

PLEASE READ AND CIRCULATE THIS

# BULLETIN

OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN FUHKIEN, CHINA.

No. 32.

Foochow, China, January

1903.

GEORGE S. MINER.

Editor and Publisher.

Foochow, China, Jan. 1st 1903.

Dear Friends and Co-workers:—

We wish you one and all a Happy New Year, and not only one, but many such years. We rejoice with you over the great victory of the Missionary Convention held in Cleveland. May the fire there kindled spread to the ends of the earth. Calls, from all parts of the Foochow Conference, are coming in for an increase of Special Gift Day Schools. Last year many were brought into the church through their instrumentality. The schools we have cannot be continued, nor can new ones be opened without "Special Gifts". May the Lord help you and many others to aid in this work. Send pledge at once direct; the money, one half now and one half in six months, you can send to me direct by *Bank Draft*, or to Dr. H. K. Carroll, 150 Fifth Ave, New York City, informing him it is for The "Geo. S. Miner Special Gift Day Schools" and it will be promptly forwarded. Please do all you can to interest your friends, the Sunday Schools, Epworth Leagues and Societies in this work. Forty dollars will support one of these schools for one year and any person or society sending same may name the school and will receive a semi-annual report in both English and Chinese, a photo of a school, and an idol that has been worshiped. Smaller sums thankfully received and receipted for and put together for the support of schools. May we not hear from you all at once? Will it not be happy to meet in the next world some whom we have been instrumental in saving in this?

Yours in His service,  
Geo. S. Miner.

## FOOCHOW CONFERENCE.

The 21st annual session of the Foochow conference convened at Foochow, Nov. 11th. 1902. While there were many occasions for rejoicing, there were also many sad hearts. The white buttons on the caps and white threads in the cues (tokens of mourning), were very conspicuous. Rev. Uong De Gi, who preached the conference sermon, was dressed in the deepest mourning, he having recently buried both father and mother. The memorial services commemorating the going home of two faithful workers were very touching. Suppressed sobs came from many parts of the church. Only those who have lived with the Chinese know their bland and tender natures. Before leaving for the U. S. Bishop Moore appointed Rev. F. Ohlinger to preside at the conference session, and after the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper he took the chair and the conference proceeded to organize, electing James Simester Sec'y., Ngu Go Sung and Go Diek Sieng Chinese Sec'ys., Geo. S. Miner Statistical Sec'y. with U Seuk Sing assistant and W. H. Lacy Treasurer. The routine conference business was dispatched with dignity and care. The morning sessions were opened



with an hour's service of prayer and the presentation of the following subjects:—Faith by M. C. Wilcox, Prayer by W. A. Main, Methods of Bible Study by James Simester, Homiletics by F. Ohlinger.

Wednesday evening was devoted to reports from Preachers-in-charge, Geo. S. Miner presiding. Thursday evening more reports, Ben H. Marsh presiding, Friday evening the missionary sermon was preached by Ceng Ung Uong, Saturday evening was the Anniversary of the Home Missionary Society, W. H. Lacy presiding. Monday evening Miss E. M. Lyon M. D., gave a very practical and much needed (and should be much heeded) lecture on Hygiene.

The hour of 2 p. m. Friday was given to a memorial Service for Dr. S. L. Baldwin, who had been a member of the Foochow Mission for twenty-one years. Rev. F. Ohlinger, U. S. Consul, S. L. Gracey, an old friend and classmate of Dr. Baldwin, Rev. Chas. Hartwell of the American Board Mission, and Rev. Huong Pau Seng were the speakers.

Not only fraternal delegates from the sister missions here in Foochow made us calls, but Revs. W. N. Brewster and Li Diong Cui of the Hinghua Mission Conference and Revs. C. F. Kupfer and R. E. Maclean of the Central China M. E. Mission looked in upon our deliberations.

Three young men were received on trial and Rev. John Gowdy was transferred from the Vermont Conference. Brother and Sister Gowdy are very acceptable additions to our Mission force. Several times during the week Brother Gowdy entertained us with his Graphophone.

As to some of the visible results of the year we can record that the membership was increased by 486 persons. The probationer increase was 1176. There were 1015 adults and 323 children baptized. The Epworth Leagues number 105 with 3066 members, and the S. S. 150 with 5327 scholars. The day schools are recovering from the effects of the Boxer uprising and we now have more than one half the former number. There are now 133 with 2910 pupils who paid \$2334.00 toward the support of the schools the past year. For all purposes \$9974.34 were raised an increase of \$3395. over '01. The above dollars are Mexican and one Mexican dollar is worth about 50 cts. U. S. Cur. This we consider very good when noting the terrible ravages of the plague, and in many places an almost total loss of crops.

The appointments of the missionaries are as follows:—M. C. Wilcox P. E. Foochow and Missionary-in-charge of Hok-chiang and Ngu-cheng Districts, Editor Chinese Christian Advocate. W. H. Lacy Manager Methodist Publishing House, Shanghai, Superintendent Anglo-Chinese Methodist Book Concern, Foochow. James Simester, President Anglo-Chinese College. F. Ohlinger Vice-President Anglo-Chinese College, Dean of the Theological Department, Missionary-in-charge of Ming-chiang District and Preparation of Church Literature. Ben H. Marsh, Dean College of Liberal Arts, Anglo-Chinese College. Miss Sarah M. Bosworth, Prin. Academy of Anglo-Chinese College. Mrs. Lacy, Mrs. Plumb, Mrs. Simester, Mrs. Marsh, Mrs. Ohlinger and Mrs. Gowdy teachers in Anglo-Chinese College. John Gowdy, student of Language and Prof. in Anglo-Chinese College.

Geo. S. Miner Supt. Special Gift Day Schools, Prin. Foochow Normal Training School and Presiding Elder of Hai-tang District. The Presiding Elder appointment is only temporary for the purpose of putting some irregularities to right. Miss Kate E. Kauffman, Prin. Foochow Graded School. Geo. B. Smyth Ass't. Sec'y. Missionary

Society. W. A. Main, Missionary-in-charge of North and South Iong-bing Districts and Prin. Boys' Boarding School at Iong-bing City. Mrs. Main, Matron of said school, Harry R. Caldwell, Missionary-in-charge of Ku-cheng and Ku-de Districts and Prin. of Schell-Cooper Academy. Mrs. Caldwell, matron of said Academy. J. E. Skinner, M. D. Supt. Wiley General Hospital, Ku-cheng. Mrs. Skinner, M. D., Medical Work among Women. J. H. Worley and E. B. Caldwell on leave in U. S.

The W. F. M. S. Appointments, Foochow District: Conference Seminary, Miss Parkinson. Girls' Boarding School, Miss Bonafield and Miss Plumb. Women's Training and Romanized Schools, Miss Jewell. Music in said schools, Mrs. Wilcox. Industrial Work, Miss Wilkinson. Orphanage, Mrs. Tippet. Women's and Children's Hospital, Dr. Lyon. Evangelistic work in said Hospital and Foochow District Bible-women, Miss Wells. Woolston Memorial Hospital, Dr. Hu King Eng. Evangelistic work in said Hospital, Miss Jewell. Ming-chiang District: Women's Training School, Day-schools, Bible-women, and Evangelistic Work, Miss Peters. Medical Work, Dr. Carleton. Hok-chiang and Ngu-cheng Districts: Girls' Boarding School, Training School, Romanized School, Day-schools and Bible-women, Miss Allen and Miss Mabel Sia. Medical Work, Dr. Masters. Hai-tang District: Training School, Day-schools, and Bible-women, Miss Allen. Ku-cheng and Ku-de Districts: Girls' Board. School, Women's School and Romanized School, Miss Rouse. Day-schools, Bible-women, and Evangelistic Work, Miss Glenk. Medical Work, Mrs. Skinner, M. D. South Iong-bing District Girls' Boarding School, Day Schools, Bible-women and Evangelistic Work, Miss Hartford. North Iong-bing District: Women's Training School, Day-schools, Bible-women, and Evangelistic Work, Miss Linam. Treasurer, Mrs. Wilcox. Business Agent, Mrs. Lacy. On leave in U. S. Misses Trimble, Longstreet and Adams.

#### FOOCHOW WOMAN'S CONFERENCE.

The annual meeting of the Woman's Conference was held in Tiang Ang Dong, Foochow, Nov. 13 to 18th. The reports of the work show that the past year has been a most successful one in every way. The Conference is divided into five large districts:—Foochow, Hok-chiang, Ming-chiang, Ku-cheng and Iong-bing. On each of these districts are at least two W. F. M. S. workers residing who have charge of all of the work on the district. At their central stations they have a Girls' Boarding School and a Woman's Training School, while scattered over the district are Day-schools and Bible-women.

There are only two Hospitals, one in and another near Foochow city. Two medical missionaries have been carrying on the work the best they could on the Ming-chiang and Hok-chiang District. A small Hospital is soon to be built at Ming-chiang. In spite of the many obstacles in the way the medical work has been greatly owned and blest of God in the salvation of scores of lives. We covet for our medical work suitably equipped buildings.

Up to the present time our Ming-chiang and Iong-bing workers have been living in native buildings. Our Ming-chiang ladies are rejoicing in the prospect of being able to build during the coming year, and we hope the means will be forthcoming for the work in Iong-bing. Many bright women and girls are seeking admittance in the schools. In a few years we hope to have a large number of efficient



workers. There is becoming a wide spread interest in the education of women. The influence of Christianity is beginning to be felt by the masses. We have heard many a heathen mother say: "I am not binding the feet of my daughter and am planning to send her to the Christian school."

PHEBE C. WELLS.

Friends of the Needy:—

We wish again to all your attention to the Industrial work in Foochow. You know Miss Adams has gone home for a time, but her two hundred women, with their needy little ones are here, and up to the present we have by borrowing, by scraping every available dollar together and drawing out salary one quarter ahead, succeeded in meeting the monthly demands for wages and linen, believing surely that if we do our part God will not fail to do His. And the next duty now is to let you Christian friends know of these Chinese women and their work and how the books stand. My account book lies open before me footed up for October and November, and is as follows:—Receipts \$288.75, Expenditures for linen, wages, thread, postage \$1271.15 all mexican currency. Down stairs in the sewing room, is a box ready for the steamer on Saturday next. It contains more than one hundred dozen handkerchiefs, thirty six dozen doilies, ruffling, yoking, and a bolt of the grass linen, which I am sending by express, on the next Vancouver steamer to Miss Jennie Adams 537 Nevelle St. Pittsburg, Pa. And I want you to send orders to her at once for handkerchiefs, doilies, etc. Miss Adams had great quantities of this work which she took when she went to America, but I trust before this reaches you she will have disposed of all that. You may also send direct to me for any *special* orders you may want and we will have the work done as promptly as possible.

Six months ago I would have been appalled if I had been called on to face a situation like this, but to-night I have a settled conviction that He who cares for the fatherless and widows will, if need be, "Open Windows in Heaven." He will surely find a way. To-day I met a class of eleven women at one of our chapels six or seven miles from here. We had a good time together. Their work was well done and we had a good meeting. The Christmas spirit which is "Peace and good will" was in all hearts. To-morrow we meet for the women's afternoon meeting at Heavenly Rest Church. Thursday at another, and on Sunday afternoon with two classes for the study of the Bible and instruction in the way of life. I trust that every one who reads this will feel inclined to "cast bread upon the waters" by buying handkerchiefs. China is in sore need of both temporal and spiritual bread. Almost daily I say to poor women, eagerly begging for work. "Wait; I hope in the new year I can take you on but I dare not now, I have not money for these already employed. One thing more I must ask you to do, as you send or do for this work pray that these women may every one be truly converted and know by heart experience what salvation is. And do not forget the words of Jesus: "I was hungry and ye gave me meat." The heathen world is *so pitifully hungry, yes, starving, dying*. Shall the King have to say "Ye gave me no meat"? Or shall we hear the gracious word "Come ye blessed of my Father for *I was hungry and ye gave me meat*."

Your Sister in Service,

Lydia A. Wilkinson.

P. S. We will be very glad to send sample packages for five, ten or

even twenty dollars on condition that you will send us a draft or postal order for the same just as soon as the goods are disposed of.

L. A. W.

Dear Friends:—

You do not hear very often through these columns, of the Medical Mission work. Mr. Miner has most generously offered me space in the next issue of The Bulletin to tell you of my needs.

I am trying to build a hospital in Ming-chiang. I have been carrying on medical work there for over six years, and have only had a native house to live in or to keep my patients in. Since the War everything has grown very expensive and this year taxes and floods and now drought are bringing us face to face with greater poverty than I have ever seen during my fifteen years residence in this country. The Missionary Society allowed me what I hoped would put up the buildings but because of the afore mentioned reasons and because of the necessity of a dispensary and rooms for myself this sum will only be half enough. I am expecting help through the influences of personal friends but I still am in great need of \$500. U. S. currency. I have been about a year interviewing different contractors until all are satisfied that I can not put up the buildings with less. I am authorized by the members of our mission, who have that large charity that believeth all things, to go on and let the contract and to trust in God, and my right hand to get the \$500. All my right hand can do is to write and tell you my need, trusting that God will inspire some one to help me out. I shall be pleased to correspond with any one who wishes to make further inquiries into medical mission work. I could name a ward for any donor of a large sum or a bed for those contributing smaller sums. I could also send you a report of some of my cases. If you wish to send the money through the Missionary Society send it to Mrs. John M. Cornell.

29 East 37th St.

New York City.

Tell her it is a special gift to the Ming-chiang Hospital. At the same time send me a letter telling me what you have done. Or if you prefer send the money directly to me and I will report it to my Treasurer. Small sums can be sent by postal order but a better exchange is realized if the money is sent by a draft on any well known bank. With hopeful expectations.

Yours most truly,

Mary Eline Carleton.

Foochow,

China.

Dec. 1st. 1902.

#### CHRISTMAS EXERCISES.

Several schools, churches, and societies connected with the mission, celebrated the birth of Christ in most appropriate ways. While listening to some of the songs, recitations, dialogues and addresses I could but note the wonderful changes that have taken place during the past few years. The time was when women could not worship in the same congregation with men, or, if they did hear the same sermon, they were secluded behind a partition of boards or a thick curtain. Now, men, women, boys and girls sit in the same congregation with but an aisle between them.

I remember of hearing Dr. N. Sites tell of the furor that took place when a class of girls first appeared before a public congregation



and sang a Christmas hymn. The "Lords of China" were enraged and declared it should never occur again. The girls now not only sing, but recite, render dialogues and give addresses, and no one thinks of objecting. I have seen Chinese young ladies lead the Epworth League meetings on Sunday evenings with great acceptability.

The young ladies are also now being educated in English. I regret this was not commenced sooner, for already men of position and wealth are inquiring for teachers to instruct their daughters in the English language. And not only this, but the other day one of our Christian men was asked by a heathen man of wealth if he would not betroth his son to his (the heathen man's) daughter. We have known many instances where heathen men have desired to have their children marry into Christian families. It is well for China that her daughters are being considered and educated because more than one fourth of the children born into this world look into the face of a Chinese mother.

#### VERY TIMELY.

To one way of thinking one of the most timely and important remarks made at the Missionary convention, held in Cleveland, was by a layman. May the Lord bless them. The remark was as follows: "I suggest that pastors all preach three or four sermons each year, bringing before their congregations various phases of the missionary enterprise again and again, apart from the occasion of taking the annual collection. Fill 'us laymen' with information concerning the fields, the progress of the work, the heroic leaders, the sorrows and needs of pagan lands, and we will not fail to respond. But feed us with this knowledge throughout the year, and not simply when you ask us for our money." Years of experience in the "Special Gift" work has led me to believe that all that is needed to bring the church up to "one dollar per member for missions" is information. Dear pastors, will you not one and all heed this layman's plea? Will you not go a little farther and illustrate the truths of your sermons by fresh facts from the mission fields?

And dear laymen, you should feed upon more than what your pastor can give in his short sermons. Take one of our church papers, the "Gospel in All Lands," the "World Wide Missions" and the "Bulletin," (the latter can be had for the asking) and read all they contain. You will then soon be able to sympathize with missions and pray for them.

#### AN OPPORTUNITY.

About one mile from Dai-bang, the head of a circuit which bears the same name, is a heathen temple which the people offer the church to be used as a school room and chapel. In close proximity to this temple are eight villages with about six hundred families. Ten of these families are members of the church. The desire is to transform this temple and use it for a day-school room and chapel for mid-week church services and Sunday-school. For the regular Sabbath services the people will walk to Dai-bang, one mile distant, but many of the women cannot walk so far on their little feet, except under the most favorable circumstances. Now the people ask only fifteen dollars to aid them in making a heathen temple into a house for Christian school and service. Who will be the fortunate person or persons to contribute this sum? You can send the money direct to the editor of

the Bulletin by New York draft, or to Dr. H. K. Carroll, 150 Fifth Ave., N. Y. City. In either case designate clearly the object of your contribution.

A few years ago another temple, within the bounds of this Hai-tang district, was given for a church and dedicated by Brother N. J. Plumb, who was then in charge of the district. We now have a flourishing class in what was once a heathen temple. The Powers of Darkness are weakening to the Powers of Light.

#### TRUE HEROISM.

I have been told that more courage was required to stand and hear stray bullets whizz over the head than to charge upon the enemy amid shots, beating of drums and rattle of musketry.

To my mind our pastor at Hok Ing Dong, in the city of Foo-chow, Rev. Ngoi Gi Lang, has courage that puts many of us to shame. Last summer in that part of the city where his church is located there was much sickness. The plague and cholera raged for months and people were dying all around. Some of his family, and even he himself were very sick for a time. He was advised to move, for the time being, to a more healthful place, and even offered money to defray his expenses, but he said "no, my people have no place to go, and if I leave they will be as sheep without a shepherd, they will consider me a hireling." Brother Ngoi remained at his post and the people now believe that he believes and practices what he preaches.

#### NOTES.

Some time since a missionary was traveling over the country with one of the Missionary Secretaries, inspecting and getting acquainted with the work. In traveling here in China we take our cook and provisions along. The secretary was enjoying his coffee very much until one day he saw the cook empty coffee grounds out of the toe of one of his socks. The missionary remonstrated with the cook who calmly said; "I didn't use a clean one."

As all people know, the Chinese dress is quite different from that of the Americans. Theirs is loose and never close fitting. A lady missionary, at one time, was speaking to a company of women, and noticing that one had become particularly interested, increased her energies, hoping to have a convert. In a moment she was dismayed because her interested hearer turned to one of the women sitting by her side and said; "How can she scratch?" To be able to get to the intruder and scratch freely is often a luxury, especially during flea season, which lasts twelve months of the year. At another time, a missionary lady who is rather slim of stature, and dresses according to western costume, was teaching a class of women and although all seemed interested one was particularly so. After watching the speaker for some time and apparently becoming greatly interested in the address, this woman said, in a tone that could be heard in all parts of the room; "She don't look as though she could hold even one bowl of rice."



Dear Bro. Miner:

If a few words from a passing visitor are acceptable to the readers of the "Bulletin", I gladly give the following: For more than fifteen years I have had the desire to make the overland route from Kiu-kiang to Foochow, but the constant demand for close application to work within our own Mission limits prevented every digression. However, since the work of Central China Mission has in recent years been extended so far south that the space between the Foochow Conference and our Mission is not as great as the distances between some of our Presiding Elders districts, this trip cannot now be called a great fete. It only took Bro. Maclean and me four and a half days to cover the unoccupied territory between the outstations of your workers and ours. You will be interested to know that through this whole intervening space the mandarin language fully served us. It was not until after we had passed Yen-ping that an unintelligible jargon grated upon our ears. Judging from the apparent eagerness of the people in these parts to affiliate themselves with some church, there would need to be no unoccupied city or town in all these regions if the churches had the men to enter the open doors and take possession of the given opportunities. Over the *Kien* pass from Nanfung in Kiangsi to Kienning Hsienin Fukien, a distance of 160 li, we were probably the first foreigners dressed in European costume whom these people had seen, and yet there was not even the suggestion of a discordant note, not an unkind word was heard. At Nanfung the native brethren feared we might fall into the hands of highway robbers when crossing this mountain pass, and they suggested that we announce our departure to the local official. We acted upon their suggestion, but the men the official sent were much of the time so far behind that a band of robbers might have carried us off into their mountain retreat without our escorts knowing what had become of us.

The journey down the Min River was one of interest. The season being unusually dry the water was very low which greatly added to the safety of its navigation. The rapids in the upper Min are so swift and amid such jagged rocks and boulders that in high water navigation must be *extremely* dangerous. Even at this time while the water was at its lowest wrecked boats were very frequent sights.

That we were interested in all that we saw at Foochow need hardly be mentioned; for we even had the rare opportunity of being present at several sessions of the Annual Conference, and one session of the Woman's Conference. From such a noble band of workers, who seemed to have Faith, Hope and Charity written upon their faces, the Church may confidently expect great things in the future. Especially must this be true since the various educational institutions for the young men and women receive such rare attention, besides the numerous Day-schools which you have established. A visit to one of these schools convinced us that a grand work was being done.

Wishing you the abiding presence of the Lord in all your work.

I am,

Fraternally yours,

Carl F. Kupfer.