

Dec 17th
Bro Fergusson & myself came back yesterday.
The wind was so high that the boat in
which we began to cross had to go
back. We got into a ferry boat &
went across the river in a short time.

Bro Ma hired one wheel barrow for my
'journey' &c. F. & myself walked about
the fields & way. New road in a wheel
barrow. Yesterday was my first ride in

one.
We find + our deed is not good.
Our middle men took it upon them
to change "True deed" into "Baptist
church". Bro. Pierce has gone down
to C. today to see what can be done.

We are advised to stop work by
Gen Jones. We may lose the
whole place.

We are not
to be discouraged if we do give up
this. It's the Lord's work & we must

not be discouraged.
Dec 18th
Bro. Pierce returned tonight. All is well.
Gen Jones says go on building & the pro-
clamation will be ordered soon.

"Mr. Oakley", the head workman has gone
down to Chickinsey to see about some
uncompleted work of Mr. Keppfers, but
we can go forward here.

The Lord is very good to us for which
we should be truly thankful.

Large foreign mail - Letters from
Mother, the little girls, Bub, his Flore,
Jim Towns, Miss Maggie, Dr. Darnant, wife
& daughter (Cousin Laura), Inez Osvaldo,
R. G. Kendrick, Appleton & Co & one
from Mr. Lyon at Soochow.

Bub has moved on the Wilcox place.
It is a big move. May be here success.

All are well at home for which
I am truly thankful.

Dec 24

The past few days we have been going on with building & digging & trench for foundation. Bro. P. took one day in

country. The weather is fine.

Wu Pak Tsi is still in Christianity.

The gates for front & back door & wall are completed.

Bro. P. had an interview yesterday with "Ching Ching" about moving gate. Don't suppose he will move a budge until proclamation comes.

Let us trust the Lord & work.

Mrs. P. is making preparations for the children tomorrow. May Christ be born into their hearts.

I have been studying in morning with Bro. P's teacher Li. It proved & all came later that way so Wu is now my teacher both morning & evening. He was teaching me in the evening before this change.

Dec 25th Christmas 51

Rose at usual hour. Studied until eleven then joined in exercises for the children. Candy, nuts & oranges with a handkerchief were given out. They seemed to appreciate it no little. There were eight boys & twelve girls. The Bible fr. Little Julia Pickard went to Wong Y Lien & Tsz Tien Chany.

Have written seven letters today.

Had a long talk this afternoon with Foo Shing & the country inquirer Tsz Ho. When I called on the latter to pray he hesitated but at last consented. The talk was the first & kind I've had with a native. It did my heart good. May it do their hearts good.

What a glorious privilege to work for Christ. I long - for what? Do what is before you & long to do it well, ^{that} is the best long you can do.

Dec 29th

yesterday we had a Chinese feast. Bro Wu & family, Bro Ma & sons, Bro Tu & a man named Tse from 1 country. Jan. Sundson the day school teacher & family, Ah King the cook & his mother & wife, the cow-man, & the gate keeper were all in. It was all Chinese. They seemed to enjoy the feast real much.

We Ah Tai has come back from Chinkiang today. They have begun to put down the foundation.

How slow these Chinese are. They begin work about 9.30 & stop about 4.30. Of course they stop for dinner & a number of smokes between times.

Pres. Clearland has ordered a Commission to look into the Dengula boundary. We hope it will be settled peaceably.

Dec 29th

Ah Tai has come back. We paid him over a hundred dollars yesterday. Bro Pierce will pay him the rest of the first two hundred tomorrow.

Bro P & Bro Wu went to Chinkiang yesterday.

Today we had S.C. & this afternoon Bro Ma & myself went to Ah Tai Hong. Mrs. P. had the children in the dining room instructing them in singing.

My prayer at Chinese worship last night - was rather like a string without an end. I couldn't get to a suitable place to stop.

The weather is fine at present. Much work, good health & much in every way to be thankful to God for.

Dec 31st

Snow yesterday - Most of it is dried up this evening. The Mok Sang has

not been able to work today. The foundation goes on fairly well.

The year has gone. What is done is done. May our mistakes be stepping stones for better things. I have about completed the work laid out except my readings in Gk. Hk. Latin & German. Lately Bro. P.

& myself have been trying to give one night (one hour) to work to Gk & one to Hk. It is helpful. I find Bro. P. better at than myself. I am always late behind when the languages come up. I take charge of the boys school tomorrow with Ma as teacher. May the Lord bless my efforts. Now as the

old year has gone - may I leave it behind with its joys & its sorrows turn over a new leaf & begin to write.

January 1st 1896

Today I took charge of the boys school with Ma Siu Sun as teacher. There were eight boys. I want to bear all of the expenses of the school myself. I think ten dollars Mexican will about cover expenses.

I spent about half of the day over where they are building. The foundation is being put down & so we want to watch it especially.

Bro. Ling has had to give up for two days on account of a terrible cold but is out again today.

Jan 2nd

One silver dollar exchanges for 880 cash today. Very, very low. Yesterday it changed for 900.

About 30 men at work today. Eight more from Chindiang this AM.

The S.S. went to see the official about the proclamation. He is waiting for the middle men to settle the dispute with the old woman. They offered her \$52. She wants 100 i.e. that's what the S.S. says. School today had but six boys. A beautiful look from Mother today. Also some grant for Mrs. P. A letter from the Kinard girls. Their grand mother is dead. Peace be to her ashes.

Dr. C. Burham of N.C. died Nov. 14th.
+ Dr. S.F. Smith of Boston the poet died Nov 16th 1885. Two great men have fallen.

Jan 5th

The last two days we have been moving on quietly with the building - about forty workmen. Beautiful weather. Today (Sunday) I went over & invited the workmen to come to church. Quite a

number of them were out.

Our little English prayer meeting on Sunday afternoons is flourishing.

Our Native prayer-meeting Sunday evening we hope will do good. Let us work & trust. Bless God for work. May we lean on his Spirit to direct us in this work.

Jan. 6th

I had a good morning at my books today. This afternoon spent at the house. The frame work for the passage was raised this P.M.

No proclamation yet.

My foreign mail will be in tomorrow I hope. Miss M. kept it in C thinking I should get it there.

Weather is fine.

Mexican dollars changes today for 880 cash

Jan 7th
 went over to see "Shing Ching tik" today.
 They want us to give them a road. I hope
 we shall soon have it all straight.
 Let us trust in the Lord.

The house frame is up now. The bricks
 have not yet come. I spent about
 half of the day over there. It is good
 for me in some things. I learn
 the Chinese & their language.

My ~~for~~ mail I look for tomorrow.
 Nothing like being taught patience
 in this world.

Jan 8th

Nice mail nine letters. Mother
 has attended the Association &
 the State Convention. How
 glad I am.

Took down two doors in this house
 today. Begin to move windows tomorrow

Jan 10th
 Bro. P. went around to see the official yes-
 today. He says the proclamation will come
 in good time. That we need not fear. All
 will be kept quiet. Let us do all
 that we can to keep peace according
 to their ways. If doing then look to the
 Lord for the rest.

I moved into Bro. P. study yesterday & the
 workmen began to tear down the house
 that I was staying in. I have
 thought that we should have seen the
 landlord before tearing down & have
 mentioned it to Bro. P. on more
 than one occasion but he has not
 done anything in that line. I have
 felt that Mrs. P. & the little one would
 do well to go to Chinkiang & stay with
 Miss Julia & leave ^{perhaps} ~~argue~~ it a little
 too much ^{perhaps} ~~for~~ it was suggested ^{perhaps} ~~the~~

other day that I wanted all v work
 of Yangchow in my own hands. It
 was a hasty word but can I not take
 warning from it. Are not others
 as able to see as myself? Do they
 not have the good of the work at least
 as much as you more than I?
 Let me know that to bridle one's
 tongue is the secret of a union. In
 this mission we want to be one. Shall
 I in my zeal destroy the unity. God
 forbid.

We are having fine weather. We badly
 however is losing many days by not
 having bricks. I hope something
 will be done today - we must use
 this fine weather that the Lord gives
 us to the best advantage.

Jan 10 (night)

Today has been a busy day. We went down

to the boats to see the bricks that had been there
 more than a day for want of men to carry
 them up to the house. The men went on a strike
 & the struck out manfully. I failed to find out
 whether or not they got their price. Well
 the consequence of it all is for two days,
 beautiful days they have been, we have
 done very little on the wall & house. This
 morning four or five men were carrying.

Not having work at the new house the
 force came over here & did good work in
 tearing down this house. I worked there
 here while Bro. Pierce kept them stirring
 over at other places. As I stand
 & see this house being torn down I
 am grieved to think of money as it seems
 almost thrown away but there we must
 live for the best. The brethren before
 us did the best they could & now we are
 trying our hand on our best. Who can prove
 that ours is a better place than theirs - it only saves money

Jan. 13th
did not go to Chintung this time on account
of the work. Yesterday, Sunday, we had
a very good day. Today it has been
raining & so all work is stopped in
the house. I'm busy writing
trying to catch up with my corre-
spondents. About twelve letters to write.

Jan. 16th

Had three days of cloudy weather but work
has been going on. We are about up to
the middle floor with all of the walls. We
are to add a piazza to the front which
will cost about 100 Mex. We have
about decided to put a chimney in
the north side. Bro. Pierce is not much
in favor of it but yields willingly. I
have been in favor of closets in different
places but have tried to yield as willingly
as he has. May we all learn to
love each other more by our mingling together.

Jan Sunday Chintung 63

I came down yesterday with Bro. Low. The day
was cloudy & some snow fell. I suppose
the workmen on the house had to stop.

Friday night recd. a foreign mail.
Was surprised to receive another mail
last night. One Friday & one Saturday.
Last night's mail brought since letters from
Bro. Bury Miss Maggie & C. W. Duke.
The night before recd. letters from
Mother & Bury & a Silk letter from
little Julia Rickard. I was surprised
to see in the last Courier in a piece
by Miss Hyde of Charleston that a
"Wesley Lawton" Society had been formed
in the Canon St. Church, Charleston S.C.
I cannot understand the interest that
the people seem to be taking in one.
This makes the fourth Society that I
have heard of in S.C. that has thus
honored me. May the Lord richly
bless them all.

64 The mail last night also brought a book "Kept for my Master's Use" written by F. H. Kavergal from Miss Maggie also her picture taken at the front steps in her graduating dress. Bro. Wen says that she is better looking than I am. I told him it was the dress she had on. He says "No it's the face". I am certainly glad to get the picture.

Orry & Maner have both broken up with their girls or they with O & M. I am sorry that they can't be more certain before they take such an important step. They are young & older ones sometimes have to do even worse.

Monday 20th 10.⁴⁰ Grand Lunch.
Had very good services yesterday.
In the night service a man who has

65 been visiting of Wongsong about religion some time came in & listened attentively. He is nice looking young man from the Northern Province of Chili.

We have a beautiful day. Left at eight. Hope to get in by two.

Heard Mr. Beer preach last evening in English.

Monday 20th Yangchow
Reached here at 2 o'clock. The building goes on. Mr & Mrs Paine have moved into the "Da Taiy". I am in one of the small school-rooms.

I cannot help but feel that Mrs. P & the little one should go to C. where we have a nice house & no one in it. I think it very unwise for her to stay here. I have urged her going already perhaps more than I should. May the Lord direct & bless us.

60
Sat. Aug. 27th On the Yangtze.
I am just now one o'clock crossing the
river. at the breakfast table this
morning it was decided that Mrs. C. should
come down to Chinkiang. In an hour
& a half all was ready & I off with
the boy through the country to prepare
for them when the boat came. I had
my first ride on a donkey in China
today. I could not help but think of Christ
as he rode into Jerusalem. I felt highly
honored to have somewhat the same kind
of ride that my Lord & Master had when
on earth.

I paid 150
cash for the animal about 92.5
currency. To cross the river I pay
80 cash for my boy & myself. I left
Yangchow at 9³⁰ reached San Tsar
Hou at 11¹⁵ Kwar Sze at 12³⁰
Left Kwar Sze at 1¹⁵ o'clock.

I have a slight headache but hope
it will be well after I eat something

There are twelve Chinese on the boat with me.
It is small & Chinese like we are fixed
in "kinder" Sardinia like. They are now making
many remarks about what I do & how I
speak & so on. They are questioning the
servant. Now hear what they say. How
he sell Jesus. Servant. They don't like
you to say you sell Jesus. They tell him
doctrines. Does he wear shoes? "Yes"
How much did they cost. Can he speak
our language? servant "Yes he speaks
the Yangtze dialect. Where are you
going Foreign Teacher. Servant. It is
going to Chinkiang today & will return
to Yangchow tomorrow. How long
has he been in China? Servant. "He
was in Soochow six months, now
he is in Yangchow. Does he eat
our food. "Some is our & some is
theirs, but all of it is fixed up in
a foreign style. Do you eat theirs

food? Servant No but there are some Chinese that eat there food. I know one Chinaman in Chinkiang who eats it & speaks their language. "What are you writing Foreign Teacher" I answer. I am now writing that one of you asked my servant if he ate your food & my servant answered he did not but that he knew some Chinese who did. With that they broke out in a laugh & keep quiet for a time. Then they begin the questions which are their regular questions to ask. What did your hat cost? What did your coat cost. Is it warm? Can you speak our language. Then comes the Captain or as the literal translation "The old plank" comes for the money. Mind he has charged myself & the servant 80 cash each & 40 apiece. The rest he charges 16 cash apiece. Some not having that much

say I have not that much but take what I 69

Tuesday night Chinkiang
It is now a quarter of eight & Mrs. P. has not yet come. I doubt if they could cross the river as it must have been late when they reached Kwa-Zgar. We have gotten all of Miss Mackenzie's goods moved except one or two. I am glad Mrs. P. & Miss M. will be down here together.

Wednesday morning On Yangtze
Mrs. Purce came in last night at about half past nine. They were detained about 3 hours at San Tsao Hou on account of boats. Everything is about fixed up in C. It is now ten o'clock. We have just begun to cross the river. It is a beautiful day. The placid waters & river dotted with boats is a beautiful sight. God is everywhere