SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
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Sept. 27th Grand Canal

In looking over my diary I find that I have been up to Yangchow nine times this year - this will make the tenth time. I enjoy running up & seeing Bro. Pierce & family. They always make it pleasant for me. On this trip I have "Wong Shong" & a young man name Swun. We hope to be out in the country for a few days.

Yesterday I gave our church members a talk from Eph. 4:11-26 & compared our condition to that of the Ephesians. We had communion services - eight present which included two foreigners. In the afternoon I went to "Ter Bay Dr" & had one or two good talks along the road. Li Sien Tsun went with me. He seems to be repentant. Last evening Mr. Bear preached in foreign services. Afterwards I walked up the hill with them - the latter part of the way with Mr. D.

Sept 29th Wednesday "E. Dzun"

Yesterday Mr. Pierce, Fan Sien Sun, Wong Shong & myself left Yangchow in a houseboat which cost us sixty cents to E Dzun. We came down to the river, Kwar Dzur, & thence on up here. The reason the boatmen gave for taking this round about route was because the wind would help them. We reached here after dark. Wong & Fan came up & engaged a room at this inn at 160 cash a day. We get our meals on the street. The proprietor is a Mohammedan. Yesterday we had two men on our boat but they got on to another one before they reached their destination. I think they had more of the gospel than they could stand. May the Lord use what was said to glorify His name.

Sept. 30th "Suh R Way"

Yesterday afternoon we had a long walk in search of "Shiao Shien Sun's" house. After a long walk thro' the city & out the East gate we came to a man drying rice straw who took us in his boat to "Shiao S.S's" but he was not at home. We did not get out of the boat. His wife came down to the canal & had a short talk with us. We left "E Dzun" this morning after breakfast. At breakfast a man took of my hat & Fan S.S. blazed out at him about being so rude. At this the man became Chinesey & began to quarrel. I was about to leave when he shut his mouth & allowed us to eat in peace. At "E Dzun" we sold 21 gospels & Genesis - 171 cash. The city of "E Dzun" is

34
39
11
17
101

25
97
271
185
630

dead within the walls, but a small town is building on the canal. I find Suh R Way a busy mart because of the salt trade. There are numbers of Hunan & Hupoh men here. We sold one hundred & one gospels & Genesis - 630 cash. The children are rowdy - one stuck one thro' the window with a cane & they called out "Kill the foreign devil". This shows that the Devil is hardest at work where he thinks there is the best chance for Christ. I met a man to professed to be a Xn. & Fan S.S. has an invitation from one to call tomorrow. Oh may God help us to do His work in His way.

Oct. 2nd 1897 Chinkiang

I reached here last evening. Found Mr+Mrs G.M. Royal + little Nellie, their daughter here. Yesterday morning Mr. Pierce, Fan I.S. + Wong Thong + myself went to take a cup of tea with Tong - a man who used to work for Mr. Lehman in Nanking. Tong S.S. seems to be in earnest. He asks for admission into the Church.

American mail was here to great one. A letter from Ida reached one this A.M. Mr. Sydenstricker came over + we had a nice long talk this A.M.

Oct 7th 1897

These have been historic days. Quite a number of visitors have been in Chinkiang Dr. Jno. A. Anderson + wife spent several days with Miss Mackenzie. The latter seemed to be overjoyed at their coming. Dr. A. has a big place in the hearts of the Chinkiang people.

Bishop + Mrs. Joyce Dr. + Mrs. Baldwin + Dr. Chester (Presbyterian South) have been here. It is something out of the usual order of things to have two home secretaries + a Bishop here at the same time. Mrs. Bear had us up to meet Dr Chester last evening. Went down to the Canal to see Dr Kupfer, Bishop + Mrs. Joyce, Rev. + Mrs. Wright off for Nanking where they are to attend a Conference. That was Tuesday night. Last night (Wednesday) I had two

nice talks one with Dr. Hogg & one with Dr. Baldwin about our marriage. They all seem to think it is no use to postpone the wedding too long. This afternoon I had a long talk with Miss Deaver on Trannock mound. We will likely be married the latter part of this month.

While I was in the chapel just now a man named "Dong" from Shing Wha came in to see me about the place that Mr. Hutton has rented. Dong S.S. says the natives are very much wrought up over the whole matter. They do not care for Mr. Hutton to go there as there are no foreigners in that city at present.

I have just gotten the church Treasurer's book straightened. It is quite a relief.

Royall went to Shanghai yesterday.

Oct 9th Saturday

I wrote Bishop Joyce yesterday asking him to perform the marriage ceremony also wrote Mr. Wright asking that he do what he could to get either Bishop Joyce or Dr. Baldwin.

We look for Royal from Shanghai this evening. Dr. Henry Woods is back from America. He & family are expected here to dinner (tiffin) today.

Last night I invited the members of our church, Ling, Wong, Po'an, Dzang, Ch'n, & Tsu to take tea with me. They came at half past seven & stayed until ten. The time went be very quickly. How I do enjoy these evenings with the Chinese. The cakes &c cost about 300 cash (about 15¢ gold). I am planning to have stairs put in the Hutton house.

Oct. 12th Tuesday.

At twelve oclock today I received a telegram "Given in at NK (Nankin) the 12/10 1897 H^{10} M^{15} a/m Rev. W. W. Lawton Chk (Chinkiang) Thursday evenings ulright" The meaning of which is that Thursday evening when the down steamer comes in will suit for our marriage. The telegram sent from Nankin at 10.15 reached me about 12 M. I was getting a little restless as I did not know but that Wednesday would have suited the Bishop & his party better.

We are anxious to have the Bishop perform the ceremony so that the good Methodists in the U.S. will not think so dreadfully hard of Miss Deaver for leaving

them. I am having some repairs done on the house which will take a week or more to complete — perhaps two weeks. It was our plan to wait until the last of the month but circumstances make us feel that it is best to rush things some so as all will work in & we can get down to work sooner. The longer it is postponed the more "frills & ruffles" will have to be added. Ofcourse we have surprised people but I hope it has not hurt any one. Mrs. Bear met me on the hill this afternoon & congratulated me. She had only heard of the engagement today after dinner.

And now that my single life seems to be drawing so soon to an

end I want to record here on these pages the goodness of the Lord to His own. It had not been my intentions to remain single so long but I see now very, very clearly that it was the loving Father's doings. I have at times chafed under the all wise Father's dealings with me but for this may God in Heaven forgive me. If there is one lesson that I hope I have at least begun to learn it is that the Father is always near.

And now as I leave this stage of life God grant that the dear wife which He has given me may be a great help to me in pointing me to God. We must expect to differ on some things - She is from Pennsylvania & a Methodist & I a South Carolina Baptist but there is always one thing that we can hold to & that is God's love for each of us; & then may God grant that we shall also be enabled to add "and our love for each other".

And as I record these words my mind goes to the one who was to have been my bright light. She brightened my life for three years, God grant that I shall not darken hers for life. I had told her a year ago that the next time she broke off our engagement I would not stay single long if I felt that God pointed out the girl. This I feel He has done. In both I feel for Miss Ware & my prayer to God for her is that this shall all but point her & us to God.

Oct. 13th.

Today is little Robert Bryan's birthday. Tomorrow Bro. Bryan's & Tom Huttons. The next day Oct 15- will be my little sister Mamie's ninth birthday. & the day following Lulu Bryan's ninth birthday.

Miss Dunwoody, Mrs. Walker's friend came in last night.

We are busy getting things in readiness for our marriage tomorrow.

Gen. Jones had me around for breakfast this morning & invited us to be married at his house. He said he would be glad to give us a wedding tea

Last night in our prayer-meeting native the Chinese spoke & prayed beautifully about our marriage. May Christ be honored in my life. Oh that this new step may be an inspiration to me to live nearer to Christ.

Our being married so unexpectedly comes as a great surprise to all. However it does not seem that waiting would help matters any. The ladies are all busy making preparations for an afternoon tea. It had not planned for it but Miss Mackenzie & Mrs. Walker & others think it would be terrible for us not to have something so it had better be so.

Bro. Hutton left this morning for a trip to Hsing Hwa.

Oct. 15th, 1897

Yesterday very thing seemed to come off as smoothly as could be expected. The steamer came in at 4 o'clock Bishop Isaac W. Joyce of Minneapolis performed the ceremony in the chapel of the Chinkiang (Methodist) Institute at half past four o'clock. There were a goodly number of the Methodists present who were on their way to a Conference in Shanghai Dr. Baldwin was among the number. Also Mrs. Joyce & the Foochow delegation to Shanghai. After the marriage ceremony the foreigners were invited over to the Ladies Home for refreshments which had been prepared by Miss Mackenzie, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Bear & Mrs. Woodbridge. This we had not planned, but the ladies were so kind that they would not have it otherwise. Mr. Walker collected a nice number of flowers for the altar. He also met the Bishop & the party on the steamer.

Mr. Gibson walked in with me & Miss Robinson with Miss Starr. We were both as calm & composed as you please. We then went down to the Methodist-house took "Glad Tidings" & left the bulk. We went only twenty five minutes down the river when we stopped for the night. Tonight we are at a place below "San Yang" called "Ling Ker". The day has been a fine one for travelling. Mrs. L. & myself have been enjoying "Samantha Among the Brethren". It's fine fun reading it with "Samantha". The boatmen are all quite pleasant. Ida sold two Chinese tracts today - 13 cash the first she has sold in China. I sold one to myself

Oct. 17th. Sunday. Kiang Chow

We reached here yesterday afternoon. This morning we had a short prayer-meeting with the natives, then Ida & myself went for a walk into the city. While we were walking along of course we had a number of people gazing at us. Two or four were standing a door on the side of the street next to which Ida was walking. I said "Which of we two foreign devils do you people think is the best looking". Without considering a minute they cried out "This one, This one". We had a good laugh. After dinner we read a time then went for a walk in the country near. We were invited to a man's house. A bench was brought out; We sat there & talked to a good large crowd - mostly women & children. Tonight & last night we had Chinese worship for the men on board.

Four weeks ago tonight Ida myself became engaged. It has been a pleasant four weeks but a little rushed of course because of the circumstances. I am thankful that the Lord overruled it all as He did. I feel sure it is for the best. Tomorrow we start back. We hope to go to Shanghai soon to our Associational meeting. May the Lord richly bless & abundantly use us for His service. Oh to be so near to Him that nothing could divert our minds. More of Christ is my one great desire. We are praying for this & we shall strive to attain unto it by God's help.

Oct. 19th "

We are not far from Chinkiang We have decided to run up to Yangchow for one day unless something in Chinkiang will prevent. I wrote Miss Maggie Wass a letter today. Yesterday afternoon we had a fine walk (Ida & myself) along the Canal. The country scenery was fine. On this trip we have sold four gospels & two tracts. For all we were not out book-selling. "Samantha" has entertained us considerably yet we have read only half of "Samantha among the Brethren" The Lord has given us good weather on the trip & much pleasure for which we thank Him

Oct. 21st " Yangchow &c

We are now just getting out to the Yangtse. We reached Mr. Wrights yesterday about a quarter past eleven. Staid there until after their prayer-meeting Left there at four. Our American mail had been sent with theirs Ida had ten letters & nine including two postals. We reached Mrs Pierce's about five & staid there until about eight then went on down to the boat so that we could get an early start this morning. We left Y. at six. The day has been drizzling. We have been answering our letters. It is now about 12 o'clock. We will eat dinner & pack up while crossing the River. The wind is against us which is the first time we ever been glad for an unfavorable wind

Oct. 22 Chinkiang

We reached here yesterday (Thursday) at a little past twelve oclock but as we had not gotten thro' eating dinner or packing up it took more than an hour for us to get off. It was raining quite hard as we came in. After going over to see Miss Mackenzie we came on back & were indeed "Welcomed" into our little home. The kind friends had done no little in arranging & beautifying. My old bachelor quarters had been indeed changed from a desert into a blooming paradise. We praise the Lord for the love of friends. May we love God more.

Last night for supper Mrs. Walker had a number of friends around to take supper. It was so kind of Mr. & Mrs. Walker. There were ten of us at the table & four did not come from up the hill on account of the weather. Today Ida has been moving. This (Friday) afternoon Mrs. Sydenstricker & the little ones called. Dr. Hoag also called a short time. She is so kind & seems to think so much of Ida. Tonight we were invited to take supper with the Huttons. It was a pleasant & I hope a profitable evening. Mr. Hutton sent us a note with a Tls. 10.00 chegnee in it from them. Gibson said last night that he wanted to give us some castors. We do not look for any such kind tokens from dear friends but we cannot refuse to take & to highly appreciate their kindness. To the Lord be all the praise for His great goodness to us.