

Foreign Missionary Society.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

(Continued.)

Japan.

The statistics are as follows: Added during the year, 38; present number, 267; in Sunday-schools, 561; in eight day-schools, 368; native contributions, \$140.38.

C. E. Garst writes: "We returned from home September 6, and located in Kongo Ku, Tokyo. During the year I have made three tours among the churches in the interior. I set things in order, preached and lectured. In Tokyo my time has been used in writing tracts, preaching and in corresponding with the evangelists. C. Nakada at Hongo was guilty of misconduct in giving his daughter in an unscriptural marriage, much to the dishonor of the cause. When his support as an evangelist was withheld he made trouble about the chapel. The matter could be settled only in the courts, where Nakada was declared to be in the wrong. Mrs. Garst has assisted in two weekly Bible classes for women, one averaging an attendance of 12, the other of 4. Some progress is noticeable, especially in the ability of the women to impart what they learn. She has done what she could in the way of house-to-house work."

E. S. Stevens reports: "This day closes our missionary year. There are facts about the work more interesting than any we have tabulated. I regret that we can't mention them for want of space. My own work has been to study the language and assist wherever I was able to do a little. Mrs. Stevens has not yet opened a Dispensary, but she has made 700 professional calls, mostly on missionaries. She conducts a Sunday-school with the assistance of a Bible woman. Miss Oldham and Miss Riach are making good progress in the language. They have five girls in the House for Bible Training. They oversee three Charity Schools and three Sunday schools, and teach a class of young men in the English Bible. They have one Bible woman helper. Miss Wirick has charge of the Girls' Home, conducts a Woman's Meeting, two Sunday-schools and a Children's week-day meeting, when Old Testament lives are taught them. She has one Bible woman helper. Miss Johnson superintends two day Charity Schools, two Sunday-schools, teaches twice a week in the Girls' Home, holds two Women's Meetings, a Children's Meeting, and teaches a class of young men in the English Bible. Much time has been spent in visiting and teaching the Bible in the homes. She has two Bible woman helpers. H. H. Guy and wife arrived in November. He has made fine progress in the study of the language, conducts one night meeting with the aid of his teacher, and teaches a class of young men in the English Bible."

China.

Stations: Nankin, Luho, Cheu Cheo, Shanghai, Wuhu. Statistics: Number last year, 80; added since, 22; net gain, 16; in Sunday-schools, 100; in day-school, 81; in boarding-school, 28; collected, \$46.83. The individual reports are subjoined:

A. F. A. Saw:—"The small but thriving city of 'Little Nankin,' or, as it is usually called, Luh Hoh—meaning four points of the compass, with zenith and nadir, which in classical language refers to the world—is still one of the strongholds of Satan, against which the gospel cannon has poured its shot; and although the enemy has not been vanquished, yet our forces have been to the front and kept up a constant fire, bringing the crisis nearer day

by day. We regret to one being in charge when I am away itinerating. However, when there I hold daily chapel preaching, besides occasional open-air work, receive visitors, see patients and do work in tea shops. With the exception of a vacation last summer, a few other days from the station and 100 days spent in itinerating, I was preaching at this market. Last summer we gave up the house and chapel in the city, as the funds were low, and besides we were eager to get to a more open place. However, considering the lowness of funds, and not being able to have Mrs. Saw there all the time, owing to there being no other family there with whom she could stay during my long itinerations, we fixed up snugly, the South Gate house with materials from the city house, which proved an oasis in the desert, being separated by the chapel and court from the busy street. Our small chapel has been the scene of eager disputants, motley crowds of good, bad, and indifferent, but we have had rich blessing in making known the Word of Life. I had the joy of baptizing our gateman's wife. At present we have only two Christians in Luh Hoh. Oh! for more laborers. What are we among so many heathen. I am humbled when I think of my imperfect work, but God has blessed it. The prospect is as bright as the promises of the Almighty."

F. E. Moxis:—"On account of straitened financial circumstances we have been compelled to move along without extending our work. We expected before this to have established an industrial department in connection with the college, but as yet the boys are living on the fat of the land, not exerting a muscle to help themselves or anybody else. The result is that the work is not by any means satisfactory to me. The advancement of the pupils has been fully equal to my expectations. The examinations, in my judgment, have been equal to the usual examinations in European schools of the same grade. On account of the large proportion of the pupil's time that, according to our present curriculum, must be spent on the Chinese classics, the number of other studies pursued is necessarily limited. The most advanced class has finished written Arithmetic and Descriptive Geography, and is now studying Algebra and Physical Geography. The Bible is a text book in the school. I do all the Bible teaching myself, with the exception of the lesson taught at the morning exercises. I teach a class of nine boys in English. I am doing this as an experiment, and don't know that I shall continue it. I now have 28 boys, most of whom I expect to retain if I can. There have been no conversions this year. Most of the boys are from heathen homes, and though several wish to become Christians, they are hindered by home influences. Quite a large proportion of the boys are supported by direct subscriptions to the school work. Had it not been for these, we should doubtless have been compelled to close the school long ago.

We may expect some visible fruit from this school work in about three more years. Our school work at the South Gate was given up principally because we had no funds with which to continue it. It is to be regretted that we have no day-schools in Nankin. Much good work can be done in them if properly conducted. I should have mentioned that we conduct a Sunday-school in the boarding school building, in which several of the missionaries work, and in addition to the school-boys, our servants and others who desire to attend from without are taught. I make regular semi-monthly itinerations to some of the villages adjacent

to Nankin; I usually spend two days each trip. I am inclined to think we shall be able to open a good work at Sheh Tsun, a village of about 150 families, situated about 45 li east of Nankin. These itinerations I have carried and shall continue to carry on at my own expense. I need a good native helper, but such is hard to find. I find school-work in China more trying than at home. It is difficult for me to get away from it sufficient time even for the necessary recreation. Then in this malarial climate we have a great deal of sickness among the pupils. There has scarcely been a week within the last year free from sickness in the school.

E. T. Williams:—"During the year I have had charge of the pastoral work in connection with the Nankin station. There have been some noteworthy examples of courage and steadfastness among the Christians here. Mrs. Tang, Bro. Feng and Bro. Chu, have all been subjected to severe persecution. It is encouraging to report that they have all endured hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ. The greater part of the time spent in itinerations was given to visiting cities and towns near Nankin, but 26 days were occupied by a trip with James Ware through the northeastern part of this province, the expenses of which were borne by the American Bible Society. We visited nearly forty cities and towns, and on the whole were well received. The district is one of the most populous and flourishing in all China. There are fourteen walled cities and hundreds of busy towns, with a population of sixteen millions. Nowhere in all this district is there a single Protestant mission station. I trust that the receipts of our Society may soon permit us to do something for the relief of this destitution. During the year I opened an out-station at 'Pukoo,' a small city just across the Yangtze River from Nankin. Threats were made by the towns-folk to burn the chapel, but an official proclamation has quieted them. I have been permitted to baptize three men."

T. J. Arnold:—"In reviewing the work of the past year we feel that it marks a very distinct period in our missionary experience. We entered on the work at Wuhu on April 26th, 1893, with fear and great joy. Our pathway has not always been bright and easy, but we have learned to thank God for the sanctifying discipline of affliction. We have worked on in patience, and often sown in tears, encouraged by the promise that "we shall come again with rejoicing, bringing our sheaves with us." We have labored earnestly to carry on the good work of building up the Christians in their most holy faith, and in our humble judgment this work has been the most fruitful of all. Many evidences are seen of increased growth in spiritual life. A marked desire to accept most heartily the obligations and privileges of Christian living, has contributed to make our Christians more worthy of the name of Christ, and a greater blessing to our fellow-countrymen. We had the joy of baptizing one soul, a young Japanese, who has given good evidence of his faithfulness to Christ under rather trying circumstances. Under the blessing of God we were able to settle the outstanding trouble at Wu Wei Cheo, in October last. This is a matter of great thanksgiving, as it has reopened the Gospel door to about 300,000 people. Notwithstanding "hard times," and the concomitant difficulties, we have been able to keep all the work open; God has graciously supplied "all our need," according to our faith. The day-school at Wuhu is now in a flourishing condition, with 17 boys, and we are earnestly endeavoring to impart Chris-

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tion instruction to them. Our Sunday-school is the most important part of our work amongst the boys. They have followed with much interest lately the history of Joseph, and seem to get hold of the simple truths taught by Bible narratives. We have often felt the need of some appropriate pictures to illustrate the points of Bible history, and hope to be able to purchase some or accept some from any kind friend who may feel disposed to help us in this matter. The daily preaching, though apparently unfruitful, has been a source of much blessing. During the year some 13,000 souls have heard the gospel of salvation. Many of these have purchased tracts, and we are confident that some hearts have heard the word gladly, who will in time receive it and bear good fruit. We have always to regret that our opportunities are greater than our ability to grasp them. It is thus in Wuhu. To adequately evangelize the territory, we need a house-boat; given this, two workers might soon have a solid work in Wu Wei Cheo and district. At present our opportunities are not only slipping away, but they are naturally passing into other hands. We have done some little itinerations in this district, and have always been impressed with the grand possibilities of working amongst such thrifty and well disposed people. We have sold 5,000 of Mr. Saw's calendars this year, besides several hundred tracts and gospels. Our Wuhu Christians are now aiming to purchase a piece of land, and build their own chapel in time. This is a high ideal, but not too high, and we intend to foster the spirit of independence and self-support in which it has been undertaken. During this year we have had to enforce discipline in two cases. This has been an unpleasant experience, but fraught with good results to all. In both cases true penitence was shown, and one has been fully restored to communion. We lift our hearts in deep thankfulness to God for His great goodness to us, and for the many tokens of favor and blessing shown to us in our labor for souls in his vineyard. In this spirit we take courage and go forward. Our present standing is: Church members, 21; inquirers, 5; Sunday-school scholars, 36; day-school scholars, 31; subscriptions, \$8.66.

(To be continued.)

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