

ATKINSON, JENNIE M. (VIRGINIA

Virginia M. Atkinson

Miss Atkinson was born in Talbotton, Georgia, November 8, 1861. Her father was a Baptist preacher. Twice left motherless before she was seven, her father allowed her cousins in Alabama to adopt her. She attended a neighboring Methodist Sunday school, joined the church, and yielded her life to the service of the Lord.

Miss Atkinson went to China with Miss Haygood in 1884, passing her twenty-third birthday on the steamer. Her progress in learning the language was equaled only by the ease with which she won the hearts of the Chinese whom she touched and led to Christ. In Shanghai, besides other forms of work in the early years, she was active in a little Sunday school in the outskirts of the city.

Some years later Miss Atkinson was appointed to Soochow and put in charge of the day schools in that city under the Woman's Board. The difficulty of trying to oversee these scattered schools made Miss Atkinson establish a Center in the western part of the city. This Center accommodated four of the day schools, the Bible Women—Mrs. Zak and Mrs. Wu, the Chinese teacher and his family, Miss Atkinson, and the missionary co-worker.

The Center had been open only a few years when there burst the Boxer outbreak in 1900. Miss Atkinson and three other missionaries took the pastor and his family with most of the leading Chinese Christians to Japan where they refuged for four months. Miss Atkinson saw that the time of the young people was well spent in study. Early in the spring of 1901, the Consul was willing for the women to return to Soochow, and the work interrupted temporarily, was taken up again. The Lord blessed Miss Atkinson and her co-workers in this Center, and soon another Chinese house had to be rented to take care of the women and girls who came to the newly opened Embroidery Mission. Bible teaching, personal work, and evangelistic services brought many women and girls to the feet of the Saviour.

Miss Atkinson, like the sons of the prophets of old, realized that the place where she dwelt and worked was "too strait," and she heard the command, "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes." So, with the approval of the Board, she bought desirable land, and Davidson Girls' School, Louise Home for the missionaries, the Moka Garden Embroidery Mission, the Kindergarten and Kindergarten Training School, were all provided with buildings in the years following.

As she was gradually relieved of responsibility in Soochow, the demands of the District made her decide to move to Changshu, where she lived and worked with the Chinese teachers and Bible Women. She often spoke of these years as some of the happiest and most fruitful of her life.

The Center at Moka Garden in time also proved "too strait." Land next the church was bought, and through the generosity of Miss Atkinson's Alabama Conference, Dowdell Center was built for the Embroidery Mission and the Woman's Work of the Church.

As the age of her retirement approached, her many Chinese "sons and daughters" begged the Woman's Council to allow her to retire in China, promising to build a home for her. This little home, largely furnished by the Chinese,

was the delight of her heart during her last years in Soochow. There was hardly a day or night when her two pretty little guest rooms were not occupied. Her prayer during the Japanese invasion that her house might not be destroyed was answered. Though it was thoroughly looted, the house itself was only slightly damaged. She refurnished it comfortably, but cheaply, and for two years after her return to Soochow she still ministered to our beloved Chinese. She was heartbroken when she finally had to leave China because of the growing seriousness of the war situation and her failing health. To the time of her death, December 12, 1941, she never relinquished her hope of returning to China.
—Mary M. Tarrant.

MISS ANNA Lulu Golisch passed away in Los Angeles, August 31, 1972, from a cerebral hemorrhage. Her death brings a sense of great loss not only to her American friends, but also to hundreds of close Chinese friends who called her "Aunt Lulu."

In a peculiar way Miss Golisch was "Aunt Lulu" to everyone. This expresses the warm personal interest she took in people. First there were her students—each girl she taught, whether in piano, voice, chorus (and how she did create a love of singing for the sheer joy of it!), or in a Bible class, wanted to call her Aunt Lulu. They came to her with personal problems: she was the honored guest in their homes. Aunt Lulu was always the one chosen by each school bride to arrange the bridal veil, an act which made her part of the bride's family. The grooms began calling her Aunt Lulu and then as children arrived, the first American they knew was "Auntie Lulu." So two and three generations of Chinese students mourn the passing of this woman, who in an amazing sense was a part of each Chinese household she had known.

Then there were the Chinese pastors, Bible women, and teachers. Miss Golisch was never too tired after a day's or week's work to give these folk additional help in music lessons, spiritual advice, or to go to their meetings to play a piano or organ, sing a solo, or direct a choir.

There were the unfortunates, the lame, the blind, and the beggars. They knew something would be done about their cases if they would come to see Miss Golisch. She became responsible for their hospital treatments, if that seemed necessary; in other cases, needs were laid before the Chinese who then quietly helped these less fortunate ones.

And finally there were the children of missionaries. Often a missionary is so interested in her work with the nationals of her chosen land that she is not aware of the needs of America growing up in a land not adopted by themselves. Miss Golisch was Aunt Lulu to these, too. She gave them music lessons, remembered their birthdays, gave them parties. Thus she helped to make their lives more normal.

Came 1937 and war. Most of those whom Miss Golisch had taught in Nanking had moved westward. I was back in Nanking for a week during 1939. Lulu was there, helping to repair the school, the homes, the organs. But most of all she was there to begin all over again in the training of musicians. Most of those who had played the piano or organ in each school and church throughout the city had sought safety in Free China. Lulu said to me, "I won't be content until I have taught each new teacher in our school how to play the organ and have given voice lessons to all of them, too." She felt the burden on her soul of training new recruits to take the places of those who had moved into the interior. So she exemplified the spirit of reconstruction, which is challenged by the responsibility and thrill of beginning again.—Katherine Boeye.

Miss Eva Hardie

Miss Eva Hardie was born in Ontario, Canada, in 1868, and was sent to India by Cincinnati Branch of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in 1895. She had both nurse's training and business training and proved invaluable as secretary and school nurse at Isabella Thoburn College and later as business manager at Clara Swain Hospital, Bareilly. But her real lifework was evangelism in the populous districts of North India—Naini Tal, Dwarahat, Bareilly.

Dr. Lily D. Greene

Dr. Lily D. Greene was born at Hardingsburg, Indiana, August 11, 1868, and died at Clara Swain Hospital, Bareilly, India, February 14, 1942. Late in November she suffered a partial stroke while in Sitapur and was taken to Bareilly for treatment and care. Her passing can only be looked upon as releasing her from the limitations of this life and bringing the freedom of life eternal toward which her spirit looked.

Miss Greene was a person of strong personality and high intellectual attainments. She graduated from DePauw University with an A.B. degree in 1893 and received her M.A. degree from Boston University in 1902. Her further

July, 1939

ATKINSON, VIRGINIA M.

(China)

Date and Place of Birth: November 8, 1861

Conference: North Alabama

Supported by:

Consecrated:

Went to Field: October 18, 1884

Furloughs: May 1893 - September 1893
December 1906 - September 1907
March 1919 - June 8, 1928

4 furloughs -
not 3: see
V.M.A.'s letter
to S.L. Wm. Kinison
May 18, 1940

Education:

Appointments:

China. Given Emeritus Relation March, 1927^{special}
at Council Meeting, Shreveport La. Granted permission
to return to field with expenses paid by Board
May 8, 1928

Died Dec. 12, 1941

Rock Mills Ma.

Dec. 18th 1890

To the Women's Board of
Missions, Methodist Episcopal
Church, South.

Dear Sisters,

It truly presents
itself that evokes a feeling of
sadness, mingled with that of
joy. Christians ever see cause
to rejoice when they see Christ's
Kingdom advancing, yet human
nature will have its place in
our hearts, and this with its
natural sorrows and griefs
will still be hardships and
privations that missionaries
often meet. In the way of Miss
Fannie Alberson I would say,

I have known her from
childhood. She is a young
lady full of energy and zeal.
She has been a member of the
Rock Mills Auxiliary Soc.
ever ^{since} has been organized and
has been one of its most earnest
workers. On account of her en-
thusiasm and perseverance it
has ever fallen to her to train
our children for public meetings,
and recite to the infants
knowledge most thoroughly,
and also that she gains a great
influence in a child's heart which is
invariably associated.
She is busy in various ways
in missionary work and con-
tributes her time and talents
to the happiness of the world
upon her dress. And in her
life of modesty, rest and joy

it is with deep sorrow that
we cherish as a missionary, and
for the past few years we have
had a great number of faithful
members in our midst. And
I remain ever as is
in Christ.

Mrs. F. L. Johnson
Pres. of Rock Mills
Auxiliary Society

Dec 8th 1850

Miss G. Burden

U. S. Army

Ala

Dear sister

After going

to God in prayer to direct me
in every word I pen I write you
on a subject that lies near
my heart, the care of my
young friend Garrison's
to be a student. The city will
be desirable with in an
and we are enjoying it all
kind, in every little way.
Recently I had you in my
a very long conversation with
our division and we were
some other answers which
to the Russian field, "I say,"

since her arrival. The still small
voice I had discerned, her, but
as often she would say to me,
"if she would forgive it in her
heart now revealing it to her
most intimate friends, until
his summer, I during our revival
so had such a perturbation shiver
we could not restrain our thoughts,
but communed one with another
whenever we met, then for the first
time I ever suspected her heart,
desire, and from that time we was
open to each other, and spirit seemed
to take possession of her, and it
was a source of a solemn necessity
on the subject of sinners. Her former
attention had been such as to set her
for this source, nearly like some of
sympathy, to make her own
to prefer others, especially in her own
to be correct ones, and

upright in all her resolutions,
and never allow them to be
The was a special interest for
immortality to abolition what-
ever she tried to do, and
and a "book" for showing them to
her, at the same time we were
concerning a doctrine I think
we were associated with
teachings, but think ^{with} many one who
had some qualities so well
developed, there is nothing, and
so thought in a locality
suitable, she caught in our view
School with some such things
we were now and then
discussing a subject, but she
in our view, but she
she was a woman of
children and I have no other
concerns, she is in our
conference, I think we are

Preface

The first part of this book is to
describe the general principles of
the science of the mind and its
powers. It is divided into three
books. The first book contains
the general principles of the
mind and its powers. The second
book contains the principles of
the faculties of the mind. The
third book contains the principles
of the various faculties of the
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mind and its powers. It is
divided into three books. The
first book contains the general
principles of the mind and its
powers. The second book
contains the principles of the
faculties of the mind. The
third book contains the
principles of the various
faculties of the mind.

Handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is illegible due to its cursive script and low contrast.

This is to certify that
Miss Jennie Atkinson, of
Rock Mills, Ala., passed
through the course of study
at Sa. George's College,
Sa. George, Ga., with
highest honors, and is
thoroughly prepared to
teach each individual
branch of said course.

She is a lady of unusual
depth of mind, and, being
intimately acquainted with
her character and disposition,
I feel justified in saying
that she will do good
work in anything she
undertakes.

Very respectfully,
Mrs. B. A. Warlick,
Edgewood, Ga.

Handwritten text, possibly a list or ledger, with several lines of illegible entries. The text is written in cursive and appears to be organized into columns or rows, though the specific content is difficult to discern due to the low contrast and fading. Some words like "No. 1" and "No. 2" are faintly visible at the beginning of some lines.

Handwritten text in a cursive script, possibly Urdu or Persian, arranged in approximately 15 horizontal lines. The text is dense and difficult to decipher due to the cursive style and some fading. The lines are roughly parallel and fill most of the page's width.

Handwritten text, possibly a list or notes, including words like "a", "b", "c", "d", "e", "f", "g", "h", "i", "j", "k", "l", "m", "n", "o", "p", "q", "r", "s", "t", "u", "v", "w", "x", "y", "z".

Handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is extremely faint and illegible due to the high contrast of the scan. It appears to be a list or a series of notes, possibly containing names and dates, but the characters are too light to be accurately transcribed.

Lafayette Ga
Nov 22/83

Mr. F. P. Hinkle

My Dear Sir

I take great pleasure
in forwarding you a copy of resolution
of the B. of Trustees of the Lafayette Female
College - authorizing and directing diplo-
mas to be conferred upon Miss Jennie M. Atkins
et al. in June 1880. And while no re-
cord is kept by the Board of the standing of
each young lady graduate - it is well
known no diploma is granted to any ex-
cept upon recommendation of the President
and faculty declaring the course of study
prescribed to have been fully accomplished
and a favorable report of the Special
examining Committee on final examination.
Throughout Miss Atkins's collegiate course
she was a model in deportment, and
with the first of her class in scholarly
attainments, showed the highest honors of the

College - Of her parentage I know but
little - Her uncle, Judge W. L. Atkinson of
West Point, Ga. is too well and favorably known to
need my endorsement - He has repeatedly
represented this County in the State Legislature
and is highly esteemed among his fellow Citizens.
Miss Atkinson needs no recommendation of high
parentage - Her own native good sense - scholarly
attainments, high purpose & holy aim, sup-
ported by that indomitable energy, industry
and Christian zeal, which so eminently char-
acterized her during her Collegiate course,
are ^{the} highest and best recommendations and
the surest indices of her future - And
is our College at last to be honored
by the Master? Heaven grant it. In
Miss Dennis' hands her honor and fame is
safe. kindest regards to your excel-
lent work. If I can serve her in
any wise in the great work she has
assumed upon or she may commend me.

Very truly yrs
A. G. Cox

"Resolved, in recommendation
of the President and Faculty of
the Sagrange Female College
and the favorable report of the
examining Committee, the Board
of Trustees authorize and direct
Diplomas with the first regular
degree of the college to be conferred
by the President respectively upon
Miss Jennie M. Atkinson
Fannie A. Downer
Fannie Sherman et al.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be
a correct copy of resolution passed
by the Board of Trustees of the
Sagrange Female College, Sagrap
Ga - in Annual Session June 5th
1880 - 3 Minutes Page 380.

A. C. Cox, Secty.
Sagrange Ga Nov 22/1883.

Lanauy Female College
Lanauy Ga. Dec 11. 1883.

It gives me great pleasure
to testify to the scholarly worth,
and moral excellence of Miss
Jennie M. Atkinson.

The college record shows that
she graduated in the class of
1880, and shared the first honor.
Her mental tastes incline her
to the study of languages, and
indicate that she would easily
acquire a foreign tongue.

Her influence among the young
ladies is reported as most sal-
utary, leaving with those who
remained after her graduation,
an exalted estimate of her.

Knowing her as I do, I
doubt not, she will serve the
Church efficiently as a mis-
sionary.

John W. Heidt
Pres. L. C. C.

President La Prof
Female College
7

Though the same as some reaches
as soon as the same over extent
as to much in fact

China is the first of the others
but we wish to go to the
Board of Education to see
the conditions of the school to
find out how to work in our
schools to get the most out of
the school and see if we can
make it a better one
our own children.

Should the Board be
to see into the matter
of the school? I think it
is a good thing to see
the school.

I hope to hear from you soon
I remain yours truly
John W. M. M. M.

No 2

Quarta de Contabilidade
1st. De que se trata a contabilidade
em geral e em particular, e a sua
importancia para a vida social
e economica da sociedade.

2. De que se trata a contabilidade
em particular e a sua importancia
para a vida social e economica da sociedade.

3. De que se trata a contabilidade
em particular e a sua importancia
para a vida social e economica da sociedade.

4. De que se trata a contabilidade
em particular e a sua importancia
para a vida social e economica da sociedade.

Handwritten notes on the left side of the page, consisting of several lines of cursive script. The text is mostly illegible due to the high contrast and bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper.

Handwritten notes on the right side of the page, also in cursive script. Like the left side, the text is largely illegible due to bleed-through and high contrast. There are some faint words and symbols visible, but they do not form a readable message.

1. The D. ...
D. ...
Very respectfully
James B. ...

Spencer ...
...
?

...

I could not find more in Announcements
to see out our Ann.
that she
has been a member
My daughter
early Childhood -
Your board wishes
to make mention
of special point I will
take pleasure in
the
Cory

Woman's Board 1911

M. E. Church South

Dear Sisters

Miss Jennie

M. Atkinson will ap-
ply to your Board
for work in the for-
eign field. I was prin-
cipal of the Rock Mills
High School last year.
Miss Atkinson was
one of my faculty of
teachers. She was
a teacher for
a number of years
and has a full
teaching experience.
I hope you will
not feel it impossible
to have her on the Board.

she possesses
sufficient degrees the
qualifications you
are in applicants
for the foreign work
I know of few young
ladies so well fitted
to succeed in it.

She is an earnest
persevering & in-
dustrious worker in
whatever she under-
takes. She is thorough

Yours fraternally,
J. T. ...

Pastor Oak Knobby Church
North Ala. Conf.
Rock Mills Ala.

Nov. 28 1883,

To The Officers and Managers
of the Woman's Board of Missions,
of the Methodist Episcopal Church,
South. -

Dear Sisters:

I have been
informed by her Guardian that
Miss Jennie M. Atkinson, of
Rock Mills, Ala., will apply to
your Board for appointment to
China as a Missionary. I
was a member of the Faculty of
L'Abbaye Female College, Ga., dur-
ing the year 1878, while Miss
Jennie was a student there. I
know her to be bright, studious,
diligent as a pupil; of a ~~very~~
very good health; of Christian
zeal and consistency; energetic
and earnest of temperament.

I believe her to be a
suitable person (of good judg-
ment) for your work. Miss
Kerric was graduated in 1874,
from LaGrange College, bearing
the first honors of the institu-
tion.

Fraternally yours

Wm. H. G. Prater.

Residing Elder, LaGrange District, }
Mo. Sta. Conf., M. E. Ch. South. }

LaGrange, Ga., }
Nov. 22nd, 1883 }

Washington, D.C., Jan. 25, 1882

Dear Mr. [Name]

I have the honor

to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst.

in relation to the proposed [Name] [Name] [Name]

and in reply to inform you that the same has been

forwarded to the [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and that they will be [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

in due season. I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Yours very truly,

[Name]

Enclosed are [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

and [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]

of Missionary ¹⁹⁴¹ To Be Sent to China

Last Request of Miss Atkinson, Who Died Today

In compliance with her last desire, the ashes of Miss Virginia Atkinson, pioneer missionary to China, will be sent to her burial plot in Soochow, China.

Miss Atkinson, whose one desire was to return to China, to die there and be buried there, died at 7:45 a.m. today at Methodist Hospital. She had been in the hospital 10 days and had been too ill to know that Japan, whose actions she had so deplored in China, had declared war on the United States.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow at Thompson Bros. Funeral Home. Dr. Haynes, pastor of First Methodist Church of Brownsville, Tenn., will officiate, assisted by Dr. Lud Estes of Memphis. Miss Atkinson's ashes will be sent to the Methodist Missionary Council in New York to be held until a safe means of transporting them to China is found.

57 Years of Work

Miss Atkinson had come to America only last February—then 79 years old, with 57 years of missionary work in her beloved China behind her. She was 80 on Nov. 8.

Miss Atkinson was the cousin of Mrs. Barnett Hine, 1880 Vinton, and had visited her since her return. However, she had spent most of her time in Brownsville, Tenn., with Miss Mary Hood, also a returned missionary from China. Only last night, Miss Mary M. Tarrant, who had worked with Miss Atkinson in Soochow, came to Memphis from St. Louis to visit her ill friend. Mrs. T. T. Lew, Chinese friend of Miss Atkinson, who came to the states last June, arrived in Memphis 10 days ago to be with her.

Born in Georgia

Miss Atkinson was born in Hamilton, Ga., and attended the La Grange, Ga., Female College. She went to China in 1881 and left only because of the war evacuation of missionaries other than nurses or doctors.

Miss Atkinson had been so loved



MISS VIRGINIA M. ATKINSON

by the Chinese that they built a home for her and furnished it. She had to flee before the Japanese captured Soochow, but later was permitted to return to her home—to find it stripped of all its furnishings. She had kept open house there for her friends—many of whom were homeless because of the war's destruction.

Miss Atkinson founded the boys' academy in Soochow which was named for her, and now has 1000 students, and the Davidson School for Girls.

Deplored Invasion

Outspoken in her concern about the horrors brought on China by the Japanese, Miss Atkinson wanted everyone to know that China had almost rid itself of opium, but the Japanese brought it back, made it cheap, and "almost compelled the Chinese to take it, but dealt severely with any of their own people who did

"Everything was moving so beautifully till the Jap invasion" Miss Atkinson said on her return. "China had improved politically, socially and religiously. Now the Japs have turned things topsy-turvy, but religion is on the upgrade because the Chinese have almost lost hope in everything else"

When Miss Atkinson went to China, there were no railroads and travel was by slow boats on canals

Miss Atkinson had no immediate relatives.

ATKINSON—At Methodist Hospital, Brownsville, Tenn., Dec. 12, 1941, at 7:45 o'clock.
Miss Virginia M. Atkinson, aged 80 years.
Funeral services, conducted by the Rev. Dr. Floyd Haynes of Brownsville, Tenn., and the Rev. Lud Estes, will be held from Thompson Brothers Mortuary, 257 Adams Avenue, Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Friends are invited. Cremation following.

Miss Virginia M. Atkinson was born November 8, 1861. In October 1924 she went to China from the North Alabama Conference. She served in China until 1927, when she was made emeritus. She was given special permission to return to China in 1928. She remained in China until 1940, when she came home because of the world situation. After an illness of several weeks Miss Atkinson died on December 12, 1941 in Brownsville, Memphis, Tennessee.

Here reproduced life size,
this jade cross commemorates two
dedicated women missionaries.

Crosses
of Love

TO THE CHINESE, jade represents the virtues of charity, modesty, courage, justice, and wisdom. For Wen-ti, a young student at Atkinson Academy, Soochow, these virtues were personified in two Methodist missionary teachers: Miss Virginia Atkinson, the school's founder, and Miss Mary Tarrant.

The Sermon on the Mount was one of the lessons emphasized at the academy. Seeing its truths exemplified every day, Wen-ti became a Christian. But his parents, grieved when he rejected his ancestors' religion, removed him from the classes.

Apprenticed to a jade merchant, Wen-ti became a skilled and sensitive jade artisan. Now living in the U.S., he is recognized as one of the world's foremost craftsmen.

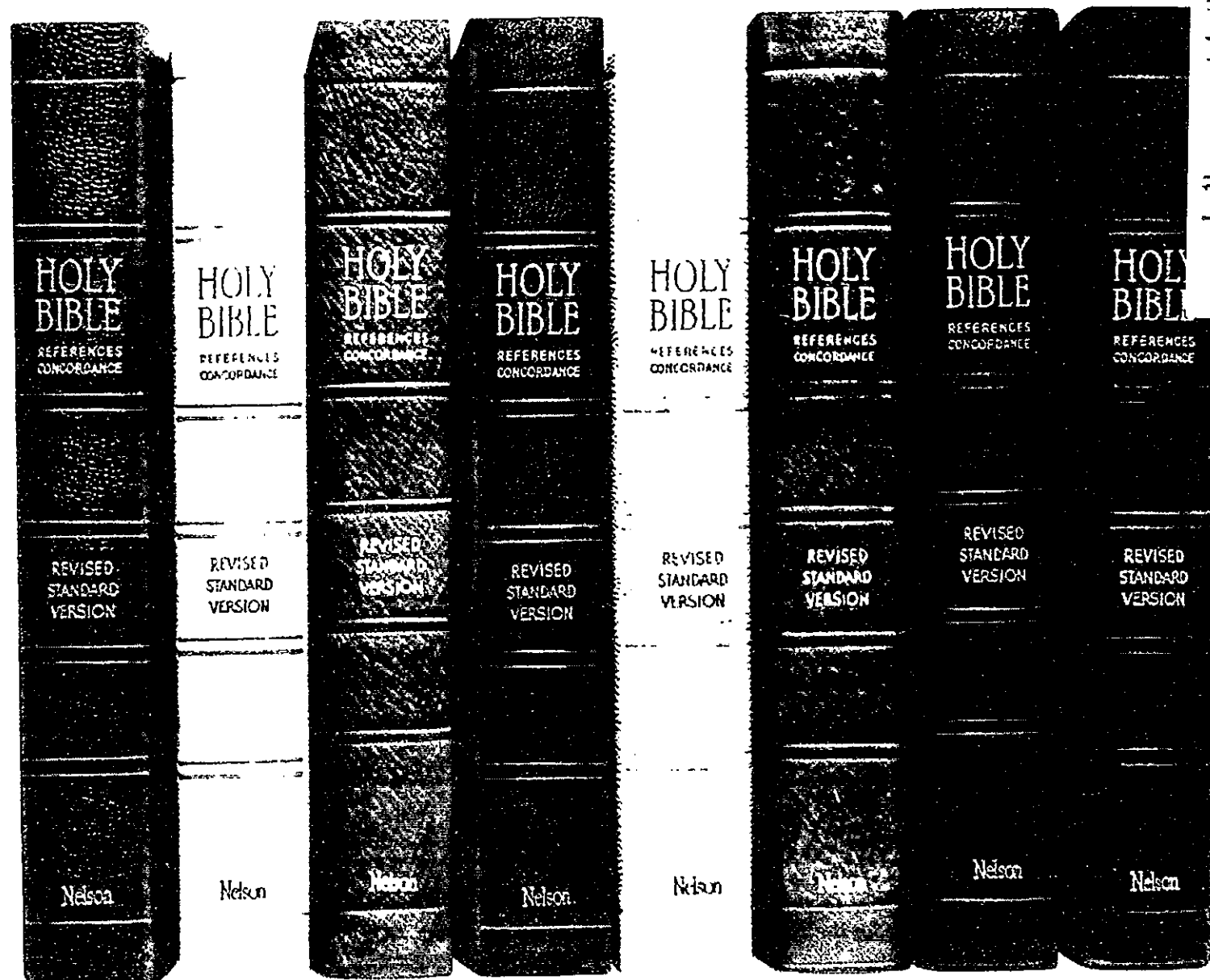
But fame did not cause Wen-ti to forget Miss Atkinson and Miss Tarrant. As an expression of gratitude, he carved two identical jade crosses, each seven inches high. Etched in gold on the upright portion of each were the Chinese ideographs which mean "Not to be ministered unto"; and, on the crossbar, "But to minister."

One cross (illustrated at right) is now at Methodist-related LaGrange College in LaGrange, Ga., Miss Atkinson's alma mater. The other, now displayed at Camp Sumatonga, Ala., was given to the North Alabama Conference WSCS, which supported Miss Atkinson's work. It bears an inscription by Wen-ti:

"This hand-carved cross (like the farthing contributed by the widow, Mark 12:42) is given by a grateful former student...in commemoration of the long and sacrificial services of Miss Virginia M. Atkinson...(and) Miss Mary Tarrant, her successor..."

—JEANETTE MOORE





1 475 RIVINGTONS
 U.S. YORK 27 N.Y.

NOW...YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM EIGHT RSV CONCORDETTA BIBLES

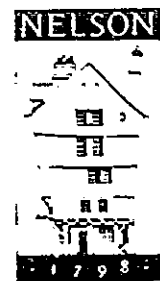
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Ask to see these Bibles at your denominational publishing house or your bookstore.

THOMAS NELSON & SONS

1001 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10018



February 20, 1930.

Mrs. E.F. Moseley.
140, Connecticut Ave.
Spartanburg, S.C.

Dear Mrs. Moseley;

Your request for a sketch of Miss Virginia Atkinson came to our office yesterday afternoon and it is our pleasure to send you the enclosed paragraphs. The account seems very brief, when one remembers the long years of service which Miss Atkinson has given to China. No doubt she has had many thrilling experiences but unfortunately we have no record of them in the office. Missionaries are reluctant about writing the stories of their own work. To them it may seem of small importance but the church would be intensely interested in reading detailed accounts of the work of these faithful messengers of the gospel.

Very sincerely yours,

MC:EP

Miss Virginia Atkinson was the daughter of a faithful Baptist minister in Georgia. Her mother died when she was quite small and she was brought up in the home of a devoted Methodist cousin, Mrs. Randle. Miss Atkinson was free to do as she pleased in the choice of churches and at the age of fourteen, joined her father's church; a few years later she transferred her membership to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

She says she can not remember when she did not love God and His children, far and near, and wish to be a missionary in China. The impressions came to her when she was a child, about seven years old.

She received her education principally at La Grange Female College.

In the spring of 1884 she was accepted as a missionary to China and sailed from San Francisco in October of the same year with Rev. W.B. Romell and family, Miss Laura Maygood, Miss Hamilton, the Misses Phillips and others. Her work has been largely in day schools in Shanghai and Soochow though she taught some in the Anglo-Chinese College and has done evangelistic work with Chinese helpers. In 1896 she opened a small school for boys in Soochow. This school has grown from year to year and has developed into Atkinson Academy, which is doing an important work in the education and evangelization of the boys and young men in Soochow.

Miss Atkinson came home on furlough in 1926. At the Council Meeting at Shreveport, in 1927, she was given the Emeritus relationship. Her heart was in China and her Chinese friends plead for her return to the field. Permission was granted and she sailed in June of 1928. She is now living at 2, Park Row, Soochow.

Appeal by Chinese friends to
other Chinese to join in a
project to support her re-
maining in China

It has been forty-two years since Miss Atkinson came to China. She has been working very energetically and zealously for the development and improvement of the church and schools and for the welfare of the Chinese nation. Boys and girls who received her instruction and consequently are established both in education and character are very many.

We all know that she is a lady of strong personality and character and hence we are very obedient to her and give her our great and wonderful admiration. She loves boys as well as girls and pays special attention to the poor pupils who through her many years of cultivation, nurture and instruction gradually climb up till they have achieved success.

Her appearance is very dignified and serious but her heart is conspicuously tender. Under the form of a lion beats the heart of a lamb. She helps those who are poor, serves those who are sick, advises those who are stupid, comforts those who are sad, encourages those who are timid, and gives substantial aid to those who are in need. People who personally have received her goodness and benevolence know it thoroughly well, therefore it is not necessary for us to say anything more.

Now she is very weak physically partly due to her old age, partly to the hardships borne. According to the Constitution of the Mission Board now it is the time for her to take leave and return to America for rest. But we are very much afraid that she will not be able to return to China again. At our first flash of thought we would ask her to remain in China so that she can freely preach the Gospel and work for God and mankind, fulfilling her original purpose and we wish to bear all the expense in case the Mission Board would not pay her anything. But through our investigation we found that we were very much mistaken and also learned that Miss Atkinson's return to America was not only a kind of response to the Mission Board's order, but also it was her own wish to do so. Since this was the case the die has been cast and the Rubicon has been crossed and we could do nothing to hinder her from going back to America. Then the question of her returning to China was taken into our consideration and we asked her if she could promise us that she would surely come to China again. But both from her attitude and words we learned that she was not sure and finally she told us that her brother and the Mission Board, owing to her old age and poor health, in all probability, would not permit her to return to China. We felt very sorry and could not bear to hear that her returning to China was not certain. Then we tried to make concrete plans to make her surely come again. Through our deliberate and careful consideration wise thoughts came into our minds, all wishing to give a part of our salary to her, supplementing all her wants, so that she may use it when she comes back. After this decision had been made we personally told Miss Atkinson, on the one hand, how all of us love her as little children love their mother and, on the other hand, that we would try to carry out our plans. Face to face we explained to her very clearly; in case that she did not return next year we would write a common petition to the Mission Board and to her brother, asking them to let Miss Atkinson come to China at her earliest convenience freely to preach the Gospel to work for our living God and to be with us for we need her wise and loving help.

According to the fixed rules of the Mission Board if Miss Atkinson comes to China on her own initiative and wish not by Mission Board's order, of course, they will pay her salary as usual, but they will not pay anything for her residence, travelling and other miscellaneous expenses. These must be paid by herself which she can not afford to do.

Although Miss Atkinson has been working in China for forty-two years she did not accumulate much or any money for herself. Because her monthly income is rather limited. But if she had had the idea of saving money she could have saved some money each month and the total amount for more than forty-two years would have been a large sum, the interests of which would be enough to meet all kinds of expenses. But she conceived the idea and purpose of saving mankind not money and of paying special attention to the poor people. Those who love to study but had no means to do so she could not do otherwise but help them and paid their tuition out of her own purse and give substantial aids to those who were in poverty. In this way she used up all the money she earned and left almost nothing for investment.

Since we all love her, wanting her to come to China again, freely to preach the Gospel, it is naturally we should supply all her wants, hoping she could happily work for God and mankind and China, enjoying herself in her old age, fulfilling her long conceived original purpose. All of us have received much benefit and instruction from her. Now it is our turn for each of us to give a little to our common mother and teacher, hoping to return one thousandth part of what we have received from her. We suppose all of you must agree with us, also wishing to give a little to help us to reach the goal we aim at. All of you will understand and realize that what we are trying to do is not merely an obligation but a real privilege.

This is our concrete plan:—

- (1) Building residence fee about \$ 3000.00 or House Rent about \$ 50.00 per month.
- (2) Travelling expences to China about \$ 900.00
- (3) Miscellaneous fee each month \$ 50.00

Now we are trying to get two kinds of presents.

- (1) Special presents for Residence Building and travelling fee for coming to China are about. \$ 3,900.00
- (2) Regular fee for each month \$ 50.00

We hope that we can get more than one hundred dollars each month. Each share costs \$ 10.00. We hope those who are able will take one share or more that one share those who are less able take one half a share \$ 5.00. Gifts less than five dollars will be also gratefully accepted.

We hope all of you will agree with us and subscribe as much as you can and write a fixed sum in your answer so that we may keep a record counting on a steady income and regular fund for Miss Atkinson. Hoping you do this very happily, We are,

Promoters

MR. VAN LIEN-SUNG
,, KYUNG NGOK-SUNG
,, ZUNG JUNG-SHANG
MRS. ZIEN
,, TSAO
,, TSIANG

Admirers

MR. ZIEN YEE TSANG
,, TSU WEI-ZU

A special meeting for promoting the welfare of Miss Atkinson was called together in Shanghai to get our association organized and to have our officers selected. The officers selected are as following:—

President : MR. VAN LIEN-SUNG
Vice-President : MRS. TSIANG
Secretary : MR. ZUNG JUNG-SHANG
Treasurers : MR. ZIEN YEE-TSANG
 MRS. TSIANG

Davidson School

Hoke Garden, Soochow,

China

July 8, 1941

My dear Ho-rou,

Since you had left me suddenly, I wrote you two letters. I don't know whether they could reach to your hand or not for the address might not be correct. One of them was sent in Miss Terrant's letter. I asked her to re-mail you.

I write this letter in the Soochow University campus as I am one of the Bible class teachers in the Youth Fellowship Conference, so I stay here for five days. Yesterday Miss White came here from Changchow and handed me a fifty dollars cheque, yours gift to me. I thank God and thank you for you remember us so much in this hard time. We get your help a great deal. We don't know how to show our thanks. In this year, the Fellowship Conference meets in three places instead of one as we did before. One in Shanghai, one in Nuchow and the other here in Soochow. We have about a hundred delegates from Chang-Chow, Nushih and Soochow. Those of Changshu can't come owing to the fact that the roads stop them. In my Bible class, we have more than twenty young people. The subject is "Be Strong." We have divided it into four topics: Fear, Personality, Temptation, and Power.

Misses Percock and Lion left China in March. Before they left, they had closed the kindergarten and the low grade class suddenly, just two weeks after the beginning of the term. As the children's parents wanted a home nearby and open it again because the outside schools are too overcrowded. Not a bit of thing is allowed to be borrowed from "Davidson." The children had to pay higher tuition and bring their own desks and toys with them from home. Four months passed, we had a good work there. (My wife and I helped to start this or up as we have two daughters there too.) Now the house will be used for other purposes. We can't find a suitable house nearby. The children lose their good school. If you were here, I would concern with you how to run it again. We plan to send Frank to "Davidson Day School" and send Lois to The Welfare Center for time-being. The Davidson Junior and Senior

School will continue on. Miss Li Ping Ts is the leader of it. We have about 150 girls this past term.

Here the living standard is lifting up rapidly everyday. The rice price is one hundred and forty five dollars a picul. (1 tan) Your help just meets our need. We thank you very much. Pastor Yang Vi-Sing is appointed to Hushow as a District Elder and Pastor Tai Nging-Chun has come here. Thank you very much for your help. With best wishes, I am,

Yours truly,

Benjley Wang

No 7 You Lan Hong

Soochow, China

October 30, 1941

My dearest Mother:

Three weeks ago I wrote a letter to you and told you a little about the condition in your school. I hope you have duly received it. I am thinking of you all the time. I can not live without you. I pray God to let you come to China and live with us because we love you and we want you to be happy.

Your me-me is not so well these days. Pastor Ta says may be he is old so he gets sick, but I do not know what is the matter with him. He eats a little. Tsang-me says that she does not know either. I hope he will soon get well. I sometimes go to your garden and see your flowers they are so beautiful as beautiful as you were here. Sung-ming keeps them well. Pastor Ta tells Sung-ming to decorate the church on Sundays with your flowers and he also picks some of your flowers for himself as Soo-tsung told me. So you see you are still helping us here to make the church pretty. And every Sunday as you were here. But I feel so unease especially on Sundays and I could not have my dearest mother to love me and near me and talk to me and read news to me as before. Oh! dearest mother when can I meet you again!

Mr. Henry came to Soochow two weeks ago and he told us a little about you. I hope Dr. Marret's promise will be proved. I can not rest my heart if you do not come back to us.

One week ago we had a meeting of revival, as Pastor Ta had already told you in his letter. The school and my home folks are well here. I hope you take care of yourself and be happy and strong, till we meet again.

May God bless you. We all the teachers pray for you; also we pray for you on Saturdays in our prayer meetings. Dearest mother I remember your eightieth birthday on 8th of Nov. I intended to send you a little remembrance but the post office will not mail the knitting things so there is no way to send it to you--But I will celebrate your birthday here and eat "zang-zeu mien" on the 8th of Nov. Dearest mother your little girl is waiting for you to come back and keep your things nicely and will not let some body to take your things away which are in your house. I do not know how to write but I know that you understand me. Now I stop here with my heartfelt of love to you. Ng-di gives her best love to her grandmother, I am

Your own child, Elizabeth Vane

October 28, 1940

Dear Miss Atkinson,

I must write you a letter before the end of this month, because the post office wants to raise the fees from .50 to a dollars. We all trust that you are well and happy with Miss Hood. Some how, we all believe that you will be here with your own children not very long.

Everything is as usual, except the prices of things jumping up like running a race. Rice is up to \$200.00 per sack and 3 eggs for a dollars, etc. Everybody is suffering for the lack of nourishment.

This year, I'm teaching two classes of Home Economics and two classes of cooking. These take most of my time. Besides, I have to go home at noon time for tiffin. There are two reasons for doing this. If I board here, I've to pay \$55.00 per month and I get only \$120.00, which will be help of my income. Another is, that is the only time I can be with my husband. At the same time, I can eat what's they have time and I don't have to pay extra money for it.

All my aunts are well except the second one. I don't think she can live long. She has suffered enough being in bed for seven solid years. We were afraid she would gone last week, but now she's alright.

My best love to you,

Lien Kao

Nov. 8, 1941

Dear Hau Boo:-

Remembering that to-day is your eightieth birthday, I write these few lines to send you my heartiest greetings and best wishes for a happy birthday. We all miss you so much, and how I long to see you back again! Then we can have a nice and happy time to-gether. We can play some games during my holidays. Did you get my letter which I sent you about a month ago? Hoping to get some news from you if you have time. Miss Yang (wild olive) sends her love to you!

Good-bye

Your student,

Sieu-kyoen

Shanghai-China

Nov. and for the 3th

Dearest Kyung Aliyi,

These pictures, this note and my love all greet you and bring my thoughts and love and prayers. How I'd love to have a real visit, tell you of all our work, of our peaceful life in Soochow, of one decision to spend a few days in Shanghai just at this time while the heads of the matrons are in conf. but our hopes to return to Soochow soon. How fast my tongue would wag, I'd hardly give you a chance to speak at all.

This goes in this already one-full-letter- I'll be writing again and at more length soon.

Yours with the warmest love.

Your

Nidi

M.M.T. (Miss Min Troy)

Oct. 22, 1940

My dearest Mother:

How are you? I am thinking of you all the time. Here is a photo which was taken recently. The middle one is John's mother, who is seventy four years old. This summer she came to stay four or five days with us from ____ (Chinese word)

In March, I wrote you a letter. Did you get it? Oh! how I expect to receive from you and to hear from my mother. Thank God, we are all well here. Through there are many troubles around us, yet we are still safe in Ningpoo.

The children are all entering school now. Sorry the elder boy William cannot enter the deaf-mut school to study about more than four years. At first, because the war. Now, in-order of the high living. If we let him to study in Shanghai then the rest of the family can hardly go on. He is studying in the fifth grade ordinary primary school here. The second boy Charles is studying in the second year middle school. The girl Virginia is in the fifth grade, primary. The little boy Bando is in the first year.

I am very busy, because I have no servant to help me, so I should do everything. You know, everything here so expensive, especially in these two years.

John is still working in the hospital. He is very busy, too. Hope can receive from you soon. John and children all give their best love to you. Good bye!

Your loving daughter,

Kyung He

My dear Hau Boo:-

Today is your happy birthday. I should like to say, "A happy birthday to you!" Let His peace be brought to all mankind and wars cease forever to the end of the earth. I am longing for your coming. May God bless you and lead you. We are all right. The standard of living grows higher and higher. I do hope the happy and peaceful day will come soon.

Yours sincerely,

Amelia Sun

Miss Suey Uhole Tsang

July 8, 1941

My dear Hau-Boo:

I was so glad to receive your letter in the first week of April. I had read it for several times. We know you are thinking of all your Chinese friends. We always pray for you and also think about you here in Soochow.

In May, I attended the annual conference of missionary society in Shanghai. Afterwards, here in Soochow there was the annual conference of the Methodist Church. (Last China part) All the church works are still keeping on.

Outside you may find a memorial card of our only brother, Ung-Tuh. I knew somebody had told you about this accident of our family. We believe on God. Our Savior is live. All the promises for those who belong to the Lord are so precious and sure. We are still looking unto Jesus Christ the author and perfecter of our faith, so His peace, hope and strength keep us in Lord.

We may find many things from Ung-Tuko diary and letters about his own testimony and works. We believe that our Lord love him more, so He took him away from this world, and Ung. Tuh has been with our Lord forever. We praise the Lord for His glorious and worthy Salvation! Miss Zung Chi-Van came to Soochow last month, she work with Miss Sung Nogh-Tsung in St. John Church. Miss Kau-Jung is well. They all ----- (Chinese words)

This is also the witness of our parents, when their Isaac has been given to God. We are more feel the days of this world are short. We are just strangers and pilgrims on the earth. We will see the Lord, face by face, and all of our dearers soon. "And the God of peace himself sanctify us wholly; and may our spirit and soul and body be preserved entire, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He that calleth us, who will also do it."

Mrs. Li (Tau Ling-He) and her children are all well, she is still having some works in the schools of the church, she wants me to give her love to you.

I am glad to spend my summer vacation in west-Soochow which has been our home since last week of May. We all think of you more when we see your house and garden. My two sisters will come too, they are well, and still teach in Shanghai. Lord bless you!

Lovingly yours,

Tai Y-T.

West-Soochow

July 8, 1941

Dear Miss Atkinson:

Since you left China, we believe God has blessed you all the time. Recently I heard from Mrs. Van and Miss White that you are stronger than before. We hope you will come back to China in the near future. In the annual conference of our Church this year, I have been appointed to be the pastor of West-Soochow. I went to Hukhow when all the meetings were over on May 13th to settle the matters there, and moved to Soochow on May 22th. Pastor Yang left Soochow by the same boat right after, for he'll take charge of Hukhow District.

When we have been here and see all the precious works you have done, these are foundations. Though you are not here now, yet we believe you are still working with us, especially by the spiritual way. I think you would like to know the graduates of Atkinson Academy this summer, 41 from middle school, 55 from primary. There were 9 girls from Junior middle class in Davidson School. There was a special preaching for young people in the church on June 22th. On June 28th there was commencement service in school and they also had a special program in honor of school-builders, Miss V. M. Atkinson and Miss M. J. Tarrant.

Out of our thoughts, our sin, Ung-Tuh died on March 9th in Shanghai, just four days after the operation. This is really so sad for us, yet the Lord comforts us. He has been a good witness of Jesus Christ, telling the joyful news of the gospel to the patients in the same room earnestly, and also got beautiful experiences by praying God, reading the Bible and another book named "Streams in the Deserts". We believe that his journey was over, his work was done. We are looking on that side and live for Jesus Christ only till the days on the earth were finished. We'll meet together, and will be with our Lord forever.

There are a number of young people, Ung-Tuh's schoolmates and friends, love the Lord because of his witness. May there'll be volunteers for evangelistic work among them.

Thank you for your love and sympathy with us. We received fifty dollars from Miss Whites for us recently. Mrs. Tai is comforted by Lord's own promises too.

Now I want to talk to you about the people in Soochow. There are so many people in trouble because the living is still going up. One ta of rice is sold for 1.48 dollars today. We'll give gratitude, to God, He loves the people. There are still so many

people in trouble, because the living is still going up. There are still so many wheats from America, for us. There are ten churches in Soochow getting wheats and doing release work among people. West-Soochow is one of them. Besides, there are welfare schools. Mokagarden has seventy children will be continued too.

Here in summer there are many children playing along the streets. We plan to have Daily-Vacation-Bible-School. There will be eighty children, and the school will be opened on this Saturday, there are about ten students from Atkinson Academy taking charge of this work for one month. We hope and pray for good results.

Sung-Ming, your cook's family are well, all the children except the older boy, Tuh-Tsung, they all had passed in school. He also has some works in church. They always miss you.

Vee-family are still on Mokanshan. They are getting along well, except Peter is resting on bed, as the doctor has told him, hoping he will getting strong after six months. The younger sister of Vee family is doing children's work in a hut-church in a country near Mokanshan. She is really doing lovely work among fifty children, and also helping evangelistic works there.

Here are so many good opportunities to work among the people in trouble bodily and spiritually. We hope you may come back and work with us as possible.

Lord bless you!

Sincerely yours,

M. C. Tai

November 1, 1941

My dear dear Pau Boo,

Just a few words to let you know that I am thinking of you on this day, your Happy Birthday. How I wish you were here so that we could have another party of your old friends and students who love you so much. I cannot send you any gift for this happy occasion, but I do send you loads of love through this little note. Maybe you love to hear from your loved ones more than anything else. By this time you may have received my last letter. Since I had just written you, there is not much news to tell you this time. My mother, my sister Sarah and her baby boy and my brother and his bride have gone to Peking. My mother is going to visit my sisters there for some time. Sarah went to get some rest as she has not been very well this fall. We miss them so much here in Shanghai and Home is so lonely without mother. However, I must not be selfish and I must let the other members of the family enjoy dear mother for a while.

Wishing you good health and hoping that we will be able to celebrate your next Happy Birthday here in this land you love, I am

Your own little girl,

Chui-li

114 S. Leung, Soochow

November 13, 1941

Dear Pau Boo:

Happy Birthday to you. My dear old you are celebrating birthday. Your life is a blessing to every one who know you. Thank you for your kind letters. I thank God for your loving service you have given to our church. I thank you for your love and help. We thank you for your love through our never forget them. Thank you very much for the gift you gave to the poor ones. I have given some to (Jies) with you, Yang we on his wife. They want me to thank you very much. I have use some to help a poor boy for the tuition. More than half is left in my hand now. I think we can use it to help the poor gradually.

This week we have District Conference in Soochow, Song, Hong Church. Bishop Ward and Dr. Hank come on the second day. We have a very good meeting with Bishop Ward / ster-

day afternoon. All of our Changslu people ask me to give their love to you. They missed you so much. Miss Faung is in Soochow now because she has something wrong in her right leg. She can not walk. Doctors say that she lacks vitam B. She may be cured about three months. We are glad that we have gotten Miss Hsu Jung's sister Kau Zing Yi to work in Changshu, too. To-morrow I am going back to Changshu. Please pray for the work and the people in Changslu you love. With love.

Your loving girl,

Loh Wung-ing

Tien Sz Tsauung, Soochow

Nov. 15, 1941

My very dear Han Boos:-

Have you been received my letters of May, July, and September? I am wonder why you not write me for such a long time. I thought of you so much on your birthday, the November 8th

Today I am coming to see Miss White, and she letting me to have a chance to enclosing you a little note and telling you about me.

I am talking with her something about our work at Powell Center. We will have a Thanks Giving Day with the permits of our friends so our girls there will have a party, and will give them each a bowl of boiled pumpkin, with "green-tea" in it at that afternoon, which I used the relief fund of our money that I have. I think you will be glad to know it too. The next I will give you something to eat and see you in the future.

They must be so happy to have something good to eat and these kind of thing.

Thank you so much for all your kind letters and for the little things, I am,

Your loving friend,

L. F. Faung

(Treasurer of the East Soochow Women's Home at Powell Center, and head of the little school there.)

House 17, Lane 84

Rue Messea, Shanghai

Oct. 30, 1941

My dear Mother:-

I have not been written to you for a long time, but I hope you are enjoying a sound health. When I wrote you the last letter, it was in the summer vacation time and I was just in Soochow to spend my holidays. I enclosed that letter in Mrs. Vane's. I am sure you have got it now because it has already been two months.

Dear mother, not a day we have forgotten you since you are not in China. Your dignified face or majestic appearance is always before our eyes. When ever we see the magnificent buildings of the church and two schools and various holy works in west Soochow, we remind how great you are because all these things are the effect of your labor. Therefore your merit in west Soochow can never be rotten. Truly I say that I and Mrs. Vane are not yet satisfied only to see these affairs you as accomplished. We want you still be in China and live among us. Many people say that the old men or women are no use but we both feel the old lady like you is much useful. Although you don't do much heavy work but your merciful heart and beautiful character can influence a community for good. Such wonderful power is much stronger than any famous speech. These praising words are not a flatter. It is really a fact. Not only I and Mrs. Vane feel in that way and I believe the other people who know you have the same idea.

Mrs. Vane is extremely busy in Soochow. Except the administration of both primary and middle schools, she is doing almost whole day long teaching work. Every day she goes to school very early in the morning and comes back home late in the evening. She is also doing some cooking and cleaning at home. She can never go to bed (sleep) until the clock strikes eleven or twelve in the midnight. So on I am afraid that her body will be unable to bear but she says, "It is never mine that God will help me".

The informal school is going on very well this term. The students are much better than those who have made trouble and gone to Lan Chi (Mr. Lo's) school. There are almost three hundred pupils in the middle school and five hundred in the primary. It seems that there is no difficulty in finance this term. Mrs. Vane has promoted every teacher's salary.

It is still very hard for the teacher's living because the price of everything goes up twenty or thirty times high. The rice comes up nearly two hundred dollars a picul. The meat, fish, and vegetables are not exception. One liang (ounce) of Chinese gold is worth two thousand dollars. Is it not a strange phenomenon? How can a common people like teachers live on!

There is about one million of people living in Soochow now. Most of them are not natives. Some came from Huckow and some from countries near by. Every house is occupied. In Soochow some thing must be paid with Japanese money. Now four dollars fifty or seventy change one yen.

The formal school of Atkinson Academy is still carried on in Shanghai. We have fifteen schools joining together. There are more than nine hundred students in this union school. But we have very few in our own department. Several other schools are just in the same condition as we are.

I and I-Tse, the fourth girl, are still living at the same place in Shanghai. I-Tse will be graduated next summer, if she can pass all her examinations. San-Pi is living with Mr. Doo in the Moore Memorial Church House where some time ago Mr. Tung Jung-chang had his family there.

Mrs. Tsien got a very dangerous boil in her neck this summer. She had not been operated but she was wonderfully cured by a Chinese doctor called San Lok Chen. Most of the people who has such sore will die. Mrs. Tsien was in pain more than one month. Now she is perfectly well.

We hope that you will come back to us soon. We remember you in our prayer. Mrs. Vane and the girls give their love to you.

Yours lovingly,

Charles S. Vane

("Hau B oo" means grandmother)

October 27, 1941

My dear dear Hau Soo,

Before the foreign mail jump from fifty cents to one dollar on Nov. 1st, let me write you a real letter. I am afraid that I won't be able to do much personal correspondence after the price of mail have gone up so terribly. Now and then I must write a open letter to my friends in the States and I don't know how much a open letter will cost then. I like to write my friends and I think most of them like to hear from me. Time and money are two things I have to take into consideration. I can let my other things go for a while, but I must write you, my dear dear Hau Soo. I do miss you and think of you often. Many a time I wish you were here so that I can come to you for encouragement and inspiration. Sometimes when I get very tired over my work I wish you were here so that I can come to your little love nest for a change. Yes, we do miss you and wish you could be with us all the time. However, with the world situation as it is, it is better for you to be where you are. You are doing so much for our cause in your own land and I am sure your very presence will interest many in the cause of the missionary enterprise in this land. Maybe in the long run you can do more for your beloved China this way than you could if you are to be shut up in this "island settlement" of Shanghai. We can only pray and hope that this present trouble will soon be over so that you can come back to us and stay with us all the rest of your life.

My family are all right altho mother has not been very well this last summer and fall. She has recently developed some trouble and she has to be very careful about the things she eat. She is, however, still active with the church's work. She will go out for meeting unless she is too sick to get out. We are now living in with Foo Sang's family recently. We got a room just next door to his place. We have a door opened between their place and ours and we use their entrance. We are boarding with them and Louise is keeping house. Louise's parents and brother, living in the same lane, are also eating with us. To have two charcoal burners of the two families will mean a hundred dollars to say nothing about other expenses. Thus we all economize in some way, oth'wise it is simply hard to live under such conditions. Louise is very busy trying to plan meals for such a crowd but she

is very efficient at it. With mother not so well, it is good that we can relieve her some of the family duties. Dong Chung, my third younger brother, got married two weeks ago. He and his bride are also staying with us for the present. They will soon leave for Tientsin where he works. They are waiting for a Keilan boat to take them up there. I heard from Joseph regularly. He is an interne in one of the government hospitals. We all hope some day he is going to be a fine doctor. One thing makes us all happy is that he is quite religious and he has an ambition to serve.

This must be a season for weddings as we have so many of them at church recently. Some times we have four or five weddings in a week. The church is decorated so beautifully with flowers and candles. They must be wonderful to those who first see these pretty lovely weddings, we who work here are so accustomed in seeing them that they don't mean so much to us any more.

I have been kept pretty busy this term with school work. As we have only Mary Ellen Hawk as our missionary teacher in the afternoon school, I have to do some of the teaching myself. I teach three English classes and they do keep me pretty busy with papers and preparations. Last week we had our first tests, and I am so glad that most of my papers are done.

The weather turned suddenly very cold yesterday. Day before yesterday it was so hot and the temperature dropped twenty degrees at least. It is quite cold today and we are putting on our winter clothes. A number of poor beggars must have frozen to death last night. Coal is over seven hundred a ton, so very few people can afford to have heat this winter. We are made or less accustomed here not to have any heat. The offices on this side of the building face south so on good sunshine days we have a lovely time but on rainy days we do feel damp and cold. I don't see so much as spring round you, but just me to feel satisfied and thankful for what we can have.

God is His good. He is like a very large love. I went to the hospital at Saturday afternoon to see a T. . . patient who is one of our this year's graduates. So many young people are suffering this disease mostly due to under nourishment and mental strain. This Saturday the Nursing School will have its twentieth anniversary. As I am a member of the Board, I got an invitation too. I don't know whether I'll get time to at-

land it or not. It is so far from here and not very convenient to get there. I have only Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoon free and most of the time there will be some special engagement on those afternoons. Life here is really busy but it is also quite interesting. I like to keep busy because I would not know what to do if I have too much free time.

Hoping you are well and loving you dearly, I am

Your own little girl,

Tsai-li Yui

Shanghai, June 19, 1941

Dear Grandma,

The letters you wrote to my brother and Miss Phen arrived here about two weeks ago. When they read their letters to us, we are all so glad to know that you are always well and to know that you are glad as everybody has been good to you. I must be especially grateful for your remembering me all the time, as for the past few months I was busy with my thesis and examination that I was unable to write to you, and I believe you must know that I can never forget you.

I must thank God for sending you to stay with us even for as such a short period, and there was enough for me to learn. I learned from you what does life meant, and I began to realize the meaning of true love and how to lead a useful life. It was also from you that I came to understand more what is God's love.

From the newspapers and magazines we know that your country is really helping us, and is increasing your help day by day. This really means something more besides the materials or loans that your government promises. But it gives us courage to endure every sort of injustice and cruelty, because it makes us to believe that what we suffer is for the right, and also enables us to carry on as far as we know that at the other hemisphere of the earth there are many who are willing to help and are always praying for us. We know that you and your love for China are doing a great deal to make your people understand us more and to know more about the actual conditions in China. We know you have gone through many trials to speak for us, and we thank you with all our hearts, but at the same time since the summer is high, we hope that you shall have some rest, and not to work too hard, so that when autumn comes you can go on with more vigor and still keep your health in good condition. For use while you are thinking about us, we are also thinking about you.

I think you must be glad to know that I have finished my college work this summer, and how I wish that you were here to see my commencement. It was held on June 5th, the sixth Christian Universities have an associated commencement at the Grand Theatre. There were about six hundred graduates and thousand guests. The next day our class held

a reception to the faculty, so that when Miss White came to our house and brought me that beautiful gifts you and Miss White gave me I was not at home. I must thank you for that beautiful gloves you send me, they fit just well to my hands and that piece of lovely soap is also so blessing, that make we have not the heart to use them, and only to look at them all the time. I am so glad that you remember me, and I thank you for the precious gifts you gave me.

I am thinking about to come to United States to continue my study in Sociology, but as the exchange rate is so high these days and I think it is not wise to use so much of my mother's money. So the other day my mother had talked about it with Miss White, she promised to write to you, to see if it is possible for me to apply to a scholarship. As we know so little about the actual conditions in United States these days, I need your advice. So, if it is convenient will you please tell me the process in applying scholarship and can you recommend me some college?

I wish that this letter might catch the President Coolidge, so I had to close this letter. Wish to hear from you soon, and all my family wish to send their love to you!

Affectionately yours,

My Son,

Margaret Williamson "oswell"
550 Route de Fikawei
Shanghai, China
Sept. 6, 1941

Dearest Mr. W. L. Atkinson,

Receiving your letter dated July 3rd a few days ago, I am very glad after reading it. I know you are comfortable and healthy in U.S.A. I also know perfectly well though your body is in U.S.A. your heart is always with your many Chinese old friends. God bless you by giving you numerous beloved offspring in China. I am sure that your hard labor worth the time and pains and is never forgettable.

I pray often that a new China will appear in the near future and the whole people

will kneel down before God and are faithful to God. All darkness, wickedness and deeds of the devils will come to an end. China will become a bright nation in the world. Now the thickest darkness has reached, the light of the dawn will soon come.

I like to talk with you about my family because you have been an old Chinese grand mother and especially are in my favor and pity me. I work for my whole life for my children and for my church unlike others enriching their wealth on earth. Up to the present I still remember what you told me "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his soul?" God blessed me by giving me five sons and four daughters. Unfortunately owing to the unpeaceable condition in China, my children had to leave me to work in South-western China. My eldest son is in Chong-ching, second son in Kai-Yong, eldest daughter in Haikou, and sixth son in Kun-ming. Those remaining at home are my fifth son working in Sheng-shai Custom House, seventh son studying in St. John's University and being graduated next summer, eighth daughter teaching piano in McSwaine, ninth daughter studying in Laura Haygood Normal School and being also graduated next summer, the last daughter studying in junior middle school. God knows I become older and older and will become very lonely. Please pray for my children all to be faithful to God and to devote their life to God.

Because of the transference of the pastors, now pastor has to live in the brick of Moore Memorial Church at Mac de Pare Pros and we have to remove from there and to find a new house. At present the housing problem here is the most difficult problem in China, especially in Chong-ching, for there are about 5,000,000 population in Chong-ching. I am greatly depressed for I am compelled to remove from the house within a very short time. God does not forsake me. I found one drawing-room and one special room for our bedroom. In the former peaceful day, the rent is not more than ten or fifteen dollars, but now I must spend one hundred dollars per month for these two rooms. The price of everything rises from ten times to twenty times. I believe like fowls of the air, our heavenly Father feedeth them, but the children of God are far better than they.

From the time of your leaving China, some of our old friends had left the world. Rev. L. Yush-ang, Mr. Cha Shih-Chieh, Mr. Li Chung-Tsun. I am deeply sorry about the

future of our church, the old either retired or died, the young are not faithful enough to their mission and mostly they are worldly-minded. So I fear that the church is gradually secularize.

I am glad to know that you are living with Miss Hood. Though her friends are not your friends yet you can both still use Chinese language to talk with each other. I don't know whether she is well or not. Please tell her we remember her often. Hope you and Miss Hood can return China and live in your own home. Then I can readily visit you more often. Mrs. Fung and my children send you love and also want to be remembered to Miss Hood. May God bless you at any times. Hope you return as soon as you can.

Yours sincerely,

James H. Fung

House No. 257 Tokanshan
Nov 3, 1941

My dear Mother:

Since Mrs. Tsing told me that you have left China the land which you love so much and you worked a great many things in your life! Oh! It is true! I do miss you more than my tongue can tell and tears were shed in the dark. No body understands me or cares me as you do 'other in the world', but I thank that my Heavenly Father still always cares me and giveth me comfort. I am sorry, Mother, for I could not see you when you were going off, however it was a fortune that I had a chance to see you at your 79 birthday last year at Shanghai. earnestly I am praying for you every day and ask Him to give you more strength and to keep you well and if it is God's will send you back to us to China again! Mother, about two weeks ago, that Mrs. Tsing send me the annual reports of 1940 which you translated for me and for Miss Tsung Pau. Thank you very much Mother. A few days later also Mr. Tsiang wrote me and told now that you are staying with Miss Mary A. Hood and gave me the address. I am very grateful to her. I know Miss Hood well since

Nyi Kwe was born in Soochow hospital. I suppose that Mrs. Wood knows me too. Please remember me to her mother. I ought to write to you earlier than now. But sorry I was not permitted to do so, as I am helping to teach in the women's short term school of unbelievers for two months. They have no books to give me, so I have to borrow books and prepare the lessons. You see mother, there is a month more but to-day I must begin to write you mother and tell you something. Missionary society's conference would be held on 2 of May in Shanghai, and the annual Church Conference will be held in Soochow from 7-12 of May. Miss Zau Tsung, Lau and I though both were selected to be the delegates this year, but we both decide not to be present, because the way is more inconvenient and danger than ever except Pastor Ho Pau Tsung will go. He has gone already.

We have moved to house No. 257 since April. The house is belong to Pastor L. C. Hylbert of Baptize Church. Li's Kou's mother and nephew stay with us too. Miss Kou's mother is much better than before. About Vi family all are well on Hokanshan except Mr. Peter Vi is very weak. It is said he is in the second time of P. W. by themselves. It would be very sad if it three. Mr. Ma's wife's husband went to Chung'oo hospital alone and Miss Vi Wang Ji helps us to teach a Bible class or to lead the pray meetings as before. Hokanshan is still in peace as usual. We thank God that He protected us many a time out of dangerous things I wrote you a letter at the time about your leaving China. I suppose the letter was lost already. I think I told you something about Hokanshan's accident. Dr. Hawk wrote to me and told the works about there, is very nice. Mrs. and Miss Hawk sent there too, and Mr. Shaw came through and brought them.

I am going to tell you my two people. Nyi Kwe moved to Kwang'ing and now he there and is much poorer than before he lives together with Kwei Tsu's eldest son. The place is not quite bombing very worse as the Tsu told me so. The people's living are very high. Mr. He is moving to Ngoo Tsu of Kwang'ei province lately, but does not told me the certain address yet. His train time for six months ago fall, so they appointed him there. His salary is little, only enough to support his living. Sixty in all. Therefore Nyi Kwe is quite willing to help him I am glad Lau Kwe is satisfied

with everything and he does not care for high salary either. Kwe Tsu has sicked for a long time. I am happy that she is recovered. Tsing Poo Jing, my sister's girl is well and studies in school at Shanghai. Miss Wade's. About my American friend who supports my salary, she sent me ten dollars at year for present by Miss Wade when she was in America. I wonder if there is any chance for you to tell her about my things. Every time I am sure that she would be happy to hear from you when you know well. Last December I wrote her a letter. I hope it could reach her in time. Also I ask Mr. Frank to send her a pair of cushions at last November. Her sister was married before long, but I do not remember her name. Miss Wade gave me her picture and her baby's, but they were lost in Huchow. Please take great care of yourself rather. I hope you are always having good health. Suppose Mr. Tsu had sent you her child's name already. I gave Mr. Yung Ji your address, when I have, I hope that she will advise you. I am your lovingly,

Mr. Tsu Tsu Tsu

492 Yu Yuen Road
Shanghai, China
Oct. 20, 1941

Dear Hau Foo,

Mercy be unto you and peace and love be multiplied.

It has been ten months since you left here. I am sure you miss your friends and grand children in China, and so do we. I am so glad to hear that God gave you wonderful opportunities to speak for Him at home. Surely you are the palm tree of Lebanon that bring forth fruits in old age. Thanks be to the Lord.

Father passed away and entered into the Celestial City in April. Sister Ming Tsung told me that you wrote us a letter the time when I was resting at Kiangnan Bible Seminary. This is of course a great loss of our home, but God comforted us with His perfect peace. Father's last several days on earth was certainly a wonderful testimony which glorified God.

Mother is very lonely. But praise the Lord, she is filled with the joy of Jesus Christ. Now we are as Christians and her children of the Pilgrims' Progress who go after her husband and their father, Christians to the Holy city.

I am feeling much better. These few month's rest did mean a great deal to me. I am now living with Miss Soong and working among the young people and little children. I find it is very interesting to visit these people in schools and at homes. But very sorry to see that some young mothers (every pastor's daughters) don't go to church, and also put God thoroughly aside. They are economically prosperous, but they are spiritually pitiful. If God permits, I hope to gather together these children of the Christian families to a meeting at Christmas. Hope the religious work among the children, will pass on to help their parents. Please remember this little piece of work in your prayers. And if you have any materials along that line, please get something for us. I want to learn for really I know nothing.

Miss Soong says that she had written to you three letters. Have you received them? And how about the hair nets she enclosed in with the last letter. Is it safe to mail it like that?

If its not too tired for you, please drop us some words, and share to us your abundant spiritual experiences. The grace of Lord Jesus be with you.

Lovingly yours--Ming Yuen
(Li Ming-Tsung's sister)

Oct. 29, 1941

Dear Hau Boo,

I received your letter in Aug. I was so pleased to know that you are well. I should write you earlier if I was not so busy. I was so glad that you wanted to know something going on at Moore, but I am unable to tell you all in details since my English is so limited.

Last Summer, we had S.S. Training classes for all the workers at Moore. In the adult department, there were so many of us attending. Dr. Hank was the leader in my class. The Subject of which was Religious Education. It was such an interesting topic and we got so much from it. We also had an Evangelistic meeting for 8 evenings. There were so many people come and so many of them put their name in. It was too bad that rained so many of the evenings which we had the meetings. Otherwise we could be at the open doors. From that time on, we have a meeting once a week for those who put their names in.

Since last Summer, the adult department began to have a choir. This is of course, a new thing to us, but you should hear them sing. We had a concert by the choirs of all departments for the benefit of the Social Centre at Rute Pere Proc.

The adult choir had two numbers. You should see old Miss Cheng marching to the platform in choir uniform with white hair.

In Spring, we had fifty four men and women baptized. In Sept. we had over thirty Intermediate boys and girls baptized. Now, we are preparing to have another such case about Xmas time.

As usual, we have two Women's Missionary Society, but now, we have another two new for children. Therefore, we now have four W. S. instead of two. The members of the W. S. are helping them in studying Bible and teaching the Chinese characters. There is one woman, who did not know a word before she came, now for a period of the year she is able to study Bible. There is another woman, who believed and heard the Gospel for two years. Now, she led over ten people to know Christ.

This year W. M. S. Annual Conference was held at Moore. It was a very successful one. As the memorial fund we got more than any of the other years. From our own W. M. S. we had collected \$750.00. we consider it a big amount.

My mother is still very well. She can go out as usual. She sends you her best

best regards.

Miss Green is still here in China. She is going to go to Soochow and will be with Miss Troy and Miss White in Laura Haygood. I spent my summer vacation at Soochow with Miss Ming-tsu. I went to see your home there. Sung-fing is still there. His wife helps Mrs. Tai while he is the Church keeper.

We all trust that you surely will come back your own home and your own children before very long.

May God blessing you and bring you back.

Lovingly yours

Tsu yi-tsoo

54 Pien Lian Hong
Soochow, Ku, China
July 22, 1941

Dear Miss Atkinson:

How are you getting along? Thinking you must be well and happy at home. We all miss you and remember you in our prayer. Hope the war will be soon over and you(will) can come back to help us.

I returned to Soochow on July second for summer vacation. An account of easily getting tired I went to see doctor and took an X ray on my lung. The doctor told me that the upper part of my lung is not clear and I should just take half day's work. But according to my own opinion, I think that it would be better for me to have a real rest just for a few month and then work. I have talked about it with Miss White and we'll decide it later.

Miss White know my need and gave me fifty dollars out of your money. I bought some pounds of Glycerine and cod liver oil with it. Thank you ever so much, for you always help me. I hope that before long I will be perfectly well and strong that I may do my regular work again. I am very much ashamed of myself to have such a weak body that I spent much time resting and delayed my work. Really I am eager to get a healthy body, so that I may serve my Lord faithfully, as the day of His coming is drawing nearer and nearer day by day. Good bye.

Sincerely yours,
Saung Pan Ling

April 16, 1942

Miss Mary M. Tarrant
251 Park
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Miss Tarrant:

I have been wondering, for a week or so, whether or not you had ever heard from Miss McConnell regarding the manuscript you gave me to hand her last December. Some days ago I asked her something about it but she was rather indefinite. It is true that both of us have had such crowded schedules recently that we have not been able to keep up with all the things for which we are responsible.

Each time I heard from you after you were here I took into Miss McConnell's office your suggestions for additional revision, etc. (She should have together everything you handed us and sent us.)

Soon after you were here I talked to her several times about having printed the material you left and she was interested but so far as I know nothing was ever done about it.

As you know Miss McConnell is the editor who succeeded Miss Hoskin and that I am only the assistant editor, which means that I can do nothing on my own initiative without her consent and approval. Therefore, the final responsibility for anything to be done had to be left with her, and consequently the whole matter dropped out of my mind. About two weeks ago I rather suddenly became conscious that I had heard nothing more about your materials since December or January. I went in to ask Miss McConnell about the material and she said that she thought it would not have a wide enough sale for the Board to have it printed. I said to her that I thought that if it was going to be printed, the sooner it could be done the better, particularly in view of Miss Atkinson's death last December.

When I left Miss McConnell's office, I feared that the manuscript would remain on the shelf and perhaps she would not do anything about it one way or the other until she heard from you making some inquiry or another.

Now I am writing to you to say that I do not think that I can do anything further about this manuscript. I have discussed the matter of its being printed and pressed the matter and brought it to Miss McConnell's attention several times. I feel that it is only fair that you know the present status of the matter as I see it. I think the next move

will have to be on your part, to ask for the return of the manuscript or for you to take up directly with Miss McConnell the matter of having it printed. I deeply regret not being able to help you get this printed here at our Methodist headquarters.

I hope you are well and enjoying Springtime. Even New York is beginning to show signs of Spring now.

With many good wishes for you, I am

Most sincerely,

(Following letters have been translated and sent by Miss Mary M. Tarrant)
(Letters written by students of Miss Atkinson)
Dearest Ho Boo:

Have you received my last letter in Chinese enclosing with two hair nets for you? I hope you have already gotten my other three letters and my picture which I send to you some time ago. Please do let me know when you write whether those hair nets fit you or not, so that I will be able to send the right size next time.

We are going to have a short term school in "Tai Chon" beginning on November the 20th. I have already promised to go there and lead Bible classes. You used to lead classes there. How I wish you could be here with us again. Mr. Chen Boo Shai is our pastor in Tai Chon and Miss Lai Chun Tsang is the Bible woman. We are all well.

Both Miss Li Ping Yuen and I are staying in Yu Youen Road, Chungshai. Miss Soi is still in Soochow with Miss Chou. Probably she will not be here for sometime. The cost of living here is very very high. But we are all well. Mrs. Tang Chou Foung Un is just fine. Mrs. Chen Tsao Jine Un has a new baby girl. Both Mrs. Tiasing and Mrs. Chao are well.

My father died last month on the 15. I trust everything will work out all right in the family.

I hope you don't mind that I am writing you in Chinese. I can write you oftener in Chinese than by asking other to write for me in English. Hope to hear from you soon.

Scong ei Tsaing

Dear Miss Atkinson:

Eight months have passed since you left China. I have not heard from you and have been thinking of you a great deal. I pray for you every day and I hope you are enjoying your
for

health.

We hope you will come back China soon. There are so many of your Chinese friends who have been thinking of you all the time we often think of your kindly deeds and your loving heart that you shared with us most generously.

You must be very busy in America going to talk from one place to another. May God bless you and your work. Don't work too hard, you must look after your own health.

I am just fine but I have some trouble with my eyes. Can you still see very well? Sic Tsing is also getting on very well. Both Yuio Tsing and Nei Tsing came to see me in Shanghai. They thought of you too. Little John misses you a lot.

Wang Chou Dong Un

P.S. Please pray for Mrs. Chou who believes in Jesus and wishes to hear His gospel. I pray that the whole family will soon know Jesus.

Gin Ho Foo Foo:

To-day is your birthday. I am writing you to wish you a Happy Birthday. I know you are going to have a lovely time to have your birthday in your own country and I hope you are enjoying your health too.

I hope you will come back soon. We will then celebrate your birthday here next year. How happy we all shall be to have that.

Your little child,

Kou Jung

Dearest Ho Foo:

We have not heard from you for a long long time. We all miss you so. We are all well here at home and hoping you are enjoying your health too.

To-day is November the 8th. I am sorry I cannot come myself to congratulate you on your birthday, but I am sending you my picture to wish you a Happy Birthday Day. May God bless you and lead you that you may come back to China again.

Your student--Sieu Lai

Ho Boo:

Eversince you left for America I have been thinking of you a great deal. How are you? I am writing you specially on your birthday and hoping that you will come back here very very soon. Good-bye.

Fong Jenn Koo

Dearest Ho Boo:

I was tight up with my school work the time as you left China. I was terribly sorry that I could not come to say goodbye to you, but I know you will understand.

Miss White told me that to-day is your birthday. I am writing to wish you a Happy Birthday. "May your life exist as long as the mountain and may your happiness be as deep as the sea".

I wish to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for all your help and kindness. Miss White have used your money to help me to continue my study. She had already given me fifty dollars to buy proper clothing for myself and hundred dollars for mother to keep the house. Both mother and I have no way to return our thanks except through our daily prayer. I am also sending you my picture to extend my gratitude to you.

I was glad that I had the privilege to be the delegate of the conference this year. It is also a joy to work with Miss White who helps me from time to time. I am really happy. I feel thankful for all His blessing.

Respectfully yours,

Chun Geo Tai

Dear Miss Watson:

It is much to my regret that I have not written you for a long long time. It has been years that I have not had a heart to heart talk with you. I miss you and have been thinking of you a lots.

I am getting old and weak and life has been hard on me. But I feel thankful for the peace I have in Him.

I wish to thank you for the hundred dollars that you gave me. Though you are far far away from us but your heart and love have been with us always. I will always remember your kindness and I am hoping that you will come back China soon so that we may work and share our joy together again.

Mrs. Chen

(This completes the letters sent by Mary Tarrant)

Laura Haygood School
10 Lucerne Road, Shanghai
Oct. 19, 1941

Dear Miss Atkinson,

First of all my mother and I wish to thank for your gift in memory of our dear father. It was with gratitude that we accepted it.

How are you? We miss you very much. We hope that you are well and happy. Are you living with Miss Ford now? Do you go out often?

Our whole family went to Szechow last July to bury our father. We were very happy to meet many of our old friends such as Mr. Yeh, Mrs. Tsiang, the bible woman at Foka Garden. The burial service was a lovely one. The weather was fine during four days ^{we} were there. We were so thankful especially because before we went and after we got home it rained and flooded. We believe that father is still with us, he is not dead.

Dr. Henry arrived at Shanghai. I saw him the other day. He looks fine. His headquarters is at Shanghai, but he will travel all over China half of the time.

Sister Ming Tsu is still at Foka Garden. She is very busy but quite happy. Ming Yui is living with Miss Loong and Tsung at 492 Ya Yuen Road. She is all right now, but she still needs nutritious food. I live at school this term rooming with Miss Fost. We hope our school will go on our work uninterrupted. We are very happy here.

As it will be about time for Christmas when this letter reaches you, let me say "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" to you! Our hearts and love are with you.

Lovingly yours,

Li Ming Tsung.

GOD'S FAVORABLE HELP AND GUIDANCES IN 1857-1860

Virginia H. Atkinson

Soochow City, when I began my career there, was styled, "The Venice of the Orient." It was a city of about 100,000 who, with the exception of some suburbs outside the ^{six} gates of the city, were crowded in between high brick walls built about the time of the fall of Babylon. Streets about five feet in width intersected each other at very insignificant intervals throughout the city. Sedan chairs borne on the shoulders of coolies were the only means of travel that penetrated these streets. The chairs were expensive, and ordinary people could not afford many solitary rides in them for business or leisure. So streets were mostly deserted except by men bent on important business. There was another mode, however, of getting around. The city was also penetrated by a network of canals fed by the many fresh water lakes outside the walls. These canals were at right angles to each other and wide enough for two small boats to pass each other. A boat could seat several persons, while a sedan chair could only carry one and, though the boat was slow, as a conveyance it was a cheaper mode of travel. So most of the people, even though their errands might mean only social calls or an afternoon's shopping, used the slower mode since time meant little in those days.

I was transferred to Soochow under these conditions to look after the many day schools which ^{were} running at that time. Time was worth something to me as a missionary worker, so I could not be sentimental about using canal boats though I was working in the Venice of the Orient. At times I was responsible for the conduct of thirty or twelve day schools which were scattered over the city. So the modes of travel were exasperating because of the amount of time consumed on the canals or narrow streets. I had to do something in order to consolidate the schools and use less time in travel. I wanted to bring several of the more important of the schools together on the same spot in the city. That would simplify matters considerably. But by none in connection with the organized mission center was two miles away from the central part of the city. I asked our mission combination preacher and business man to help me find a Chinese house where I could live and establish such a center. He found what seemed to him the only possibility in the shape of a school house and home for a missionary combined. I went to investigate it and found it an impossible location in all the city. He insisted that it was all he could find, and so in desperation I told him to come for the rent money.

I was disappointed, feeling that my schemes for getting closer to my work and my people were doomed to partial failure, but I waited patiently for him to come for the money. He did not come and I grew more and more discouraged. But God had a better plan for what turned out in the near future to be a most important arm of our Soochow work. Our combination preacher and ^{large} business man came to say that he had found just the place. It was a hundred-year-old Chinese official residence in just the right place. So in this first transaction God showed me that we could work together if I would let Him sometimes help by hindering.

The house had forty good-sized rooms, built in three sections, and the rent was not impossible. I could use one section as a missionary residence including living room, bed rooms, dining room and kitchen. The Chinese family who was to help me in the work could live in another section, and the Bible Women in the third section. There was still plenty of room left for a chapel, and seating capacity for four of these day schools. I reported my find to the treasurer, Miss Haygood, and found her enthusiastic about my plans. In due time the necessary repairs were made and paid for, and I moved in with a missionary colleague, my Chinese head teacher, two Bible Women with their families, and necessary furniture. Chimneys had to be built and some ceilings and floors put in, but we were more than happy that God had not only helped me to get what we needed, but in His forethought for us had hindered the negotiations for the first house. This one that we did get seemed so large that at first I wondered how we could use all those rooms. But before very long we found ourselves needing more room for our work consisting of the schools, man's evangelistic work, Sunday preaching services, and our daily home services.

Our work for women grew so rapidly that very soon we needed another house for it. One was found on the next street in which we could have a girls' day school, evangelistic services for women and children, and bedrooms for the Bible Women. So we were filling two Chinese houses with worthwhile units of work. Next we needed another house for our overflow, and our women workers found a house which they recommended. On inspection it proved inadequate, so God turned it down and forced me to try another of His choices. One day on my roof garden I was looking out over some roofs on the nearby streets. Spying a nice-looking house on the next street facing us, I began to wonder IF . . . But my faith did not unfold such a nice-looking house in its embrace. God came in again. Our business man called and asked if we did not need more room. We did, and he had it ready, and it turned out to be the very house I was coveting from the roof garden!

It seemed too good to be true that God was taking such pains to help and hinder the schemes of insignificant me who, never having had the advantages of training in a Bible School before going to China, had only the asset of faith in God, hope for the future, and love for my calling. This attractive house was procured, and our girls' school, woman's dormitories, and women's meetings were all transferred there. In this house the famous Moka Garden Embroidery Mission was born and developed. So, through God's helps and hindrances, we were not only getting a home for our existing units of work, but were also beginning the first real social service center for the mission, though we had no name for it except "Zang Tsung Aung", which was only the name of the street on which our first combination home and schoolcenter was located.

One day, Miss Pyle, the Principal of Laura Haygood High School, came to us and said she had been offered a beautiful Chinese garden as a place to buy for the future Laura Haygood Normal School. With pride and a big hope in his heart for the future of our work, our agent took Miss Pyle and me over to that famous garden to see its beauties; but it was rather ornate and much too expensive as a site for our normal school. So we reluctantly retreated. However, as we emerged from the outside entrance to that garden we found ourselves facing a beautifully level plot of ground practically without buildings and other impedimenta except a few old grave mounds. In my heart I felt how wonderful it would be if the great Laura Haygood School could purchase that plot and help give significance and permanence to what we were already establishing there. However, present duties crowded out such a thought.

One day soon after that, our faithful business man appeared and told me that we needed a permanent home of our own for all these units of work. I knew he was right and listened to his business-like advice. He said that between us and the rented buildings on the next street there was a rubbish hill and also a large Chekiang provincial business establishment and we should buy them and put up permanent buildings for our work. Through some agency the Lord showed us that a better, larger, and more desirable place had been offered. When I was taken to see it, to my great delight it proved to be the plot that I had coveted for the Laura Haygood School, but the Laura Haygood School had other plans by that time, and it had been offered to us. How wonderful! How good God was! It was unbelievable to me even though God had helped and hindered in so many marvellous ways already. I found that our treasurer was so pleased with what we were doing that she was ready to help in every way. The land was large and the site was desirable and, considering that it was in a big important city, the price was cheap. The treasurer, Miss Richardson, said that she had money in the treasury which she was

free to use for that purpose, and that there ^{were} ~~was~~ enough accumulations from various sources to help us begin building for a glorious future. So the land was bought, and Dr. Margaret Folk helped me in drawing plans and letting the contract for as large a building as we could afford at that time. The girls' school that had begun to flourish in the rented house, the Embroidery Mission, and ourselves were moved to the new compound. However, before long the place was too small for all our work, and our faithful business man came to tell me that adjoining our west wall an empty space was soon to be filled with a theater that would overlook our girls' school playground. I was terrified, but again God intervened. The foundations for the theater were being dug, but God through Mary Culler White and Mrs. Cobb (our Corresponding Secretary at that time) prevented its completion. Miss White had just gone on furlough, and her aunt, Mrs. Cobb was in a position to be used by God at that important time. I wrote Miss White and she worked for us. Money was procured to purchase that land, the building of the theater was stopped, and the home for the Moka Garden Mission was put up.

Next came the idea that kindergartens should be added to our mission projects and two young women were sent to Japan to take the training under Miss Cook in Hiroshima. The space on the compound was insufficient, but the remaining portion necessary to round out our lot was offered for sale, was purchased, and the buildings were torn down. Another part of that space was occupied by pig pens which opened up just a few feet from our school kitchen. Money was procured to buy the pig pens and, as Miss White afterward said, the pig pens became a beautiful child garden. We could not continue to send would-be kindergarteners to Miss Cook for training. A training school of our own was a crying need. I suggested that the North Alabama Conference Society put up a training school on that lot, and an immediate, positive answer came. Thus, under the providence of God this new compound, called Moka Garden, cradled the Kindergarten Training School, and the first real kindergarten in our mission, -perhaps in all China.

Another great blessing in the shape of equipment came to us in the removal and ^{re-}erection of Louise Humeat the same time as the building of the girls' school, just after the land was bought. This beautiful home many years before had been given to Miss Rankin and her sister Bora, built at their first station Nantziang. It was moved on canal boats, brick by brick and without material loss was rebuilt for us in West Soochow, to be the home for missionaries connected with our plant.

Although this story is lengthening, I feel that I must mention a few more things about our life and work in the hundred-year-old house on Zang Tsung Aung. We, of course, held

daily chapel exercises in the chapel (originally the ancestral hall) which was made adequate in size by throwing three rooms together. Sunday services were also held in this improvised chapel. And there came a day when it seemed best for us to establish our own Church organization. So in this chapel our West Soochow Church organized and joined the Conference. We must be self-supporting, and a brother was sent over to talk it all out with our eager congregation. We were told that we could have a pastor who was then a junior preacher at another station. His salary was to be within the limits of our purses, and we stipulated that we would receive no help from any source. As well as I remember the figures, we organized with eighteen members and the salary was to be eighteen dollars a month. This pastor led our Sunday morning services and our Wednesday afternoon prayer meetings. All of our students -then numbering more than a hundred- were seated at these meetings, and we held evangelistic meetings for women besides these. Sunday evenings were given to English evangelistic services led by ourselves in the sitting room of our home. The program was informal, including English hymns, English prayers, and testimonies in English. The results of these meetings have lingered until today.

Women and children^{are}/now in heaven who were reached in the improvised chapel. Our Christmas celebrations were also held in this chapel, and great were the decorations all thought out and done by our native talent. Our Epworth League meetings were held here also. Our people believed in portraying literally what Jesus spoke, and the stories of the Old Testament, -The Prodigal Son, The Rich Man and Lazarus, Joseph's career- and no grand cathedral ever seated more eager audiences. Women's meetings, sponsored by our evangelistic workers, were also an important feature. Many of these things were carried over to the new compound as it gradually grew more commodious.

Our first Chinese head teacher in the boys' school at Zang Tsung Aung, Mr. Li Yesh-Fong, finally left us to enter the Annual Conference which testified that the spiritual atmosphere in our little colony was above par. We carried to the new compound a daily attendance of several hundred belonging to the different units whom God gave us out of the great multitude of people in that important residence portion of the city. Davidson School grew from some sixty students to five hundred during the following fruitful years. The hundred-year-old house on Zang Tsung Aung was kept for eighteen years longer for our boys' school called The Anglo-Chinese Academy. However, in time the alumni, many of whom were holding important business and professional positions, joined with the students and faculty to buy land for a new building. As far as I know, this was the first alumni to help its "Mother School" in

this way. The land was bought and our Women's Council appropriated funds for building the first unit of a new boys' school which the constituency decided to call, "Atkinson Academy."

Next, Davidson School was so prosperous that it needed all of the buildings on the compound, and the Alabama Conference W. M. S. appropriated funds in memory of their sainted Mother Dowdell to build a home for the Embroidery Mission on a new compound where our faithful congregation had provided funds and bought a site for our West Soochow Church. This a third compound was added in West Soochow. The Church continued to be self-supporting, never having received any help from the U. S. A. up to the beginning of the Japanese war in 1937. The Centenary funds, however, built a splendid Church and other buildings for our use in evangelistic work. My old students and Chinese friends clubbed together and gave money for building me a home on this last compound, in which after retiring from regular work I could live and work among them. It was gratefully received and used, I trust, for God's glory several years before the invasion of 1937.

Now I will briefly mention the present state of our compounds in West Soochow. No building was entirely destroyed though all were occupied more than once by soldiers. Our beautiful Church was used as a hospital and many of the pews destroyed. Davidson School was not injured much but was left in a filthy condition. Atkinson Academy lost its furnishings and left in a deplorable condition. Dowdell Center was razed looted and, though there were signs of fire, only furniture was destroyed or taken off in quantities. My home was occupied by a military official, so I was told. Doors were broken in and furnishings all destroyed or looted. Our people have lost much materially, and I am glad to be able to tell them of my losses, so that we can feel that we are not different from each other in our losses and inconveniences. Of course, since coming to this country I have had to tell my American people that, after all, in some important places like Sungkiang, Chungchow, and Nantziang many buildings were demolished, and much that sacrificial money from this country was used for in China has disappeared, never to be seen again. I have also reminded them that we were not using money primarily to purchase bricks and mortar, but to save souls. Though in many cases bricks and mortar are destroyed, our people have been preserved, their lives have been precious in His sight, and they are still with us. The spirit that made this work a success is still there, and is our joy and pride. For instance, Davidson School does not exist as Davidson School, but a large band of bereaved, hungry children are there being fed and taught and prepared for future positions in our work. Let us hold on to hope and courage, for Jesus told Peter that the gates of hell would not break down the Rock on which his confession was built. Our people there

who have suffered are still ours, and we must see to it that their faith fails not through any failure of ours.

It would be impossible in this space to mention all the Chinese who have had a part in making this work what it is, but I will mention a few who were longest with us. As pastors, I would mention Rev. Li Yoch-Fong, Rev. Sze Tsz-Kya, Rev. Woo Tsong-Ji. As principals of schools Mrs. Z. N. Tsiang, Mr. Dzung Zung-Tsing, Mr. S. N. Vane, Mrs. S. N. Vane. As important workers in other capacities, Mr. D. P. King, Mr. Sha Ting-Hwa, Mr. Dzung Jung-Hyang, Mr. Van Ping-Kyi, Mr. Sun Lin-Han. We did all that we could, but God worked by helping and hindering, and to Him all the praise is due. Through His providence the buildings are still standing, and are filled with useful work looking forward to greater usefulness in the great New China which is already emerging. Christ is saying to the Church in the U. S. A. that He loved and helped hitherto, "Thy brother shall rise again." Though He Himself is able to remove the stone and the grave clothes, He is saying to us, "Take ye away the stone," and "Loose him and let him go." It is our privilege still to be used of God through gifts of money, love and service in China and in the U. S. A. to make of China a still more wonderful country than she was before the raids.

I have purposely not mentioned the names of a large number of missionaries who helped to build this West Soochow work because they were so many and their work so varied. However I must not take the credit of the worth-while results to myself. So in the last paragraph of this paper, I am including the names of all the missionaries and teachers who worked with us from time to time. Though a list of all is included, yet I must mention a few outstanding ones whose service was exceptional because of the length of time they gave to the work and their peculiar ability. Miss Susie Williams, who afterward married Dr. A. T. Foraker, helped more than anyone in the establishment of the work and in personal interviews with the students. Miss ^{Mary E.} Ferrant liked our work and asked to be transferred to us after her first two years in Shanghai. Her whole life and all that which God had endowed her with were given over to our work for boys, especially as the principal of the Anglo-Chinese Academy (later Atkinson Academy) and its greatest lover. From her ^{transfer to Soochow} in January 1901 to November 1940, she gave herself to West Soochow. Miss ^{White} set in motion ways and means of starting and carrying on effective evangelistic work among women. Miss ^{Rogers} Rogers' first appointment was to us, and her work was especially blessed and appreciated. Miss Burkhead set the Noka Garden Embroidery Mission on its feet, and gave it a place, an important place - on the map of West Soochow. I cannot leave out one of those who helped us, so here is a list of the others:

NAME	WORK	TIME OF SERVICE
Lizzie Martin	Teacher	About 3 years
Emma Loster	Embroidery Mission and Davidson	" 5 "
Flora Herndon	Teacher in Davidson	" 1 "
Madge Hendry	Music teacher in Davidson	" 5 "
Frances Burkhead	Embroidery Mission	14 "
Louise Robinson	Teacher- later Principal of Davidson	" 5 "
Nina Stallings	Embroidery Mission	" 2 "
Kate Hackney	Kindergarten Training School	" 3 "
Nevada Martin	Kindergarten Training School	" 5 "
Margaret Beadle	Teacher in Davidson	" 4 "
Dora Otis	Embroidery Mission	" 2 "
Olive Lipscomb	Principal of Davidson	" 2 "
Lillian Knoblos	Teacher-later Principal of Davidson	" 14 "
Floss McKnight	Teacher in Davidson	" 1 "
Grace Haight	Teacher	" 1 "
Mrs. Henderson	Teacher in Davidson and Atkinson	" 1 "
Mary Winn	Teacher in Davidson	" 11 "
Clara Stegor	Teacher and Acting Principal in Atkinson	" 1 "
Eleanor Allen	Teacher in Davidson and Atkinson	" 5 "
Annie Campbell	Teacher in Davidson and Atkinson	" 2 "
Naomi Howie	Teacher in Davidson	" 11 "
<i>Robbie Lee Leggett</i>	Davidson and Embroidery Mission	" 2 "
Mittie Shelton	Teacher in Davidson and Embroidery Mission	" 5 "
Cornelia Grosier	Teacher in Atkinson	" 1 "
Elizabeth Claiborne	Teacher in Atkinson	" 1 "

Presiding Elder: Rev. W. L. Henry, Pastors: Rev. W. L. Hance, Rev. J. W. Clark,
Rev. J. Whiteside

Miss Lillian Knobles gave about fifteen years to the development of Davidson School, and Miss Mary Winn about twelve. These two women and Miss Nettie Peacock were able to carry on an informal school and welfare work at Davidson when the Japanese allowed a few missionaries to return to the occupied area. I cannot leave out one of those who helped us, so here is a list of the others:

Lizzie Martin, Emma Lester, Flora Herndon, Madge Hendry, ~~Frances Burkhead~~ Louise Robinson, Bertha Attaway, Nina Stallings, Kate Hackney, Nevada Martin, Margaret Beadle, Dora Otis, Olive Lipscomb, Floss McKnight, Grace Haight, Mrs. Henderson, Ulara Steger, Eleanor Allen, Annie Campbell, Naomi Howie, Robbie Lee Leggett, Mittie Shelton, Cornelia Crozier, Elizabeth Claiborne,

Presiding Elder: Rev. R. T. Henry; Pastors: Rev. W. B. Nance, D.D., Rev. J. W. Cline, D.D.,
Rev. J. Whiteside.

Miss Lillian gave about fifteen years to the development of the work in Davidson School; Miss Mary Winn about twelve.

1. 7 My evacuation

packing my few belongings which were on hand and Mrs. Vane brought down from Soochow what she knew I would be glad to have. From then on my rooms were constantly filled with friends to say good-bye and to express their regrets at the sudden decision. The day for the departure arrived all too soon. The boat finally went to the gates in a bus but the friendly too friendly brought me over to take us all to the station. The hour was late, but no friend in Shanghai, China or elsewhere, failed to appear. I knew I must be brave, and they all told me with words that I was sure to have my own way. The American agent at the foot of the gang plank would not allow Missa to board the steamer to accompany me. Dr. Chen at last proved to be a friend indeed as all was arranged. He helped me in every way to keep my courage, and was with me on the steamer and on the train and to make that trip the most pleasant of all the trips that I have made during all the forty-six years in crossing the Pacific with my baggage. I recommend him as a friend, a doctor, and a traveling companion, and as looking forward to a return trip with him in charge. The conditions are such that it is possible for us to return to China. For I must be with my friends and my family in such trouble and danger. The only way of doing so is to go to the coast, and to sail to the port of Shanghai and to go to the city.

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