SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
Nashville, Tennessee

April 23rd

Mrs. L. has been busy this P.M. making some parsley jelly. Mr. Young, the British Constable kindly sent over the parsley & gave us the recipe. The jelly came out fine.

Miss Emery's picnic was quite a success. Almost all of the missionaries, & the U.S. Consul & Mr. Gibson's families were there. The party went to "Pah Kong Dong" (Eight-dukes cave) Mrs. L. was the only lady on a donkey. I walked as did several other of the gentlemen.

The Welshs left on Wednesday I believe their stay in Chihkiang has done good.

Spain & the U.S. seem to be on the very verge of war. May God help the civilized countries to be calm enough to avert such a castastrophe

We are reading "Israel's Unbelief" by Pastor Otto Stockmayer. Miss McMinn sent it to me to read to be sent on to Miss Hartwell. We are enjoying the little book so much. It is full of good thoughts.

I have just read Mr. Von Poseck's Light in the Homes. I enjoyed it but it was not just what I was expecting from his introduction.

I keep up with the "Review of Reviews" regularly & do gain so much from them.

R.E. Chambers & wife are in Shanghai. How we did want them to visit us. They are both sick.

Mr. Hutton & family will likely leave for Shui Hwa next week or the first part of the week following.

April 30th, 1898

On Monday night Mr. Walker entertained us with a Magic Lantern exebition of some of his travels in china. This was the third meeting of our Christian Literary Society & was held in the Baptist Chapel.

On Tuesday we had our native prayer-meeting after which Ida had them all over in our parlor for tea & crackers.

The Huttons & Miss Von Poseck took dinner with us on Wednesday. They leave for Shing Hwae next week. Yesterday was Miss Robinson's birthday. The ladies were to give her a surprise party but the weather prevented many going.

The Pierces reached here last night & are on their boat waiting for us. We were all ready for starting today when Dr. Cox said Miss M. must not attempt it in such weather. We will wait until tomorrow (Sunday) then we must leave in order to get to Soochow by Thursday morning's meeting. We had planned to stop tomorrow in Shin-Zong.

For some reasons I dread this meeting in Soochow but I know God can & will direct if we will only look to Him.

Dear Ida becomes dearer every day. She is certainly a lovable woman & knows how to love in return. And now abideth faith, hope, love, but the greatest is love.

Our boat to Soochow & back costs $11.00 Mex. About $8.00 gold. This boat is for Miss Mackenzie Mrs. Lord & three native besides the three boatmen.

May 6th Soochow

On Saturday, as we had gotten every thing about ready, in fact most of the things were on the boat, Ida went over to get Miss Mackenzie's satchel &c. in shame. When she reached there Dr. Cox says she could not go that day but if we waited he thought she could go (May 7th) so we waited until Sunday evening when we went on the boat so as to start early Monday morning. Our goods had gone down on Saturday & I am sorry that we had thought of leaving on Sunday.

Monday morning at daylight we left (May 8th Sunday) to proceed, Monday morning at daylight we left Chinkiang. We had our sails up until we got into the canal. But when they were put down there then we did not raise them again. Our men had to track the whole way. We had three faithful boatmen & then our

native christians helped considerbly by pulling every now & then. We reached Soochows Tsang Men at about half past eight Thursday morning. The men missionaries & christians then left the boat & came across to Bro. Britton's so as to be here in time for the morning meeting. The boats went around & came in the Lor Men. Our boat caught up with Bro. Pierce's on Wednesday afternoon at two oclock. He had left the day before us. On Thursday we all got together. The Shanghai ladies came in a short time after we reached here then Bro. Bryan from Hochow hills & then the ladies from our boats. The trip down was very pleasant. Miss M. stood it well. Ida & I walked some every day.

May 10th, Grand Canal.

Our meeting in Soochow comprised both the association & the mission meeting. Bro. Lee of Shanghai was made President of the first & I was put in as Chairman for the other. The meetings were both interesting. In regard to the Mission meeting I had before come into prominence among the brethren & sisters of the Mission, especially those in Shanghai, by writing a letter to the Board voting against the investment of the 25.000, taels for which it was thought our Shanghai houses would be sold, in Shanghai. Some took it as a personal matter. This however does not make it so. I was writing what I thought it my duty to write & I am thankful that I wrote as I did. I am heartily opposed to the investment of all of this money in Shanghai. The Board has cablegramed back Sell & deposit; whereas our brethren had hoped to have them say Sell & buy. I shall with God's help submit willingly & gladly to whatever our Board decides, but I feel that if they could all see & know for themselves they would not think invest. It is a pity so much of our time has been spent in discussions. May God help us to draw nearer to Him.

Mis Price, Mr. & Mrs Pierce, Ida & I took dinner at Dr. DuBose's on Friday We all enjoyed the day so much. The Dr. has a pleasant family She is always so whole hearted. On Sunday Mr. Pierce preached for the foreigners - the meeting met at Dr. DuBose's. It was quite pleasant to meet so many of the good friends again. Soochow is a whole souled missionary community.

We left Bro. Britton's after dinner on Yesterday, Monday. They had been all to the visitors that a good host & hostess could be. Not being satisfied with providing for us while in Soochow Mrs. B. gave us a good luncher for our starting off with.

Mr. Pierce & I called last night to see Mr. Bailey outside the Tsang Men. Our boats anchored there. We also called on the two lady doctors just out from America who stay in the same compound.

Today I saw a poor afflicted man all drawn up. His feet were in the same position apparently as when he was born. When the boy took him off of the boat he just let him roll down the ~~canal~~ plank from the boat. The poor creature could do nothing more than to roll on to his back when once he was moved from that position

I also saw a woman pretending to want to drown herself but it was too slow I think

Chinkiang, May 13th 1898

Today, Friday, we have had the pleasure of having Mr. & Mrs. Wright of Yangchow to spend the day with us.

We reached home last night after a pleasant trip down the canal. Yesterday was a good day for us as the wind was good. We came from "Bun Nu" a place about half way between Dan Yang & Tsang Chow. Our boatmen, Chu Lao Ban, brother & "hogi" were all quite pleasant. The boat was bargained for at $11.00 mex for the return trip. I added $2.00 wine money. This boat took the three Chinese christians, Miss Mackenzie & ourselves. We had such a pleasant trip.

On returning to Chinkiang we find that the Hutton's have moved to Shing Hwao & the Sydenstricker's moved in. The Walkers have returned from their trip but the children are sick with whooping cough

May 18th, 1898 Grand Canal

We left this morning for a run over to Yangchow. We have just crossed the river & been anchored for twenty minutes on account of the hard rain. It had been our intention to go to Shing Dong this week but the inclemency of the weather has prevented. A letter from Bro. Bryan this morning encloses one from the Board telling the mission to repurchase in Shanghai. The Board says if a place can be found on which seven out of nine of our mission are agreed then buy. In this we see that the Board throws the responsibility on us as to the buying. For my part I am not in favor of the whole amount being invested in Shanghai & therefor it will be hard for me to vote on it. May the Lord direct in what is done.

In a letter dated April 8th to Bro. Bryan from Dr. Millingham in regard to the Shanghai property investment is the following "The Board passed the following resolution: 'That the Cor. Secty. be instructed to write to Rev R.T. Bryan that the Board approves of the reinvestment of the money to be realized from the sale of residences in the city of Shanghai in ground & residences in another part of the city whenever seven out of the nine missionaries of the Board in Central China shall approve such investment'". Then Dr. Millingham adds "By this you see that you can invest again if the missionaries on the field are practically unanimous in the selection of property" It is hard at present to tell what will be done.

May 24th

On last Friday I believe it was we had Mr. Mrs. Bear; Edgar & James to take dinner with us at half past twelve oclock. In the afternoon Mrs. L & I went over & took tea with ~~Mrs~~ Mrs. Gibson.

On Sunday Mr. Emsley, C.I.M from Aberdeen, Scotland, preached for us in Chinese. He took dinner with us on Monday. He is to be married this week to Miss Cuthbert of Abberdeen Shire.

On Tuesday we took dinner with the Sydenstrickers & last (Tuesday) night Dr Hoag staid with us. Thus we have been having a siege of callers & calling. May it strengthen one & all of us.

The weather continues very bad War news from the Spanish-American war is scarce

May 27 Day Geang

Yesterday (Thursday) we called Gao Lao Bas small boat at 45¢ a day & left Chinkiang at two oclock for a trip to Day Geang & Shing Fong. We reached Day Geang at six last night anchoring in the Yangtse at the "Song Mar Ter" (upper landing). Last night Ida & I talked & kept on talking until we did not know what time. This morning we were up at half past five. At about half past eight I went off & had a pleasant & I hope profitable three hours first in a tea shop then in a barber shop & next at the "R Mar Ter" talking with the head man in the (E Dou Joh) (free ferry boat) office. After dinner Mrs. L. & I ~~read~~ a time & I slept she had slept in the forenoon. Then at two oclock we were both out for the afternoon; I feel encouraged to try to hit a man here,

May 30th 1898

On Saturday we went to Shin Tong. On the way we stopped at the Kiang Pih Beacon & saw how the light that directs the steamers on the river was arranged. The old keeper had been in this service for more than ten years. He was only an ordinary looking man but such an important position. I tried to impress upon him that it would be even a higher calling if he could light some poor souls on to their eternal home. He gets $7 about Mex$10.00 per month. About one tin of oil is used every month. The reflector is as clean & bright as can be. Oh how important that our gospel lights be always trimmed & burning.

We reached Shin Tong about 2 P.M. Went over to Suh Shong. He had come to Chinkiang so we talked with his daughter for a time. We would have gone back on Sunday but after Saturday nights pouring rain when our bedding was wet we decided that it would be best to return. We reached Chinkiang at 5 P.M. Mrs. Walker had us at supper. Today Monday the weather seems good. I had started up to Yangchow but heard that Mr. Pierce was away so did not go. Dim in hopes we will not have to go to Shanghai. The divided ideas of our missionaries at present is not a hearty healthful sign. Doo may be the obstructionist but if it is the Lord's will then let me rejoice in it rather than mourn.

The American-Spanish war proceeds slowly. May truth & right prevail.

Bro. + Sister R. T. Bryan
Shanghai.

In reply to your letter of May 19th 1898 in which the permission of the mission is asked to allow you to use the money required to rent in Shanghai in some other place during the summer. We the undersigned regret that we have been asked for such permission and desire to be excused from voting.

Chinkiang China
June 1. 1898

L. H. Pierce
J. K. Mackenzie
I. C. Lawton
H. H. Lawton.

The above was in reply to a letter from Bro. Sister Bryan asking that we allow them to use the money which they would rent with in Shanghai to rent a house at some other place during the summer. May God bless us all.

June 2nd 1898

On Tuesday Miss Shaw from Nankin Miss White, Dr. Taft + Bro. L. W. Pierce were here to an afternoon cold supper which Mrs. Lawton had very tastily arranged.

Bro. Pierce staid over until after dinner on Wednesday. Miss Mackenzie also took dinner with us Wednesday.

Today Tsun Su Mo + her two little children ate a Chinese dinner with us. Her husband the tailor was sick + could not come. She tells us that "Katie Hoag" the wife of "Alfred" gave birth to a boy last night. I know Dr. Hoag is proud of the little man.

Tonight Mr. Laughlin of the Northern Presbyterian church from up the canal is to take supper here.

Wong Shong our chapel keeper is back from Day Kiang - reports Good.

June 9th

The wife and children of Rev. Wm. Crozier passed down to Shanghai on their way to America - this was last week. Mrs. Davis, Nankin, also passed down on her way to America.

We have about made arrangements to get Mr. Crozier's house in Nankin for the summer.

Mrs. Ingleman spent the night with us the first part of the week. Her husband ran down to Shanghai for a few days.

Mr. & Mrs. Wright spent Sunday night with us. They are now up on the hill at the ladies.

Dr. Kupfer has gone on to Kuling for the summer. He is some better. The weather here is getting quite warm.

"Wu Dah Tsi" has not yet gotten through with the beggars house. He is trying my patience very much. I do not see how I can work him any more after this. He has a man repairing this house. He contracted to keep it from leaking for seven(?) years. He still has two or three years left. This morning he sent word that if I would pay him then he would go over the house, if not then he could not trouble with it. He then sent for the ladders here. I would not let "Yien Si Fu" have them but sent him up on the house to work instead. He may do more harm than good up there. We truly have a great deal to care in this old world.

Day before yesterday there was a dead man in the Abby way leading to the Beggars home. This morning I say a young boy about fourteen dead at the abby entrance. He was lying on straw. This [illegible]

June 16 Wu Chow San Bungalow

Yesterday at half past eleven Mr. & Mrs. A.E. Wright of Yongchow Miss Lawton & myself with Mr. W's boy "Yin San" & the Bungalow keeper "Tsang Wei" reached here. We ate dinner. Then Mr. & Mrs. W. went up for a walk on the hill. Mrs. L & I took an afternoon nap. Later in the afternoon we went up on the hill where we read - Mrs. L. aloud.

Today, Thursday, after breakfast we all four started up the hill. Mrs. L. did not go more than half way. I went about 2/3 of the way then turned back on account of the rain. Mr. & Mrs. W. went to the top. We three last were soaking wet from the water on the bushes. After washing off & rubbing dry I felt much better. Just after I had changed Mr & Mrs. W. came in. Mr. W. said he felt as if he had been in bathing. This morning before breakfast I had a pleasant & I hope profitable study of the first eight chapters in Matthew. After I had gotten through with that Mrs. L. came up to the (ting tsi) small shed on the hill & we had a short walk together before breakfast. We saw a deer & a fawn. We tried to catch the latter but I did not and when I failed Mrs. L said that I said to her "why didn't you let me catch it." The old deer stood & looked some time at us. These woods are filled with all variety of birds. I like to hear the "whip poor will".

I am now reading the report of our Corresponding Secretary for Foreign Mission (Dr. Willingham). The study of the different fields is truly interesting & I hope I shall let it help me.

June 19th Sunday

Mr. & Mrs. Wright, Mrs. L. & S returned yesterday from the Bungalow. Just before leaving Mr. Wright saw a large snake go into a part of the old Wall, which after getting his pistol, he & I began to tear down. After much work, especially by Mr. Wright, we got two snakes. one was a very large one about seven or eight feet long.

On Friday afternoon Mr. W. & I went up on the hill above where Mr. Bean had at one time bought some land. I left Mr. W. hoping to go to a cave in the side of the rock near the top of the rock. As I wound my way up I wondered how such a nice little path could be in that out of the way place. As I went on it got larger. As I wondered I suddenly heard a loud sound like the snoring of a sleeping man. I looked & said what I took to be a cave. I thought perhaps some poor Chinaman had Rip Van Winkled over that way & began to go near when my thoughts quickly suggested "a wild boar." I turned around & went down that mountain side "like a streak of lightning" Mr. Wright who was some distance down the hill had heard two or three sounds previous to this & was looking up to see what it was. The rattling of the leaves as I went thro' them must have kept me from hearing. He called out "What's the matter?" "I don't know" said I bring the pistol I know this den". He came. We looked slowly & carefully but if the wild pig, for that is what it was, was in the place that I thought it had

escaped before we got back to it.

On Saturday when we reached home we found every thing in a very good condition. The boy was still sick. He will leave to spend the summer at his home. We call him "Ho Song", his name is Hou . He has been with us now a little more than eight months. During this time he has shown himself to be a quiet, ingenious & we believe honest cook. We praise the Lord that he has found Christ as his Saviour. We shall continue fervent prayers in his behalf.

Yesterday I told Mr. Walker about the rent on our houses being advanced from $40.00 to $50.00 Mex. per month. He took advantage of the opportunity to tell what he thought of the house & the poor condition in

which it is kept, and of expressing his surprise at the missions "taking advantage" of the scarcity of houses to thus drive the tenants into paying a higher rent. It was also found a convenient time for him to tell me how disappointed he & Mrs. W. were in Mrs. L & myself. We had received kindness at their hands & now when he was away we had not put our foot in his house. He has forgotten that Mrs. L. has never had whooping cough & does not care to lay herself liable to it at present. These kind of things are painful but if they cause us to grow then let us praise the Lord & move onward.

Mr. W. J. Davey C.I.M of Ku Tsun (Ancient city) not far from Nankin preached for us in Chinese this morning. Mr. Greer, Southern Pres. will preach in foreign service at Chinkiang Inst. this P.M. 5.30