of a set of diamonds from a lady on the Pacific Coast, who desires to have her name unknown. This gift is the first toward the erection of the McGavock Memorial Bible Institute in Shanghai, a verification of the truth that history is ever repeating itself, as we remember that the foundation of Clopton School, Shanghai, was secured through the gift of Mrs. McGavock's diamonds—her bridal jewels.

7. We record the gratitude that fills our hearts because seven new missionaries (one medical) have been accepted by this Board and appointed to work in the foreign field, and we pray the blessings of God upon them and their families in the hour of parting, and the endowment of power from on high for the service to which they are devoting their lives.

8. We express our enjoyment of the daily mercies that have made this session a delight. The music rendered with such sympathy and taste at all our evening services has added greatly to their success, and we tender thanks to the organist, Miss Florence Ball, and the director, Mr. Fontaine, for their unflinching courtesy and for the beautiful musical selections which have aided so materially our programmes for public services.

9. To the *Washington Post* and *Star* and *Times* we extend very hearty thanks for the daily reports published of the proceedings of this meeting of our Board.

MRS. MATTHEW McCLUNG,
MISS LAURA BRADFORD,
MISS MARIA L. GIBSON,

Committee.

Mrs. Dowdell presented the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this body desires to express its profound interest in, and sympathy with, Brother Methvin in his arduous labors among the red men, and we pledge ourselves to pray for and help him and his associates.

MRS. E. C. DOWFELL,
MRS. C. J. FULLILOVE,
MISS MARY SAMFORD.

Mrs. Wightman read the following letter, which was approved and indorsed by the Board:

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 10, 1896.

The Rev. Bishop Hurst, D.D., LL.D., Chancellor of the American University, Washington, D. C.

Honored and Dear Sir: It would afford the Woman's Board of Missions profound gratification to visit, under your conduct, the site for the American University, and while standing upon that sacred sward to unite in singing our national anthem, with a prayer to the God of nations that our beloved land may ever be the synonym of faith, freedom, and federation.

We would be glad to identify the spot where the college for scientific temperance instruction will rear its pure front; we covet to gather where the college for missionaries is to be builded, and from that mount of vision behold the trained and well-equipped army issuing thence to the peaceful conquest of the world.

Through the pressure of business we must forego the great pleasure, but assure you of our joy that this magnificent ideal is already crystallizing in beautiful reality, and we pray that, in fulfilling the weighty responsibility resting upon you, you will have the coöperation of all lovers of the gospel and its Divine Author, and be endued with amplitude of blessing by the Holy Spirit.

In behalf of the Board.

MRS. M. D. WIGHTMAN,

President of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, M. E. C., S.

On motion, the Board adjourned to meet at 8:45 Thursday, June 11.

MORNING SESSION.

Washington, D. C., June 11, 1896.

The Woman's Board of Foreign Missions convened for its final session Thursday morning, June 11, at 9 o'clock.

The twenty-third Psalm was read by Mrs. Swindell, after which Mrs. Park made a few tender remarks and led in prayer.

Minutes read and approved.

Pledges were called for from Conference Secretaries for specific work, above dues and contingent fees, such as outgoing missionaries, Bible women, scholarships, day schools, McGavock Institute, etc. The urgent necessity of advancing the amount of pledges was forcibly presented, and the fact brought forward that \$26,000 *extra* must be raised above the past year's collections if the long-desired \$100,000 was reached the coming year. The Board finally agreed to a *pro rata* division of the \$26,000 increase among the Conferences according to membership, and the Conference Secretaries pledged their Conferences for the prorated amounts. The Secretaries also agreed to use every means in their power to bring the membership to one hundred thousand the coming year.

Mrs. Trueheart read a list of scholarships in the schools of our China stations, and exhorted the Secretaries to press the matter of scholarships, Bible women, and day schools on the consciences and hearts of their auxiliaries.

Greetings and love were received from Mrs. J. T. Pearce, of Oxford, Ala.

The following was presented by Mrs. Swindell, and granted by the Board.

Whereas the North Carolina Conference Society has not quite completed the amount pledged for the Mary Black Memorial Fund; and whereas another special work was decided upon at our last annual meeting; therefore be it

Resolved, That the North Carolina Conference Society be allowed to use all funds raised by it for its specials, except regular dues and funds raised from life and honorary memberships and life patrons.

MRS. F. D. SWINDELL,
MISS LIDA G. MOORE.

Miss Gibson introduced the following resolution, which was enthusiastically adopted:

Resolved, That as a Board we pledge ourselves to make every effort to reach 100,000 members, and to raise \$100,000 the coming year.

MISS M. L. GIBSON,
MISS BELLE H. BENNETT.

The Chair appointed Mrs. Trueheart, Miss Bennett, and Mrs. T. P. Weakley a committee to confer with a like committee from the General Board regarding the larger circulation of missionary literature.

Mrs. Trueheart called attention to the fact that District Secretaries should represent the interests of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society at every District Conference, and urged upon the Secretaries the importance of keeping themselves in touch with the Church. Mrs. Harris also called attention to the permission accorded auxiliaries in the Discipline of 1894, of reporting their work at each Quarterly Conference, and compliance was urged on the part of all auxiliaries.

The resolution offered by Mrs. Park and Mrs. Strother at the seventeenth annual session of the Board was read:

Resolved, That Conference Secretaries report to the Woman's Board in annual session the amounts subtracted from the Conference treasury to supplement their contingent fund.

Few had reports on the subject, as very few had touched the treasury to supplement contingent fund.

Miss Gibson asked why the Secretaries had not made reports on Systematic Giving, as asked for in the Seventeenth Annual Report. The Secretaries reported only partial success in their efforts to obtain reports of this department.

Miss Bradford recommended the following books to the committee appointed for conference with the General Board regarding a wider circulation of missionary literature: "Matouchon: A Story of Indian Child Life;" "Ninito: A Story of Mexico;" and "Izilda: A Story of Brazil"—all three written by Miss Barnes especially for our juvenile societies.

Bishop Hurst, of the M. E. Church, was introduced, and expressed regret that the Board had not been able to find time to visit the site of the American University. He also spoke words of encouragement and inspiration to yet greater things in woman's work for woman.

Miss Gibson asked for a reconsideration of her resolution of last night regarding the offices of Home and Foreign Secretary, and introduced the following, drawn up by a lawyer, as a substitute for the latter part of her previous resolution:

Resolved, That the present arrangement be continued during this quadrennium; until a Foreign Secretary shall be elected, the duties of Foreign Secretary be discharged by the Secretary of Home Affairs.

The substitute was adopted almost unanimously.

Dr. Swindell asked permission to express the pleasure his attendance upon this session of the Board had afforded him, and his appreciation of the earnest work done by the body.

After a number of fervent prayers and the singing of one verse of "God be with you till we meet again," the eighteenth annual session of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions stood adjourned.

MARY L. HARGROVE, *Recording Secretary*.

MRS. M. D. WIGHTMAN, *President*.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

MISSIONARY CANDIDATES.

It is a cause of devout thanksgiving that the names of seven missionary candidates were presented to your committee. We rejoice that in the providence of God the way is now open for Dr. Margaret Polk to enter the medical hospital at Soochow, the field to which she has been heretofore appointed by the Board.

Your committee begs leave to submit the following recommendations:

1. That Miss Lizzie Martin, of the North Carolina Conference; Miss Johnnie Sanders, of the South Carolina Conference; and Miss Ella Leveritt, of the North Georgia Conference, graduates of the Scarritt Bible and Training School, be appointed to work in China.

2. That Miss Ida Shaffer, of the Missouri Conference, graduate of the Bible and Training School, be appointed to work in Brazil.

3. That Miss Edith A. Park, of the Texas Conference, be appointed to work in the Mexican Border Mission Conference.

4. Miss Lily A. Stradley, of the Northwest Texas Conference, presented the highest testimonials, which, not having been in the hands of the Foreign Secretary the requisite time, are respectfully referred to the Local Board for action. MRS. C. W. BRANDON, *Chairman.*

PUBLICATION.

The Committee on Publication recommend for consideration the following:

1. That six thousand five hundred copies of the Eighteenth Annual Report, including the minutes, be published for distribution.

2. That the summarized report be printed as a leaflet by the Editor of Leaflets.

3. That constitutions, blanks, and slips be provided as ordered by the Conference Corresponding Secretaries through the Secretary of Home Affairs.

4. That twelve varieties of leaflets be provided for Adult, Young People's, and Juvenile Societies.

5. That programmes for Adult and Young People's Societies be published in the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, and the Juvenile programmes in the *Little Worker*.

6. That a history of some one of our mission stations be given in each number of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, together with a sketch of a worker in that field.

7. That the present assistant to the Editor and Agent of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and *Little Worker* be continued, and that she also send out any leaflets ordered from the Publishing House.

8. That by every possible effort we increase the circulation of both the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and the *Little Worker*.

9. We also recommend the reading of selections from these papers in every monthly meeting of the Auxiliaries and Juvenile Societies.

10. That Conference Societies each year elect an editor, whose duty it shall be to edit a column in their Conference organ in the interest of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

11. We suggest that each auxiliary appoint one of its members as editor, whose duty it shall be to write for the secular paper nearest them items from the home and foreign field.

12. We recommend that mite boxes shall be issued for adults, and as many as Miss Barnes shall require for the children.

MRS. E. C. DOWDELL, *Chairman*.

FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance recommend the following:

1. That \$250 be allowed the President for prosecuting the work of the Board.

2. That the office of Foreign Secretary shall be a salaried office, with a salary of \$1,200 per annum, and \$250 for office expenses.

3. That \$250 for office expenses and \$250 contingent be allowed the Secretary of Home Affairs.

4. That the sum of \$50 a month be allowed to cover expense of clerical help; one clerk assisting both the Foreign and Home Secretaries.

5. That \$50 be appropriated for expenses of the Treasurer's office.

6. That \$850 be appropriated for publications ordered by the Board, and expense of mailing the same; and \$50 contingent.

7. That \$800 be appropriated for publishing and mailing leaflets; and \$100 contingent.

8. That \$125 be appropriated for mite boxes.

9. That the editor of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* be paid a salary of \$100 per month from the receipts of the paper.

10. That the indebtedness of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, as reported by the editor (\$411), be paid from the treasury.

11. That \$500 be paid for an assistant to the agent of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, the same to be paid from the receipts of the paper.

12. That \$750 be paid the editor of the *Little Worker* from the receipts of the paper, if possible; if not, to be paid from the contingent fund.

13. That \$300 be allowed the editor of the *Little Worker* for expense of "Children's Special," the same to be paid out of this collection.

14. That the agent of the *Little Worker* be paid \$100 from the contingent fund.

15. That the Editor of Leaflets be paid \$250, and allowed \$50 for office expenses.

MRS. H. N. McTYEIRE, *Chairman*;

MISS ELIZABETH BILLINGSLEY, *Secretary*.

EXTENSION OF WORK.

1. *Resolved*, That Miss Laura A. Haygood, in accordance with the judgment of Bishop Hendrix, acts as Agent or Superintendent of our China Mission. That Miss Helen Richardson continue as Treasurer of the China Mission.

2. That Miss Sallie B. Reynolds be permitted to open a pay day school for the children of policemen in Shanghai, the South Carolina Conference Society furnishing \$100 to pay the teacher of this school.

3. That Miss Laura A. Haygood be left to locate the new missionaries to China wherever, in her judgment, they are most needed, medical missionaries excepted.

4. That work be opened in Sung-Kiang, and as soon as possible Miss Haygood be directed to purchase a suitable lot and prepare for the immediate erection of a school building to be known as the Hayes-Wilkins Memorial Institute, as the money for the building was the gift of Miss Wilkins, through Mrs. Juliana Hayes, late President of the Woman's Board. It is hoped that the Conference Societies will make special effort to supplement the appropriation for the new fund until the work is fully equipped.

5. That in the boarding school for girls in Soochow the number of matriculates, heretofore limited to twenty-five, be increased to thirty, if in Miss Haygood's judgment such increase will not embarrass the interests of the school.

6. That medical missionaries will hereafter make their reports to the Board through the duly accredited Agent, and all drafts upon the Treasurers of the various fields shall be authorized by the Foreign Secretary of the Woman's Board.

7. That \$100 out of the contingent fund be used in purchasing a typewriter for McTyeire Home and School, for the use of the China Mission.

8. That attention be directed to the action of the Board in annual session in 1894—viz., that agents of the China, Brazil, and Mexican Missions see that new missionaries have at least three hours' study of the language each week day until the language is mastered sufficiently for undertaking work.

9. That no new missionaries be put in charge of work in the mission stations of China until they have served as assistants for two years.

10. That Miss Anderson, who has been doing very efficient service for some months in assisting Miss Atkinson in the Soochow day school work, be requested to continue her work for another year, at least, at a salary of \$300. If this offer does not commend itself to Miss Anderson, that \$150 be sent her as a compensation for past service.

11. That Dr. Margaret Polk take charge of the two hospitals of the Woman's Board in Soochow, the one for women and the other for children.

12. That this Board, recognizing the valuable service rendered by Dr. Anne Walter (now Mrs. Fearne), feel deeply indebted to her for the grand progress made in our medical work in Soochow, and will ever hold her in honor and esteem. We hope that she will continue to feel a loving interest in the success of a work whose foundations have been so remarkably strengthened by her wisdom and activity.

13. That Mrs. J. P. Campbell be requested to spend the year upon which we have now entered in the United States as a Field Secretary, organizing new societies, strengthening old ones, and increasing the membership and collections whenever possible. That her full salary be paid and her traveling expenses be defrayed by the various Conference Societies in which she labors.

MEXICO.

14. That Miss Nannie E. Holding send as soon as possible to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs an estimate of the property of the Woman's Board in the three Mexican Mission Conferences, stating the present value, and carefully noting what debts, if any, are now resting upon each station.

15. That Miss Holding will put Miss Cervantes in charge of some school work in Laredo Seminary.

16. That the money appropriated for the purchase of property in Guadalajara, and which was to have been paid in yearly installments of \$1,000 each, be completed now by the payment of the remaining \$3,000.

BRAZIL.

17. That Miss Watts be authorized to open a kindergarten in the city of Petropolis, that such a school, having access to the children too small to attend the college, may prepare them for the same.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1896--97.

CHINA.

Shanghai District.

Miss Haygood's salary and travel	\$ 750
Miss Hughes's salary	750
Miss Richardson's salary	750
Miss Reynolds's salary	750
Miss Steger's salary	750
Miss Bowman's salary	750
Mrs. Gaither's salary	750
Miss Rankin's salary	750
Miss Coffey's salary	750
Clopton School	800
Day schools	900
McTyeire Home and School	200
Woman's work	200
Shanghai, taxes and repairs	250
Treasurer's and Agent's office and itineration.....	50
Nantziang and Käding, schools	800
Nantziang and Käding, itineration	50
Nantziang and Käding, woman's work.....	60
Nantziang and Käding, taxes and repairs.....	50
Rents, incidentals, and printing	450
Contingent for Shanghai District	250
Sending out one missionary	1,100
For purchasing ground, making wall, and erecting house at Sung-Kiang	4,000
For two missionaries	2,200

Total for Shanghai District, including Shanghai, Käding,
and Sung-Kiang \$18,110

Soochow District.

Mrs. Campbell's home travel and salary (contingent).....	750
Miss Atkinson's salary	750
Miss Pyle's salary	750
Miss Waters's salary	375
Miss Gary's salary	750
Dr. Anne Walter's salary (contingent).....	750
Hospital	1,000
Boarding school	800
Day schools	900
Woman's work	300

Taxes and repairs	\$ 250
Contingent	250
Agent's itinerating	50
Cistern	50
Sending out medical missionary	1,100
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Total for Soochow District	\$ 9,850
Total for China	\$27,960

MEXICO.

Mexican Border Mission Conference.

Miss A. E. Holding's salary	\$ 750
Miss Delia Holding's salary	750
Miss H. Norville's salary	750
Mrs. McClendon's salary	750
Miss L. Roberts's salary	750
Miss E. Case's salary	750
Teachers' salaries at Laredo Seminary	4,600
Matron's salary at Laredo Seminary	300
Native teacher's salary	300
Current expenses	3,000
Carmen Cervantes, salary	150
Miss Norville's outfit	200
Rods on building	250
Fire extinguisher	250
Salary and outfit of new missionary	725
Nuevo Laredo	150
Woman's work	150
Rent for school (West End)	25
West End school's native teachers' salaries	150
Laredo day school and rent	400
Native teachers' salaries	300
Books	50
Saltillo, teachers' salaries	1,800
Native teacher's salary	150
Charity school	150
Woman's work	150
Taxes and repairs	200
Current expenses	250
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Total for Mexican Border Mission Conference.....	\$17,640

Northwest Mexican Mission Conference.

Miss Lizzie Wilson's salary	\$ 750
Miss Harper's salary	750

Miss Wilsons' health trip	\$ 300
Durango, Miss McFarren's salary	750
Miss Tydings's salary	750
Miss H. Carson's salary	750
Chihuahua, teachers' salaries	1,350
Native teacher's salary	150
Current expenses	500
Charity school	150
Woman's work	150
Taxes, repairs, etc	200
Durango, charity school	150
Woman's work	150
Teachers' salaries	1,200
Taxes, repairs, etc	250
Current expenses	250
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Total for Northwest Mexican Mission Conference.....	\$ 8,790

Central Mexico Mission Conference.

San Luis, Miss Toland's salary	\$ 750
Miss Blackburn's salary	750
Guadalajara, Miss A. V. Wilson's salary	750
Miss Mattie Dorsey's salary	750
San Luis, teachers' salaries	2,000
Native teacher's salary	150
Charity school	150
Woman's work	150
Taxes and repairs	200
Water	150
Current expenses	600
To finish the purchase of the property in Guadalajara.....	3,000
Teachers' salaries	600
Native teacher's salary	150
Woman's work	150
Charity school	150
Taxes and repairs	250
Furnishing house, etc	400
Itineration of Agent	300
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Total for Central Mexico Mission Conference.....	\$11,400

BRAZIL.

Miss Watts's salary	\$ 750
Miss Glenn's salary	750
Miss Umberger's salary	750
Itineration of Agent	500
Expense in moving missionaries.....	225

Sending out one missionary, outfit, travel, etc.....	\$ 940
Incidentals	200
Miss Alice Moore's salary	750
Miss Littlejohn's salary	750
Taxes and repairs	200
Outdoor closet	400
Sending out one new missionary	940
Miss Ross's salary	750
Miss Perkinson's salary	750
House rent.....	1,300
Teacher's salary	600
Incidentals	200
Miss Elerding's salary	750
Miss Bowman's salary	750
Woman's work	300
House rent for day school.....	1,500
Incidentals	200
 Total	 \$15,005

INDIAN MISSION.

Teachers' salaries.....	\$ 600
Matron	300
Assistant matron and seamstress	150
Laundry and cook	400
Indian help	150
Industrial teacher and interpreter	250
Food	500
Clothing	300
Fuel	200
Kitchen and laundry	100
Taxes and repairs	300
Taxes, repairs, and incidentals	500
Camp work and Miss Brewster	700
New building, day school and chapel	1,000
Rev. J. J. Methvin	700
 Total for Indian Mission	 \$ 6,150

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS.

China	\$27,960
Mexico	37,965
Brazil	14,225
Indian Territory	6,150
Japan	1,000
Contingent	6,000
 Grand total	 \$93,300

Missionaries Employed by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, M. E. Church, South, Since It Was Organized.

MISSIONARY.	FORMER RESIDENCE.	CONFERENCE SOCIETY.	POST OFFICE ADDRESS.	APPT'D.
Miss Loehie Rankin.....	Milan, Tenn.....	Memphis.....	Shanghai, China, Box 143.....	1878
Miss Dora Rankin*.....	Milan, Tenn.....	Memphis.....	Praticaba, State de Sao Paulo, Brazil, S. A.....	1879
Miss Annie H. Watts.....	Louisville, Ky.....	Louisville.....	West Texas.....	1881
Miss Mattie Williams†.....	Georgetown, Tex.....	Northwest Texas.....	San Luis Potosi, Mexico.....	1881
Miss Rebecca Toland.....	Chappell Hill, Tex.....	North Georgia.....	1882	1882
Miss Anna J. Muse†.....	Atlanta, Ga.....	Baltimore.....	1882	1882
Miss Blanche Gilbert†.....	Ronoke, Va.....	.....	.....	.....
Miss Sarah Buford†.....	Georgetown, Tex.....	.....	.....	.....
Mrs. J. W. Lambuth†.....	China.....	.....	.....	.....
Miss Nora Lambuth†.....	China.....	.....	.....	.....
Mrs. A. P. Parker.....	China.....	.....	.....	.....
Miss Mattie B. Jones†.....	Noncross, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	.....	.....
Miss Nannie E. Holding.....	Somersett, Ky.....	Kentucky.....	Laredo, Tex.....	1883
Miss Jennie C. Wolf†.....	Pensacola, Fla.....	Alabama.....	.....	1883
Miss Laura A. Haygood.....	Atlanta, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	Shanghai, China.....	1884
Miss Donna Hamilton*.....	Paris, Tex.....	North Texas.....	.....	1884
Miss Jennie M. Atkinson.....	Rock Mills, Ala.....	North Alabama.....	Soochow, China.....	1884
Miss Mildred M. Phillips, M.D.†.....	California, Mo.....	Southwest Missouri.....	.....	1884
Miss Lou E. Phillips†.....	California, Mo.....	Southwest Missouri.....	.....	1884
Miss Mary W. Bruce.....	Plattsburg, Mo.....	Missouri.....	Juiz de Fora, State Minas Geraes, Brazil, S. A.....	1884
Miss Euana E. Kerr†.....	Brownsville, Tenn.....	Memphis.....	.....	1884
Mrs. J. P. Campbell.....	Los Angeles, Cal.....	Los Angeles.....	Soochow, China.....	1887
Miss Kate R. Roberts†*.....	Nashville, Tenn.....	Tennessee.....	.....	1887
Miss Adhe F. Gorton†.....	Port Gibson, Miss.....	North Mississippi.....	.....	1887
Miss Bettie Hughes.....	Meridian, Miss.....	Mississippi.....	Shanghai, China.....	1887
Miss Lula H. Lipscomb†.....	Columbus, Miss.....	North Mississippi.....	.....	1887
Miss Ada Reagan†.....	Nashville, Tenn.....	Tennessee.....	.....	1887
Miss Lelia Roberts.....	Palo Pinto, Tex.....	North Texas.....	Suttillo, Mexico.....	1887
Miss Marcia Marvin†.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	St. Louis.....	.....	1887
Miss Mary McClellan†.....	Brookhaven, Miss.....	Mississippi.....	.....	1888
Miss Augusta V. Wilson.....	Charlestown, W. Va.....	Baltimore.....	Guadalajara, Mexico.....	1888
Miss Ella Granbery†.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	St. Louis.....	.....	1888
Miss A. Clara Chrisman*.....	Beuregard, Miss.....	Mississippi.....	.....	1888
Miss Ella Yarrell†.....	Emporia, Va.....	Virginia.....	.....	1889
Miss Lida Howell†*.....	Duluth, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	.....	1889
Miss Lizzie Wilson.....	Newport, Ky.....	Kentucky.....	Chihuahua, Mexico.....	1889
Mrs. A. E. McClendon.....	West Point, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	Laredo, Tex.....	1889
Miss Ellie B. Tydings.....	Anthony, Fla.....	Florida.....	Durango, Mexico.....	1889
Miss Flora Baker†.....	West Point, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	1889

MISSIONARIES EMPLOYED.

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Miss Lula Ross.....	Greensboro, Ala.....	Alabama.....	Rio de Janeiro, U. S. of Brazil, S. A.....	1889
Miss Sallie M. Phillips †.....	Homer, La.....	Louisiana.....	1889
Miss Mattie Dorsey.....	Charlestown, W. Va.....	Baltimore.....	Guadalajara, Mexico.....	1890
Mrs. E. E. Brelsford †.....	Princeton, Ky.....	Louisville.....	.....	1890
Miss May Littleford Smithey †.....	Jetersville, Va.....	Virginia.....	.....	1890
Miss Helen L. Richardson.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	St. Louis.....	Soochow, China.....	1890
Miss Mary Turner †.....	Sharpsburg, Ky.....	Kentucky.....	Durango, Mexico.....	1890
Miss Lucy Harper.....	Georgetown, Tex.....	Texas.....	Chihuahua, Mexico.....	1890
Miss Kate P. Fannin †.....	Blountstown, Fla.....	Florida.....	.....	1890
Miss Mollie F. Brown †.....	Austin, Tex.....	North Texas.....	.....	1891
Miss Kate C. McFadden.....	Durango, Mex.....	.....	Durango, Mexico.....	1891
Miss Alice G. Waters.....	Murray, Ky.....	Memphis.....	Shanghai, China.....	1892
Miss Martha Pykes.....	Roscoe, Mo.....	Southwest Missouri.....	Soochow, China.....	1892
Miss Minnie Bonnar.....	Marshall, Tex.....	East Texas.....	Shanghai, China.....	1892
Miss Sue P. Blake †.....	Micoosukee, Fla.....	Florida.....	.....	1892
Mrs. Julia Gaither.....	Oxford, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	Shanghai, China.....	1892
Miss Emma Gary.....	Royston, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	.....	1892
Miss Sallie B. Reynolds.....	Columbia, S. C.....	South Carolina.....	Shanghai, China.....	1892
Miss Alice Moor.....	Oxford, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	Piraetaba, State de São Paulo, Brazil, S. A.....	1892
Miss Susan Littlejohn.....	Pacolet, S. C.....	South Carolina.....	Juz de Fora, State Minas Geraes, Brazil, S. A.....	1892
Miss Amelia Eberling.....	Naperville, Ill.....	.....	Rio de Janeiro, U. S. of Brazil, S. A.....	1892
Miss Delia Holding.....	Somerset, Kv.....	Kentucky.....	Laredo, Tex.....	1892
Miss Beattie Moore †.....	Savannah, Tenn.....	Tennessee.....	.....	1893
Miss Anne Walter, M.D.....	Holly Springs, Miss.....	North Mississippi.....	Soochow, China.....	1893
Miss Layona Glenn.....	Conyers, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	Piraetaba, State de São Paulo, Brazil, S. A.....	1894
Miss Esther Case.....	Batesville, Ark.....	White River.....	Saltillo, Mexico.....	1894
Miss Clara Steger.....	Mountain Grove, Mo.....	Southwest Missouri.....	Shanghai, China.....	1894
Miss Ella Coffey.....	Long Mountain, Va.....	Virginia.....	Shanghai, China.....	1894
Miss Willie Bowman.....	St. Louis, Mo.....	Missouri.....	Brazil.....	1895
Miss Eliza Perkinson.....	Salisbury, Mo.....	Missouri.....	Brazil.....	1895
Miss May Umberger.....	Wytheville, Va.....	Holston.....	Brazil.....	1895
Miss Hardynia Norville.....	Livingston, Ala.....	Alabama.....	Laredo, Tex.....	1895
Miss Hattie Carson.....	Savannah, Ga.....	South Georgia.....	Durango, Mexico.....	1895
Miss Viola Blackburn.....	Holly Springs, Miss.....	North Mississippi.....	San Luis Potosi, Mexico.....	1895
Miss Lizzie Martin.....	Chapel Hill, N. C.....	North Carolina.....	China.....	1896
Miss Johnnie Sanders.....	Union, S. C.....	South Carolina.....	China.....	1896
Miss E. D. Leverett.....	High Shoals, Ga.....	North Georgia.....	China.....	1896
Miss Margaret Polk, M.D.....	Perryville, Kv.....	Kentucky.....	China.....	1896
Miss Lily A. Stradley.....	Granbery, Tex.....	Northwest Texas.....	Brazil.....	1896
Miss Ida Shaller.....	Carrollton, Mo.....	Missouri.....	Brazil.....	1896
Miss Edith Park.....	Galveston, Tex.....	Texas.....	Brazil.....	1896

‡ Deceased. † Not now employed. † Married.

CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS, ETC.

CONSTITUTION OF THE WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be called the "Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

ART. II. The objects of this Society shall be to enlist and to unite the efforts of women and children in sending the gospel to women and children in foreign lands, on our border, and among the Indian tribes of our own country, through the agency of female missionaries, teachers, physicians, and Bible readers. The missionaries, teachers, physicians, and Bible readers employed by the Woman's Board shall be subject to the appointing power of the bishop having charge of the mission field in which they labor.

ART. III. The work shall be accomplished by organizing Societies in each charge, and Conference Societies in each Conference, and shall be controlled by an executive body to be known as the "Woman's Board of Foreign Missions."

ART. IV. The Board shall consist of a President, a Vice President, two Secretaries (one to administer the foreign, the other the home affairs of the Society), a Treasurer, a Recording Secretary, and six managers (to be elected quadrennially by the Woman's Board at the annual meeting next succeeding the session of the General Conference), and the Corresponding Secretaries, or alternates, of the Conference Societies. The Secretaries of the Board of Missions shall be honorary members of the Woman's Board.

ART. V. The operations of this Woman's Board shall be conducted in connection with the Board of Missions and subject to its advice and approval. When appropriations are made, the funds shall be sent in such manner and to meet such purposes as the Woman's Board shall direct.

ART. VI. The Woman's Board shall meet annually to determine what fields shall be occupied, the number of persons to be employed in each, and to estimate and appropriate the amount necessary for the support of the missions under its charge. A majority shall constitute a quorum to transact business at the annual meetings; five shall be a quorum for monthly or called meetings. The transactions of the monthly or called meetings shall be subject to the approval or disapproval of the ensuing annual meeting. The Woman's Board shall, within thirty days after its annual session, send to the General Board a full account of its operations and plans, to be considered and, so far as necessary, acted upon by the General Board; and a sufficient summary of such report of the Woman's Board shall be published as a part of the annual report

of the General Board, in order to present to the Church a complete statement of what we are doing in Missions.

ART. VII. The Woman's Board shall have authority to establish and maintain a Bible and training school under its auspices, control, and management, for the education of missionaries and other Christian workers, provided that the collections of this Society shall not be used for said school except such as may be specially given for that purpose.

ART. VIII. The funds of this Board shall be derived from private efforts; from membership, life and honorary membership fees; from devises and bequests, and from public collections only at meetings appointed in behalf of the Society.

ART. IX. The President shall preside at all meetings, and countersign all orders on the treasury. In her absence the Vice President shall preside, and in the absence of both, a Chairman shall be appointed *pro tem*.

ART. X. The ~~Foreign~~ ^{Corresponding} Secretary shall conduct the correspondence and attend to the legal business of the foreign field, prepare the annual report, publish quarterly a statement of the condition of the work, and give all orders on the Treasurer. The Foreign Secretary shall reside where the Board of Missions is located.

ART. XI. The Secretary for Home Affairs shall conduct the correspondence with the Societies, attend to the legal business of the same, and furnish for publication quarterly and annual statements of the work under her charge.

ART. XII. The Treasurer shall hold the funds of the Board in safe deposit, which deposit shall be made by her as Treasurer, subject to authenticated drafts. She shall furnish annual and quarterly reports, to be published with those of the Foreign Secretary, and her accounts shall be audited by the Treasurer of the Board of Missions. The Treasurer shall reside where the Board of Missions is located.

ART. XIII. The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings in a permanent record, and obtain the signature of the President as approved.

ART. XIV. An Auditor shall be elected to audit the accounts of the Society.

ART. XV. When vacancies occur in the interval of the annual meetings, the Board shall fill said vacancies until the next annual meeting.

ART. XVI. Three of the six managers shall be members of any one of the auxiliary societies at the place where the Board of Missions is located, and the remaining three shall represent severally the eastern, the southern and the western sections of the Church.

ART. XVII. Every school or hospital established by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions shall send reports (such as are made to the Woman's Board) to the District and Annual Conferences within whose bounds such school or hospital may be situated. The auxiliaries may send reports to the Quarterly Conferences of the charges with which they are associated.

BY-LAWS OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

1. The President and Corresponding Secretary of the Conference Society in whose precincts the annual meeting of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions is to be held, after consulting with the executive officers of said Board, shall fix the date of meeting and arrange for anniversary exercises. If for any cause it should become necessary, in the interim of the annual meetings of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, to change the place selected to hold the next annual meeting, it can be done by consent of the executive officers and managers of the Board.

2. The traveling expenses of officers and managers and returned missionaries to and from the meetings of the Board shall be paid from the treasury.

3. The opening exercises of each annual meeting of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions shall be held the evening before the regular business meeting commences.

4. The officers and managers of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions shall nominate the standing committees.

5. Whenever the interest of the work demands it, the Foreign Secretary shall call a meeting of the Board to provide for emergencies that may arise during the intervals of the annual meetings. A Secretary shall be elected, and in the absence of the President and Vice President, the members shall appoint a Chairman at each meeting. In case of the absence or illness of the Foreign Secretary, the Secretary of Home Affairs shall call these meetings.

6. No new work shall be projected and no money outside of the contingent fund shall be appropriated at these meetings.

7. The Foreign Secretary shall present to the called meetings of the Board all applications received by her from missionary candidates.

8. The minutes of these sessions shall be presented by the Foreign Secretary to the Board in annual session.

9. The editors of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* and *Little Worker* and the Treasurer of the Memorial Fund shall be elected quadrennially.

10. The by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote.

RULES OF ORDER.

(a) Each session shall open and close with devotional exercises.

(b) All resolutions shall be presented in writing.

(c) Ladies shall rise when they address the Chair.

(d) No member shall leave the room without the permission of the Chair.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

For Opening Business Sessions of Annual Meetings of Woman's Board of Foreign Missions.

1. Roll call.

2. Reading minutes of opening session.

3. Report of Local Board.

4. Announcement of standing committees.
5. Presentation of plans and estimates for foreign work, and papers to be referred to committee.
6. Miscellaneous business.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

For Regular Daily Sessions.

1. Roll call.
2. Reading of minutes.
3. Reports from standing committees.
4. Reports from special committees.
5. Miscellaneous business.

CONFERENCE SOCIETIES.

A Conference Society should be formed by the election of a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and a Secretary for each district.

These shall be appointed in the first instance by the Annual Conference, or a convention called for the purpose of organizing, and then elected thereafter at the annual meetings by ballot. After organization, a Conference Society shall consist of the officers named above, and a delegate from each Society.

BY-LAWS.

SECTION 1. The executive officers shall constitute a committee to transact business in the interval of the annual meetings. Three shall constitute a quorum. A reserve shall be elected to attend the meetings of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions in the absence of the Corresponding Secretary. In all cases care must be taken to send the reserve properly accredited. The duties of the reserve shall cease upon the adjournment of the Board. If the reserve elect cannot attend, another can be appointed by the President and Corresponding Secretary.

SEC. 2. The President (or Vice President) shall preside at all meetings of the Conference Society and of the Executive Committee. The President shall countersign all drafts on the treasury for necessary Conference expenses.

SEC. 3. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Societies with the auxiliaries, and shall herself (or through the District Secretary, as she may direct) supply them with such missionary matter as she may obtain for gratuitous distribution. It shall be her duty to use all practicable means for the organization of auxiliaries, and forward promptly reports of organization and number of members to the Secretary for Home Affairs. She must send promptly quarterly reports to the Secretary for Home Affairs on the 20th of June, September, December, and March; also an annual report, giving all statistics in full, the last quarter preceding the annual meeting of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions. She shall sign all drafts on the treasury.

SEC. 4. The Recording Secretary shall give notice of all the meetings of the Conference Society and of the Executive Committee, and keep the minutes of the same on record.

SEC. 5. The Treasurer shall receive and keep on deposit all funds of the Society, keeping an account with each auxiliary, and submitting the same annually to the auditor. She must send reports promptly on the 20th of June, September, December, and March, to the Treasurer of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, therewith transmitting all the funds in the treasury. She must keep an account of the expenses of the Conference Society, and send the same with her quarterly report to the Treasurer. An itemized copy of said reports must be furnished the Conference Corresponding Secretary.

SEC. 6. The District Secretary shall organize auxiliaries, and use every available means to promote the advancement of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in her district. She (or a representative appointed by her) shall present a report of the work at the District Conference, and shall hold an annual meeting in the district (composed of delegates from auxiliaries), and an all-day meeting whenever practicable. If the Conference Corresponding Secretary so direct, the District Secretary shall conduct the correspondence with auxiliaries and send a quarterly report to the Conference Corresponding Secretary, and a copy of the same to the President of the Conference Society. It shall be her duty to do all in her power to obtain subscribers to the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, and see to the collection of the contingent fund for Conference expenses.

SEC. 7. Conference and Auxiliary Societies shall not project new work in the mission fields.

SEC. 8. Conference Societies shall provide a contingent fund for defraying necessary expenses, which, if insufficient, may be supplemented from the treasury.

SEC. 9. The regular dues of the auxiliary societies, adult and juvenile, also funds contributed to make life members, honorary members and life patrons, shall not be devoted to specific work.

SEC. 10. The funds, outside of dues collected within the auxiliaries to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Adult or Juvenile, shall not be directed to any specific work, without obtaining the consent of the Woman's Board, and with the understanding that such work is in accordance with the plans of this Board.

SEC. 11. Credit shall not be given nor vouchers accepted by the Treasurer of the Woman's Board for funds that have not been paid into the treasury of the same.

SEC. 12. If, during the year, an office becomes vacant by death, resignation, or removal, the Executive Committee shall fill this vacancy.

SEC. 13. In those Conference Societies where the number of delegates to the annual meeting is so large that their entertainment has become burdensome and expensive the Society is accorded the privilege of arranging its own basis of representation.

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

Any number of women may form an Auxiliary to the Conference Society in any charge or circuit, by appointing a President, two or more Vice Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer; these constituting a Local Executive Committee. Auxiliary Societies shall report to the Secretary of Home Affairs until Conference Societies may be formed in the Annual Conference wherein they are located.

HOW TO ORGANIZE AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

Whenever any number of ladies can be convened for the purpose, let the work be brought before them by the pastor or some lady, urging the claims of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society; then organize by appointing a Chairman and Secretary *pro tem*.

Let one or more ladies pass around with slips of paper to secure members. The Chairman shall then call for a nominating committee preliminary to the election of officers. When the report of the nominating committee is adopted the officers are elected.

The Constitution and By-laws provided for Auxiliaries should then be read and adopted. The time for holding the monthly meetings may be determined, and subscribers obtained to the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*.

As soon as organized, the Corresponding Secretary of the Auxiliary shall fill a blank report of organization, and forward to the Conference Corresponding Secretary.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

Printed for Information and Use in the Organization of Auxiliaries.

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called the "Woman's Missionary Society of ———, auxiliary to the ——— Conference Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South."

ART. 2. The object of this Society shall be to aid Christian women and children in the evangelization of women and children in our mission fields, and to raise the funds for this work.

ART. 3. Any person paying a regular subscription of one dollar a year, or ten cents a month, may become a member of this Society; and any person contributing five dollars per quarter for one year, or twenty dollars at one time, may be a life member.

ART. 4. Meetings of the Society for business and communication of intelligence shall be held once a month. The anniversary of each Society shall, if practicable, be held in March, at which time the reports of the Corresponding Secretaries and Treasurers shall be read, and officers for the ensuing year be elected by ballot. The delegate and the reserve to the annual meeting of the Conference Society shall be elected by ballot at the same time.

BY-LAWS.

1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all the meetings of the Society, and to advance its general interests.

2. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer, and to aid in devising means for the efficiency of the Society.

3. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct the correspondence of the Society. It shall also be her duty to send quarterly reports not later than the 1st of June, September, December, and March, to the Conference Corresponding Secretary, or the District Secretary, as the Conference Secretary may direct. She (or the appointed agent) shall bring up the claims of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* at every monthly meeting and try to obtain subscribers.

4. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting, and to provide the pastor with written notices of meetings.

5. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect the dues of members and to hold in trust the funds of the Society, keeping a book account, and remitting to the Conference Treasurer not later than the 1st of June, September, December, and March; also at the same time to furnish the Auxiliary Corresponding Secretary a statement of amount remitted. Collectors may be appointed to assist the Treasurer.

6. There shall be a committee of three to provide missionary reading for monthly and quarterly meetings.

7. Once each quarter, if practicable, a public meeting shall be held, when reports of the work shall be read, addresses given, and every effort made to increase general missionary intelligence and zeal, as well as earnestness in the special work of the Society.

8. Each member of the Society shall try to induce others to become members, and do what she can to add to the interest, remembering in prayer her Society, its workers, its missionaries, schools, etc., connected with the general work.

9. If an office becomes vacant by death, resignation, or removal, such vacancy must be filled as soon as possible.

10. Order of exercises for monthly meetings: (1) Devotional exercises; (2) reading and approval of minutes; (3) report of Corresponding Secretary; (4) report of Treasurer; (5) report of Literary Committee; (6) miscellaneous business; (7) report of what each member has done for the Society during the month; (8) adjournment.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S AND JUVENILE SOCIETIES.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called ———.

ART. 2. Its objects shall be to aid the operations of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; to increase contributions; to cultivate piety, systematic giving, and to increase missionary intelligence.

ART. 3. Its officers shall be a President, two Vice Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer.

ART. 4. The Society shall be under the superintendence of a Lady Manager, who shall be elected by the Adult Auxiliary where the two Societies exist; otherwise by the Juvenile Society. It shall be the duty of the Lady Manager to assist and encourage the Society to advance the cause of Missions in accordance with the general rules governing the Auxiliary Societies, and in no case advocating any action independent of the Conference Society.

ART. 5. Every member of the Society must be pledged to contribute five cents monthly.

ART. 6. Any one may become an honorary member of the Society by the payment of five dollars, or a life member by the payment of ten dollars.

BY-LAWS.

1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all the meetings of the Society, and advance its general interests.

2. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer, and to aid in devising means for the efficiency of the Society.

3. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct the correspondence of the Society. It shall also be her duty to send quarterly reports not later than the 1st of June, September, December, and March, to the Conference Corresponding Secretary, giving the *status* of the Society. A copy of this report shall be sent to the District Secretary.

4. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting, and to provide the pastor with written notices of the meetings.

5. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect the dues of the members, and to hold in trust the funds of the Society, keeping a book account, and remitting to the Conference Treasurer not later than the 1st of June, September, December, and March; also at the same time to furnish the Auxiliary Corresponding Secretary a statement of amount remitted. Collectors may be appointed to assist the Treasurer.

INSTRUCTIONS TO MISSIONARIES.

1. All missionaries in the employ of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions must work under the advice and approval of this Board, and conform to the general plan of work in the mission to which she is appointed. "Every school or hospital established by the Board shall send reports (such as are made to the Woman's Board) to the District and Annual Conferences within whose bounds such school or hospital may be situated."

2. To secure organization and unity in the mission field every missionary of the Woman's Board is expected to work under the advice and in harmonious relation with the agent appointed over that part of the field to which she has been assigned, through whom she will receive

all instructions and all funds, and send quarterly and annual reports to the Foreign Secretary of the Woman's Board.

3. Every missionary is authorized to conduct the internal affairs of her department as she thinks best suited to the surroundings, to secure good results; provided always that her plans are in harmony with the general plans of the agent in charge of her district, and meet the approval of the Woman's Board.

4. Before sending their annual reports the missionaries of the Woman's Board, and the wives of missionaries engaged in work for this Board, must hold an annual meeting to consider plans and estimates; and these, with the annual reports of the work, must be forwarded promptly by the Agent to the Foreign Secretary. All the representatives must, if possible, attend this meeting to consider and compare methods of work in their several departments.

5. All donations received for the work must be mentioned in the annual reports.

6. The action of the Woman's Board will be communicated to the Agents officially by the Foreign Secretary of the Board.

7. Missionaries must not involve the Society in any expense the estimate of which has not been submitted to and approved by the Board in annual session.

8. Under no circumstances shall new work be opened without the consent of the Woman's Board. Missionaries are not permitted to make public or private appeals for funds to aid in support of their work without the knowledge and approval of the Board, and such appeals must be made through the Foreign Secretary of the Board.

9. Medical missionaries must keep itemized accounts of receipts and disbursements, sending quarterly and annual reports of the same to the Foreign Secretary of the Board. Such receipts may be used by them for needful expenses in their work. If there is any surplus, it must be placed in the treasury in the field, and accredited as receipts arising from the practice of medical missionaries. The medical outfit is the property of the Board.

10. If a missionary in the employ of the Woman's Board, or an accepted candidate, evinces any unfitness for the work, the agreement may be canceled, and, after giving her three months' notice, she may be recalled by the Board. Her expenses home will be paid, provided she returns within the time specified.

11. In order to conserve health and strength every missionary is advised to so arrange her work as to allow, every year, at least one month of vacation, in which there shall be a cessation of regular work, and which shall be spent, if possible, away from her station.

12. Should a missionary desire her expenses paid to return home for any other cause than that of ill health, she must in every case give her reasons and obtain leave of absence from the Woman's Board through the agent in charge of her field.

13. Missionaries must give their entire time and attention to their

legitimate work, as ample salary to meet their temporal necessities is paid them by the Board.

14. A missionary who is at home to rest and to recover health will not be expected to take up any public work for three months after reaching the home land and for three months before returning to the mission field, but she will be expected to be present at the first annual meeting of the Board after her arrival home. Her expenses to and from the place of meeting will be paid by the Board.

15. The duties of our missionaries for the first year in the field must be so arranged that the greater part of their time may be given to the study of the language, and their salaries for that year shall be five hundred dollars. Medical missionaries are not included in this provision.

16. Every missionary employed by the Woman's Board is required to comply with the above conditions, and to remember always her promise given under head of "Questions to Missionary Candidates," No. 16.

MANUAL FOR MISSIONARY CANDIDATES AND FOR MISSIONARIES.

This manual is intended for those who desire to engage in missionary work under the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, Methodist Episcopal Church, South. It is intended to serve instead of so many written and verbal inquiries, and it is presumed that candidates and missionaries will carefully read its contents.

QUALIFICATIONS.

The same general qualifications are requisite which are considered conditions of success at home: a sound physical constitution; intellectual ability; practical experience; adaptation to all circumstances and to persons of all classes; a cheerful, hopeful spirit; persistent energy in carrying out the plans of the Board—all controlled by a singleness of purpose and devotion to the cause of Christ. Facility in acquiring a foreign tongue is a valuable qualification; also a practical knowledge of domestic work is almost a necessity.

REQUIREMENTS OF MISSIONARY CANDIDATES.

1. The papers of a missionary candidate must be presented first to the Corresponding Secretary of the Conference Society in which she resides in time to be forwarded to the Foreign Secretary *not less than three months before the annual meeting* of the Woman's Board. The Conference Executive Committee must seek a personal acquaintance with the candidate, and know something of her character and history, before her papers are forwarded to the Secretary of the Board.

2. The papers must be references from the pastor and Sunday school superintendent of the Church in which the candidate holds her membership; from the President of the college where she was educated, and where she has taught; also from persons who have had good op-

portunities for knowing the candidate, her acquirements, capabilities, and Christian character. The candidate herself must write her application to the Board, giving a brief history of her life; telling her age, place of residence, where educated, for whom and where she has taught, her religious experience and motives for wishing to enter missionary service. She should state particularly whether she has a sound constitution, and the condition of her health at the time; also any facts about herself which might prevent her acceptance.

3. She must furnish a health certificate from a competent physician, and answer satisfactorily the questions under that head. It is important that she be examined by a specialist for the ear, eye, throat, and lungs; and also secure a certificate from him of the soundness of these organs.

4. In the case of a medical missionary, in addition to the usual testimonials, she must secure certificates from the professors of the medical college in which she has taken the course.

5. The age of the candidate must not be less than twenty-five years nor more than thirty-five. Superior qualifications and circumstances may justify a deviation from this rule.

6. The testimonials of a missionary candidate may be summed up as follows: health, education, capabilities for teaching, executive and financial ability, with a general fitness for the work, and a consecrated purpose. These are essential qualities in mission work.

7. No candidate will be accepted unless she will promise to give five years of service to the Woman's Board from the time she reaches the field, unless her health should fail. She must sign an agreement to this effect: "If I voluntarily leave the service of the Board for any other cause than ill health, before the expiration of five years, I promise to refund to the Board the amount paid for my outfit and traveling expenses." This does not imply that her obligation for service ceases at the end of five years, but that she is bound for this length of time to refund the amount of outfit and travel if she leaves the work before the time expires. She must give six months' notice to the Board of her intention to leave the work, or forfeit her salary for that length of time.

8. Her preferences for a field will be considered, but it is expected that she will acquiesce in the decision and judgment of the Board.

9. Every candidate is required to come either before the committee in Nashville or before the Woman's Board in annual session.

10. If a candidate has been accepted or recommended for acceptance by the committee in Nashville, it is not necessary for her papers to come before the Committee on Missionary Candidates at the annual meeting.

11. After her acceptance the candidate must consider herself under the guidance of the Board in the interim of her departure for her appointed field.

12. The traveling expenses of a candidate are paid from her home to the mission field. Two hundred dollars is granted for her personal

outfit. Her salary does not begin until she reaches her field of labor. The salary of a missionary is not to be regarded in any sense as *compensation* for labor performed, nor is it graded to suit the different abilities of the individuals, as in the ordinary business occupations of life. The amount received by the missionary is supposed to be what is necessary for her support while in the field. Compensation for this service will be found in the privilege of teaching the truth as it is in Christ to the Gentiles.

QUESTIONS TO CANDIDATES.

(Questions to be copied, and answers to be written opposite.)

1. Do you feel that your heart is moved by the Holy Spirit to take upon you the work of a foreign missionary?
2. (a) Are you a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South?
(b) How long have you been a member?
3. Do you subscribe to the doctrines of this Church?
4. Is it your desire and intention to make the work of Foreign Missions your life work?
5. Are you willing to go to any field?
6. Have you had experience in Christian work?
7. Have you a good English education?
8. (a) Have you studied any ancient or modern language?
(b) Do you acquire such with ease?
9. Have you taught school; where, and with what success?
10. Can you teach music, vocal or instrumental?
11. (a) What is the condition of your health?
(b) Are you predisposed to any physical weakness?
12. What is your age?
13. (a) Have you ever applied to other Mission Boards or Societies?
(b) Were you refused, and for what cause?
14. Have you ever married? If so, is your husband living?
15. Will you promise to keep the following conditions: "If you labor with us in the Lord's vineyard, it is needful that you should do that part of the work which we advise, at those times and places which we judge most for his glory?"
16. Do you agree to conform to all the requirements of the Woman's Board while in its service?

CERTIFICATE OF HEALTH.

(Questions to be copied, and answers to be written opposite by the examining physician.)

1. How long have you known this person?
2. Has your acquaintance been such as to enable you to know particularly of her health and physical tendencies?
3. Are her habits active or sedentary?
4. (a) Has she had the usual diseases of childhood?
(b) Have they affected her constitution in any way?
5. Has she had any serious illness, local disease, or personal injury?

If so, of what nature, how long since, and has she entirely recovered from it?

6. Has she been successfully vaccinated?

7. Have her grandparents, parents, brothers, or sisters ever had mental derangement, nervous diseases, pulmonary complaint, heart difficulties, scrofula, or any serious disease tending to shorten life?

8. Is she subject to any physical weakness, or diseases peculiar to women?

9. Are her eyes in a healthful condition?

10. Has she any tendency to deafness?

11. Is her health strong and vigorous at this time?

EXTRACT FROM BISHOPS' ADDRESS, GENERAL CONFERENCE OF 1894.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society during the sixteen years of its existence has proved itself a most valuable agency in widely disseminating information, arousing interest, and sending forth consecrated and competent workers in behalf of Foreign Missions. Its property in mission fields is valued at \$220,000. It has 37 missionaries, 103 teachers and helpers, 52 schools, 2,793 pupils and women under instruction, 7 Bible women, 1 hospital, and 2 medical missionaries. In the sixteen years since its organization it has collected \$791,913. The good women are doing genuine missionary work, without cost to the General Board or diminishing of its resources. We commend the holy fervor and judicious administration of our sisters. This is a distinct, but not independent, organization. Its constitution connects it by three links with our general economy: "The missionaries, teachers, physicians, and Bible readers employed by the Woman's Board shall be subject to the appointing powers of the bishop having charge of the mission field in which they labor." "The Secretaries of the Board of Missions shall be honorary members of the Woman's Board." "The operations of the Woman's Board shall be conducted in connection with the Board of Missions and subject to its advice and approval." This last provision has not yet been carried into full effect. We believe it important for the harmonious and efficient management of our whole missionary work that the Woman's Board, soon after its annual sessions, should send to the General Board a full account of its operations and plans, to be considered, and, so far as necessary, to be acted upon; and that a sufficient summary should be published as a part of the annual report of the General Board, in order to present to the Church a complete statement of what we are doing for Missions. The preacher in charge of a circuit or station in a foreign land is happy if he have a helper in a woman's school. It builds up his congregations and Sunday schools, and furnishes a corps of intelligent and willing workers in the Church. How deeply it concerns him that the spirit, teaching, and

methods of the school shall be scriptural and Methodistic! He is the spiritual adviser and guide. The pastorate and school should work together in mutual sympathy and confidence. Every school should send reports to the District and Annual Conferences within whose bounds it is located. By these means there will be a due correlation of forces, each supporting the other, and all working to a common end.

THE SCARRITT SCHOOL.

The Woman's Board, under authority given by the General Conference, has established the Scarritt Bible and Training School at Kansas City, Mo., for the education of missionaries and other Christian workers. The gift of the ground, and of \$25,000 toward the building fund, by the late Rev. Nathan Scarritt, D.D., gave such an impetus to the work, and the Woman's Society was so energetic in prosecuting it, that a building suitable to the purpose was erected at a cost of \$50,000, and is adequately equipped and furnished, and the present endowment amounts to \$50,000. The institution is in successful operation, and promises to meet the ends sought—namely, practical instruction in the study of the Bible and drill in methods of teaching it, the study of the history of Missions and of the different mission fields, and practical training in city missionary work, industrial schools, and nursing, which may both fit and test the missionary candidates before entering on their work.

FROM MINUTES OF GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS, MAY, 1894.

Bishop Hendrix tendered the report of the committee to which had been referred the report of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. The report of the committee was adopted as follows:

"Your committee to whom was referred the statement of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society submit the following for the action of the Board of Missions:

"1. *Resolved*, That we are grateful for the divine blessing which has so graciously attended the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society during the sixteen years of its existence, and we rejoice in the results which have attended the labors of the 62 missionaries and the 103 foreign and native teachers in their 52 schools in China, Mexico, Brazil, and the Indian Territory; we commend the zeal which has contributed \$889,261 for the equipment and maintenance of their work, and congratulate our sisters upon their acquisition of valuable school property worth \$220,000, aside from the Bible and Training School, which represents over \$100,000 more.

"2. That to render operative the provision of the constitution of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, that their work shall be in connection with the Parent Board and subject to its advice and approval, there shall be created a standing committee of three members of the Parent Board, who shall consider and report on all matters relating

to the work of women in the mission field and to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, referred to it by the Board.

"3. That the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society be requested to make to the Parent Board, at its annual meeting, a full statement of their actual and projected work for consideration and for publication in the annual report.

"4. That the Principals of the several schools of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society be requested to furnish a report of their schools and their other missionary work to the District and Annual Conferences within whose bounds they are located, for publication in the Minutes of said Conferences.

"E. R. HENDRIX,

"C. G. ANDREWS,

"H. BISHOP."

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY ADVOCATE.

The *Woman's Missionary Advocate* is the official organ of the Society. The editor is elected quadrennially by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions. This paper is published monthly. The address of the Editor and Agent is: Mrs. F. A. Butler, Publishing House of the M. E. Church, South, Nashville, Tenn. Terms, 50 cents per annum, in advance.

LITTLE WORKER.

The *Little Worker* is the juvenile paper issued by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. Editor, Miss Annie Maria Barnes, Duluth, Ga. Terms, 25 cents per annum, in advance.

LEAFLETS.

Mrs. A. W. Wilson, Editor and Publisher, 1819 Bolton Street, Baltimore, Md. Leaflets can be obtained from Miss Lena Freeman, Agent of *Little Worker* and Leaflets, Publishing House of the M. E. Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.; also from the Conference Corresponding Secretaries.

MEMBERSHIP AND SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS TO THE WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The payment of ten cents a month for adults, and five cents a month for juveniles, constitutes a member for one year. Twenty dollars constitutes a *life member*; ten dollars a juvenile life member. One hundred dollars will make an honorary life member. Three hundred dollars will make an honorary life patron.

Forty dollars supports a scholarship in China. One hundred dollars supports a scholarship in Mexico. Sixty dollars supports a Bible woman in China.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I hereby give and bequeath to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, incorporated under the

laws of the State of Tennessee, \$— or —, to be paid or conveyed to the Treasurer of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions (the executive body of the Society), whose receipt therefor shall be acquittance to my executors.

FORM OF DEVISE.

I hereby give and devise absolutely and in fee simple to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, incorporated under the laws of the State of Tennessee, the following real estate: [adding such description, as shall fully identify the particular real estate intended.]

NOTE.—Prompt notice of bequests and devises should be given to Mrs. S. C. Trueheart, Acting Foreign Secretary, Woman's Board.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was incorporated January, 1879, in the city of Nashville, according to the laws of the State of Tennessee. The five incorporators were: Mrs. D. H. McGavock, Mrs. Amelia T. McTyeire, Mrs. Martha Whitworth, Mrs. Ella Lupton, Mrs. S. R. Manier.

PERIODICALS RECOMMENDED FOR REFERENCE AND USE IN SOCIETIES.

Review of Missions, Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.

Missionary Review of the World, 18 and 20 Astor Place, New York.

Woman's Work for Women, and *Our Mission Fields*, 53 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Life and Light for Women, Congregational House, Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Heathen Woman's Friend, Miss J. P. Walden, 36 Bromfield Street, Boston, Mass.

Missionary Herald, American Board.

Missionary Link, W. U. M. S.

Spirit of Missions, Episcopal.

Lutheran Missionary Journal.

Helping Hand, Baptist.

Woman's Missionary Advocate, Mrs. F. A. Butler, Publishing House of the M. E. Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.

Little Worker, Miss Annie Maria Barnes, Duluth, Ga.

The Evangel, Miss Elizabeth E. Holding, Scarritt Bible and Training School, Kansas City, Mo.

Woman's Work in the Far East, published quarterly, Shanghai, China.

Report of the Missionary Conference, London, 1888.

Maps of China, Brazil, and Mexico, prepared by the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, are for sale at the office of the *Woman's Missionary*

Advocate. Price, on paper, \$1.10; mounted on cloth, \$2.10. Address Mrs. F. A. Butler, Publishing House of the M. E. Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.

"Mission Studies." A Brief Sketch of Missions in Many Lands. By Mrs. F. A. Butler. 12mo. Price, \$1; postage, 10 cents.

"A Circuit of the Globe." By Bishop C. B. Galloway. Price, \$1; postage, 10 cents.

"Matouchon: A Story of Indian Child Life." By Miss A. M. Barnes. Price, \$1; postage, 10 cents.

The above publications may be had by sending orders to Barbee & Smith, Agents, Publishing House of the M. E. Church, South, Nashville, Tenn.