

MISS IDA ANDERSON

Spring is here, flowers are blooming and birds are singing, but one of the sure signs of the vernal season will be sadly missed.

We won't be seeing the frail, slender, white-haired figure of Miss Ida Anderson working in her front yard flower garden on North State street.

Miss Ida has gone to a far-off land where flowers are always blooming and birds are always singing.

For forty full years Miss Anderson served her God in one of the most exalted and self-sacrificing forms of human labor — a Christian missionary in China. Her labors were fruitful and thousands in that land now so sorely troubled knew and loved her.

In 1926 — more than a quarter of a century ago — ill health forced Miss Anderson to retire. Since then she had made her home with two spinster sisters, Misses Irene and Rosa Anderson, who welcomed her home with loving arms.

In an ante bellum dwelling on North State street near the corner of Fortification, these three sisters dwelled happily together. Miss Ida's hobby was the old-fashioned flowers her mother and grandmother so dearly loved. On any fair day, bright morning or sunny afternoon, she could be seen in the front yard garden working among flowers that filled the air with strange and wonderful fragrance and so brightened the little garden plot that passersby often paused to admire and enjoy.

To the saintly soul of this sweet-faced woman flowers carried a voice that told her of life eternal. She well knew that the seed sleeping beneath the drifted leaves of autumn and winter the flower seeds were sheltered and they would ere many months passed by burst forth in faith and glory and bring fragrant flowers to brighten the landscape. Flowers as pure and tender as her own soul silently spoke to her. Each petal was a pulpit and each leaf a book. She knew the language of flowers as well as she knew her native tongue and the voices of the people among whom she so lovingly labored for two score years.

There is a vacant room and a vacant chair in that ante bellum home on North State street and there is an aching void in many hearts and minds, but these old-fashioned flowers Miss Ida Anderson so tenderly cared for are putting forth the blooms of springtime. In silence they will continue to tell passersby what their mistress so well knew. They say with fragrant words that to cultivate a garden is to walk with God; that flowers are the only perfectly beautiful things on earth — joyous, innocent, ~~all~~ divine messages scattered by the hand of God over the face of the earth. (sent by Mary C. White)

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(2/16/53)
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Dr. L. Nassau Smith
Atlanta, Ga., in person, 1893

My dear Mr. Nassau Smith,

I am very glad to hear
in regard to Mr. John Quincy
I regret cannot say that
I cannot say that I am
in agreement with the
of the series of objects in
then was to be of service in the
train work and that result.

I saw Mr. Chase in the
columns of 1893, and was

minutes before our home-coming
I've spent that or two days
with me about the same
I did not see her again
before I came home. The
I've used in the trial
is a quiet, careful, con-
sistent type, without a
hint of a show of passion
if she had any power
she would have made good
use of it - but she was too
kind to do so. She would
not have been a success.

but her name gives evidence
of a good deal of intelligence
and energy - for many years
back - and was identified
with the wife of the
and she was a very deep
and would not have been
harmless - if she had been
it would have been a
good thing for her to have
been a success in her
life - but she was too
kind to do so. She would
not have been a success.

can with a small amount of time

and the amount of time

of time -

the amount of time

the amount of time

the amount of time

the amount of time

the amount of time

the amount of time

the amount of time

the amount of time

the amount of time

the amount of time

live at Shanghai, since the
emergencies of the work so
or in necessitate things.

I have written to the
American that in the case
of a special visit to a
mission in China, the
same of the same kind
can be made in the
most possible of the
work to the Board, a
little categorical and
more regular, a circular of

reasonable success with
the course, I believe that
my application will be
favorable consideration.

From this I do not know whether
it would be better to
pursue by the good old
to receive assistance for the
expense of a missionary, con-
dition. Under such condi-
tions. If I may have the
right to do this I will be
very much gratified. I
shall still thank Miss Anderson

a sufficient amount to pay
for board and to pay for
a personal teacher for six
months. Two hundred dollars
more, I think, be sufficient
for that, that is, for the
course and my expenses.

It is quite dependent upon
how much will be, and how
much will be, and how
in order to do this for me.
I am sure that you can
see I have no more of money
or any more assistance.

The answer will be that
it is sufficient to find
down if necessary. I think
that the mind is intended
to take from the environment
just for the current year
for them - It is not a
to be considered that
but a ready form
I do not know the
fact - especially -
distinction of the world - I
will be fully transmitted
in form at the present

At the time of the
the very great part of the
the quantity of specimens
At the time of the
study of the
certainly with a view of
Mr. Chatham with a view
and which it will be
now - I see well at home
I expect will not be
with reference to the
time the 15th. As a further

I have written to Mr. Johnson
I will try to add that
- James H. Haggard -

1112 Pacific City, N.Y.
each of them
with varying satisfaction to
action from the publications

made for that in their
forgetting that that may
it has a -
and was to produce the
with them, I shall gladly do

the matter need not be
of experience in the
with more of night
that the 18th night at
present reports had
H. H.

Shanghai, China.

May 22, 1895.

Dear Mrs McCarver

wish I might know
as I signed this letter
that you were recov-
ed to your accustomed
health! Miss Hayward
wrote in her last that
you were better.

I am hoping for a
letter from you by
the mail. Love to you
now.

With this I enclose
the financial statement

two and a half years in
service in tea room.
Since so many ladies
in the household
as had very little ex-
perience in Christian
work. But she is interest-
ed in the salvation
of the Chinese, and
wants to work for them
she is sweet spirited
and
careless.

At present she has a class
of English speaking
Chinese girls at Sunday
School and seems to be doing
good work with them.
Previous to coming to
China two years ago
with ^{the Andersons} as governess for the boys

3 in a bright
Christian experience
and record of service
in His vineyard to-
gether with a well
strong body, to bring
into the work, but
since He has given
the willing mind
may He that also
will bless in a suc-
cessful measure.

Miss Anderson is dear-
ly loved by us all.
So far as I know.
I hope Miss Hayward
and you will have
communication on
the subject. I am

hope Miss Pyle will
write you about it.

Now about Miss
Water. The poor little
woman is almost
wholly laid aside
with her head.
She suffers intensely
with China headache
when she is a bit she
has some with the
English work in the
house & school.

It is a real comfort
to have Miss Water
have to take her
when she is laid
aside of course she
will get off sooner

for the summer, though
I doubt seriously whether
it is going to help the
matter at all.

I am very sorry to hear
she is a delicate, dependent
little body, and I wish
we all to have her
suffer so.

How strange is it that
these bodies of ours
are sitting "Gods"
or wings!

There are arrangements
recused, it is a
of the summer. I will
Miss Water in our
water. What a
and please
you will be
I have a
I have a

In case Miss A. is received
could you cable "yes" to
would be such a relief to her
and the rest of us, too. H. L. C.

Dear
Miss
A.
I
am
very
glad
to
hear
of
you
and
hope
you
are
well
and
happy
as
usual.
I
am
still
in
the
same
old
place
and
hope
you
will
write
to
me
soon.
I
am
your
affectionate
uncle
H. L. C.

Shanghai, China.

May 19, 1895.

Dear Mr. Garrod,

I have heard
the natives out here speak
of you so often, that it does
not seem strange to me to
feel that in writing to you,
that I am not writing to a
stranger although I am a
stranger to you.

I was married last October,
I came out with my Uncle,
(Rev. G. L. Anderson) who was
making a brief stay in the
States, to teach his little son.
The first year was a very pleas-
ant, happy year, but at the
end of that time, my health
was not good, I think prob-
ably as much from over-

strained nerves as from the climate.

I thought of returning home, but as my heart is in the work, and as I am already on the field, the thought occurred to me to apply to join the Normal Board, on trial for one year. If at the end of that time, I am not well enough to engage in work for another year, we will cancel the arrangement, but if I am well enough then, I want to make it my life-work. I feel that if it is God's will, for me to stay out here, He will give me health to do so.

I am twenty-six years old and was ^{born} in Newnan, Ga. My father is Mr. L. F. Anderson.

I was educated at the Public Schools in Atlanta, and for reference, refer you to any of the High School teachers, or to the Supt. (Messrs. H. H. Slaton).

I only taught six months at home, as my mother's ^{health} would not permit me to leave her.

I have had some little Christian experience, and did not come out expecting to engage in the work, but soon after my arrival, I felt that at some future day, I would let me to know my mind. Then, I did not see a Christian, at some time, and he advised me to help the people, and all men for as have been your neighbor.

To you have my experience
in a nutshell.

I hope some day that I
shall know you personally,
and I do hope that you
have entirely recovered from
your recent illness.

The life out here has been
very pleasant to me, and if
one is well, it is a field
for a great deal of useful-
ness.

I hope this will meet with
your approval, and that
I may be a permanent
member of your Board.

Yours sincerely,

H. W. Anderson.

Questions to Candidates.

1. Do you feel that your heart is moved by the Holy Spirit to take upon you the work of a foreign missionary? & feel confident that the Holy Spirit is leading me to offer my services for this work.

2. Are you a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South? Yes, at Newnan, Ga.

3. How long have you been a member? Fourteen years.

3. Do you subscribe to the doctrine of this Church? & etc.

4. Is it your desire and intention to make the work of Foreign Missions your life work? It is my desire to do so.

5. Are you willing to go to
any field? Ans. I would like
matter of course, I prefer China.

6. Have you had experience
in Christian work? Ans. I had
a very limited experience.

7. Have you a good English
education? Ans. I was
educated at the Public
Schools in Atlanta, Ga.

8. (a) Have you studied any
ancient or modern language?
(b) Do you receive such with
ease? I have studied Latin
and French, both of which I
acquire with ease.

9. How do you talent school,
where, and with what suc-
cess? I attended the same,
and transferred to
Byrnes. Grad. S. Anderson.
Fulton, China.

10. Can you teach music,
vocal or instrumental? Neither.

11. (a) What is the condition
of your health? Almost per-
fect until I came to China,
but for the past year have not
been well. This is my second
year at here, and time may
lead me to hope that when I
am acclimated I shall be well
again. I came out to teach
for my Uncle's family, think-
ing of going into the work when
my engagement with him was
finished, but circumstances
have made it seem to enter
the work at once.

(b) Are you predisposed to any
physical weakness? None.

12. What is your age?
Twenty-six.

13. Have you ever applied to other Mission Boards, or Societies? No.

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?" I am willing to be guided.

16. Do you agree to conform to all the requirements of the Woman's Board while in its service? I do.

J. A. Anderson.

DEPARTMENT OF WORK IN FOREIGN FIELDS

STAFF MINUTES

February 17, 1953

Present: Misses Colony, Evans, Lee, Gibson, MacKinnon, Twinem

Miss Colony led in prayer.

For the record:

In memoriam: Ida Anderson, China, (retired), February 16, 1953 73.

Arrived: Catherine Justin, India, February 17, 1953 74.
Murden Woods, India, February 17, 1953 (Term completed)

For action:

RECOMMENDED that the following medical bill be approved: 75.

Mildred Pierce, India, \$448.40

RECOMMENDED that the following medical bill be paid from Retirement Provision, 76.
Relief:

Lois Witham, China, \$206.32

VOTED that the following educational grants be approved: 77.

Pearl Fosnot, China, Columbia University \$ 270
Helen G. Moore, Japan, Columbia University 420

VOTED that \$347.43 be paid from Educational Grants, Candidates, for the 78.
Woman's Division share of the expenses of the evening seminar held at Yale
Institute of Far Eastern Languages for those candidates preparing for Japan and
Korea.

RECOMMENDED that the term of Laura Heist, India, be extended to May 1954, 79.
subject to medical approval.

RECOMMENDED that Charlotte Taylor be, and she hereby is, appointed field 80.
treasurer in Southern Congo of the Woman's Division of Christian Service of
the Board of Missions and Church Extension of The Methodist Church, and that she
be given authority to handle funds and to operate the bank accounts in Southern
Congo of The Woman's Division of Christian Service of the Board of Missions and
Church Extension of The Methodist Church.

RECOMMENDED that Joan Warneka be approved as field correspondent of the 81.
Southern Congo Conference.

IDA ANDERSON

Miss Ida Anderson died on February 16, 1953 at her home in Jackson, Mississippi at eighty-five. She had broken her arm three weeks before, but the day previous to her death she felt so well that she stayed up until ten o'clock. The next morning she just didn't wake up. Dr. Selah, the minister at Galloway Memorial, was assisted in the funeral services by Dr. J. R. Countiss, a retired Methodist minister and an old friend of Miss Anderson. He said that her death reminded him of what a preacher once said of Enoch. "He walked so constantly with God that one day as they were walking, they realized that they were nearer God's house than Enoch's - and God took him on home with Him."

In an editorial in the Jackson newspaper it was said: "We won't be seeing the frail, slender, white-haired figure of Miss Ida Anderson working in her front yard flower garden on North State Street. Miss Ida has gone to a far-off land where flowers are always blooming and birds are always singing. In the ante-bellum

dwelling on North State Street near the corner of Fortification, the three Anderson sisters have lived happily together. Miss Ida's hobby was the old-fashioned flower garden her mother and grandmother so dearly loved. On any fair day, bright morning or sunny afternoon, she could be seen in the front yard working among flowers that filled the air with strange and wonderful fragrance, and so brightened the little garden plot that passersby often paused to admire and enjoy."

Miss Anderson was educated in Atlanta, Georgia. At the age of twenty-five she went to China to be governess for the children of her uncle, Dr. D. L. Anderson, the first president of Soochow University. In 1902 she was accepted as a missionary under the Woman's Missionary Council. She served for a while in McTyeire School in Shanghai, but the greater part of her missionary life was spent in Tushih, an industrial city between Soochow and Nanking. The letters in her file show the constant growth of the work in this station from small beginnings to a center that ministered to hundreds of children and women. She was especially interested in developing leadership among the young women and saw to it that one of the choicest young women in the center, after graduating from Ginling College in Nanking, was sent to the United States for preparation as a social-evangelistic worker.

Miss Anderson worked quietly but very effectively. Her nice sense of humor made her very good company.

When she was about ready to leave China for retirement she wrote to the China secretary, "Truly these are days of mingled feelings. Sometimes I feel that I have stopped thinking--it's something like coming in and going out with the tide. Very precious are these last days of forty years in China." Miss Anderson was retired March 1934 and so was privileged to live with her sisters in Jackson, Mississippi for nearly twenty years. In 1943 she wrote the China secretary, "I am sending under separate cover five bonds which I have invested for China, to be cashed whenever China needs them, and to be used when the need is greatest." Never once in her long life did she forget her beloved Chinese friends.

Sent to All East China Missionaries (Retired) and here in the U.S.

**WOMAN'S DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE OF THE
BOARD OF MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH**

150 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

LOUISE ROBINSON
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
CHINA

February 10, 1953

Dear Friends:

Louise Robinson is out of town so I am writing to tell you of the home-going of Miss Tda Anderson on February 10. Attilio Millingsworth sent the following telegram to Bobby:

"Tda Anderson died this morning. Though she had broken her arm three weeks ago she was feeling well yesterday and stayed up until ten last night. This morning she just didn't wake up. The funeral will be Tuesday morning at 10:30."

As you probably know, she lived with her two sisters, Rose and Irene, at 922 North State Street, Jackson, Mississippi.

I know that all of us who knew and loved her in China are grateful for her love and for her abiding influence.

Louise Robinson has gone to Knoxville for the meeting of the South Central Jurisdiction. She is leaving next week for the Southeastern Jurisdiction in Jackson. We enjoy living together, enjoy in the glimpses we have of our friends. Bobby is good about sharing news with me and I know that she sends you messages from time to time from me.

As you probably know, I was in Europe and Africa from early July until nearly Christmas. It was a great experience. I believe the only East China persons in Africa are James and Rita Roberts in Old Natal. There are other Chinese persons in many countries in Africa. I have been calling Liberia "China in Africa".

Thank you for the Christmas greeting which came to me from Bobby and the girls' gift. They were very thoughtful.

I remain appreciative and love,
L.

Sincerely yours,

Attilio Millingsworth

April 10, 1953

IDA ANDERSON MEMORIAL

Miss Ida Anderson died on February 16, 1953 at her home in Jackson, Mississippi at 85. She had broken her arm three weeks before, but the day previous to her death she felt so well that she stayed up until ten o'clock. The next morning she just didn't wake up. Dr. Selah the minister at Alloway Memorial was assisted in the funeral services by Dr. J.R. Countiss, a retired Methodist minister and an old friend of Miss Anderson. He said that her death reminded him of that preacher once said of Noah. "He walked so constantly with God that one day as they were walking, they realized that they were nearer God's house than Noah's - and they took him on home with him."

In an editorial in the Jackson newspaper it was said: "We won't be seeing the frail, slender, white-haired figure of Miss Ida Anderson working in her front yard flower garden on North State Street. Miss Ida has gone to a far-off land where flowers are always blooming and birds are always singing. In the ante-bellum dwelling on North State Street near the corner of Fortification, the three Anderson sisters have lived happily together. Miss Ida's hobby was the old-fashioned flower garden her mother and grandmother so dearly loved. On any fair day, bright morning or sunny afternoon, she could be seen in the front yard working among flowers that filled the air with strange and wonderful fragrances, and so fragrant that the garden plot that passersby often paused to admire and enjoy."

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Ida Anderson (April 10, 1953)

-2-

her file show the constant growth of the work in this station from small beginnings to a center that ministered to hundreds of children and women. She was especially interested in developing leadership among the young women and saw to it that one of the choicest young women in the center, after graduating from Ginling College in Nanking, was sent to the United States for preparation as a social-evangelistic worker.

Miss Anderson worked quietly but very effectively. Her nice sense of humor made her very good company.

When she was about ready to leave China for retirement she wrote to the China secretary, "Truly these are days of unled soldiers. Sometimes I feel that I have stopped thinking - it's something like coming in and going out with the tide. Very precious are these last days of forty years in China." Miss Anderson was retired in March, 1934 and she was privileged to live with her sisters in Jackson, Mississippi for nearly twenty years. In 1943 she wrote the China secretary, "I am sending under separate cover five bonds which I have invested for China, to be called whenever China needs them, and to be used when the need is greatest." Never once in her long life did she forget her beloved Chinese friends.

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Huangshao, China

May 22, 1898

Dear Miss Laura, - (Haygood)

I have
been eagerly waiting for
the outgoing mail, for I
knew you would be glad
to hear that I want to in-
cast my lot with God's
workers in this land.

I know the life in Anchow
was not best for me, and
then my health was not
good. Though if I had been
strong, I would have con-
tinued to teach the boys.

How I wish you were
here, and I could talk it
over with you. I think you
could understand how
I feel about it.

Ida Anderson to "Miss Sarah"
Shanghai May 22, 1895

Until I came out here
and you talked to me,
no one had ever spoken to
personally about religion.

I was groping in the
dark, trying to do what
I could, and with an in-
-i- use longing to help oth-
ers. God was a God, but
not a living God to me.

I think that for one of
my temperament, to be
among the people, and
to see their need of a
Savior, would make you
feel that you must have
a living, or present, Sav-
ior in order to help them.
It is pitiful to see the
degradation and suffer-
ing one sees out here's

3
When I long to be able to
talk and get out among
them.

On account of my health
I only ask to join the Board
for one year, but I am con-
fident that it will be a
permanent engagement
on my part, for I am not
at all downhearted about
my health.

I am staying at M^{rs}.
Tyre Home. It is delightful
here. Every body is so nice,
and one cannot be with-
out growing such lovely people with-
out growing.

Miss Richardson has
been so kind to me, and
has helped me so much.
She is so unselfish.

so much to give, because she has so much of God's love, that she seems to always be overflowing. I like to be where she is and get some sprinklings.

Mrs. Guithen is as dear and lovely as ever.

Miss Waters does not seem to get any better. She suffers so much with her head. We are all so sorry for her.

Miss Reynolds and I are rather chummy, if you will excuse the expression. I love her very much.

Now if you were here all of the finishing touches would be on

this home. We are counting the days until you do come. Don't let them be long days.

I suppose that you have heard that ~~the~~ Mrs. Hearn has a little boy. She named him Walter Anderson, after Dr. Walter and Aunt Marnie.

Mrs. Burke has a little boy, and Mrs. Reid, a little girl. Both born this morning. They are both doing nicely.

The Harts leave in June for their own mission. I have found them so pleasant. Dr. Hart is such an earnest Christian gentleman. He has

... a true brother to me.

Everyone is pleased with Dr. Fearn. He is a fine man.

I have found Miss Pylee so satisfying. She is so womanly, and has her whole heart in her work.

I have just finished reading Les Misérables. One little thought in it, "From nothingness to God," makes me think of the utter nothingness of some of these miserable people, and how much it would mean to them to know God. Oh, how they need Him.

I have thought of you so often Miss Lumsden

wanted to write to you but I felt that your time was too precious.

I can never cease to be thankful that I am out here. I feel very insignificant with the Christians who have grown so much, but I know that I can grow too.

Give my love to Clara and Mrs. Bonston.

Won't you use your influence to let me stay?

Now I won't write any more, except to send a steamerful of love. I mean a heartfelt.

With love,

Ada W. ...

Photographs from this
file have not been
included but are
available upon request.
For more information
please contact
research@gcah.org