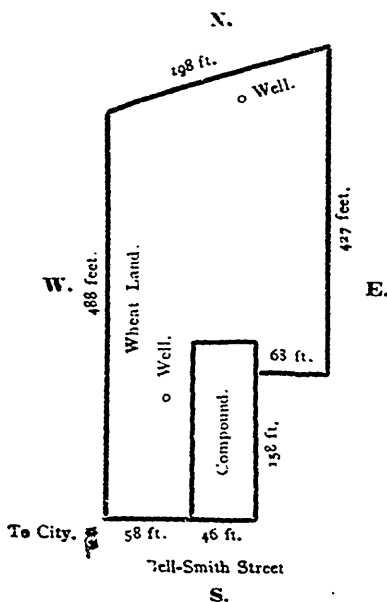


all summer, until Mr. MacGillivray finding mild measures fail was compelled to put the whole case into the hands of the *hsien* magistrate. Here there was another delay, until, threatened with an appeal to H. B. M. minister at Peking, the magistrate bestirred himself, arrested all the natives who were concerned in the transaction, examined into the case, dealt out summary and condign punishment to each and all offenders, forced the landlord to redeem the land from all mortgages and give us a clear deed, which was done in October and the last payment was made in January '95.

During the ten months while negotiations were proceeding, no outside opposition from officials, gentry, or people was met. In this we gratefully acknowledge the hand of God and accept it as a happy omen of the future of our work at Chang Tê Fu.

The property of the Canadian Presbyterian Church in Chang Tê is situated on Bell-Smith Street in the northern suburb about 450 yards from the northern gate of the city proper; yet, while so near the city, tho' surrounded on all sides by wheat fields, thus escaping the unsanitary and noxious influences of Chinese homes clustering about us, we believe this will greatly promote the health of the missionaries there. Health has also been kept most prominently in mind in choosing the northern suburb as being the highest and driest part of the city.

The property consists of a block of land shaped as below, containing more than two English acres of land. In the compound there are twenty-three *Chien* (1 *chien* is about 10 ft.) of buildings, most of them solid brick; there are also two wells on the property:



The price paid for this was 1,500 *tiao* of Chinese cash or about \$750.00 gold. This we believe to be a reasonable price, especially when we know that the buildings alone would cost us over \$400 if we had to build them ourselves. Thus the land cost us about \$160 per acre.

The conditions of the lease are that it is good for fifty years, and stipulates that if at the end of that time the former owners wish to acquire it again, they must, according to Chinese law, pay us not only the full amount spent by us upon buildings and other improvements, but also return to us the original purchase money.

Thus while we may speak of it only as a *fifty year lease*, it really amounts to a *purchase*.

This is the first time in this very conservative Province of Honan that any mission has acquired property in a *fu* city.

Before closing I must acknowledge the aid given by our Christian teacher, Mr. Wang, in every way in his power, which was especially valuable in dealing with the technicalities of the lease, mortgages, and laws treating of purchase of property. But had not the way been opened and the whole matter directed by God Himself human planning would never have planted us in Chang Tê as we are to-day.

**Mission History.** This issue contains a historical sketch of our Honan mission, completing our review of the different Foreign Mission Fields of our Church. These sketches have been necessarily brief, but they will be found to contain, with a fair measure of fulness, the leading facts connected with the work in the different fields, and it is hoped they will be in some measure helpful in deepening the interest in our Foreign Mission work.

**"Dayspring" Report.** The Annual Report of the Dayspring Board, kindly forwarded by the Secretary, Rev. Dr. Cosh, has just been received. The "service rendered last year, 1904, has been recognized by most of the missionaries as a distinct improvement on that of any previous year. The calls at our own stations during the year, were, at Efate 12, Erromanga 14, Santo 15, i.e. once or more, per month. The amount paid to the Australasian New Hebrides S. S. Co. for their service was £1,330, other expenses making a total of £1,490. There was received from the different Churches interested in the mission £1,584, of which our own Church pays \$850. For the current year the arrangements of 1904 have been renewed, with some additional improvements. The service between Sydney and the Islands is by the Katoomba, a steamer of 1000 tons, and the inter-island service by the Roy Roy, 363 tons. The former leaves Sydney for the Islands every three weeks, and the latter makes a trip round the principal Islands every three weeks.