

Pyeng Yang, Korea

January 1, 1903

Graham Lee

Dear Mother:-

I've been trying to get time to write you lately but it does seem as if a fellow had no time for anything but the work that piles up on one, and there isn't time enough to do that well. I traveled through my district until the middle of December and immediately after that came our winter Training Class which has just closed. In this class there were about 700 men enrolled with an average attendance of between five and six hundred. All accommodations were stretched to the utmost. The class was divided into five divisions and each missionary had two hours a day teaching. It was hard work, for none of us had time to prepare before the class began so we had to prepare each day as we went along.

In a few days we are off to the country again holding smaller classes. I hold two classes in my district, also helping Mr. Hunt with one in his district. Then we are arranging to have a class held at each group, and these small classes are taught by our prominent Koreans who are capable for such work. This teaching of the Bible in classes this way is one of the main features of our work.

At a meeting yesterday we received four men as candidates for the ministry. This makes six altogether. These men are given a course of study which will take them several years to finish. After the course is finished they will be ordained, provided of course, they pass their examinations. In the examination yesterday an interesting fact came out. Twelve years ago when Mr. Moffett was going through Pyeng Yang on one of his first trips, some of the officials' underlings threw rocks at him. In the examination it came out that one of the four men [Yi Ki-Poong] was among that number of underlings who threw rocks at Mr. Moffett twelve years ago. This man is developing into one of our best workers and it shows what the Gospel does for these men.

Did Blanche tell you how the Christmas box got here and how it came on Christmas day? It just caught the last steamer and if it hadn't come then we wouldn't have received it until spring. How we did enjoy opening the box, and how it was the next thing to seeing you all again. Thank you for the neck scarf, Mother. I hadn't any, so this just fits in and it is a beauty.

We have had a very warm and delightful fall. Today is the first really cold day. The wind is blowing from the north-west and it is that kind of wind that gets into your marrow. Mr. Whittemore started off for the north this morning. I felt sorry for him having to face this wind all day - but that is part of the missionary's work and he takes everything that comes and makes the best of it.

We want to thank you again for the Christmas box. If you could have seen what joy it gave us you would have felt repaid for the trouble it took.

Give our love to everybody.

Your affectionate son,
Graham Lee

(from the Samuel Hugh Moffett collection of Samuel Austin Moffett papers)

Pyeng Yang, Korea

January 5, 1903

William M. Baird

[to his brother, Rev. John Baird, Hanover, Indiana]

My Dear Brother:-

I wrote you that we were having a visit from Rev. Rankin of the Southern Presbyterian Foreign Mission Committee. He took sick here with pneumonia, and after an illness of about ten days or two weeks he died last week. In meeting him and caring for him during this last illness we all learned to love him and to feel that one of God's saints had been with us. He was so patient and brave that it was a real pleasure to have known him even amid such painful circumstances. He was buried on the 29th of December in a foreign land, far from former friends and acquaintances on a cold rocky hill in a trench dug with difficulty almost through the solid rock, but in the morning I believe there will be a joyous awakening to more glorious conditions.

There is a good deal of sickness now among the Koreans. One of the Academy pupils is lying very ill with fever and pneumonia. He is a fine Christian boy of whom we have much hope. Another pupil of the lower school, the child of my colporteur, is quite sick, and the little babe of one of our servants is very ill. All of these are at present in a dangerous condition.

I was glad to learn in your last letter that Bertha was better. I hope she may not be so ill as you feared. A visit to her home may give her needed change and rest. I wonder who pointed out Annie's home to her on the train? Let me know how you all are. Does father have as much sufferings as formerly? I suppose a change of place and scene give him a rest from thoughts of his own pains. Does he enjoy the news as much as formerly? How is his bearing? Did he remain permanently better after getting treatment for his ear?

Annie wants to know what has become of Mrs. Thompson of Faymour. She has written twice and has sent two reports since hearing from her and fears that some of her letters or Mrs. Thompson's may have gone astray.

We have just closed a winter training class (or rather 5 classes) of six or seven hundred members. It was the largest and best we have ever held. Quarterly leaders' meetings and many conferences are always held at the time of this class, so it is a particularly busy season. The demands of the work seem to be growingly imperative. I do not see how it can all be carried on without more missionaries. School work, local church work, country evangelization and itineration, class work, caring for the sick, literary work, general plans for all the churches - such as the beginning of organizations for mission boards, conferences, incipient presbyteries, etc., open out unlimited opportunities for immediate pressing services which cause us to neglect many other duties, perhaps equally apparent.

On last Friday we commenced the training of six men for the ministry. They are at present our elders and leading helpers, a fine band of men, ranging from 35 to 50 years of age. One of them is my helper, Pang Ki-Chang, who was once a leader of the Tong Hak rebels but is now a most earnest Christian man. We expect to give them a two-weeks training now, a month's training in April, and another month's training in July. This will be repeated each year probably and as other classes come on, the work will probably become

in name what it is now in fact, a Theological Seminary for the ministers of our church.

I am at present teaching these men especially along the lines of the Person and Work of Christ, and other soteriological studies in addition to exegetical studies along the line of the books of the Bible that I wrote you to get me commentaries on some time ago; and will also have special work with them in history, medieval and modern. So you know my line. If you see especially helpful books along those lines I should be glad to have you send me one occasionally. I must have some of the best books and, as I cannot get many, I do not care to experiment in getting poor ones.

We are greatly put to to get reading matter for our boys - especially Sabbath reading. It is my desire to bring the children up as much as is wise along the old fashioned lines of religious simplicity. There are plenty of "up to date" "Sunday" books for children that could be gotten and would doubtless be "interesting to children", but I do not want that kind. And I find it difficult to find any other kind that are interesting enough to make the children enjoy them. I don't mean to commission you with so large a commission that you will have to go out of the ministry to attend to it, but if you happen to know just what I want I should be glad to have you send me a children's book, too, now and then. I have the *Precept on Precept and Line upon Line* series; also *Pilgrim's Progress*. I do not know what books there are to be had in the stores now. Secular books for children are more easy to find. A "gang" of four reading boys is pretty hard to get keep the Sabbath day holy unless they have something fit and interesting to read. I speak anticipatively from experience with only one or two reading boys.

I must close now and get ready for tomorrow's work.

Sincerely, your brother,

William M. Baird

Pyongyang, Korea

January 13, 1903

Graham Lee

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:-

Here is a record of my fall work. Examined for baptism 220, baptized 105. Examined for the catechumenate 245, received as catechumens 179. Our Training Class we held this year in December - over 700 enrolled, of whom only 23 received any aid. I taught two classes each day while the class was in session - one in 1st Corinthians and one in Theology. Am now getting ready to hold small classes out in my district. It is my plan to have a class held in each group by some competent Korean. Will have charge of two myself - also helping Hunt in one.

I write to remind you especially of the appropriation asked for the enlargement of my house. The only study I have is one I built myself and the only guest room we have is one built by Mrs. Webb [his mother-in-law]. Ever since the guest room has been built it has been occupied by someone of the Station who had no other place to stay. The following people have used it: Miss Best, Dr. Fish and Mr. Whittemore - and Mr. Bernheisel is now the present occupant. Mrs. Webb occupies a room in the main house but she gives her services to the Board - and although she can't do much her presence in the Station is worth the room. At present she teaches an hour a day in the girls school that Mrs. Wells has charge of. The Mission asks 650 yen and I hope the Board may see their way clear to granting it, for we are very crowded.

At present the general health of the Station seems very good. Dr. Rankin's death was very sad. We did what we could for him but evidently his work was done. His sweet gentle spirit endeared him to the whole community and his patience in suffering was a lesson to us all.

Before closing I wish to say a word about Blair [William N. Blair] and his wife. To my mind Blair gives promise of being one of the very best missionaries on this field. He has plenty of native ability, but better than that he [has] the ability to adapt himself - and that means so much out here. He is an earnest man with plenty of horse sense. And his wife is just as good as he is. Both of them have made most excellent progress in the language.

Very sincerely yours,

Graham Lee

P.S. I do not know as you heard of it, but my father died the day we were in Kobe. It was a grief to me that I couldn't be with him until the last. I never saw anyone think so much of two letters as he did of the letters you and Speer sent him. They were a great comfort to him in his last hours of pain. He suffered dreadfully and his end was a happy release.

G.L.

(from microfilm roll #280, Vol. 233, letter #6)

New York, New York

January 21, 1903

Frank Field Ellinwood

Rev. S.A. Moffett, D.D.
Pyeng Yang, Korea

My Dear Dr. Moffett:

I have just read your interesting and encouraging letter of November 25th giving a clear and very interesting picture of the work - panorama I might say of the various missionary operations. While the reports from Seoul and its outstations are rather depressing owing to the dearth of interest in the City and elsewhere among the native churches, it is refreshing to learn that in the North the refrain is what it has been in the past, full of cheer and hopefulness.

I agree with what you say as to the necessity of an early movement for advanced education of girls at Pyeng Yang. We cannot get on with the education of the boys in the north and the girls at Seoul. We must have both in each place. We have been very busy with evangelistic work, and that is the only excuse for the fact that we are so late in bringing up this important department of service.

I do not remember to have received any letters from you since our correspondence last summer with regard to the best method of healing the differences that existed between Dr. Irvin and some of his brethren. I still feel that personal adjustment would have been better than any Mission action, though all have not agreed with me. But the past is past and it only remains to labor for the future. I think it is Edward Everett Hale who said - "Look up and not down, look out and not in, look forward and not backward and lend a hand."

There seems to be some friction not only between the north and Fusan, but some also between the old stations of the mission. Our earnest prayer is that the causes of difficulty may pass away and that harmony and success all along the line may be vouchsafed.

We hear something about the building of a hospital at Pyeng Yang by Mr. Fish of San Francisco. If this be true, we wonder if the generous donor is father or relative of your beloved wife. I hope that she has returned to Korea with health greatly improved, and that you are both strengthened for your great and arduous work.

I can see the need which you state of an unmarried lady at Pyeng Yang. There are two or three stations in Korea where one or more are needed. The outlook for reinforcements at present is not good. There is a scarcity, especially of men, and then, what marked differences there are between men. Would that we could always find the very best.

We are running behind last year in those late autumn and winter months, but hope that ere the year closes the shortage may be more than made up. There seems to be an earnest evangelistic spirit throughout the Church, and from some of our mission fields we have very encouraging accounts. In others, difficulties, and in some cases even strife seems to prevail. I believe Paul preferred to have the Gospel preached even of strife, rather than not preached at all; but that was not the thing which he preferred and prayed for.

1/21/1903 – p.2 F.F.E.

I see by the letters from various members of the Korea Mission that the cost of building is greatly advancing. This we regret as it will be the means of diminishing the number of structures that can be supplied. So far as churches are concerned we seem to have nearly reached the limit of contributions.

I wish I could write more favorably, but we are by no means without hope and somehow have a feeling that brighter days are near at hand.

Please to give my very kind regards to Mrs. Moffett and to all our friends at the Station.

Very sincerely yours,

F.F. Ellinwood

Pyongyang, Korea

February 2, 1903

William N. Blair

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

It is again my turn to write to you in behalf of our station. The last station letter no doubt told about the unusually large men's training class held here at the Christmas season. I suppose it was the largest class of the kind ever held in Korea. The rolls show that more than seven hundred men attended.

Immediately following this class, a special class was held for the candidates for the ministry. The six men who are taking this course were shown what it means to get down and "dig" for ten days. One of them, Ni Kip Pung, [이기풍] told me that he scarcely slept during that time.

About the middle of January Mr. Hunt and Mr. Lee went to Whang Hai Do to hold two classes together, one in Mr. Lee's territory and one in Mr. Hunt's. I went to An Ju on the 16th of January and acting under Dr. Moffett's direction examined and baptized three men and received four others as catechumens. These men were the first people that I ever baptized and you may be sure it was a precious and solemn labor for me. An Ju is a point of great importance, situated as it is about half way between Syen Chun and Pyeng Yang. Dr. Moffett has for years been anxious that a church might be built up there, but up to within little more than a year ago we had no believers in the city. But during the past year the seed sown through so many years has germinated and I found over thirty people worshipping God on the Lord's day in a nice church near the east gate of the city. From An Ju I returned to Sook Chun thirty-five miles north of here and remained there eight days holding a class for the men. Helper Kim and Mr. Tung from Pyongyang taught classes in Matthew's Gospel and Paul's Epistle to the Phil[ippians]. I taught part of the book of James and gave lessons in singing.

While some of us were in the country, the people here in Pyeng Yang were having a very sad time. The unusually warm, open winter has caused much sickness both among the missionaries and the Koreans. Before I left for the country the chicken pox had set in over on the Methodist side. Every child has "had it" I think or is "having it", the Wells' and Bairds' children excepted. But while the Baird boys missed the chicken pox, they fell ill nearly all at once with a dangerous influenza. Little Arthur, about thirteen months old, a very bright child, was very sick when I left for An Ju. When I returned to Sook Chun word reached me that Arthur had died on the Sabbath day before, that was the 18th of January. You will know that Mr. and Mrs. Baird have the loving sympathy and prayers of all here. After the baby died Richard, the next youngest was dangerously sick for many days and is not yet entirely out of danger. The other two, John and William are about now, but both have colds that worry us. In all their trials Mr. and Mrs. Baird have been very brave. His Grace has been sufficient for them.

It seems now that whooping cough is to be our next visitor. Mrs. Swallen told me today that their children had something very much like it. If they have, I believe they caught it from our little Japanese house dog. He has [been] coughing for some time with what the Koreans call the "Tong Nag ui Kitchen Pyung" or the "Donkey sneezing disease". They say a dog may catch it from a child and vice versa. I am glad to report that the older members of the community as far as I know are well excepting Mrs. Moffett, whose health is

2/02/03 – p.2 W.N.B.

very unsatisfactory. Dr. Moffett has gone to the country for a few days but is expected home this week to begin a "training" or "bible class" for the business men of the city this week. A class will also be held at the same time for the women. This is the Korean vacation season when they have much time for study. It seems to me sometimes that we almost overdo the class business, but then I can't see how it is possible to teach too much of God's Word to a people who are anxious not only to study but to practice it.

With Kindest regards, I am
Sincerely yours,

William N. Blair

Haiju, Korea

February 11, 1903

Underwood & Moffett

Dear Dr. Allen:-

In accordance with your suggestion Mr. Moffett left Penguang on Friday and Mr. Underwood left Seoul on the same day. Mr. Underwood came direct to Haiju, arriving on Saturday the 7th at 12 p.m. Hearing that the investigation was to be conducted here in Haiju, Mr. Underwood communicated with Mr. Moffett, who had expected that investigations would be held in Sinampo, and he and Mr. Hunt came on to Haiju at once, arriving Tuesday the 10th inst. at about 10 p.m.

While awaiting the arrival of Mr. Moffett, Mr. Underwood called on the Governor and also on Yi Eung-Ik. The governor was very pleasant: received him very cordially and was not slow to detail his grievances against the French Priest Wilhelm and also against Father Le Gac. He claimed that not only had they hindered and prevented arrests of Koreans by force but had liberated those under arrest and seized, bound and imprisoned the officers sent to make arrests and had had them flogged. That he had established a Court of Justice at his own place, where usurping the functions of a magistrate, he had cases brought and tried of both Roman Catholics and others. The Governor also told me that Father Wilhelm had acknowledged that he did all these things.

(I might state that the Bishop in Seoul told me that Father Wilhelm would not allow the arrest of any Roman Catholics by the Governor.) H.G.U.

Father Wilhelm also called on Mr. Underwood and told Mr. Underwood that he had been for months in a fight with the Governor for official recognition and that he had taken this method of forcing the matter to a settlement. He personally acknowledged to his having ordered arrests and at other times hindered the Korean officials from arresting and to having ordered the arrest of police officials who were obeying the orders of the Korean lawful authorities. He said that he regretted that in this fight, Protestant Christians were involved.

The two priests, Father Boucet from Seoul and Father Wilhelm from this section had a conference with the Governor and Mr. Yi Eung-Ik on Sunday at which the Governor says the admissions above referred to were made and at which he asserts both priests acknowledged the wrong had been done by Father Wilhelm, and Father Wilhelm gave a written statement that he would continue to do the same no longer.

On Monday, February 9th Han Chai Soon of Sinampo and Kim You Oh of Changan, entered their complaints before the special inspector in the evening. On the next day orders were issued by the inspector for the arrest of the men mentioned in the complaints and among them was the name of An Tai Kou who was the leader of those who assaulted Kim You Oh, it being known that this man, An Tai Kou, was at the house where the priests were being entertained.

The Governor himself gave us the following details. The policeman, finding that the man was in the house and that when called for he did not come out, in the fulfillment of his

commission went to the door of the room where the man was with the priests, opened it and told the man to come out. At this the priest ordered him (the policeman) to be seized and had him suspended from one of the beams by his hands tied together, and then bound his body to the post. They then ordered the man beaten.

It is also known that the priest, Father Doucet, then went to the Inspector and claimed that the treaty had been infringed as the policeman had come into the room where the priests were. The inspector replied that the laws had been infringed when a policeman had been bound and beaten. Father Doucet then said "Then we are quits" and with an apology from the inspector and the imprisonment of the policeman who had already been beaten, this transaction was ended.

The man is still held in prison for the alleged violation of the treaty. Not having a copy of the treaty with us we cannot be sure, but we doubt whether that is a violation of the treaty as this is not a treaty port. Will you kindly inform us on this point?

Another man named Cha, was also ordered to be arrested, but Father Wilhelm said, "It is now late, let the man stay here tonight, and I will send him in the morning". In the morning he was not sent and when the police went for him, both Father Wilhelm and the Korean were gone.

The Catholics from Sinampo who had been with the priests here, also left the city the night their arrests were ordered, so that not one has yet been arrested.

Messrs. Moffett and Hunt arrived on Tuesday night. We all paid our respects to the Governor and the Inspector today at about 12. The Governor was very free to express his feelings on the troubles here, claiming that it was impossible to perform his duties as Governor with priests arrogating to themselves the functions of Magistrates and teaching and leading the people to defy the authorities.

We also called on the Inspector who talked very freely in regard to the situation. He told us that all the men whose arrest had been ordered had fled and that he had sent orders to the local magistrates to have the men arrested and sent to Haiju and that when they were arrested he would at once proceed with the trial.

We have also heard from the other counties where the arrests were ordered that the men to be arrested are not in hiding; that when the local Yamen runners came and said they were wanted they laughed them to scorn and said, "We defied the Governors own policemen and do you suppose we will go with you?" They are in open defiance of the authorities and of the Inspector and we do not believe that he will succeed in arresting these men unless he has authority to use the soldiers that are here, for it is known that the Roman Catholics will use force to prevent arrest again as they have heretofore.

The Inspector says that if the men cannot be arrested he will proceed with the trial without them, take all the evidence he can, count their flight as one against them and decide the cases, but if these men can defy arrest, they can and will defy conviction. If after all that has

2/11/1903 – p.3 H.G.U. & S.A.M.

been done they are still left at large and the Government cannot or will not assert its authority, the Romanists will be more boldly aggressive than they have been.

It is plain to everybody here that the natives here would be unable to thus defy the authorities were they not being upheld by the Frenchmen. The situation is indeed serious, more so than either of us had thought and it may involve civil war.

Do you think it sufficiently serious to warrant the communication of the situation to the English and Japanese, who are so vitally interested in preserving the integrity of Korea and the peace of the East if further development should show the continued successful defiance of all authority? We don't know how far this will accord with what you want as a report. Please pardon any mistakes, and if you will let us know your desires we will endeavor to conform to them.

If you have two copies of some one of the codes, it might enable us to communicate with you if necessary by telegram without the telegraph people knowing what we were saying and Mr. Underwood will bring it to Seoul when he comes.

If possible, the bearer will be returning by the boat that takes him to Chemulpo.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) H.G. Underwood
Samuel A. Moffett

Pyongyang, Korea

February 18, 1903

J. Hunter Wells

Rev. Dr. F.F. Ellinwood, Sec'y, Board of Foreign Missions, Presbyterian Church

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

I am sorry to bother you again so soon but this is the regular station letter which it is my turn to write.

The condition here at present is sickness in nearly every family, none of the children of our station being in attendance at the foreign school. Some sort of sickness is in every house. Whooping cough is very prevalent and the mothers are, in the language of one of them, "having an awful time." The deaths of Arthur Baird and of our little Mary Lou have already been written to you.

The day is sunny but a fierce Siberian wind is howling through the hills and sweeping through the trees.

Dr. Moffett and Mr. Hunt are in Haiju with Dr. Underwood and others holding that court which you will hear about, convened to investigate the charges of usurpation of civil authority, intimidation of Christians, etc. by Roman Catholic Koreans - backed, it is said, by a priest. The trial is by the Government, on representations by Dr. Allen of the defiance of authority there, and Dr. Underwood & Dr. Moffett were asked by him to go and be part of the court. You will hear from them in detail. It is sorry business, but necessary. They may be there for weeks and in the meantime their planned work must go uncared for.

Mr. Swallen is at Syenchun and Miss Best is soon to go there to help in the Womens' class. Thus you see the busiest station in the Mission has nearly half of its working force helping in other districts.

Messrs. Lee, Bernheisel & Blair have just returned from visits to their circuits where they held classes.

Work of all kinds is pressing the hospital, 69 persons having been there yesterday and several important operations having been performed by me.

Mrs. Moffett has been sick abed most of the past month. The Bairds are nearly broken down - temporarily - with the much sickness in their family. As for my own, I will say nothing since my previous letters had no weight, but I could get you medical certificates showing what has already been sent you as even more pressing, that is our furlough. The only way I am able to attend to the work in the Hospital is to rely a great deal on my unpaid assistants. They - with the two who are on small pay - help to do it. It is a great satisfaction to me to be able to report three students as ready to go out and practice. But this is only to be expected after the several years. The best point of it is that they - two of them - have continued on long enough without a cent being given them. They realize that the instruction is worth the time and effort.

Mr. Hunt is not well and both the Hunts and Moffetts ought to go away this summer. The Board ought to know and realize that the Pyongyang missionaries are on a peculiarly

2/18/03 – p.2 J.H.W.

severe strain and should look to it that they do not press the rules too hard in the matter of furloughs, etc. or else the unnecessary loss of some of our most valued workers by permanent breakdown will result. I sincerely hope nobody here will have to suffer even the temporary trouble Mrs. Wells and I have had to by the action of the Board concerning our furlough, which all think will be promptly reconsidered and permission to leave in June be granted.

I do not wish to burden you but will repeat the reasons for asking [for] the furlough as requested by the Mission. You have had sent to you two medical certificates stating that we need this change now. Dr. Sharrocks writes that he will write to you. I have made no request at all to him to do so.....my furlough is full due and Mrs. Wells has also the right to go, according to the amendments to Section 18 [of the Manual]..... And so, for the whole good of the work, the most economical way, the most in accordance with the Manual and for the health reasons stated and the certificates, we again ask permission to leave here in June.

Yours sincerely,

J.H. Wells

P.S. But notwithstanding all the obstacles mentioned, the work, in general, goes on apace! I was with Dr. Moffett on a short trip lately - having gone with him at urging for a change they all say I needed - and saw the glorious growing of the gospel in one section. Elsewhere it is also fine but there is sure to be serious deflections and trouble in the Whanghai district where the Roman Catholics are numerous. And this despite the findings of the court.

Here in the city a class for the business men unable to get in the winter training class was lately held but it lacked Dr. Moffett's presence who planned it.

Womans' work is flourishing on all lines. The Girls' Schools under charge of Mrs. Wells and Miss Best are reported with the largest attendances ever. The Womans' School in charge of Mrs. Wells assisted by Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Swallen and Mrs. Blair is more successful than ever. Miss Snook reports a fine growth in a work two miles from here.

The Academy is as usual and we all hope that the man - clerical - whom we request for Pyengyang and whom we hope to either work in the school or else take some one else's work so they can go in the academy, will be sent here direct and at once. The Board ought to surely send us this spring the nurse and the man we so urgently need.

J.H. Wells

Pyeng Yang, Korea

Feb. 24, 1903

Alice Fish Moffett

Dear Fatherdy,

The news of your Chinese Mission and of Mother's reading class makes us very happy, when we know you are both so happy in your work. We are following them with great interest. My heart is always sad when I think of the church work there and what a hold the world has upon many of those who profess to be the Lord's children. It is hard work, sad work, for those in the pastorate there, oh, much harder than being out here, - for even though thousands and millions all about us are in the blackest darkness, there are so many hungry for the truth and ready to give up all, even life itself to do God's will, that we cannot but rejoice constantly. The saddest thing to me as I think of the church in the Homeland is the way in which the young people are being trained in this generation. With so much of worldliness and doubt all about them only the most careful training in home and teaching in church can ground them firmly in the truth, and very, very often both of these are lacking. Yet is not the very condition of the church a sign of the last times? The time of apostasy is a part of prophecy, and when we pray for the speedy coming of our Lord are we not virtually asking that the time of falling away and of the trial of our faith shall be brought about? This has come to me very strongly in connection with the Roman Catholic troubles and persecution here which threaten the very life of the church in this land as the Boxer troubles did in China. Yet we know the Lord is gathering out and strengthening His own, and that every true child of His is in the hollow of His hand. If the Church here, or even one soul were in our care only, we should be miserable beyond all men. Thank God that when suffering comes to these children of His, we know and they know that it is not against God's plan, but that it is given unto us all to suffer as well as to believe.

All seems very black for this land as a nation; Japanese, Russians and French are closing in, till this poor, weak, would-be Government must think all the world against it. We, only, can see the brightness here within the church. Thank God for the promise that the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

The investigation of the Romanist troubles still goes on in Whang Hai Province. Word from Sam by telegraph lets me know all is well with him but I do not yet know what has been accomplished or when he can return. I know it is trying and grieving him sorely that this is cutting out so much of Mission work for there was a mountain of work in country and in city church for him before this came, - it has already cut out three of his study classes which were arranged for. However, we trust that the good accomplished for the whole nation and for the entire Mission work will be so great as to compensate, although we may not see all the results ourselves. At any rate Sam has gone by request and appointment of the American Minister, and Sam does one thing at a time and will remain there till he has accomplished all he can, so we must believe all will work out for the best. I am expecting word by courier very soon.

Father, I want to tell you about one of the elders in the church here, Mr. Kil, who is a man of beautiful spirit and one of the strongest workers here, but who is losing his eyesight. Although only 35 years old, cataracts have formed in both eyes. About six months ago Dr. Wells operated on the left eye and removed the cataract but inflammation followed and apparently he is to lose the sight of that eye entirely. He has come to me several times to ask advice and I have urged that the right eye shall not be operated on but that he shall at

2/24/03 – p.2 A.F.M.

least try the Dissolvent Treatment of Dr. Oneal of Chicago which is so highly praised. I sent symptoms to Dr. Oneal last Dec. hoping for a course of treatment by this time but he sent a blank asking for more information which I am forwarding by this mail. This has caused a delay of three months and as Dr. Oneal says that when he prescribes he will tell the cost of treatment and we can then order if we wish, it may be another six months before the medicine can arrive. In order to save time I am asking Dr. Oneal to send to you a statement, if he prescribes, saying that he has done so and telling you the cost. I have no idea whether he will charge \$5 or \$150 and it may be that the treatment will be beyond our reach entirely, but I want to leave it to your judgment. Mr. Kil is willing to pay anything for his eyesight and will give as much as he is able, but even \$40 or \$50 gold would be beyond him. Now if you hear that the cost will be something like \$20 or anything under \$30 will you please forward it for me and save three months of waiting? Then I will send the sum to you as soon as I know. If the sum called for is more than \$30 please just let the matter drop. I know the case is a serious one and am not expecting too much, but this man is a power in teaching the word of God, and it will be a great blessing to the church here if he can have even the moderate use of one eye.

I am always so glad to read the news of the relatives from your letters. I think so much about Aunt Emily. Is there any relative or friend near there who could see her and write you just her condition and surroundings? Give my love to all the Fishes near at hand.

Tell dear little Mother, indeed I will join her reading class. I have read Via Christi, but I will gladly go over it again and would like her to send me Lux Christi sometime.

I hope Iriong (sp?) does prove a well regulated machine after he is once wound up.

I am getting along nicely and gaining somewhat in strength. It seems a very long time without Sam, but I would not have him away from the work that needs him.

A heart full of love for you both,

Your daughter,

Alice

Haiju, Korea

February 26, 1903

Samuel A. Moffett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

At the request of Mr. Hunt and of Dr. Allen, the U.S. Minister, Dr. Underwood and I are here, present at an investigation ordered by the Korean government into the question of the lawless acts of the Roman Catholics in this province.

The Romanists, protected from arrest by the French priests, have inaugurated a reign of terror, have usurped the rights of magistrates, arrested men, imprisoned them, tortured them and extracted money. They have released their men when arrested by policemen, beaten the policemen, defied the officials and carried on all sorts of lawless proceedings. They have levied upon the people for money with which to build their churches and in all their lawless proceedings have been protected from arrest by their French priests, who have themselves had men beaten, prisoners released, policemen and other officials arrested and brought before them for punishment. They over-reached themselves, however, when they ran up against stalwart Protestant Christians who would die before they would give their money to build Romanist churches and who would refuse to recognize the right of Romanist leaders and French priests to arrest, try and punish them. For eight months our Christians have been trying to secure justice through the regular Korean courts until finally they succeeded in getting their grievances before the Central Government. We had not interfered at all, though I had written a statement of the case to Dr. Allen, asking him if there was anything which could be done to get the Korean government to protect its own people.

Dr. Allen asked the government to investigate and a special inspector was sent. He has already found that the complaints of our Christians are but a very small fraction of the outrages which have been perpetrated upon this people in the name of the Roman Catholic Church and he has requested the deportation of the two French priests who have been most active in the affairs. Whether this government has strength enough to assert its own authority in Korea as against the usurpations of the French priests and the horde of robbers who have attached themselves to them is the question which is now at issue.

I regret the necessity of being away from important work in Pyengyang, but for the time this must supersede all other work - as the whole question of the existence of our churches seems involved in this struggle. Our men were most unmercifully beaten and tortured by the Romanist leaders and when they appealed to their own officials for protection they were again beaten by the Romanists and tortured and finally driven from their homes - their wives and children beaten and their land taken from them. They have shown themselves the equals of the early Christians and the Protestants of Reformation times in their endurance of persecution, their steadfastness in the faith and their strict adherence to law and order in their efforts to secure protection from their own government.

The poor people are finding these self-appointed magistrates (the Roman Catholic leaders) even more cruel and more oppressive than their officials have been in past times and the stories they tell of the way in which they have been beaten and tortured in the presence of the French priests and the way in which their money has been extorted from them remind one of the days of the Spanish Inquisition. Thousands of people have been forced by terror and by threats of ruin to join themselves to the Roman Church and now that

an investigation has been ordered, complaints are coming in from all over the province asking for redress. If the Government asserts its authority and succeeds in capturing and punishing some of the worst criminals, there will be a far greater crowd of complainants from among those who as yet are afraid to speak out.

As yet we do not know what the Korean government will do, although it looks as though failure to assert its authority now is a practical abdication of its right to rule its own people and a surrender of that right to the French priests and their followers. Had we not the clearest kind of evidence it would be impossible to believe that the priests have been a party to these lawless deeds and even with the evidence it is hard to believe that they have fully known the extortions & cruelties practiced by their followers, many of whom are ex-criminals who, under the protection afforded them by the Roman Church are carrying on high-handed robbery.

What is to be the outcome we know not, but in prayer and trust are looking to God to bring out of it all, that which will be for the good of His Church and for His own glory.

Pressure of work during the month of January prevented my writing you my usual January letter concerning our requests for re-enforcements and appropriations. The plan of the Mission for opening a new station between Seoul and Taiku is entirely independent of the question of withdrawing from Fusan. The latter question the Board has now definitely settled and the Mission, having met its responsibility in presenting its views to the Board accepts, of course, the over-ruling action of the Board and will act accordingly in manning the Fusan Station. We shall, however, need a goodly number of new missionaries this year for re-enforcing all the present stations and for one or two new stations. The station between Seoul and Taiku is imperative if we are to properly develop our work and prevent the separation of our Presbyterian work in South Korea from that of Seoul by a work entirely Methodist or Baptist.

I want to plead also for more single ladies for our Northern work. The need is an imperative one. The two ladies we have in Pyengyang cannot begin to meet the calls for country classes among the women and we are losing immeasurably by the lack of such work. Our chief failure in Korea has been the failure to put in re-enforcements large enough to meet the great opportunities we have had. When we had our great opportunity in northern Whang Hai province we had one or two men for that work. The Roman Catholics sent four priests into the midst of our work - then increased their number each year until now where we have 3 men giving only part of their time, the Romanists have 9 men giving all their time. A section of the country which I visited five years ago and where catechumens were then received has never since been visited by a missionary and other places have received but one visit. The Romanists followed up our initial work most vigorously and have built up scores of Churches.

Unless we can re-enforce Syen Chun and provide for work among the women there and in the Pyengyang work, we shall be neglecting another great opportunity. While we develop our educational work which is now so important, let us not neglect the great opportunity for a larger evangelistic work.

I want also to write a few words about the furlough for Dr. & Mrs. Wells. Aside from

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the fact that it is an advantage to our work to have our missionaries leave in summer and return after the following summer rather than leave at the best season for aggressive work - in this case there comes the added reason that Dr. Wells, whose eight years are nearly past, is in great need of his furlough. He is far from well, is very nervous, and this year is not equal to the requirements of his work. If he remains longer it will be simply for the sake of the rule - not for the sake of the work which he is to do.

We shall eagerly await the action of the Board upon the requests for appropriations, trusting that the receipts this year will warrant larger appropriations for house-building and for new missionaries. I have greatly enjoyed Mr. Blair's association with me in country work this year. He is doing fine work on the language, is a zealous evangelist and readily wins the love of the Koreans by his own earnest loving efforts for them.

Miss Snook, too, has been doing a work among the country women which they have greatly appreciated. Her visits to several of my groups have been effective in strengthening the women.

Glad that you are still able to keep up your correspondence for the Korea work and appreciating very much your last letter to me dated Nov. 21st, '02.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Samuel A. Moffett

Pyeng Yang, Korea

March 10, 1903

William M. Baird

My Dear Brother:-

Your last letter of January 20th which said you had been quite sick, came a day or two ago. I am very sorry and we all hope you are entirely well before this. I see you were having sickness in America about the same time we were all having it here. I trust you and the rest escaped any more serious trouble.

Our children, and in fact the most of the children in the community, have been kept at home until the present, with whooping cough. John and William are doing fairly well. Richard, who was so sick to begin with, has had a much harder time. It settled on one lung and he is far from well yet. He seems better and is able to go about some now. He retains most of his food and medicine now, though he still coughs hard. One lung is shrunken which makes his body bend over to one side. His ultimate recovery will be slow at best, but we are hoping for it now.

Most of the community are out in the country. I am going along daily teaching the pupils and making men out of them, I hope, as well as preaching and doing other work that comes to hand or that my hand turns up.

The Roman Catholics have been making a great deal of trouble recently, stirring up rows among the Koreans. In one case where they were strong in a village they drove all of our people out so that not one dared to go to church or to go home. The matter is in the courts and is accompanied by much to show that they are here just what they have always been everywhere else, and the whole affair is giving occasion to the enemy to take the name of religion in vain. As usual, the non-religious public of the East is taking occasion to ventilate its venom - which as usual falls not on the heads of the offenders, but of the Protestants, whose only offense was that they did not die before the Romanists concluded to beat them, drive them away and take their land. The Korean officials, who have also been greatly outraged by Roman priests, seem inclined to do justice in the matter, but the French minister is using all possible force and intimidations to prevent it. So we do not know what will be the result. Underwood and Moffett are both down at Haijoo where the trial is going on, with a view to giving any testimony they may have and if possible to keep our people there from being driven away. A sample of the Roman priests' conduct was the following: An official issued an order and sent policemen for the arrest of a Romanist, a disturber of the peace. He was in the priests' house. The priests came out and, seizing the policemen, took them in, bound and beat them. The priests afterwards left the town and with a large company of adherents defended themselves in a fortified place. Some of these priests are said to be from the Philippine Islands, and they all have methods that are certainly not commendable.

It is dark. I must stop. With love to all,

Your brother,

William M. Baird

(from the Samuel Hugh Moffett collection of Samuel Austin Moffett papers)

Haiju, Korea

March 17, 1903

Samuel A. Moffett

Rev. F.F. Ellinwood, D.D.
156 Fifth Ave., New York City

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Your letter of January 21st has been forwarded to me here where I am still detained by the important interests at stake in the investigation of the lawless acts and persecutions on the part of the French Priests and their Roman Catholic followers. A dozen or more of the Romanists have been convicted of robbery, of torture, of extortion and of resistance to the authorities, while the French priests have been clearly shown to have been cognizant of many of these deeds, to themselves have had men beaten, arrested, tried & punished & to have had Romanist prisoners released from policemen. In some cases even murder under torture has been charged against the Roman Catholic leaders.

As I have listened to the testimony of our Christians and have seen the spirit in which they have endured persecution and the spirit of forbearance and love they have shown towards those who have so cruelly treated them, my heart has been filled with gratitude that it has been my privilege to see such character formed in these men. The power of the gospel of Jesus Christ has been revealed to me anew and I thank God for the great privilege of bringing that gospel to this people in whom the fruits of the Spirit have been so manifested. Among them is one of the first men whom I received as a catechumen in Pyengyang nearly 10 years ago.

My present object in writing just now after receiving your letter is to correct a misapprehension in regard to "the building of a hospital at Pyengyang by Mr. Fish of San Francisco" of which you write. Evidently a mistake has been made and what you have heard is I am quite sure without foundation in fact. So far as Mrs. Moffett & I know Mr. Fish has had no thought of building a Hospital in Pyengyang. Dr. Wells is expecting to raise funds for that purpose during his furlough next year.

I have been planning the enlargement of the Book Store in Pyengyang which I have conducted for nearly ten years and am planning for a Reading Room in connection with it. For the carrying out of this plan Mr. Fish has made us a gift and my brother has also sent a contribution. Possibly this gift is at the basis of what you heard about a hospital.

I trust this may reach you in time to correct the mistake so that in making the appropriations this year for hospital, site, building, equipment, etc. you will not be acting upon misinformation. Your letter also contains the following sentence - viz, - "There seems to be some friction not only between the North and Fusan, but some also between the old stations of the Mission."

Concerning this may I remark that the "friction" has not been between the North and Fusan but practically the whole Mission took exception to certain phases of the situation at Fusan, and on the question of giving up the Fusan station the Mission was almost of one opinion. Some in the North opposed it. Probably the Northern members of the Mission have written more fully on the subject but the opinion was if anything held even more strongly in Taiku and Seoul.

As to "friction" between the "old stations", I think there is less now between Seoul & Pyengyang than there has been for several years. There is more hearty co-operation and less

suspicion on the part of our Seoul brethren. The so called "friction" arose very largely from the fact that the great development of the work in the North made it seem that we were getting too large a share of the new missionaries for several years and from the fact that we in the North differed so decidedly from some in Seoul on certain phases of policy in the development of work. Now that Seoul station has as many men as it can well take care of and the Board has relieved us of responsibility on some phases of policy, that feeling has disappeared.

The Board has taken to itself the responsibility for decision on house building and medical work in Seoul and so we are relieved. When the responsibility is upon us we must of course act according to our convictions as to what is best and will so represent matters to the Board. Then the responsibility is upon the Board and we of course accept its decisions and act accordingly.

The Board has settled it that more men are to be settled in Fusan and that decision stands although there are many in the Mission who when the responsibility was upon the Mission could not vote to send as many men there for preliminary work when such a large developed work and ready harvest calls for more men in the North & Center of Korea.

There are now 8 Presbyterian Ministers and 3 physicians in Fusan & Taiku with not more than 300 members & catechumens requiring oversight and there are but 10 Presbyterian ministers and 2 physicians in Pyengyang & Syen Chun with about 8000 members & catechumens needing oversight, direction & organization with all the work that is involved in the more advanced stages of the work. Personally I do not think the force in the South too large for even initial work among such a large population - but I fail to see the wisdom of placing 5 Presbyterian ministers in Fusan and only 3 in Syen Chun at this stage in the development of the work.

I quite fully concur in your views on the "Dr. Irwin [Irvin] matter" as referred to in your letter. However, the Board put a grave responsibility upon the Mission and we met it in the way that seemed right & best all circumstances considered. The Board has relieved us of further responsibility in that matter also and I have no desire to take up the subject again. I sincerely hope that the judgment of the Mission will be proven to have been a mistaken one and that Dr. Irwin's [Irvin's] return will prove for the best. Of course we shall all do all we possibly can to promote harmony and to secure a blessing upon the work in Fusan in all its phases.

I thank you sincerely for all your kind words and your good wishes for Mrs. Moffett & myself. May you be permitted to see the great spiritual blessing upon all the work in the mission fields for which you have been working and praying.

Very Sincerely Yours

Samuel A. Moffett

March 18th

A telegram has just come announcing the death in Seoul of Rev. W.V. Johnson of smallpox.

Pyongyang, Korea

March 20, 1903

Alice Fish Moffett

Dear Father and Mother,

Sam has been in the midst of a very critical situation down in Whang Hai Province for the last ten days or so. Not one dangerous to him in any way but a situation of great moment in the fight which is to decide whether the Korean officials or the Roman Catholic are to rule in that district - and so, of course, eventually in all Korea. Day before yesterday a courier came in with letters - one of them 12 closely written foolscap pages - giving details of the trials before the Inspector and of the whole situation in various parts of the Province. He says, "The French and Roman Catholics are making every desperate effort to defeat justice and no doubt will succeed in a measure - but they cannot prevent all punishment - though they may prevent anything like adequate punishment. They are thoroughly unscrupulous and have no regard for justice, honor, or truth." I guess that there is no doubt if Dr. Underwood and Sam had not been there at this time and been supported by the American Minister, the Roman Catholics would have overcome the Korean Government, assumed control, and backed by the French and possibly by the Russians, have extended their rule till they worked up a civil war or a Boxer movement. The part of Russia is played very quietly as yet, but she has a finger in everywhere. The fact that the conflict is between R.C.'s and the Gov't. rather than R.C's and Christians, and that the victory, though not complete, is still a victory for the present, are two things to be very thankful for. Sam has been away six weeks today, but the condition ten days ago seemed so critical that something must be decided before very long, and I am hoping he can come home sometime next week. Mr. Hunt was telegraphed for and left yesterday, to reach Hai Ju city tomorrow. Even as far north as this, Roman Catholics are fleeing into hiding for fear of being arrested and taken for trial, and the Koreans say there are a great many more people attending the country churches now. The evil deeds of the Romanists have been brought to light and in all the trials not a Christian has been convicted of wrong doing - so of course many will flock to the church which is in the ascendancy just as a few months ago they flocked to the Romanists in the hope of gaining power or of escaping officials. This will constitute a new danger in country groups and call for greater watchfulness from missionaries and the native helpers. After my class with the women last Wed. a woman came up and very quietly asked for news from the "Moksa" [pastor]. I did not have Sam's letter then but told her I knew there was very serious work going on down there. Then she said "We want to hear that it has all turned out well. We women, a few of us, have been gathering down in one of the houses in the city every day for this past week to pray for 'Moksa' and for the work down in Whang Hai." Another said: "Our God is Almighty and we pray and believe that by His power the evil will be conquered by righteousness."

I am quite busy these days making some necessary repairs about the home. Am having a new coat of mud put on the outside of the house, cleaning and papering the kitchen, cleaning out our store room (which you would think a small grocery store), preparing the vegetable garden for seeds, etc. etc. So you see I am better, and am so glad to have a lot of Koreans around me and to be accomplishing some of the many things to be done. I am trying, however, not to overdo. Sam sends me a paragraph of caution in every letter, "because", he says, "you are just like your Mother about this." I am so full of thankfulness every day when I think of you both and your enjoyment of health and of the work in your hands.

Please give my regards to Mr. James and to any friends in the church who inquire. A heart full of love for you both, from your daughter

Alice

(from the Samuel Hugh Moffett collection of Samuel Austin Moffett papers)

Pyongyang, Korea

March 24, 1903

Alice F. Moffett

Dear Father and Mother,

Last evening a telegram came from Sam saying he will be home Thursday - day after tomorrow. On Friday it will be seven weeks since he left. Oh, but that telegram was good news! It will be like real living to have him back again - though he will be so surrounded by Koreans and buried in work that I shall not see much of him, I know.

The Spring training class for women opens on Thursday and from the reports we hear from country groups we may expect even a larger gathering than before. I am preparing on a part of the book of Acts and expect to teach from it an hour each day for two weeks. In spite of the limitations of my knowledge of the language it is a pleasure to look forward to and a daily joy to teach these women the truths of Scripture. Oh how I wish that more Bible teachers from America could be out here - for their own sakes as well as for the Koreans'.

Did I write you of Mr. and Mrs. W[alter.V[irgil]. Johnson who started so recently from America? Mrs. Johnson was taken ill on the steamer and died in Japan of abscess which resulted in meningitis. Mr. Johnson came on to his post in Seoul to take up new work alone and we have just heard of his death from small-pox. The Lord has taken them to Himself in place of the service they would have rendered and our Mission waits for more workers.

These days are full of little things and yet there seems to be little accomplished compared with what one wants to do. Today I have directed workmen on the place, and superintended house cleaning, treated six patients, studied for the training class and prepared for my regular class tomorrow, given two music lessons on the organ, visited with those who came in, etc. Last week I had two important operations with Dr. in the Hospital, but am not doing much medical work. Have perhaps 3 to 5 patients a day.

Oh, I am so glad my dearest is coming home - I just had to write and tell you about it.

I am trying to send you a letter each week. Even when they have little news they are always crowded full of love for you my dear ones.

Your loving,

Alice

(from the Samuel Hugh Moffett collection of Samuel Austin Moffett papers)

Seoul, Korea

April 6, 1903

Mary B. Barrett

Dear Dr. Ellinwood,

The reports given at the March station meeting seem to me to be very full of interest, though some were not written and so are not at my disposal for extracts.

Dr. Underwood was in the country so we had no report from him but he will probably write you of the interests which held him so long in Whang Hai province.

Mr. Gale, having just returned from the same place, had not had time to write a report but gave us an outline of the outrageous proceedings on the part of the Romanists there under the leadership of a Father Wilhelm. To put it briefly, the French Catholics have seized and are holding all the prerogatives of civil power in Whang Hai and are using it to further their own purposes. They have been exercising this sort of power over about twenty districts, in only three of which there are Christians. So the movement is not aimed especially at Protestants there though the effect will be to stop our work there unless they are checked. That is what the government seems making a weak attempt to do. How it will all end is more than any one can see now. At present Mr. Gale is very happy over the near prospect of joining his family again, though for a brief time. He has been working so extremely hard, doing the work of nearly two men most of the time - that we are all glad for him to have the rest, especially as he had malaria so much last summer and would probably have it again if he stayed here this summer. He reports that the translators committee have finished Galatians and are working on Ephesians. During his absence Mr. F.S. Miller will take charge of the *Christian News*.

Mr. F.S. Miller had just returned from a trip to the south east where he first held a class in Tum Pongi - pronounced Toom Bǒngĭ, in Chun San district. Although notice had been given twice to the churches and some of them had subscribed toward the fund to pay for the food and wood for the class, the average attendance was only about seventeen men and boys, and those were not the same ones all through. Men living ten or twenty li [one li = 1/3 mile] away found it too far to come or were too busy. Mr. Miller took sick with Grippe [influenza] on the second day and only managed to keep up to his work by lying down between sessions. As his helper, Kim, was in Whang Hai with Dr. Underwood during the first part of the class, Mr. Miller had it to do alone, teaching four hours a day and holding evening meetings and morning prayers. But he says, "We had a blessed timeand studied Luke through and parts of Matthew not found in Luke. Those who attended, I feel sure, went away feeling they had received a blessing". After the class he and Kim, who had by that time joined him, visited other groups. At one place some innocent persons were in jail and had had to use considerable money to pay squeezes and thought Mr. Miller ought to pay that if he could not interfere for them, and were somewhat dissatisfied that he did not. We hope they will not end by going over to the Plymouth Brethren, who are working through that region. The church at An Song where we had not given the political assistance that the people thought we should, and where some had been disciplined, has gone over to the Plymouth Brethren where they can get political assistance and freedom to break the Fourth Commandment, a paid position or two, and a general freedom from law and order.

Thus this field is very discouraging, as the Plymouth Brethren have been not only taking over people who had been connected with us, but their tendency has been to make those people return to all their former bad ways and sometimes even take up worse ones.

But Mr. Miller adds, "I would feel very bad about these secessions had not these churches proven themselves so unspiritual and so impenitent and so evidently after the loaves and fishes before they left us, and by the fact that they left us. As the apostle of love says, 'They went out from us but they were not of us, for if they had been of us they no doubt would have continued with us. But they went out that they might be made manifest that they were not of us.'" Meanwhile the nucleus of a new work seems to be forming in some of these places and among a better class of people. We have more hopes of these, as they know from the start that we so not assist politically and therefore are probably more in earnest.

Dr. Field had just returned from a trip over the same region that Mr. Miller had visited in the preceding trip, extending across southern Kyeng Kui Province into Chūng Chyeng, finding the same conditions that he did, namely, that the new work is very much more encouraging. In Kyeng Kui, however, at Emuli, she found an interesting little group which Mr. Miller had already reported and which resulted from the visit of one of the women to the hospital in Seoul where she stayed some time with a sick child, and returning home, took the gospel with her. Several other women professed to believe but only three seemed to be in earnest. The father-in-law of the woman who first believed is also a Christian. One little boy has learned to read though he has no teacher. It seems as though the Holy Spirit had taught him in order that he might read the Bible at their services, for they meet regularly on Sundays and Wednesdays even though not one of them can read. They meet, pray, sing and disperse, and have been doing this for several years. The men, however, seem to regard it as a woman's affair. Dr. Field and Mrs. Shin met, taught and prayed with these women three times each day on Saturday and Sunday and then went on. After a very hard trip, owing to rain, mud, and swollen river, they reached Sin-tai, the end of their journey, where no foreign woman had ever been. They began the study of the Catechism the next day preceding each lesson by a short Bible study. Seven women who were catechumens came regularly, and a number of others who had begun to believe after Mr. Miller's visit, were equally anxious to study and did so. They all had hymn-books and nearly all had well-fingered copies of the catechism which they seemed to like to study. Dr. Field tried to meet the children only, in the afternoons, but the women were so anxious to get all they could, that they would stand around and listen. However, a number of the children had simple gospel lessons read and explained to them and learned the ten commandments. At the night meetings the men were so eager to attend and to study that Dr. Field broke her rule of never addressing men and gave some talks. She also had her "boy", Cha Subang, speak to them sometimes, which he did well. This Sintai church is only fifteen months old and up to the present time they have held services nightly, not missing a single night either Sunday or during the week.

Mrs. F.S. Miller's health has been somewhat better and she has been able to look after her usual household duties and also teach a weekly Bible class of women.

Dr. Avison, Mr. E.H. Miller, and Mr. Clark took a short trip across the river to a group of villages where live a few believers who come into Seoul. Mr. Clark, for reasons to be mentioned, did not write a report. An extract from Mr. Miller's says, "There was one incident which impressed me with the readiness with which the Koreans listen to a story of the Savior. At a small village we stopped and as usual tried to raise a crowd by singing a hymn. But all the inhabitants seemed to have abandoned the place, though a few faces were seen at the door of one of those half underground huts where such work as shoe-making is carried on. On inquiry it proved to be a tobacco factory where the leaf is made into the prepared article as seen in the streets of Seoul. My teacher at my suggestion went inside, and while they

continued their work he told them the old old story, and at telling points it elicited their assent: "That's so, that's true", they would say, and they seemed as those who had never heard the story, though within ten or fifteen li [one li is $\frac{1}{3}$ of a mile] of Seoul. The trip was a revelation to me of the heathen just outside the city; not that there is not enough to keep us busy within the walls, but that there lying just outside in villages separate from each other, seem more accessible." I had hoped to have Dr. Avison's account of this trip and also the report that he gave orally of some of the visible results of the hospital work as an evangelistic agency, but owing to his being so crowded with work he has not been able to write it.

Mr. Welbon's and also Mrs. Welbon's reports were full of encouragement. As Mrs. Welbon's is to be printed in full in the next number of the *Korea Field*, I will not quote from that, as you can so soon read it there, and the full report is so much better than extracts. The roads were so bad that three chair coolies gave out and new ones had to be obtained and it took them three full days in early February to reach Pai Chun. However, when they arrived they found men and women both on hand and eager for study. Classes began the next day with prayers for half an hour, then the women went with Mrs. Welbon to another house for their study while the men remained with Mr. Welbon at the church and were taught the First Epistle of John by evangelist, Suh. Singing was practiced in the afternoon, Mrs. Welbon presiding at the baby-organ. Evangelist Suh assisted Mrs. Welbon in teaching the women while Mr. Welbon and the helpers taught the men. Mr. Welbon says the evangelistic meetings held every evening were better attended than any he ever held there before. He says, "The last morning of the class an hour was spent in preparatory service for the Communion to be administered the next day. I never attended a meeting like it before. After the leader's remarks there seemed to be such a feeling come over the meeting that each felt himself to be the chief of sinners. Many were the confessions of sin, broken by sobs and tears. There was scarcely a dry eye in the room. It was a meeting long to be remembered, and I look for better things throughout that whole district, for it did look as though the Spirit was working in their hearts. At the Communion service there was an attendance of about 124, besides a large number of sight-seers. Some would not partake of the elements because of a deep-felt sorrow for sin, but bowed in a silent prayer and shed penitential tears.

At our last meeting, which was a testimonial meeting, we had 25 testimonies in less than twenty minutes. Two or three were on their feet at a time. Each told of some special good thing he had received during the ten days' class. Some had received a new idea of God's wonderful love, some felt a deeper responsibility for the eternal welfare of their neighbors, others had a clearer view of sin and its terrible consequences, others felt as though they had just begun to believe, so happy were they in their new experiences, and so it went on. There was no preaching to others nor fear expressed that they would not be able to live because of hard times.

The thirty-six men present came from twenty-four towns. The leaders in nineteen of these places had their expenses paid from mission funds and all the others and the women paid all their own expenses, so that two-thirds of those in attendance paid their own way. We should remember that this is one of the most poverty stricken districts in our mission.

Mr. Clark and Miss Wambold were then engaged in nursing Mr. Johnson [Walter V. Johnson] and so were unable to be present at the meeting to give reports of their work. The whole station feels under obligations to these two and to Mrs. Clark also for their kindness to Mr. Johnson. You have probably been told of how the Clarks took Mr. Johnson into their

home, how Mr. Clark and Miss Wambold nursed him after the disease was pronounced small-pox, and of the last words, etc., etc. so I shall not repeat these. Only I wish, as a member of Seoul Station, to say that Mr. Johnson, even in his brief stay with us, had impressed us with his beautiful spirit over his wife's death [she died in Kobe Jan. 13, 1903 on their way to Korea], and the sweet simplicity of his character. We cannot grieve over his death [March 19, 1903], as he wished to go, though not in a repining way. But we do earnestly hope that God will use this as a means of rousing the interest of many in the home land in the work Mr. Johnson came so far to do, and which is now laid down and again waiting for another to come and take it up. Mr. Clark has proven himself a very helpful member of the community and is also doing extremely well with the language. Mrs. Clark's study has been more interrupted by her not being well at first but since Miss Samuel's arrival [Feb. 1, 1903], the two ladies have been working together (Miss Samuel boards at Clark's) and Mr. Clark has been helping them all that he could, so that they, too, are making progress.

Miss Doty gave a brief report mentioning the slight illness of some of the girls who were, however, well at the time of the report. Miss Doty has had eczema in her ears since last Annual Meeting, which refuses to yield to the doctors treatment entirely, though it is better than at first. After giving her report, Miss Doty started the next day, March 17, for Chyen Ju to visit Miss Tate of the Southern Presbyterian Mission. We hope she will return rested and perfectly well.

Those who are building or expecting to do so in the near future are taking great satisfaction in the great help Mr. Gordon is to them by taking the entire burden off their shoulders, thus leaving their time free for pure mission work. Mr. E.H. Miller expresses the hope that since so much of his time has been taken in remodeling a little Korean house this past winter, his new house too may go up while Mr. Gordon is here. This would leave his present house for the use of the boys' school, for which it will be used anyway eventually, though perhaps not for a year or two yet.

For myself, I have been teaching Geography since last December, two classes in the boys' school and one in the girls', two of these classes being duplicates. At first it was so difficult that I had to study several hours a day and then did not get it very well. Even now it takes nearly all my study time to prepare that and the lesson for morning prayers with the servants, and the Sunday School lesson. But I enjoy both the school work and the Sunday School class. The pupils are bright and interesting and seem to understand my wretched attempts at Korean much better than I should think they would and I have a pretty good chance to judge, too, for my two lower classes are not advanced enough for the work of the only Geography we have in the Korean [language], and so I make extracts, cutting out all but what will be easy for them to get hold of, often changing it a little, and then dictate it. The most of it they write down readily without a question, but once in a while a word is not easily understood and I have to say it several times, but someone always gets it at last without seeing the word, so I really feel encouraged. I don't try to make extended remarks on the lesson but sometimes I tell them some little thing not in the book and therefore in my own words, and they understand. And the boys are very kind about helping me to better pronunciation and to tell me a word when I can't find the one I want. The girls are too timid for that.

On Saturday mornings Mrs. E.H. Miller and I meet with our teachers and Bible women to study the Sunday School lesson for the next day, and spend a very profitable hour

4/06/03 – p.5 M.B.B.

together. Of course the Bible women do the greater part of the teaching but both Mrs. Miller and I make it a point to do a part of it ourselves, both for the sake of the Bible women who need guidance and for the sake of our language study. I have also adopted the plan of having my class commit [to memory] a verse of the lesson during the week and recite it the following Sunday. I also recite the verse and mark in my roll book who have recited it correctly. They learn the verses very well and seem to enjoy doing it.

Since Miss Doty went away I have had oversight of the girls' school and they began to make things interesting the day after she left by fifteen of them getting sick with Grippe [influenza]. That disease had already made the rounds of the two Methodist schools in the city so it was our turn. Two nights the helper, Mrs. Shin, and I gave medicine all night, and now all of them seem to have recovered their usual health. During this illness I realized as I had not before, how crowded the girls' quarters are, but we hope before another year we shall be able to remedy this, as the station is pretty sure to take some action for that purpose.

April 8, '03

Since writing the above, Miss Doty has returned looking rested and with her eczema entirely gone. She reports having had a delightful time.

As this is my first attempt on a typewriter I hope you will pardon the many mistakes; and I think perhaps that in spite of them this is more easily readable than if written by hand. Hoping that your health is good and equal to the strain of office work

I remain

Yours very truly,

Mary B. Barrett

Taiku, Korea

April 6, 1903

Woodbridge O. Johnson

Dear Dr. Ellinwood:

Your letter dated March 4th was received yesterday. In regard to the mission's unwillingness to let me know the grounds for action in Dr. Irvin's case I think you do not fully understand my position. It is simply that of an individual member of an organized body asking that body for private information he thinks due him. From my previous correspondence you will see that I requested to be included with the other members of the Committee in the same conditions of secrecy. The granting of my request therefore could not affect any other member of the Mission or cause any discussion of the matter.

I had or have no wish to re-open the question for I fully recognize as you have said that it would make for neither harmony, peace or the furtherance of the Gospel in Korea but their opposites. Upon reception of your letter and the Council decision I have no more to say.

I spent several days with Dr. and Mrs. Irvin while in Fusan last month securing timber for the Taiku Hospital. In our conversation regarding his return to Korea Dr. Irvin exhibited a most kind and charitable spirit and while I could perceive how deeply both he and Mrs. Irvin had been wounded, neither had a bitter or unkind word. Mrs. Irvin feels that she cannot again face the members of the mission at Annual Meeting but this will wear off I think in time. I assured them that I believed the majority of the mission would be glad to see them back now and the small minority would realize they were wrong as the years passed. I think a majority of the mission, as they realize the unanimous opinion of outsiders, are already beginning to believe their action should have taken some other form.

Uninformed as to the feeling of the mission except from their action of last Fall [he] thought it likely that the matter might be introduced at the coming Annual Meeting and expressed his willingness and determination if this should be the case to push it to the end. I told him that I felt almost certain that it was already buried and would not again come to life and urged him to look upon it so. He had determined before leaving the United States, I think, not to take the initiative in any way and admitted as much to me. His whole course and attitude in the matter have made me think more highly of him than before.

While at Fusan I assisted in laying out the foundations of Mr. Sidebotham's house. They were anxious to begin work as soon as Dr. Vinton should forward the necessary funds. He had expressed hesitation about doing so without further mission action. A letter from Fusan a few days since however informs me that he has done so and work will begin immediately. I presume that by this time it is well under way. Mr. Smith is a little cramped in Miss Chase's old quarters but Dr. Irvin has given him one of his rooms for a study which gives him a quiet place for book work.

As to Taiku station - Mr. Bruen came home from an itinerating trip two weeks ago

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with an attack of native fever. It resembles Typhus and is often so termed. He was very ill for some time but passed the crisis favorably and is now convalescing steadily. The rest of our members are pretty well.

The Chinamen, masons and bricklayers arrived from Seoul March 25th and are hard at work laying the stone foundations of the Hospital. Most of the timber will be procured in Fusan. I am having brick and tile burned near the hospital site. If nothing unforeseen occurs I expect the building to be completed by September or October.

I remain

Yours very sincerely

W.O. Johnson

(from microfilm reel #280, Vol. 233, letter #44)

Seoul, Korea

April 8, 1903

Horace N. Allen

Dr. F.F. Ellinwood
156 Fifth Avenue, New York City

My dear Doctor:

I have your letter of December 24 and one from Mr. Speer. I have been intending to write you when we should bring this Catholic prosecution to an end in Whanghai. Messrs. Underwood and Moffett went there to attend the official investigation for me and they comported themselves with marked dignity and reserve, so that the French authorities have not complained, while the Koreans have expressed gratitude for the aid of our people, and the general persecution of the non-Catholic natives at the order of a French priest, who has set aside and usurped Korean law, has redounded to the credit of our missionaries so that in one instance I heard of a whole village who had asked to become Protestants. As there was marked evidence of a sordid desire for temporal power in the request, since the people seemed to think the Americans were going to drive the French out, the application was not accepted. Mr. Jones [George Heber Jones], of the Methodist Church, told me of this.

I had started to have copies made of letters to send you but the task is too great and you probably would not care to read them. Underwood and Moffett sent me long daily reports and from these I have made up a synopsis and reported the matter to Washington with copies of court records. They may refer the matter to you, possibly.

A most disagreeable and unfortunate incident has been the publication of the Protestant side of this matter with violent editorials, by Mr. Hulbert [Homer Hulbert] in his review. The French Minister seems to think that Father Wilhelm, who has heretofore enjoyed an excellent reputation, must have become a little cracked by his solitary life off there in the country. I sometimes think Mr. Hulbert is worse than cracked. He evidently does not mean to do harm but he does a great deal, nevertheless.

I send you a few copies I had made and a newspaper cutting.

I was very glad to receive a letter from you again, and congratulate you on being able to do a good day's work in spite of all the wear and tear of so much previous work. I am glad to hear from Mr. Speer that you have recovered from a recent cold, and that Dr. Brown is now on the road to recovery. What a terrible disease that typhoid is. I dread it more than cholera. We had decided to send our two sons to Cornell next year but the epidemic of typhoid there, and the remarkable statement of President Schurmann that if the boys had used only boiled water they would not have had the disease, caused me to change my mind. When the president of a scientific school publicly announces that he can do no better than scold 3000 boys for not carrying a tea kettle around with them while playing football, like a Chinese soldier on parade, I think it time to look for another school.

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As our boys must get an education that will enable them to earn a living, we have decided to send them to the Mass. Institute of Technology, Boston, and I have secured leave to run home for the summer via the Siberian R.R. [trans-Siberian railroad] to see to their entering. They will meet us in Europe, however, for the summer and have a chance to polish up their French. I shall hope to find you at your desk when I call, probably in October or September.

With kind regards to your good self, Dr. Brown and Mr. Speer,

I am, as ever,

Yours sincerely,

H.N. Allen

Pyeng Yang, Korea

April 13, 1903

Charles F. Bernheisel

To the Christian Endeavorers, Chicago Presbytery:

My dear Friends:

The last three months have been about equally divided by me between the country and city, and therefore perhaps I had better tell you something of the things that have happened in each place.

To begin then with the country, during the last six weeks I have held three classes for Bible study in as many places. Each of the three classes was very interesting and profitable. I have already described this class work to you in previous letters so need not weary you with another account of it. However, I do want to tell you of one feature of it. On several evenings we had open discussions on certain questions of interest to the church. One night after discussing the subject of family prayer I asked all who would promise to conduct daily family prayers hereafter to arise, and was delighted to see about thirty men arise. Ten days later at the other place I made the same request and this time about forty men arose. We can hardly estimate the influence for righteousness that such a course of proceedings may produce. It will bring the family together at least once a day, a thing that is practically unknown in the Orient. The women are very lightly regarded here. They eat apart from the men and there is consequently very little of that family life that is such a peculiar and blessed feature of Christian civilization. Little by little it is being introduced into the Christian community of the Orient. The Koreans are very quick to see the advantages of it and one of the most noticeable changes that comes over a Korean when he becomes a Christian is in his treatment of his women folks.

From the last place I visited, I was called over into the adjacent country to help a group select a site for a new church which they were trying to build. They had selected a fine site on a high place and had started to work, but were prevented by two old men in the village below. They declared that should the church be built there, the singing would certainly disturb the souls of their ancestors who were buried a short distance back of the proposed site, and cause the ancestors to leave - and thus be the certain ruin of the family. And then, too, just across the valley was a tree inhabited by evil spirits who would be offended. And still more, the church would be visible from their houses; so the only thing to do was to build in a low field at the foot of the hill. I reasoned with the old fellows for awhile and then, thinking that their objections were purely sentimental, ordered the men to commence work. But no sooner had the work commenced than the old men flew into a rage and one of them, declaring that he would kill not us, but himself, rushed into the house and presently came out again with a knife in his hand and the woman of the house hanging onto his clothes. He succeeded in freeing himself from their hold and came rushing up the hill and again declaring that he would kill himself, actually did cut an ugly gash across his breast. Had we not jumped on to him and taken away the knife he might have carried out his threat. Meanwhile, the other old man had picked up stones and was making a target out of the workmen,

which resulted in a general decampment. Not wishing to be the cause of the death of the old man I, of course, at once offered to capitulate. We then tried several other sites only to have them resisted by others. We finally decided that we could not settle on a site that day and postponed further action for a while, hoping that things will take a turn for the better. The last I saw of the place, the women of the house of the old man were sitting on the proposed site with several dangerous looking weapons in their hands. The Christians there were also trying to get some tile for the proposed church, but not being able to find any for sale, determined to burn them. But tile cannot be burned without permission of the magistrate, so the leader went to see the magistrate to get permission, but the request was refused. I told them to come to Pyeng Yang and I would get a permit from the Governor. So I went in to see the Governor the other day and got the required permit. This will give you an idea of some of the difficulties these people have in such simple matters as building a church.

However, there is an interesting sequel to my visit to the Governor. In the conversation he said he was wanting to get a man who knew how to cook foreign food and said that if I knew of such a person, he would be much obliged if I would let him know. I didn't know of such a person, but last Saturday a man from Wonsan applied to me for a job, saying that he knew how to cook. I was not in need of such a person so I gave him a letter to the Governor and sent him over. Sabbath morning I received a letter from His Excellency thanking me very warmly for the cook sent him and saying that he wanted to give a dinner to a few friends that Sabbath evening, but as he had not had time to lay in a supply of foreign food and cooking utensils, wouldn't I be so kind as to cook a dinner for four and send it over at six with the dishes necessary to serve it in the proper style? Of course I had the good excuse that I am a boarder myself and did not have the necessary things.

Our theological class of six students is studying here this month and I have an hour a day with them. So you see I have added to my work very much. Next month I expect to start on a tour of my country district. It will take about five weeks to make the rounds. This will be my last trip until fall, except an occasional one to groups nearer at hand.

With kindest regards I remain your missionary,

Charles F. Bernheisel

Seoul, Korea

April 21, 1903

George Heber Jones

Hon. H.N. Allen
U.S. Minister Plenipotentiary

Your Excellency:

I have just returned from a trip in the provinces of Whanghai, the seat of the recent Roman Catholic disturbances, and while I learned very little of special value, still an account of my experiences may be of interest.

While in the city of Haiju I called on the governor of the province, Hon[orable] Yi Yong-jik. He is a genuine Seoul yangban [aristocrat], short, thick-set and with a black beard. He received me with formal cordiality and our interview, being free from the presence of other Koreans, was a very satisfactory one. The Governor, among other things, told me that he thought the guilty people who are now confined in the provincial prison on proven crimes would probably be dealt with very lightly by Imperial orders.

He said that both he, himself, and the prefects throughout the province recognized the great difference between the character of the Roman Catholic converts and those of the Protestants. The latter, he said, were peaceful law-abiding people who never gave any trouble. I told him that I trust that in cases where any of our converts were accused before the tribunal he would not allow any plea to be set up on their behalf, but would fully and impartially investigate the matter. The only request I had to make was that they should not be punished until their guilt was first clearly proven.

He said that his work was completed and his report prepared and that he would leave in a couple of days for Seoul to present it to the Emperor. He had about 20 or more Roman Catholic converts convicted of lawlessness, in prison, but he said that some of the heaviest criminals had escaped. He doubted if any heavy penalties would be inflicted, but that the degree of punishment would be determined by the Emperor.

The Commissioner was stopping in the Yamen of the Prefect of Hai-ju District, so I met this gentleman, Mr. Yun Chu-Yung, and an old-time acquaintance of mine. You may remember I introduced him to you on the train one day. He inquired after your health and wishes to be remembered to you. He said the Roman Catholic matter was a most serious one. I told him of the rumor in Seoul that the French Legation interpreter, Mr. Ye In-Wi, a Roman Catholic convert, was to be appointed governor of Whang Hai. He said they had already heard it in Hai-ju and if it was done it would be a very serious thing, indeed, for the peace of the province.

My own observation has led me to the following conclusions.

1. The non-Christian people of the province are thoroughly aroused against the Roman Catholics for their behavior and are ready for any acts of violence. I do not think there will be any organized or wide-spread uprising against the R.C's, but I do think they will be treated as bandits and felons generally and will have a hard time.
2. There was a general rumor in circulation that just as soon as the Imperial Commissioner

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left for Seoul, the police, soldiers and pedlars of Hai-ju were going to pay back some of the scores they had against them. I do not think there is anything in this rumor, but I do think that there will be local persecution of the R.C. [Roman Catholic] converts throughout the province, and that they will have to pay pretty heavily for their short lease of power.

3. Already the spirit of demoralization is entering the ranks of the R.Cs. The rumor of the police-soldier-pedlar uprising against them has frightened them. In the district of Su-haung, their leader has been arrested and beaten by the Prefect while the local Pedlar's Guild has seized and beaten a number of converts and extorted money from them. I had one application from an entire Roman Catholic Church to come over to us. I refused it. Mr. Cable [Elmer M. Cable, Methodist missionary] informs me that he could easily gather in a thousand men from among the scattering R.C. people. This indicates the panic. A few are also going back to paganism, resetting up their idols and fetishes.

In summing it all up, it is clear that the native R.C. leaders went beyond all bounds in their defiance of Korean law and government. It is firmly believed by the people that this was done under the direction of the foreign priests and as a result, both they and their cult are lastingly discredited before the people of the province. Indirectly, this will bring great credit to the churches under the American Missions as the contrast between the two cults has become almost unduly emphasized by the mistaken policy of the Roman Catholic priests. I do not rejoice in their fall. I am heartily sorry for it. I know that Roman Catholic Christianity has incurred an undeserved odium by the lawlessness of the native converts, but the situation has to be faced by them and it is a most serious one.

There is a nasty storm gathering about them. I do not anticipate that it will involve us. The feelings of the officials and people appears to be very friendly to us.

Very sincerely yours,

George Heber Jones

[The Rev. George Heber Jones was a respected Methodist missionary in Korea]

(from Microfilm reel #280, Vol. 233, #50)

New York, New York

April 25, 1903

Frank Field Ellinwood

Rev. S.A. Moffett
Pyeng Yang, Korea

My Dear Mr. Moffett:

I was glad to get your good letter of February 26th though stunned by the recital of the strangely wicked proceedings of the Catholic missionaries and their disciples in Korea. It almost renders one pessimistic and hopeless to see such manifestations of depravity and witness such dictates of Satan going forward in the name of Christian Missions. I have thought a good deal since reading your letter, of the problem. I do not see much hope, especially in view of the fact, first, that the Korean Government is too weak and timid to run the risks of complications with France, and secondly for the reason that there is no such commodity as conscience known to the French Government. It hates Romanism, and persecutes it at home, for it is I fear an infidel government; but it at the same time defends and encourages Catholic Missions because they help in an unscrupulous way to promote French interests in Oriental lands. Again and again we have seen manifestations of this in the Levant, in China and Hainan, particularly in North China. In Korea these performances are not one whit behind China. Ever since I have known anything about the missionary work we have encountered these difficulties, and I fear the end is not yet. You cannot appeal to [the] French Government, much less to the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, and I fear it will not do much good to appeal to the Korean Government. Still, I am very glad that you and Dr. Underwood have been called into the matter, and that Dr. Allen is in sympathy with you. Even if you do not gain success, it may be of some avail to show up the cussedness of the Romanists (excuse this unmissionary word, which, however, is not nearly as strong as some that our Saviour used in dealing with the foes of the truth and righteousness. The only fault I find with it is its inadequacy to express the evils which are encountered).

With regard to Dr. Wells, he has received long since the approval of the Board for his return this summer. Had the same cogent reasons been given in connection with the case at the Mission Meeting that we have since received, there would have been no question raised. Not only the fact that he is evidently suffering in health, but the reasons given for choosing a milder season for the transit of missionaries to and from northern Korea, seem to render it every way wise and proper to grant the furlough at this time. The return of Miss Chase and Miss Wambold, has also been approved for reasons given in a recent mission letter.

I am glad of what you say in regard to the final settlement of the Fusan question. The Board has by some sad experience learned that the more it yields up its fields to other missions, the more it is expected to continue along the same line. In Brazil, the Philippines and in Burmah, it has had experience of this kind, and there are some questions pending in the Philippines and Burmah at the present time. Meanwhile, the most hopeful outlook for Fusan that has ever been reported to us has been communicated lately, in letters from Mr. Sidebotham, in which he says: -

"We believe that Fusan has by its progress justified the hopes and decisions of the Board, and while bemoaning the comparative smallness of our work as yet, we feel that it has not moved slowly considering the number and language qualifications of the

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missionaries who have been stationed here. I would call attention to the fact that 3½ years since, when I first came to Fusan, there were 21 communicants, now 138, then 2 groups, now 14, a rate of increase we think very good; our work during the past 13 months has increased 84% from 63 communicants to 138, from 91 catechumens to 179."

We are here quite well aware of the fact that the brightest outlook in Korea is in the North, and what I have just said in a Mission letter, written the other day will show how keenly alive I am personally to the providential indications which seem to beckon us over into that northern Macedonia.

I am writing a letter to a friend with the hope that I may secure some funds for a hospital for Dr. Sharrocks. Please do not mention this, as I am not sure of succeeding, but it has been borne in upon me of late that this is a much needed thing to do. But while we would put forth strong and increasing efforts in northern Korea, and indeed give that the precedence, it seems to us a pity to either give up Fusan, or to undertake to work it from a center a hundred miles inland, and from a station which is just now specially weakened by the withdrawal for a time at least of Mr. Adams.

We have great faith in the future of Fusan as the entrepot [commercial center] of Korea from the Southeast. It is also, I believe, our most healthful station in Korea, as it is winnowed by direct sea breezes. But I need not enter upon this subject upon which so much has been said and written in the past. I think the outlook now in Korea is thoroughly pacific because the grace of God seems to be sufficient to keep the great command of Christ in the front, and all minor differences of opinion in the rear.

We are just now less than a week from the close of our fiscal year, and we cannot yet declare ourselves out of debt. We hope, however, to be able to escape that real calamity, and to bring the great ship into port on an even keel.

I am always more than glad to see your handwriting and signature in communications from the field, and hope that with your many cares and duties, you will favor me as often as you can. Meanwhile, please give my most cordial greetings to Mr. Moffett and the station circle.

Very sincerely,

F.F. Ellinwood

P.S. I am copying extracts from letters of Dr. and Mrs. Sharrocks and Mr. Whittemore which I am sending to all members of the Board in order to show them what the openings are in North Korea.

We are sending out a physician and his wife with the expectation that for the year at least, the Mission will assign him to Pyeng Yang in the vacancy left by Dr. Wells on furlough.

(from the Presbyterian Historical Society microfilm reel #283, Vol. 242, letter #115)

New York, New York

April 27, 1903

Frank Field Ellinwood

Rev. S.A. Moffett, D.D.
Pyeng Yang, Korea

My Dear Dr. Moffett:

I have read with deep interest your good letter of March 17th, just received. I wrote you a few days ago expressing sympathy with you and the whole Mission, and the native Christians in the sufferings and annoyance caused by the Roman Catholics. Evidently the millenium is not yet at the door. We can only labor and pray and wait. Your letter, like all of those which you have ever written to me, breathes a true Christlike spirit in which I rejoice.

The "friction" to which I referred in my letter (I may speak plainly rather than enigmatically) was supposed to be between you and Dr. Underwood and growing out of a letter which you had written him, which some of my colleagues saw with no little surprise. I never saw it myself, but Dr. Underwood and his brother felt a good deal hurt. I am glad to know that in this respect, the past is past, and so you say there is a better feeling than there has been heretofore. I am glad to believe that over all the Mission, north and south, there is more of the spirit of forbearance and of a united desire to make the great work so prominent that everything else shall disappear.

With regard to the Pusan matter, the Board did indeed lay a heavy burden of responsibility upon the Mission with respect to Dr. Irvin. In a letter which I wrote to Mr. Fenn last summer in my absence, I expressed regret that the "Dr. Irvin matter" had been laid before the Mission. I felt that, as I wrote you, it should be settled between individuals. The alternatives in the case were put pretty sharply in Mr. Fenn's letter to the Mission, but please do not mention this to others, as I wish only to explain my position to you personally. The thing is passed.

With regard to the heavy expenses in Seoul in connection with the Hospital, you are well aware that I dissented from these large outlays, and laid before the Board a paper expressing that view which was passed, but a counter document came from Seoul, mailed to each individual member of the Board, and this, with the fact that Mr. Severance had become urgent for the larger hospital, turned the scale. I regret the high grade of expenditures that is coming into vogue, both for hospitals and houses in Korea. The moral effect of one expensive building soon makes itself felt on others. Then, besides, the ideas and plans of Mr. Gordon [the architect], though excellent no doubt, are graded somewhat upon architectural ideas instead of those of our almost parsimonious economy in missionary matters. The modest little house of which we just received a photograph, originally planned for Mr. Leck is one that we are proud to show. I always dread exhibiting, even when requested, cuts of some of our missionary buildings in different fields, and I have lately written to Fusan urging that the structures to be built be modest in appearance and not posted too conspicuously upon the hills which confront the harbor, for there, as at Chefoo and Shanghai and Beirut and Constantinople, and many other mission stations on the coast, such structures only draw the shafts of criticism, and globe trotters gossip and seriously affect the missionary sentiment of the church. But I suspect I am getting old, and, that my ideas are out of fashion. I have always held that we must set up a grade of Christianity which the people themselves by and by can perpetuate and propagate.

4/27/1903 – p.2 F.F.E.

A word or two about your enumeration of missionaries. You say - "I fail to see the wisdom of pleasing five Presbyterian missionaries in Fusan and only three at Syen Chun in this stage of the development of the work". When the Board appointed Mr. Hall, there were but two missionaries in our Fusan Station, and Mr. Hall was the third. If you include the Australian missionaries, we might as well include the Methodists in northern Korea. The situation was this - There were seven missionaries at Pyeng Yang, three at Syen Chun, including Mr. Kearns there - Adams, Bruen and Barrett at Taiku, and only two at Fusan. Besides, two other men were assigned to Korea with the expectation that they would be added to the northern or central Stations - Berger and Johnson. One of these has died, and the other failed to go. Then as further offsetting Mr. Hall, we are sending out with him Mr. Koons. Besides this, I have labored hard in the distribution of candidates to find at least another, and would have spoken for a third but for the fact that we have been able to furnish only one man in three of the number called for in our total force. Taiku, in the absence of Mr. Adams, is especially unmanned but I am working quietly for another station in the far north, and have been trying within a week to find some individual who would provide a hospital for Dr. Sharrocks at Syen Chun.

I am sorry that I was under a mistake about the hospital at Pyeng Yang, though no harm has come of it. I hope Dr. Wells will be able to so thrill some of the wealthy people of Portland, that they will give him a hospital at once, and I hope he will not lay his plans too extensively.

We close our books in two days now. We are not quite certain yet of escaping a debt, but are very hopeful this morning.

With kind regards to Mrs. Moffett and yourself, I am as ever,

Yours affectionately,

F.F. Ellinwood

(from the Presbyterian Historical Society microfilm reel #283, Vol. 242, letter #119)

Pyongyang, Korea

May 7, 1903

Samuel A. Moffett

We had a good day in the church here last Sabbath, baptizing 51 men and women and administering the Lord's Supper to 580 communicants. We are now setting up the belfry for our fine new bell, the gift of Mrs. Garratt of San Francisco. It is a 450 pound bell and has a beautiful tone, which it is a pleasure to hear.

S.A.M.

(from *The Korea Field*, August, 1903, p. 121)

Esparto, California
Esparto High School

May 15, 1903

Minnie B. Bannon

To Whom It May Concern:

While teaching in the Esparto High School, Miss Lucia H. Fish proved herself a most efficient teacher. Her work in Latin, History and English was painstaking and successful. Miss Fish is to be considered a thoroughly competent and conscientious teacher.

Very truly yours,

Minnie B. Bannon,
Principal

[Note: Lucia Hester Fish became the wife of Samuel Austin Moffett after the death of his first wife, Lucia's 1st cousin, Mary Alice Fish.]

(from the Samuel Hugh Moffett collection of Samuel Austin Moffett papers)

New York City

May 26, 1903

Arthur Judson Brown

Dr. W.O. Johnson
Taiku, Korea

My dear Dr. Johnson:

As I am now conducting the correspondence with Korea, Dr. Ellinwood has referred to me your letter of April 8th. I appreciate the delicacies of the situation to which you refer and I earnestly hope with you that all the embarrassments incident to that case have been forever buried.

I am very sorry to learn that Mr. Bruen returned from a recent trip with an attack of fever. Will you kindly remember me to him and tell him that I have been praying for his speedy recovery. I pleasantly remember my meeting with him in New York before he went to the field.

I am deeply interested in your hospital. When it is finished, I hope you will write me some account of it that I can have published.

The General Assembly is now in session, but as it is three thousand miles away in Los Angeles, we hear very little about it. The telegrams in the daily papers are quite meager. We shall have to wait until letters can come from the Board's representatives, Dr. Halsey and Mr. Hand.

With cordial remembrances to Mrs. Johnson and to your associates at the station, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

(signature too light to read but certainly) A.J. Brown

(From General Report of Pyeng Yang Station, 1903)
PYENG YANG CITY CHURCH

The growth of the [city, or Chang Dae Hyun] Church has been attended with the difficulty of providing accommodation for the ever increasing congregation. Notwithstanding the fact that five suburban or village chapels have been set off as separate groups no longer enrolled in this Church and notwithstanding the addition of the gallery providing room for 200 more people, the church is comfortably filled every Sabbath and at times is so packed that many would-be worshipers cannot gain admittance. The side for the women also is frequently filled and the total attendance varies from 1,200 to 1,700.

The attendance at prayer-meeting has steadily increased, rarely falling below 1,000, while fully 1,200 are often present.

Sabbath Bible Class attendance still increases. More such classes are needed under direction of the missionaries. Meetings have been begun in another section of the city and in two villages north. These are systematically visited by city members. Although these classes and meetings are numerous there are opportunities for many more. The congestion of the city church also must be relieved by the establishment of another church, the present one having reached its limit of expansion. The energies and zeal of the Christians are sufficient to gather in more people and the plan formed for house to house visitation will soon bring still larger numbers for whom there is no accommodation.

Although 70 members and over 100 catechumens, many of them ready for baptism, were dismissed to form separate suburban groups, the roll is larger than last year and there were baptized 113 adults and 36 infants, making 94 on the Covenant Roll of baptized children. At the April communion service there were 580 who partook of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Provision was made for the oversight and instruction of those on the Covenant Roll over 8 years of age. Under the direction of their parents they memorize one question of the Shorter Catechism each Sabbath except the fourth of each month, when they recite these to the Session after the church service. Their interest in it and the eagerness with which they come for the recital have been a source of peculiar gratification, while the sessional oversight is greatly appreciated by the parents. They will complete the Catechism in three years and in doing so will have come into personal contact and sympathetic relationship with the elders.

The Church is more efficiently organized. The "leader of tens" system has been extended to the catechumenate: another deacon added to the Board of Officers, and preparations made for the election of two more elders. Some eleven committees of the Board of Officers have the oversight of the various phases of work and to them and the assistant pastors must be given well merited praise for the amount of work accomplished and the fidelity and efficiency of their service.;

Entire support of another assistant has been assumed and the salaries increased to 100 nyang a month.

The three women workers, also supported by the Church, have been faithful and efficient in helping to care for the large constituency of women.

Mr. Hunt has had charge of the teachers' meeting, and for the merchants of the city a class was provided at the time of their New Year holidays, taught by Mr. Baird and Mr. Blair.

The cemetery provided has been appreciated and has relieved the minds of many, while at the same time it has more completely eradicated many heathen superstitions relating to the dead and to burial customs. Worthy of note is the growth of a right sentiment with reference to the proper and formal burial of children, the Cemetery Committee fostering this by providing a small bier for use at children's funerals. The heathen method is to simply carry off the bodies and cover them with a little dirt in any vacant spot with no ceremony, and unaccompanied.

The Church is an earnest evangelistic missionary agency and this year has raised for missions 2,750 nyang, of which the Women's Missionary Society reports a total of 809 nyang, which will probably enable them to support another missionary.

For the Committee of Missions over 1,700 nyang was raised, most of it under a special appeal to enable the Committee to send men to Whang Hai province where the Roman Catholic outrages had made an open door for the presentation of the true Gospel. Two men were sent and in addition one member of the Church spent a month at his own expense in the same work. The opportuneness of the move is shown by the readiness with which some of the Romanists who had already begun to doubt the character of the priests and their crimes and acts of gross injustice, have listened to the pure Gospel, become enlightened and given up the errors of Romanism.

(From General Report of Pyeng Yang Station, 1903)

THE THEOLOGICAL CLASS.

The Council having given us permission to take under our care four more men as candidates for the Ministry, our Theological Class of six students was formally begun and instruction has now been given practically covering the course of study outlined for the first of the five years' course.

Three sessions were held in January, April and July. These together with the attendance upon the regular Winter and Summer Training Classes have given the men about three months of instruction, the rest of their time being spent in active service in connection with which their studies are carried on. All of them are supported by the Korean Church and are engaged in evangelistic work.

Four of the six men are ordained Elders. All have previously filled the position of Teacher, Leader or Assistant; have been closely associated with the Missionary for from six to ten years, and all have had a Korean education, giving them a fair knowledge of Chinese literature. They have attended our Training Classes for from seven to eleven years.

The work for the first year has included a brief course of instruction as follows: -

Theology proper and the Shorter Catechism by	Dr. Moffett
Lectures on Soteriology by	Dr. Baird
Jewish History by	Mr. Swallen
Homiletics by	Mr. Lee
The Gospel of Matthew and Ancient History by	Mr. Hunt
Studies in the Pentateuch by	Dr. Baird and Mr. Swallen
Lessons in Arithmetic by	Mr. Bernheisel

They will enter upon the second year's course when they assemble in December for the Winter Training Class.

As these men will probably be our first ordained ministers a brief account of them is presented.

The oldest in point of Christian experience is Elder Yang Chun-Paik, aged 33, who was baptized in 1893. For three years associated with Dr. Moffett and for six years with Mr. Whittemore in the Northern work, he has been the chief Helper in the work now constituting the Syun Chun Station.

Elder Kim Chong-Syep, aged 41, was baptized in 1895; served as Teacher and Hospital Evangelist with Dr. Wells for two years, and for eight years has been Church Leader or Assistant to Dr. Moffett and Mr. Lee in the Pyeng Yang City Church, where his marked spiritual influence led to his ordination in 1900 as the first Elder in our work.

The oldest in point of years is Elder Pang Ki-Chang, now 41, who, when a leader of the Tong Haks in 1894 and fleeing for his life, met the missionary in Whang Hai Province and followed him to Pyeng Yang. He was baptized in 1895. After service as teacher & helper with Mr. Lee for three years he has been for five years associated with Mr. Baird and Mr. Hunt as helper in the prosperous work of the Western Circuit, in which work he has been their main

reliance.

Helper Song Nin Syei, aged 34, decided to declare himself a Christian after a beating received at prayer-meeting during the persecutions of 1894. He was baptized in 1895. He was leader of a country group, then teacher and for four years has been associated with Mr. Hunt as a chief factor in the development of the work in Central Whang Hai province.

Helper Yi Ki Pong, aged 35, was one of those who stoned the missionaries on the streets of Pyeng Yang in 1891. He was converted after removal to Wonsan where he was baptized in 1896. Associated there with Mr. Swallen as colporteur he returned to Pyeng Yang when Mr. Swallen was transferred here in 1899 and since then has been his main helper on the Anak Circuit.

Elder Kil Sun Chu, aged 34, was baptized in 1897 and for five years has been a leader or assistant in the Pyeng Yang City church. Although almost blind he is an able preacher, a deep thinker and a man of rare good judgment and spiritual perception.

These men are already evangelists of great power, of considerable experience and of ripe Christian character, upon whose labors the Spirit of God has placed His seal. They are zealous and consecrated and willing to endure hardness, making sacrifices and working with enthusiasm from love of the Master, even though the salaries received have not been sufficient to support their families. They are men who give evidence of having been called of God to the Ministry.

(From General Report of Pyeng Yang Station, 1903)
KOREAN WORK FOR KOREANS.

One special feature of the work for Koreans by Koreans is what is called the "Committee of Missions," which was organized in the Summer of 1901 at Pyeng Yang. Its membership consists of all male members of Pyeng Yang and Syun Chun stations with an equal number of Koreans. The committee meets twice a year, once in the winter and once in the summer when the training classes are in session. During the interim the work is carried on by an Executive Committee. The special work of the Committee of Missions is to send the Gospel to unevangelized regions, in that part of Korea committed to the Syun Chun and Pyeng Yang stations. This year the committee has sent out seven missionaries, five regular and two special, the latter to work in Whang Hai Province in the district where Roman Catholic oppression is especially great. All the funds for work are obtained from a collection taken once a year in October in all the groups. The two special ones were sent out by funds supplied by private subscriptions among the Korean Christians of Pyeng Yang City. Besides the above we might mention the collection every year for the Pyeng Yang Academy which amounted this year to 813 nyang. There are a number of instances of money subscribed for special work like the sending out of an evangelist for two months by a little group of thirteen members, and the two missionary women sent out by the women of Pyeng Yang church, also the work done by the Academy students in visiting the weak groups near Pyeng Yang, but lack of space forbids that we should mention them all. We should not fail however to mention another item of special interest. Each group when sufficiently developed has a leader appointed who serves without pay, and the preaching and the pastoral work of the group is done by this man. When this is fully realized, one gains some idea of the amount of work done by these leaders who serve gratuitously.

The growth of the Church in northern Korea is due almost entirely to the enthusiastic preaching of the Gospel by individual Christians. Each believer feels in duty bound to tell the story and so the work has grown, and so may it continue to grow until in the farthest recesses of the mountain gorges the Gospel has been carried by the enthusiastic work of the Koreans for their own people.

(From Annual Report of Dr. H.G. Underwood)

Almost two months Bible Translation work, Chong Dong Church work, evangelistic work as far as I was concerned, and every other form of work was all stopped in order that I might be present at the investigation of certain charges made against the Roman Catholics in Hoang Hai Do. Protestant Christians alleged that they had been forced to work in the building of Roman Catholic churches, that money had been demanded from them for the same purposes, that they had been arrested for refusal to make such payments, taken before the Roman Catholic leaders and there beaten, that the local magistrate could do nothing from fear, that the Governor ordered arrests to investigate the charges and that the provincial Governor's policemen had not been allowed to take the arrested prisoners to the Governor, but that at the order of the French priests armed men had released the prisoners and arraigned the Governor's policemen before the *priests*, who, after seeing them beaten, had sent them away empty-handed.

We were unable to believe such stories; and when it was suggested that, as the French would have a priest present at the investigation, it would be well for an American also to be there, I left the other work and went to Haiju, where I met Dr. Moffett, who came also from Pyeng Yang to be present.

It was very fortunate that we were there, as we were enabled to send full reports to the American Minister and thus nullify the effect of unjust demands made by the French. I believe that had not we been present, the investigation would have been turned into a farce. As it is, the priests and people will be much more careful, and it is hoped that the suggestions of the Imperial delegate who made the investigation will be carried into effect.

We were all of us much surprised at the turn affairs took, for we found that not one fourth of the troubles were known. It soon developed that it was not a persecution of the Protestants, but a systematic attempt to levy upon all the people. About five per cent of the cases that came before the Imperial delegate concerned Protestants. It was a case of "Imperium in imperio," the Korean Roman Catholics refusing to acknowledge all Korean authority and establishing their own courts and prisons.

A full and careful report has been prepared for presentation to His Majesty, who will then direct one or other of the Korean courts to deal with the cases: but as yet, owing to the Prince's recent illness, no business is done at the palace.

(From the Annual Report of Rev. C.E. Sharp)

We had grave fears last winter as to what the outcome would be of the Romanist troubles. The troubles began in territory in charge of Pyeng Yang Station, but were rapidly spreading, and would soon have swept over the entire province. Mr. Kim Yun Oh of Kum Dong was taken and imprisoned by the Romanists. This was the principal case in which Seoul Station work was immediately concerned. It is impossible to say whether it was his being a Protestant that led to his seizure, or his having held a government office a year or two previous. However that may be, and although the troubles may primarily have started between Romanists and the Korean government, the Romanists were using their power for the overthrow of Protestantism in that region, and it is a matter for deep gratitude to God that their plans have been checked.

So far as observation goes on my field, two results of great importance have come out of these disturbances. In the first place, the people high and low have learned that there is a radical difference between Romanism and Protestantism. Up to this time the popular idea has confused them very much and they were regarded by the masses of the people as being alike in spirit and practice. In the second place, our missionaries and Korean Christians have gained the respect and confidence of the people of all classes. On my last trip in many places I was taken for a priest, and as such was regarded suspiciously, and in some places lodging, food, & etc., were hard to obtain: but as soon as it became known that I was a Protestant missionary and not a priest the attitude of the people instantly changed and we could get anything we wished. Although the above is true, there is no general movement toward our church, for which fact we are thankful. Such a movement just now would be fraught with great danger.

Pyongyang, Korea

June, 1903

Annie Laurie Adams Baird

(From General Report of Pyeng Yang Station, 1903)
DEVILS EXORCISED.

There is out at the Waysung [outside the city wall] a young woman who became possessed of devils. Her family called in an exorcist and the most extreme measures were resorted to to rid her of the unwelcome intruders. She was beaten with clubs till she was a mass of bruises from head to foot and a perfectly sickening sight. At this point some Christian neighbors interfered, declaring that they would be witness no longer to such cruelty, and persuaded the husband to take her in to leader Choo's. Here she remained a week or two, being visited daily by Sin Si and others of the believing women. I wish that I might give in detail the conversations as reported by Sin Si, between these Christian women and the devils. They would be interesting to students of demonology. Suffice to say, that after agreeing several times to leave the woman at a certain hour, and begging each time when the moment came for a longer limit, they finally yielded to a loud and stern adjuration from old Sin Si and took their departure, leaving the woman in her right mind.

It would be pleasant to add that in consequence of the woman's recovery all her family had become Christians, but as old Sin Si said, the fact that they have not, only illustrates the hardness of the human heart.

(from *The Korea Field*, November, 1903, p. 133)

Oakland, California [?]

early June [?], 1903

Lucia Hester Fish
[2nd wife of Samuel Austin Moffett]

Dear Alice [wife of Lucia's brother, Azel Fish]

Azel wanted to steal some of our time at the station last night to write you a postal but we wouldn't furnish the material so please do write and blow us up.

Perhaps he thought he received a warm welcome here for every one pounced on him and asked why he didn't bring Alice. Now we think we are reconciled and how I do wish I could be in Islip for the next few months. Isn't it lovely? But how dreadfully long to wait. I am so glad I know that you will be better afterwards and that you will have something of your very own to love.

However, a visit from you would have been very nice and would have done you good. Aside from the change, your husband's inspiring example might have kept you safe in the path of equity and unlimited milk. Now you eat flesh probably and imitate the raging sheep in temper rather than the peaceful wheat field.

Yesterday I went to a Sanitarium luncheon at the Oakland Club. The Food Co. donated it as an "ad" and outdid themselves. No meat, sugar or baking powder was used but we had course after course and finally at 2:30 the president announced that Dr. Parkes had expected to address us on "Digestion" after luncheon but the manager thought we could not possibly do justice to thewithin another hour so would we please remain in our seats and hear him then. We please did and under the circumstances pleased very much indeed to hear how intelligent the stomach was about sending up displeasing substances, etc. It was the funniest thing I have heard in a long time and would have been thoroughly delightful if only giggling were considered complimentary. Fortunately we were at the other end of the room.

The girls look quite natural and tomorrow I am going to have them all day. Father has fallen in love with them, we asked which he liked best and he thought a while then said "the one I am talking to."

Aunt Mattie is going back to San Rafael and then they spend a week or so in the south and leave Billy [their horse] with us. This has a two seated rig so we are in clover for several weeks at least. Vacation is just beginning and all day picnics will relieve Carrie considerably. Aunt Mattie has just bought a beautiful \$1.50 whip so we intend to do Berkeley, Jack Hayes Canyon, East Oakland and Alameda tomorrow. If this one breaks it will be the third I have used up on the dear thing. We beat the cars from Berkeley the other day, anyway. It is difficult to get Billy enthusiastic or ambitious, but when you need pointers on training, Aunt Lute will be ready to send you a pamphlet.

It is getting late and you will need all your strength to pump information out of Azel when he comes so I won't inflict you further. If Mrs. Gooch is with you give her my love whether she remembers or not and save heaps for yourself.

Your very loving and very grateful sister,

Lucia Hester

P.S. Kiss Helen for me and tell Lizzie to feed you plenty of bran biscuits and to see if her own health would not be improved by wearing larger shoes and spending on Helen a little of the money she wastes on herself.

(from the Samuel Hugh Moffett collection of Samuel Austin Moffett papers. Kindly passed along by Dr. Peter Fish, grandson of Azel Fish (the brother of Lucia Hester Fish))

Taegu, Korea

June 15, 1903

Woodbridge O. Johnson

My dear Dr. Ellinwood:

1. Your letter dated May 5 came today and I hasten to reply and express my deep regret that it seems necessary for you to lay aside the secretaryship of our Mission. I have always felt and others of the Mission have expressed themselves to me similarly that we in Korea were exceptionally fortunate in having for our Secretary one with so large experience and intimate knowledge of Foreign Missions. I hope that although you relinquish your active duties the Mission may continue to have the benefit of your advice on all important questions.

2. Regarding the sum of yen 1500 asked for by the Mission to complete and equip the hospital at Taiku, I believe it will be sufficient for that purpose. The original amount asked for in September 1901 was yen 6000⁰⁰ to build the hospital. At the next Annual Meeting in September 1902 and before the building had been begun it was clearly seen that this would be insufficient and an additional sum of yen 500 was requested. The equipment including beds, linens, operating room furniture, etc. had been unprovided for the previous year so a separate appropriation of yen 1000 was asked for this. The hospital roof is now being put on. Nearly two thirds of the work is completed and I hope to see it finished some time in August. If the additional yen 500 for completion and yen 1000 for equipment have been already provided for will it not be possible to cable out to Dr. Vinton, the Mission treasurer, the yen 500 at least immediately? I ask this because the money will be needed shortly, before an answer by mail can arrive and I will find it difficult to advance the money myself. If this can be done by cabling a word or two such as "Johnson 500 or Taiku 500 or Taiku Hospital" - or whatever your cable code permits, I would be greatly obliged. I will notify Dr. Vinton of the possibility of such a cable being received and what it will mean.

3. I have written you several lines during the spring about my health. I have never recovered from the attack of fever I had in the Spring of 1901. The three months just in Japan following it benefitted me much but by autumn I was so lacking in strength and energy that I wrote to the Mission asking them to request Dr. Irvin's opinion on my health and stating that unless I improved soon I did not feel able to continue work. The Mission decided "to relieve Dr. Johnson of medical work in Taiku Station pending restoration to health". This action was taken at the 1901 Annual Meeting while I was absent with my father and sister and family on a trip to Hong Kong. The voyage and rest, however, improved my health and during the fall and winter following in Taiku I believed as I wrote you at the time that I was getting back to normal. It was not found possible in this isolated station with sick Koreans asking aid and no other doctor here, to remain on the ground and follow the Mission's recommendation so it was not followed -- but dispensary work carried on as usual until summer.

During the spring the symptoms of lack of strength and nerve force returned and from that time until now during the first twelve months I have been in very poor shape - not doing nearly full work but hanging on hoping to improve. This past winter and spring nervousness, insomnia, headache and lack of strength have been so pronounced that had it not seemed absolutely necessary to build the Taiku hospital I should have asked Dr. Irvin to recommend my return to the United States as soon as the consent of the Mission could be gained. As it is, with Mr. Adams absent and Mr. Barrett a new man, Mr. Bruen has an unusual amount of work and unless overseen by myself the hospital building could not be carried on this year nor would it probably be possible next year by anyone who might take my place. I expect to see its completion therefore and now request the Board to authorize my return home on furlough immediately after the Annual Mission meeting should the Mission so recommend. I write thus early to obtain the Board's approval.....
[final page missing]

(from microfilm reel #280, Vol. 233, letter #65)

Pyongyang, Korea

June 16, 1903

W.M. Baird

My dear Dr. Brown:

Your kind letter of April 24th was duly received and was deeply appreciated by both Mrs. Baird and myself. The loving sympathy expressed by friends has been a great comfort to us. Our little lad had never been ill a day, and was to us, at least, a peculiarly sweet and attractive little fellow. I am glad for the sure hope that we have that we shall see him again and have him for our own once more.

The last American mail brought word that Dr. Ellinwood had been obliged to relinquish his foreign correspondence. While we know that that does not mean that his interest in us and in the work will be any the less, yet we are left with a sense of bereavement. It will seem strange to see his familiar signature no more. Since a change must be made; however, I can truly say that we are well pleased to be under your care. We have never forgotten your visit with us, and only wish that you could come oftener.

The academy closed last week for the summer after a year that was most interesting and encouraging and that emphasized very strongly some necessities for the coming year. More foreign help we must have in the teaching force if the students are to be properly taught or even taught at all. I am hoping much that an equipped man may be appointed this fall to join forces with me in the school.

If it can be properly manned the prospect of usefulness before the school is exceedingly bright. A man may be pardoned, perhaps, for feeling some enthusiasm concerning his special branch of labor. Certainly I do feel that at this stage of the work here nothing is so important as the development of preachers, teachers and leaders from among the people. We can never hope for a sufficient foreign force to shepherd and tend these teeming thousands who have come out into the light. Their leaders must be brought out from among the people themselves, and my hope is that the academy may take a hand in such a development. It is not the work of a day or a year, yet with every pupil a professing Christian, and many of them already actively engaged in local evangelistic work, the prospect for the realization of hopes is good.

Beside another missionary in the school, a pressing need is for textbooks in the native character. We have progressed thus far by the use of textbooks in the Chinese, but if we are to continue with thoroughness and profit we must have a good set of textbooks in the vernacular. I am pushing hard this summer to accomplish something in this line, and have retained several of the schoolboys to act as scribes. I have on hand a physical geography, a general history, and the beginnings of some other things. Mrs. Baird is also at work on a natural history, Mrs. Lee on a physics, and Mr. Gale and Dr. Field on some other branches, so that between us all we ought to have the satisfaction in the course of a few years of seeing something done.

With kindest regards to yourself and Mrs. Brown from us both,

I am Yours Sincerely,

W.M. Baird

(from microfilm reel #280, Vol. 233, letter #66)

Pyeng Yang, Korea

June 21, 1903

Graham Lee

Dear Mother:-

Blanche wrote you some time since and I was going to put a sheet in that letter but just at that time I was so busy it didn't get in. This spring I've been giving most of my time to building, as usual. The new building for the Academy is about finished and the addition to our house is nearing completion. When Mrs. Webb gets in her new rooms she will be very comfortably situated. It makes a nasty mess to be all torn up as we are but it will soon be over. The price of labor has gone up so much this spring that the appropriation the Board gave us is not going to be near enough to finish our house. The Japanese are buying so much rice and millet and shipping it out that the price has gone higher than was ever heard of before in this country. Of course the farmer who has grain to sell is satisfied but the man who lives on a salary finds it pretty hard to live. Why the Japanese are buying in such quantities we don't know but the country is full of war rumors. The Russians have established themselves on the Yalu and have a concession from the government to cut all the timber on the Yalu and its tributaries, which means they have all the timber in north Korea - the best timber in the country. What a fool government this is to give such a concession as that. The Russians have had the concession for several years but only this spring have they made a move toward taking possession. Getting this concession and beginning to work it of course means the first step toward a permanent possession of North Korea and this to the Japanese is gall of the bitterest kind. War rumors have been flying thick and fast and the people through the country are much exercised. Two weeks ago today I visited one of my country churches some twelve miles from here and spent the Sunday there. Their regular attendants didn't show up and when I asked where they were I was told that they had gone to the mountains to select a place to which to flee if war broke out.

Two or three weeks ago Mr. Moffett was out in the country and among other war rumors he heard that the Russians had come into Pyeng Yang and taken possession of our large church and were ringing the bell as much as they pleased. What gave rise to this rumor was probably the fact that we have just built a new bell tower and at that time I was ringing the bell considerably while we were getting it properly adjusted. This bell, by the way, is one given us by a lady in San Francisco. It is a four hundred pound bell and has a beautiful tone. We had no place on the church to put it so I built a separate bell tower in which to hang it. The tower consists of four posts set ten feet apart in a square with a tile roof on top. When the tower was finished I hung the bell on timbers supported by these posts. Everything seemed all right but when I began to ring the bell the vibration was so great I was afraid it would shake the tower down. You see, the heavy tiled roof made it top heavy. I tried putting in more braces but the combination of bell and top-heavy roof were too much for the braces. So in the end, I had to set the bell on four separate posts inside the tower but entirely independent. This fixed matters and now the bell is as solid as a rock.

This Russian concession is making trouble for us in getting timber. Last fall I contracted with a Korean to get out some timber on the Yalu for our building here. At this time we knew nothing about the Russian concession. The man got out the timber and got it down as far as Wejew but then the Russians seized it, claiming the timber from the fact of their concession. We have appealed to the American Minister and hope to get our timber released. This Russian concession is going to make it hard to get timber in the future. What Japan is going to do about the matter remains to be seen. If Russia isn't stopped this means that northern Korea has gone the way of Manchuria into the maw of the Russian bear and anything that goes in there never seems to get out again.

6/21/03 – p.2 G.L.

Please be sure that nothing in this letter ever gets into print. I very rarely write about the political situation because one can never tell what will become of a letter once it is mailed. The things I have said here might make trouble for us were they printed.

Thank you very much, Mother, for my birthday gift. You always remember us.

For the last few days the children have been ailing somewhat. We found that Graham had the same trouble that Margaret had in America. The other morning Blanche didn't give either Graham or Margaret any breakfast on account of the medicine they had taken, but sent them outdoors with the Korean woman. When it came time for prayers we called them and Graham told the woman he wasn't coming in as he hadn't had any breakfast. Evidently with him it's "no breakfast, no prayers".

Our summer training class is just now in session and one hundred men are in from the country to study for two weeks. The class is limited to one hundred or we would have a great many more. This summer class is for our most prominent men. They all come at their own expense.

Fourth of July is nearly here and we are getting ready to have a celebration. Have ordered some fire-works from Japan, which are in Chemulpo now. We always have an immense crowd of Koreans out to see the celebration.

The paper comes now all right in Mylo's name and we do enjoy it so much.

I'm sorry if you haven't been able to rent the flat but hope by this time you have.

With love to all -

Your affectionate son,

Graham Lee

New York, New York

July 14, 1903

Arthur Judson Brown

Rev. A.G. Welbon
Seoul, Korea

My Dear Mr. Welbon:

I have just received the card which announces that May 17th God brought little Harvey into your home and that May 27th He took him to Himself. I also am a husband and father, and I know from my own experience and also from the many occasions which brought me in my pastorates into special relations with births and deaths something of the joy and the sorrow through which you and Mrs. Welbon have passed. Very earnestly I pray that Mrs. Welbon's health may be fully restored, and that you both may have in some measure the comfort of God. I am sure that your lives will always be sweeter and tenderer and richer because for ten days you had little Harvey in your home; and I am sure you also feel that he is not lost, but that the Good Shepherd has simply taken him into His arms to keep him safely until we all meet again. Death does not end all, thank God for that. Perhaps when we reach heaven we shall wonder that we ever sorrowed so much for our dear ones who were early called to it.

I have read with care your letter of April 23rd, regarding the case of Dr. Irvin, and the question relating to the Fusan station. Dr. Ellinwood, who, as you know, had the correspondence with the Mission at that time, is away on his vacation and in such a state of health that it would be unwise for us to write to him about perplexing questions. The Board too has adjourned till September, as nearly all its members are out of the city on their vacations. As the questions to which you refer were very thoroughly considered by the Board and officially passed upon, and as Dr. Irvin is again on the field, I am not sure that the Board would care to have me re-open the matter again in personal correspondence, and in the absence of Dr. Ellinwood. I am inclined to think that you will agree with me in the feeling that perhaps it would be wiser for me to turn my face as the new secretary for Korea towards the future. I have a very urgent desire that all past differences of opinion should be considered forever buried, and that all concerned - we in the office and the missionaries on the field - may give ourselves with new unity and consecration to the great work which lies before us. We do not doubt, as you state, that the missionaries acted prayerfully and conscientiously, and as they thought best, and I am confident that you will believe that the officers and members of the Board acted with equal conscientiousness as they were led to feel was best.

I feel that Korea is one of the great strategic points in the world's conquest for Christ. It is a Mission which I want to see reinforced as effectively as possible. Unfortunately, we are so limited in funds and in men that we cannot do all we would desire but you and your associates may be sure that there is no lack of disposition on the part of the Board to do everything possible for the Korea Mission. Meanwhile, I heartily join with you in the wish that we all may be kept close to the Master and gain the special wisdom we need.

God is our never failing strength and help, and if we work with Him we can be sure that all Korea shall yet know Jesus Christ.

With very cordial remembrances to Mrs. Welbon, and with renewed prayers for God's blessing upon you both, I remain,

Affectionately yours,
Arthur J. Brown

(from the Presbyterian Historical Society microfilm reel #283, Vol. 242, letter unnumbered)

New York, New York

July 16, 1903

Arthur Judson Brown

Dr. S.A. Moffett
Pyeng Yang, Korea

My dear Dr. Moffett:-

Dr. Wells arrived at his home in Portland, Oregon a few days ago, and sent me at once the photograph of yourself and the officers of the Pyeng Yang church together with a small photograph of your group of inquirers. Dr. Wells said that the photographs were from you and I hasten to write you of my grateful appreciation. Will you not take advantage of the first opportunity to give my cordial greetings to the officers of the church and to thank them for their remembrance of me. I shall never forget the kindness which was shown to me in Pyeng Yang by the officers and members of that church.

In my addresses in America I have repeatedly described that great congregation of reverent worshipers. I rejoice in the knowledge that the tokens of God's blessing are not only continuing but are increasing in number. The faith and the zeal of those Korean ministers are an inspiration to many of us who are in America. May God strengthen them more and more. May He unite their hearts in still closer bonds of fellowship and love. May He endue them more and more richly with the gifts and the graces of His Holy Spirit.

Affectionately yours,

Arthur J. Brown

(from the Presbyterian Historical Society microfilm reel#283, Vol. 242 (part 2), letter #9)

New York City

July 24, 1903

Arthur Judson Brown

Dr. W.O. Johnson
Taiku, Korea

My dear Dr. Johnson:-

I had just written to you when I received your letter of June 13th to Dr. Ellinwood. I shall show him your very kind reference to him. I am sure that it will gratify him.

The matter of the additional appropriation for which you ask properly belongs in my department as it is the duty of the secretary to see that requests for appropriations are brought to the Board. But as your letter arrives just as I am leaving the city for an absence of several weeks, and as I find that you have written on the same subject to our Treasurer, Mr. Hand, I have arranged with him to handle the matter and to communicate directly with you.

I have read with deep sympathy your account of your ill health. I do not wonder that you are suffering for you had a terrible illness and you have been under a heavy strain since.

The Board does not like to authorize returns on account of ill health prior to its knowledge of official action by the Mission or the certificates of the physicians involved. You will find the whole method of procedure stated on the enclosed medical certificate for a missionary on the field. Please see that all the blanks are filled out. You will note that the Board gives the Mission ample power to act in such circumstances and if necessary to send a missionary home without waiting to hear from the Board.

I shall think of you with special prayer, my dear brother, and when you come home we shall be very glad to welcome you.

Affectionately yours,

(signature too light to read, but surely) A.J. Brown

Pyongyang, Korea

August 5, 1903

Samuel A. Moffett

Rev. Arthur J. Brown, D.D.
156 Fifth Avenue, New York City

Dear Dr. Brown:

Great as our regret is that we must give up Dr. Ellinwood as our correspondent we rejoice in the fact that your recent visit to us has put you into such intimate touch with us and our field that you already know the situation and can enter at once into sympathetic correspondence on all matters affecting the progress of the work in Korea. It is my pleasure to write you the station letter for June-July and to keep you posted as to the progress of events.

The early part of June was spent by most of us in itinerating & finishing up the year's work, since the statistical and fiscal year of the churches closes July 1st. The result of the trips was largely reported last month. The July narratives, however, tell of Mr. Swallen's successful work in the Anak circuit with promising outlook in Sin Chun county where heretofore we have had very little work, the presence of the persecuting Roman Catholic priest in that county checking the people. Miss Best also reports a good year in the girls school in the city under her care, the attendance increasing so as to necessitate plans for another school, while the fact that many of the girls are about to complete the primary course emphasizes our need for more single women in order to begin a Higher School for girls and young women, instruction of the latter being especially demanded by the country churches.

Mr. Lee reports the completion of the new building for work shops and press room in connection with the Academy and a tower for the bell at the city church. He also reports two short trips to churches near by.

My own narrative includes a very successful trip to Soon An county visiting two churches where I baptized 42 men and women and received 26 catechumens, and also found that in three villages chapels had been provided in connection with these churches. The central church with its associated chapels in the surrounding villages is becoming a marked feature in the growth and organization of our country work. Two other points were visited where new buildings have just been erected and the beginning of new churches made in strategic points on the circuit.

Returning to Pyongyang I again took up the examination of candidates for baptism and on June 21 it was my privilege to baptize 61 adults, making 113 additions by baptism to the city church this year. The following Sabbath Mr. Lee baptized 36 children and our year's work closed.

By the middle of June the itinerating season closes and we all gathered for the class work which follows. The first was our Summer Training Class with its numerous conferences of various kinds with Helpers and Leaders. This year we had with us Mr. Whittemore & Mr. Ross and a class of 95 picked men from the two stations and a few also from the Seoul territory and that of the Canadian Presbyterians. The Scriptural studies and practical church conferences on the Northfield or Winona plan very evidently exerted a profound influence upon these Leaders of the Church and this influence will in turn now be felt throughout all the churches.

I think you already know that we look upon our many and various Training classes as perhaps the most influential as well as the most distinctive feature of our work and that it is largely through these classes that we have been able to train and educate our large body of

able consecrated evangelists and church leaders who are the main stay of our work.

This last year we more thoroughly organized these men into classes for more effective instruction. Six of them constitute the Theological Class; thirty have been examined upon the first year's work and advanced to the second year's studies in the "Course of Study for Helpers"; and twenty-two of them are now at work on the first year's course. These are all "approved workers" whom we deem worthy of occupying official positions in the Church and from whom are being selected evangelists, students for the ministry and men for ordination to the eldership. As soon as this Training Class was over there followed a session (the third this year) of the Theological Class of six evangelists who are being prepared for ordination to the ministry. Mr. Swallen, Mr. Hunt and I met with them daily for three weeks, completing the work of the first year of their five year's course.

During a part of this time the Normal Class in two divisions was also in session with 62 teachers, school trustees and prospective teachers engaged in study and conference upon questions telling mightily upon the efficiency of Primary schools throughout our country churches.

These classes left us just about enough time to prepare our yearly reports for the Annual Meeting so that we might enter the month of August free for recreation, correspondence, and odds and ends of work preparatory to another busy year.

The preparation of reports has revealed the fact that statistically as well as otherwise, this has been the best year in the history of the station. There were 865 adult baptisms, making, with 367 in the Syen Chun station, 1232 for this Northern work, while the actual enrollment of members and catechumens in the two stations now runs over ten thousand (10,000). With such an ingathering in so short a time do you wonder that we plead for a few more men and women to properly oversee this first generation of Christians while we train and educate those among them who in but a few more years will bear the main responsibility of the work?

We are facing some difficult tasks. We need a Higher School for girls and women; we need another man in the Academy; some of us must give more time to the Training and Theological classes; and we need at least one more man in the country work. We run the risk of losing much that we have gained if we withdraw from the itinerating and evangelistic work before our first few men are ready for ordination to the ministry when they will be able to relieve us of much work. We are moving steadily forward to the ordination of men to the ministry and to the eldership. Given another five years with the force of workers allowed us at last Annual Meeting, we will have passed the critical stage of a work built up upon the policy in which the evangelization of a large constituency precedes the emphasis to be laid upon institutional educational work.

With most cordial greetings to you as our Secretary

Very Sincerely Yours,
Samuel A. Moffett

Seoul, Korea

September 4, 1903

H.G. Underwood

Rev. A.J. Brown, D.D., 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Brown:

Your kind letter of July 16, in regard to the various and sensational, glaring reports in the newspaper concerning missionaries Brown's daughter being Empress of Korea was duly received. In regard to what it refers to, it is an enigma as hard for us to solve as for you away so far. However, as it is a missionary *Brown*, a mistake might be made between Oregon and Ohio. Can it be that Dr. Brown of Oregon, when an audience was secured for him at the palace by a missionary named Underwood, smuggled in his daughter so as to help on mission work? I had known nothing of it at the time, but you request a solution of the riddle and you can readily see how easy it would be to make Oregon into Ohio.

Joking aside, I think there are a number of various stories mixed up. In the first place it was a housekeeper at the Russian Legation who is now housekeeper at the palace. In the second place, a Commissioner of Customs named *Brown* [McLevy Brown] is very intimate there. In the third place the chief favorite among the palace women is Lady Om, which is sometimes written Em. There was also here a missionary named Brown at Fusan and these things have been woven together to make a story. As it appears here, there is not one item of truth in what the papers have. We are not surprised at such stories getting into the regular newspapers and being made a tit-bit of news, but it rather surprised us to see that *Women's work for Women* [*Woman's Work for Woman*] of our church should attempt to correct it and give as a truth such a story as they concocted not so long ago.

Many thanks for your kind remembrances for the people of Hai Ju and that region. I do not know whether I shall be going there again or not. Our mission and station seem to feel very strongly the need of Bible translating being done and done quickly. I agree that this is a great need. To accomplish this they feel that my work should be somewhere near the city of Seoul and as a result they have taken away from me the Whang Hai Do work. I have not yet seen my way clear to agree with the mission. During the past year one thing or another interrupted meetings so that for the whole year we were only able to secure about 170 meetings of the Board [Board of Translators]. [The] Board plans three and a half hours each day (working), that is to say, five days each week for from 40 to 42 weeks. It would make 200 or 210 days if they met for the time that they expect to meet. This, at three and a half hours a day makes 735 hours of actual work - or not quite 31 days of 24 hours each. Taking the working day at 10 hours each, it gives 73½ days, or 8 hours each 92 days of the year. I certainly feel that I cannot consent for the sake of 92 days of 8 hours each to be kept here in the city for the whole year. If the Board would put in 7 hours a day instead of the 3½, then I would be willing to put in five days a week for seven or eight months, and this would then leave me plenty of time to do my evangelistic work in. Under these circumstances either the Board of Translators here must put in more time per day or I shall resign from the Board. Under these circumstances I will have time for country evangelistic work and I fail to see why the oldest work I have had should be taken away and turned over to another, especially when that one is not a fully equipped missionary and cannot give all the oversight that the work needs. The people up in that section are not satisfied. He is not quick enough to decide things, and up to the time of the last trip he had taken (after that I have not heard), he had not yet made a public address in Korean. Of course, the annual meeting has not yet been held but with the present opinion of the station, I see plainly that the same apportionment will be made this year as last year unless something is done to make a change. You have been over the work and are prepared in part to say what

you think would be the best.

Work during the year has not been all that we could wish. Chong Dong was very much run down. There had been no opportunities given for members to unite with the church during the year and a half of my absence. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered but once and it was no easy matter to get things back into working order. The whole organization of the church had fallen into disorder and we have not yet gotten it back to what it was. We have been working along these lines, however, and the people are doing better. They are more active and our congregations are very well attended. During the past year we had some 20 or 30 additions. We look for greater things next year.

My last trip home convinces me more than ever of the mistake made by our Board in giving furloughs only every eight or nine years of one year at home. This takes a man away from his work for a year and a half or more. If, on the other hand, the term of service were five years with a furlough of six months, his furlough could be arranged to be taken at a time when least could be done on the field and a man's work could be left without any serious break occurring from the prolonged absence. In addition to this, the health of the missionaries would be better, their working power would be greater; still further, the acquaintance with the home churches would be better sustained. As I said to you when I was leaving New York, it is my expectation to give the plan a practical testing by coming home at my own expense at the end of five years if the Board will allow. I think it is a subject well worth considering.

I do not like to criticize a brother missionary but you, from your former position as pastor, have no little weight with Dr. Wells. I enclose you a cutting from the *Morning Oregonian* of July 13th. I think that the paragraph comparing the two hospitals is unwise. Comparisons are odious and in addition to this the comparisons as there given are not correct. You will notice that he asks for \$5000.00 for his hospital and yet the \$2000.00 that the other hospital has received to which he refers is 20,000.00 yen or \$10,000.00 gold. Then too, if he is going to make such comparisons should he not also state that a timber that can be laid down at his hospital for three dollars, perhaps for two, would cost twenty-five or thirty in the city where the larger amount is to be used?

As to accommodation, the reason for the difference in accommodation between the two is that Dr. Wells is willing to pack them in closer contrary to the recommendation of the best of the world's medical fraternity. Dr. Wells may have success by his means but there will be no little risk in his doing so.

I do not want to criticize anything in the address except to suggest that he confine himself to the Pyeng Yang work, and that he ought not to make comparisons ought to be suggested [to him] and that if he can be made to content himself with what has been done it will be more for the good of the cause than apparent criticisms of the other missionaries. I think a word from you will help out the matter.

With kindest regards I remain,

Yours sincerely,

H.G. Underwood

Personal Report of Mrs. Samuel A. Moffett at Annual Meeting

Returning to Pyeng Yang October 6th, 1902, the first work I resumed was the class for catechumen women, which is held each Wednesday afternoon in the central [Chang Dae Hyun] church. Both the attendance and the interest of this class have steadily increased during the nine months. In the spring the attendance reached as high as eighty, including the little girls from the day schools who are catechumens - and for several weeks in succession did not fall below 65. To Pak-si, who has faithfully visited in the homes of the women, is largely due this increased attendance. The women receive mimeograph outlines of the lessons and nearly all of them recite the memory verse each week. One woman who cannot read never fails to have her verse memorized, learning it from hearing her daughter read it aloud. Twenty four of the regular attendants upon this class received baptism this year and passed into other Bible classes.

Medical work among the women and children has been, as formerly, largely in the families of Christians. A few cases of sickness in the missionary community, also, came to my care, all together numbering 662, the receipts from Koreans for drugs amounting to Yen 40. Yun-si, a dear old lady of the church, seventy-five years of age, after operation for cataract was told she could be fitted with glasses which would enable her to read the New Testament. Her family are none of them Christians, and though well able to pay for the glasses, they ridiculed Yun-si for wanting to spend money merely upon the word of a foreigner. The first pair of glasses received from Japan proved to be imperfect, and those of the household said, "you see now that the glasses are useless and that the foreigner only wanted to use your money." When however, another pair came, they asked not a question nor said a word, though Yun-si proved the usefulness of the glasses by neatly making a jacket for herself. Before the operation she had to be led along the road. She is living a bright, happy Christian life though ridiculed by all her household; is slowly learning to read and laboriously committing to memory John 3:16.

Kim-si, a woman who came from Han Chun to attend the spring training class, has been for nearly two months studying nursing and has nursed several serious cases in the homes of the patients. Kim-si is a widow of _____ who needs the position for support; finds in it an opportunity for work for Christ and is earnestly trying to do good service.

In the Spring, when unable for a time to do regular work, I took the opportunity of teaching [Mr.] An Kye Kwang of Han Chun, the point system for the blind which Dr. Rosetta S. Hall has adapted to the Korean. Mr. An learned very rapidly and after three weeks of daily instruction began teaching both reading and writing to two others from the country who spent a month here in faithful study. This experiment in work for the blind was undertaken in response to the generous offer of Mrs. Webb to bear the financial expense incurred. It opened a new world to the two men who can now read and write anything given to them (the third pupil, a boy of 17, has not yet mastered the system) and the interest taken by some of the Korean Christians in what these men accomplished, leads me to hope that the time may not be far off when the Korean church shall, with assistance, establish and conduct a school for the blind, there being possibly some 40 such among the groups of the station.

Three young girls have been taking organ lessons twice a week and have made good progress.

It was a pleasure to me to prepare this Spring, a brief outline of ten Bible studies for the home study course of the Helpers and Leaders.

One brief country trip of four days was made in company with Mr. Moffett to the two churches, So-Oo-Mool and Mi Rim, holding a few separate services with the women and dispensing medicines to the women and children.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice F. Moffett

Princeton, New Jersey

Sept. 25, 1903

Herbert E. Blair

Rev. Arthur J. Brown, D.D.
156 Fifth Avenue, N.Y. City

Dear Dr. Brown:

I am happy in acknowledging the receipt of your notification of my appointment as a foreign missionary under our Board and of my assignment to the Korea mission. This early designation of my future field has come to me as a great joy, equaled only by the joy I see a month hence when on the outside of the West Gate of Pyeng Yang, my brother and his wife become informed of the Board's action.

I wish to express my thanks to the Board for your early and favorable action. I rejoice in the fact that God is so abundantly sending his loving Grace upon Korea and that the marvelous ingatherings there compel us to believe that God would have us follow the evident leading of His Holy Spirit.

I am glad you are to be with us this winter. The prospects are good for a strong missionary movement this year in the Seminary. Ten new volunteers have joined us already and we are expecting more. Of course, these men have been volunteers in college before coming here.

I am about to send in a list of the men to Dr. Halsey for the work of his Dep't. and also to the Leaflet Dep't. so that the circulation letter to the Seminary men of which Mr. Speer recently spoke and the "Appeal from the Foreign Mission Fields" by Dr. Ellinwood may be correctly mailed. Our men are not all in as yet.

Though I am not prepared to sign the "Manual Acceptance" today, yet it gives me great joy to express my acceptance of appointment to Korea as a missionary under "The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A." I count it a great privilege to be welcomed to the number of the great host of men who have honored Christ in this service and I count it a great honor to be made a missionary under our particular Board.

My prayer is that God may bless the world with abundant salvation, that the missionaries may be largely used and strengthened in numbers, that the Boards and especially our Board may be richly blessed. I pray also that I may be a missionary after the desire of Christ, well equipped in strength, Spirit & humility. Oh that God would at this time marshal the hosts of the Redeemed in Christ and manifest to the world in mighty triumph his abundant Salvation.

Cordially yours,

Herbert E. Blair

Hodge Hall 401
Princeton, N.J. 9/25/03

(from Microfilm reel #280, Korea letters & correspondence from 1884- - -Board of Foreign Missions, Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., Vol. 233, letter #92)

Pyeng Yang, Korea

October 3, 1903

Margaret Best

Dear Dr. Brown:

In the Pyeng Yang estimates passed by the Mission last month you have found a special request for two hundred and forty yen (¥ 240⁰⁰) for our "Advanced School for Girls & Women", and as I am to have charge of the school I write in explanation of the request. Others of the station also will doubtless write you in regard to the matter.

By approval of Mission, the school is to begin this year October 31st and close the last of January. It is to be open to young girls and women from city and country - of ages ranging from sixteen to thirty-five years. They are to furnish their own food, clothing, bedding and books, and pay a nominal tuition fee. Only the young girls from country homes will be received into the Boarding department, which is to be under the supervision of Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Hunt, assisted by a Korean matron. The older women will be expected either to board themselves or to board in Korean Christian families approved by us. This year we shall use the hospital building for classrooms and to accommodate the Boarding Department. We hope very much that Dr. Wells while he is at home will succeed in getting an appropriation for his new hospital. If he does get it our plan is to continue to use the present hospital building for school purposes.

The amounts that we are asking for the use of the school this year and next year are small. We hope the Board will grant the 240 yen we are asking for next year. It may be that the ladies of the Philadelphia Board [one of six semi-autonomous Women's Mission Boards in the Presbyterian Church, North] to which I belong might like to give the money - to help establish the first Boarding School for Girls in North Korea.

So much in explanation of the request. Now a few words as to our reason for starting such a school and our aim in providing educational opportunities for the girls and women of our territory.

As you know, local school work has been carried on here about seven years, but for the last two or three years there has been an increasing desire on the part of the country Christians to have their girls educated, until this year we feel that the moment for establishing a school to meet this important need can be delayed no longer. Some of the Pyeng Yang City girls and young women, who for several years have been under the instruction of Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Hunt, will form the most advanced class in the school. Those who complete the six years' course of study in our two city day schools and the girls and women from the country will, with this advanced class, form the school.

Our thought in admitting the older women to the school is that from their number we may be able in a few years to find those who will be qualified to become teachers in country schools for girls and Christian workers in the country villages. We want to give them a Christian vernacular education to help them to be intelligent Christian wives, mothers, and teachers. You have seen Korean women and know just what crude material we have to work with, but we have seen what wonders their new faith has accomplished in the characters of these ignorant women, and we believe that Christian education will tend to develop other latent powers in them.

The term proposed for the school is a very short one, but owing to the demands for Bible Study classes for women among the country churches and the fact that Miss Snook and I are the only ones to hold such classes, the station feel that not more than three months should be given to the school work this year, so that from February 1st I shall be free to engage in the country work for the remainder of the year. Miss Kirkwood's assignment to Pyeng Yang has made us all glad. We are glad to hear that she has been a teacher because teachers are what we need both for our evangelistic work in the country and our school work here. She will find a warm welcome - and plenty of work waiting for her to do.

We had the very best kind of an Annual Meeting - with nothing to spoil the pleasure.

Very sincerely yours,

Margaret Best

(from microfilm reel #280, Vol. 233, letter #94)

Pyongyang, Korea

October 13, 1903

Samuel A. Moffett

Rev. A.J. Brown, D.D.
156 Fifth Ave., New York City

Dear Dr. Brown:

Our Mission meeting this year was one of the most delightful I have ever known and was marked by a spirit of harmony and Christian fellowship which was an inspiration. From all stations came good reports of progress and promise. I am sure you will rejoice in the reports this year.

There are several things connected with the requests made this year of which I wish to write.

First and foremost is our great need for more men and women in order to take advantage of our splendid opportunities. May we not have two more single ladies sent at once in addition to Miss Brown and Miss Kirkwood? We need one for Taiku not only for the work there but because of the small number of ladies in that station. Mrs. Bruen & Mrs. Null will be the only ladies there this year. Feeling the great need the Mission has sent Dr. Field there for three months even though the work in Seoul needs her. The other lady is greatly needed in Pyongyang for a double work - that of country classes and of city schools. We can no longer delay the establishment of the advanced school for girls & women, neither can we afford to take one of the ladies from the country work. Given Miss Kirkwood and one more lady this year and we can plan for both country classes and city schools so as to meet the most urgent needs. But with fewer than these, important work must suffer greatly. Please read these extracts from Miss Best's and Mrs. Wells' reports:

Two important facts have developed in connection with these classes. One is the urgent need of two more single women to engage in country work. There are only two workers at present who are free from other duties to devote any considerable time to conducting these country classes, some of which, like the one at Pori Tukai and others almost as large, have grown beyond the power of one person to conduct with profit to all the women who attend. There is the new work also to be considered and provided for, that undertaken this year by Miss Snook being representative of work in other districts that is waiting for someone to take up. At the close of nearly every class there have been women who have begged the missionary to go home with them to their villages, and sometimes so strong were their entreaties, it was only the knowledge that every week to the close of the itinerating season was promised elsewhere that kept her from yielding to their desires.

The other important fact revealed by these classes is that there is a large number of young girls, the daughters of Christians who are eager for more knowledge, but for whom the station has as yet been able to provide no educational opportunities aside from those afforded by several primary schools of very crude character, by the country Bible study classes and the two training classes in Pyeng Yang. These young girls attending the country classes sometimes to the number of ten or fifteen, have shown themselves bright, capable of improvement and well worth any effort expended upon them.

Our request for two single ladies is based upon this two-fold need of providing more adequately for the instruction of women in the country study classes and of training women who shall make suitable teachers for country primary schools for girls.

With five girls from the country in one school and three in another, all at their own expense, and others who would attend, the question of a Boarding School, largely self-supporting, for girls is urgent and the need must be met by the Mission. But even with a Boarding School the Woman's School must be continued as it meets a growing and urgent demand on the part of women and young married girls who cannot attend either a day or boarding school (From Mrs. Wells' report)

The special plea I would present is that these two ladies be sent this winter or next spring as being to my mind the most urgent need for re-enforcements. The question of new stations also now comes before us, and before the Board and the Church.

We certainly must have another station south of Seoul if we are to unite the Presbyterian work of our own southern stations and that of the Southern Presbyterian Church with the Presbyterian work of the rest of Korea. Had it not been for the Roman Catholic troubles in Whang Hai province which took two months of my time, Mr. Miller and I would have visited Kong Ju and surrounding region and have had ready a full report to lay before the Board concerning a new station there - between Seoul, Taiku and the Southern Presbyterian station of Chun Ju.

The Mission requests a man for this work and I hope that even before the full report on the situation reaches you you will be able to see the desirability of such a move and send us a man to be in preparation for that work.

Again, the work in the extreme North presents so clear a call for a new station that the reading of the following extract from the Syen Chun report will make the need apparent. Russian interests on the Yalu [river] make it so uncertain as to how long the opportunity will last that it is doubly important we occupy that region now and get deeply rooted while the people are open to gospel influences.

NEW STATION.

The northern part of North Pyeng An province and the territory across the Yalu in Manchuria constitute a large and very needy field. The population of all the northern counties is much greater than we had previously supposed. The number of Korean settlers in Manchuria is surprisingly large, not only along the Yalu, but for several hundred *li* back in the interior. Even at Harbin, the new junction of the Manchurian railway with the branch to Vladivostock, 600 miles northeast of Port Arthur, we are told that there is a considerable Korean settlement. The work for the Koreans in Manchuria alone could profitably take the whole time of one missionary. On the Korean side of the river there are new promising groups in the counties of Cho San, Eui Won, and Kang Kai, and preaching has been done in the counties of Hu Chang and Cha Syung. The work in this section, though new, is developing rapidly. At present there are twelve meeting places, with an enrollment of 147, and 325 adherents.

The natural trade and political center of this region is Kang Kai, about equally distant (800-900 *li* from Pyeng Yang and Syen Chyun. Difficulty of access for freight is not so great as would appear, boats on the Yalu coming to within 100 *li* of the town, though this route would of course be slow. The nearest

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steamer connection is with Ham Heung, and much of the foreign trade is with Ham Heung and Won San. The nearest telegraph office is Pak Chin, the central camp of the American Mining Company, about 400 *li* distant.

Owing to the distance and the press of work near at hand, our present force is unable to give this territory the attention it needs. We therefore ask for two new clerical workers for this section, and we desire that the Mission, at this annual meeting, take action looking toward eventually setting aside this territory as a separate station.

The Presbyterian Church has the opportunity to evangelize this country - all of Korea. The station south of Seoul is imperatively needed to enable us to occupy the whole land strategically.

Concerning the Advanced School for Girls & Women here in Pyengyang I would ask attention to our request for a "special apportionment" at once to enable us to open it for 3 months this winter. The sum asked is only yen 240 (\$120 U.S. gold) but it will enable us to begin this, as we have all other work here - on a small scale from which it will build up naturally and thoroughly. If at all possible will you secure this appropriation at once?

We have also made request for Miss Best's furlough to begin July 1, 1904 at end of 7 years of service. It is not only that she came out with the understanding that her furlough was to come at end of 7 years, but it is that we all believe it will be better for her and for the work that she have her furlough next year. She is not broken in health, but she has done a magnificent work under increasing pressure and strain and she is of such superlative value as a missionary that we want to run no risk of a break down. Another year of such work and she will need the rest to be obtained from furlough in order that she may continue in good trim for future work. If she goes home next July she will be the only one absent from the station that year. May we look to you to present the request if it seems to you a right one as it does to us?

An explanation of but one more request and I will finish this letter. We ask as a "special appropriation" this year 600 yen (\$300 U.S. gold) for quarters for Mr. Bernheisel. So far the Board has made no provision for housing Mr. Bernheisel and the members of the station have gladly housed him in guest houses put up at their own expense. He is now occupying Mr. Lee's guest house but Mr. Lee needs the room for his own convenience and efficiency in the work, having no private room for conference or study and more pressingly needs it now that they have taken into their family two of Mr. F.S. Miller's children. Mr. Bernheisel is certainly entitled to rooms of his own and the amount asked is a small one.

The work in all departments still progresses - most of the men are in the country looking after work there. I had a short but good trip a few days ago and find things in promising condition still growing. Mrs. Moffett was with me enjoying the trip and adding greatly to its profit to the Koreans. She joins me in most cordial greetings to you and Mrs. Brown.

The officers of the church were greatly pleased with your letter concerning the photograph they sent you.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Samuel A. Moffett

New York, New York

October 13, 1903

Arthur Judson Brown

The Rev. S.A. Moffett, D.D.
Pyeng Yang, Korea

My dear Dr. Moffett:-

It is very pleasant to read your letter of August 5th so cordially welcoming me to the Korea correspondence. I read with keen interest the account which you give of recent itinerating and the training classes that have been held. How I wish that I could have made some of those trips with you and that I could have shared the profit of those station classes. Such work impresses me as exceedingly valuable. The record of the results of the year leads me to exclaim again "What hath God wrought!" Such facts mightily encourage us, and at the same time lead us to new prayer that we may be able to take wise advantage of these great opportunities and to find the additional missionaries who are needed to utilize them. I strongly sympathize with your desire for a development of the educational facilities of the Mission. We have come to a time when such facilities are absolutely indispensable.

You will be grieved to learn that our beloved Dr. Ellinwood has met a great bereavement in the death of his youngest daughter. She was very ill all summer, and the end came on the 6th inst. This sorrow is peculiarly hard upon Dr. Ellinwood, for he is not very well himself. Mrs. Ellinwood has also been in feeble health, and they have another daughter who has been an invalid for years. We are all praying for their comfort of God in this time of need and we know that you will join your prayers with ours.

At the meeting of the Board the 8th inst., I had the pleasure of presenting a portrait in oil of the Rev. Dr. Arthur Mitchell, who was so much beloved as a Secretary of this Board from 1883 to 1893. He was a man of rare beauty and strength of character. He loved his work, he loved the missionaries, while he preached with great eloquence of the nations that sit in darkness. The portrait was the gift of Mr. Marshall Field, the great merchant of Chicago, who was a former parishioner of Dr. Mitchell's.

The portrait now hangs upon the wall of our Board Room beside the portraits of several other men who have been prominently identified with the work of the Board. Mrs. Mitchell and her daughter were present at the presentation, and several addresses were made lovingly appreciative of the life and work of Dr. Mitchell.

The key-note of Dr. Mitchell's life both as a pastor and as a Secretary of the Board was expressed in two passages which I heard him deliver with impassioned earnestness in a speech before the Presbytery of Chicago: - - "Brethren, the Cause of Foreign Missions goes down to the roots of the Spiritual life, and we cannot expect an abundance of fruit until that life is enriched." The other passage was, - - "The people for whom we labor are distant; they are degraded, yet, however degraded they are, they do not pollute our society or endanger our institutions; and it is therefore evident that our interest in them can only spring from that disinterested love which led God to give His only begotten Son to endure the cruel death upon the cross, and to save a lost world. The Cause of Foreign Missions must, therefore, depend upon the piety of the Church. It can appeal to nothing else but that piety, and to that disinterested love it does appeal as the wretchedness and guilt of earth appeal to the mercy and the love of Heaven".

I believe that those passages are profoundly true. foreign missionary work

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that may appear to be human, even secular, but, after all, the essential character of that work..... motive which prompts it to its continuance must be the spiritual work. It is this quality which differentiates it from all other work, this which gives it at once its claim, its joy and its success. I pray that we may all, those of us who are in the office, and those of you who are on the foreign field, prosecute this great work in that lofty spirit.

With cordial regards to Mrs. Moffett, I am, as ever,

Affectionately yours,

Arthur J. Brown

Pyongyang, Korea

October 14, 1903

Samuel A. Moffett

Rev. Arthur J. Brown, D.D.
156 Fifth Ave., New York City

Dear Dr. Brown:

I desire to lay before you full information concerning the action of the Mission requesting the Board to take such action as is necessary in order that we may secure from the General Assembly "liberty to co-operate in the organization of an independent Korean Presbyterian Church".

At the meeting of the Council (Presbyterian Council) in Seoul last year, Sept., 1902, the following report was adopted:

REPORTS.

Committee on Church Government.

To the Council:---We Recommend,

1. That when there shall be at least twelve (12) churches with one or more ordained Elders each, and at least three (3) Koreans whom the Council deems ready for ordination to the Ministry, a Presbytery shall be organized under the following provisions:--
 - (a) This Presbytery shall be constituted of the ordained Missionaries (Ministers and Elders) of the Presbyterian Missions in Korea and of one representative Elder from each organized church.
 - (b) The Presbytery when so constituted shall be the Supreme Ecclesiastical Court of the Presbyterian Church of Korea, until such time as in the exercise of its own authority the Church constitutes a Synod, or General Assembly.
 - (c) The Missionaries who are members of this Presbytery shall be members of the same only so far as concerns the rights and privileges of voting and participating in all its proceedings but ecclesiastically they shall be subject to the authority and discipline of their respective home Churches, retaining their full ecclesiastical connection with those Churches.
 - (d) The relation of the Missionaries as members of the Korean Church shall continue until such time as by an affirmative vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of their number withdrawal from this relation shall be deemed advisable.
2. Since the Presbytery when constituted as an independent ecclesiastical body has full authority to adopt its own standards and its own rules for ordination of Ministers, organization of churches and all other ecclesiastical acts, we recommend,
 - (a) The appointment of a committee to prepare such Standards as it deems best, these to be reported to the Council for adoption and then presented to the Presbytery for its consideration when a Presbytery is constituted.
 - (b) The appointment of a committee to prepare Presbyterial Rules and By Laws, these to be reported to the Council for adoption and then presented to the Presbytery for its consideration when a Presbytery is constituted.
3. That each Mission request its Board of Missions,

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Executive Committee or Ecclesiastical Court having jurisdiction over it, for liberty to co-operate in the organization of an independent Korean Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully Submitted,

For the American Presbyterian Church (North) S.A. Moffett

				F.S. Miller
"	"	"	"	(South) L.B. Tate
"	"	Australian	"	G. Engel
"	"	Canadian	"	W.R. Foote

Seoul, Sept. 17, 1902.

Under this action the committee was continued and the other two committees provided for were appointed as follows:

On Rules & By Laws for the proposed Presbytery:

Mr. Gale & Mr. Baird	from	Presbyterian Mission	(North)
Mr. Harrison	"	"	(South)
Mr. McRae	"	"	(Canadian)
Mr. Engel	"	"	(Australian)

On Standards for the Native Church:

Mr. Moffett	from	Presbyterian Mission	(North)
Mr. Junkin	"	"	(South)
Mr. Foote	"	"	(Canadian)
Mr. Engel	"	"	(Australian)

During the year the various Missions have been in correspondence with their Boards & Committees and the present status is shown by the report of the Committee on Church Government which was presented to the meeting of the Council in Pyengyang this year, Sept., 1903. This report was as follows:

"In accordance with the action of the last Council each Mission represented therein has taken steps to lay before the body having jurisdiction over it the question of liberty to cooperate in the organization of an independent Korean Presbyterian Church. As yet no final authorization has been received from any of these bodies but progress has been made in each Mission.

The Canadian Foreign Missions Committee has adopted the following resolution: -- "The Committee cordially approves of the object aimed at in these recommendations and generally of the recommendations themselves; but instead of 1(c) they would prefer the following: -- that each member place himself in subordination to this Presbytery, but with right of appeal to the Supreme Court of the Church with which he is connected".

The Australian Foreign Missions Committee has also adopted the plan of procedure suggested and will lay the matter before the General Assembly which meets in November - the final authority resting with the General Assembly.

The Committee of Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. brought the plan before the General Assembly of that church which has appointed a Committee to consider the subject as it relates to the Missions in Korea and in other fields and to report to the next General Assembly. A favorable report is anticipated from this Committee but final action of the

Assembly will not be taken until the meeting next year.

The Mission of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. has requested its Board of Foreign Missions to bring this same action before its General Assembly. As that Assembly has already given favorable answer to somewhat similar requests from other Missions it is expected that the General Assembly will next year grant to its missionaries in Korea the liberty requested.

Your Committee, therefore, would report favorable progress and the probability that at the next meeting of Council authoritative answers will have been received from all the Churches represented in the Council, that these answers will be favorable and that the way will be clear for co-operation along the lines of the resolutions adopted last year.”

The above will enable you to understand the situation and our request to the Board. What we desire is official permission from the Church to co-operate with the other Missions in forming the Korean Presbyterian Church. You may possibly remember my conversation with you on this subject when you were here and your assurance that when we were ready for action you would take the question up and look after its presentation to the Board and General Assembly. At the present rate of progress in ordination of elders and training of candidates for the ministry another 3 years will probably see us with from 20 to 30 churches with elders and five or six men ready for ordination. To be ready for action then we must first have authoritative action on the part of the home Churches and must be ready with standards and rules for presentation to the Presbytery so formed. The action of the home Churches we desire to see through this coming year, 1904, and then the way will be clear for us to go ahead with our plans.

I also want to ask your good offices with the Committee of the Southern Presbyterian Church, which has been appointed to consider this subject. That Church is the only one which seems reluctant to grant the request. We most earnestly desire a real union of all Presbyterian bodies here and have tried to meet the previous objections of the Southern Church by the churches looking forward to a withdrawal of the foreign missionaries from the presbytery when $\frac{2}{3}$ of their members deem withdrawal advisable [see 1(d) above]. Dr. Marquess of the Kentucky Theological Seminary, Louisville, is Chairman of their Committee, I believe. I shall be glad to hear from you on this subject and to know the action of the Council in the Board Rooms and the action of the Board preliminary to presentation of the subject to the General Assembly. I will send you a copy of *Minutes of the Council* as soon as printed.

With kindest regards,

Samuel A. Moffett

New York, New York

October 14, 1903

Arthur Judson Brown

The Rev. Fred S. Miller
Seoul, Korea

My dear Mr. Miller:-

Your letter of August 7th was not necessary to bring you again to my mind for you have been very often in my thought and prayer since your bereavement. And yet I was very glad to read that letter from you and to find in it what I was sure I would find, evidences of the faith and love and courage with which you have been facing the future. God is indeed a very present help in time of trouble. He has been with you and with your dear ones all these years and He will not forsake you now.

I have been thinking recently of Paul's statement to the elders of Ephesus in Acts 20:24, "None of these things move me". The things to which he referred would have moved most men for they were "bonds and afflictions". The future was dark, he did not know what things were to befall, except that the things were to be grievous, and yet he was conscious of a clear call of God to go forward, to move straight to the place where the troubles were. He did not yield to the depression to which an ordinary man would have yielded to change his plans or to wait until some more favorable time or to seek some safer place or easier work. Even when his friends "wept sore", and felt that he was going to his death, he would not swerve an inch. "None of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God."

So the missionary often finds that obstacles are formidable, that difficulties are many, that problems are perplexing, while at times dangers are imminent. The temptation to discouragement is strong. Sometimes as I read the letters which come to me from the more than four hundred missionaries with whom I correspond, I am oppressed almost beyond measure by my anxiety for them. In our widely extended work, there is trouble all the time at some point. In one place it is an outbreak of fierce animosity against foreigners, which jeopardizes not only property, but life and brings a fearful strain upon the beloved missionaries and upon the native Christians. At other times it is opposition, which, while not involving physical violence, is none the less hard to meet. At other times it is sickness and death. Often it is a lack of money and a lack of sufficient missionary force.

And then I think of Paul, who in the face of dangers and difficulties equally numerous and equally formidable calmly said, "None of these things move me". I go bound in the Spirit, I hear the voice of God summoning me to go forward, I see the form of my Master walking before me with bleeding feet and agonized face, and summoning me to follow in His steps, and I will go and trust Him for all that may come to me.

Shall we not, my dear friend, seek to enter more and more into that spirit? I know it is your spirit, and that of your associates. I know too that God who calls you will be lovingly with you. Let me try and get up on that spiritual mountain top where we shall be in the region of calm where we can look down upon the tumults and anxieties of this present world and say with a great peace in our hearts, "None of these things move me", because we are co-workers with God and if God be with us who can be against us.

And now, my dear friend, I can say of you, as Paul said to his Ephesian elders: "And now, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified."

Sincerely yours,
Arthur J. Brown

(from the Presbyterian Historical Society microfilm roll #283, Vol. 242, (part 2), letter #24)

Pyeng Yang, Korea

November 15, 1903

Graham Lee

Dear Mother:-

I wrote you last while making my first fall trip. I finished that trip, made another, and am now on my third. It is Sunday evening and the day's work is over. Do you want to know what the day's work was? I got up about six o'clock while it was yet dark and had an hour for study before the "boy" got up to get my breakfast. Breakfast consisted of breakfast food, bacon and eggs and Korean pears. I depend upon Korean pears for my fruit. After breakfast work began. I had twelve to examine for baptism and three for the catechumenate. We worked steadily until eleven and then came the Sunday morning Bible study class. And after that dinner and after dinner an hour of rest and then came the afternoon service. This afternoon service is the regular preaching service. At this service I baptized five and received one catechumen. We also had the communion. After the service [I] went out for a walk to get some fresh air and when I got back it was time for supper. After supper came the evening service which I didn't attend. The Sunday evening service I generally let the Koreans run themselves. You see the day has been pretty well filled. Tomorrow I go on to the next place and then the work of today will be repeated with the exception of the Bible study class. At every place I have the communion service and this is one of the hardest things to do. [It is not easy] to give the communion day after day, no matter how tired one is, and yet keep oneself in the proper frame of mind so that the service will not be a mere form.

Today I baptized an old woman seventy-four years old who walked a mile and a half to get to the service. The old lady has been sick for the last fifteen years and I didn't expect to see her [at the church] and was making arrangements to go over to her house when she suddenly appeared. She said she didn't expect ever to see me again and she wanted to see me once more before she died. She gave such a good testimony and it was a joy to baptize her. That old lady ought to have stayed at home and yet she walked three miles today. And three hard miles they were for her in her weak condition just because she wanted to see the missionary. I asked her if she was ready to leave this world, and she said she was ready to go and that she had no fear. The dear old lady, the Gospel has brought a great joy to her heart.

I'm writing sitting on the floor using my blankets for a writing desk. For light I have three candles and my candle stick is the support for a gramophone horn. It is one of these iron folding arrangements like a folding music stand. As a candlestick it is simply superb. I can raise it and lower it at will and thus put the light just where I want it. At night I use the candle stick for a clothes rack and for this purpose it is perfect. You may think that three candles at a time is rather expensive light but I have come to the conclusion that candles are cheaper than eyes. I used to use only one candle and I was foolish for doing it, for I lost more in eyes than I saved in candle. Now I'm determined to have light enough so that my eyes will not suffer.

I'm sorry to hear that Grandma is not so well. Give her our love, please, and also to all the dear good relatives.

Your affectionate son,

Graham Lee

(from the Samuel Hugh Moffett collection of Samuel Austin Moffett papers)

New York, New York

November 18, 1903

Arthur Judson Brown

Dr. S.A. Moffett
Pyeng Yang, Korea

My dear Dr. Moffett:

The subject matter of your letter of October 10th and 13th has been covered in the letter which goes by this mail to the Mission, but I wish to add a personal word of hearty appreciation of your thoughtfulness. You wrote so clearly and convincingly that we were greatly helped. I am having copies made of that part of your letter of October 13th which relates to the desired reinforcements in the new stations so that what you have so effectively written can be presented to the Finance Committee as well as passed around the Executive Council.

I am following with mingled hope and anxiety the pending controversy between Russia and Japan. A dozen times it has seemed that imminent war was inevitable, but each time the week has passed without the outbreak of hostilities. As that has been the case so often, I am not without hope that strife will yet be avoided and yet we cannot be blind to the possibilities of the situation. Russia seldom changes her mind and Japan will fight rather than see Russia in Korea. My personal interest in the matter arises from the probability that Korea will be to some extent at least, a battle ground in the of war and yet it may be that the trouble may be less perilous than we now imagine.

From the beginning the development of the Kingdom of God has been characterized by tumults and wars without number and in and through them all God's purpose has steadily advanced. I have faith to believe that it will be so in this case. Of course you will immediately cable me if any outbreak should occur. Meantime, I am bringing the matter frequently to God in prayer. My faith is clear and strong that the missionaries in Korea are working in accordance with the will of God, and since He is for us, we need not fear what ambitious man may do.

I have recently returned from my tour among the synods. I found much to encourage. The synods, while begrudging the time given to some other Boards, appeared eager to give me all the time I could possibly use for the presentation of Foreign Mission, asking me to speak not only on the floor of Synod, but usually giving me an entire evening. The audiences were exceptionally large and the evidences of deep and sympathetic and prayerful interest were very strong. I spoke three times at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago and set forth the urgent need of new men. Several seniors responded to the call and the Synod of Illinois pledged itself to raise a special fund to send out an Illinois band of eleven new missionaries this year - one for each Presbytery of the Synod.

With affectionate remembrances to all the Station, I am, as ever,

Arthur J. Brown

(from the Presbyterian Historical Society microfilm #283, Vol. 242 (part 2), letter #36)

(San Rafael, California

Nov. 24, 1903

Martha A. Warner Fish
(Mrs. Charles H. Fish)

(part of a letter of Mrs. Chas. H. Fish to her daughter, Dr. Alice Fish Moffett, Pyengyang, Korea)

.....know when this ever occurred before - but I did not feel like entertaining - I thought I should be more thankful to be alone! However, it is Thanksgiving day every day here. I know I am greatly blessed - and I long for more blessing. I would come up higher into the very presence of my Lord. I want to serve Him every day and all through the day. I have just received another letter from the dear cousin in Seattle, a cousin of my mother, (Mrs. Lucinda Taylor). She is eighty-five years old - her sister ninety-two, has two daughters who are over seventy. I believe I wrote you of them. Uncle James is nearly eighty - your uncle Edward seventy five and Emily older - so you see your ancestors on both sides are tenacious of life.

You would enjoy our neighbors in the red house, Mrs. Thayer's family. The two older daughters are musical - and they favored our people at our Thank offering service and at our church social. There are five children - one beautiful little girl of five years. Mifs [old spelling of Miss] Walker - dear old lady, has been regular in attending church and prayer-meeting for a long time till the rain. Mr. McMahan and family have moved to the city. Mrs. Geo. Graham is living in San Rafael over next to Mrs. Trumbull's (south). I saw Mabel Gray today in the Lake House on Sutter St. She is the President of the Ebel society. Dr. Burke looked just the same today. It is wonderful that he can endure such constant work year after year. Did the world ever know two such physicians as Dr. Burke and Dr. Greene? We are living in a wonderful age when so much of knowledge is given to the human mind.

It is after nine o'clock - father has gone out to saw wood and I must retire after such a full day. I have much sewing to do if I could but get into the spirit of it. Can I do anything for you, dear? Do you need new skirts (under dress skirts)? I have a material in black - firmer than duck. Take good care of yourselves and write when you can. You do, and we enjoy your letters.

A heart full of love to Sam and to you, dear. Please remember me to Mr. and Mrs. Lee and to Mrs. Webb. I hope your watch will reach you safely.

Your loving mother,

Martha A. Fish

(from the Samuel H. Moffett collection of S.A. Moffett papers)

Seoul, Korea

November 26, 1903

Horace G. Underwood

Rev. A.J. Brown, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Brown,

Your kind letter of the 27th [is] just to hand. Work on the translating board is going on well: things are being pushed along that line and, though owing to Mr. Reynolds' building operations, it is not pushed as hard as it might be, it is going much better than it was last year and as soon as he is through with his building we shall expect things to go along even faster.

If you are following "the progress of negotiations" between Japan and Russia, it is much more than we, near at hand, can do. It seems to us that Japan is weakening and losing ground and that Russia is bound to come out on top. If Russia once gets on top with paramount influence in Korea our work before long will be stopped. In the first place, with Japan in power all the schools were crowded to overflowing, but with Russian influence and old time conservatism in the van schools that formerly numbered three hundred pupils have fifty, forty, twenty and some have disbanded. In addition to this, not only will our opportunities for work be thus curtailed in the attitude of the people toward us, but there will be more direct hindrances put directly in our way if it does not conclude in we ourselves being ordered out of the country. I was very much interested in hearing of a conversation between Mr. Gale and a Russian Chief Justice in Manchuria. On this very topic he said that they were experiencing no difficulty from the Protestants but considerably from the Roman Catholics who should be their allies, as they were French. If this difference continued, he said that Russia could not allow the French missionaries to stay and he did not see how they could manage to permit the American Protestant missionaries and disallow the Roman Catholics. I thought that this was in all probability a polite way of saying what they would do. Korea herself is getting worse and worse politically. Something must happen and that right soon. I think most of the missionaries here, much as they would grieve to see blood-shed and all the evils that war entails, would welcome war. There come times when the deep probing of the surgeon's knife and the free letting of blood is necessary. We would not for a moment attempt to settle that it was necessary now, or to lift a hand to bring it about, but under the present circumstances we could see how war at the present time would be a benefit rather than a hindrance. Of course I would not care to be quoted as having said this, but justice is getting more and more foreign to Korean courts and something must come. Were it not for the fear of outside interference, I feel convinced that ere this Korea would have brought about for herself changes for the better. Feeling as we do, you can realize with what intense interest we have tried to watch the result of the negotiations carried on in Tokio and St. Petersburg. I am in great hopes that America will now undertake to have something to say in this whole eastern question and the feeling is quite general here that had America made the slightest effort to see that her previous statements concerning the maintenance of the integrity of China had been adhered to, Russia would ere this have evacuated Manchuria. But I must be closing.

With kind regards from Mrs. Underwood and myself to you and Mrs. Brown,

Yours Sincerely,

H.G. Underwood

(from the Presbyterian Historical Society microfilm #280, Vol. 233, letter #115)

[this is an article called *The Tale of Korea's American Empress*, published on January 3, 2004 in *The Korea Times*, Seoul, Korea, as a weekly series of articles entitled *Choson Through Western Eyes*, that will look at the lives of Americans and Europeans living in Korea in the late Yi dynasty. Mr. Robert Neff, here resurrects and reproduces an article which was originally written by an unknown author. According to Neff, the Austrian newspaper, *Neve Freie Presse* first printed the article and then other papers, including the Boston Sunday Post, carried their own versions.]

[Following is Robert Neff's copyrighted article from the *Korea Times*]

“On October 24, 1903, Americans were surprised to discover how much influence the United States had gained in Korea. A newspaper in Chicago broke the news that a fellow American, Emily Brown, the young daughter of the late Dr. Peter Brown, had married the Korean emperor Kojong in an elaborate wedding in August of that year.

According to Chicago newspapers, Emily Brown, was an only child born in Ohio in 1879 and spent most of her early childhood there, but at some point moved to Philadelphia. Her father, a successful doctor, was forced to raise her himself after his wife apparently died at an early age. He was a devout Presbyterian, and like many of his generation, the desire to go abroad and witness [to] “the heathens” took hold. Missionaries were greatly needed in Korea, and when he volunteered to serve in Korea in 1894, he was readily accepted. His daughter was to accompany him on this historical adventure and he would gain the distinction of being the first Protestant to settle in Korea.

Korea in the mid-1890's was a dangerous place. Chinese troops were brought into Korea due to civil unrest in the provinces, which led the Japanese to bring in their own. Hostilities broke out between these two countries, resulting in the Sino-Japanese war of 1894-95, with a lot of the combat taking place within Korea and the surrounding waters. Then, in 1895, the Japanese assassinated the Korean queen and caused King Kojong to flee to the Russian legation for safety.

It was into this environment that Dr. Peter Brown brought his beautiful, 15-year-old daughter. She graced his church's choir in Seoul with her beautiful voice and her sparkling character, and soon caught the attention of the grieving Kojong (now Emperor), who sought solace in her presence. He soon commanded that she tend to him at his palace but she, a virtuous woman, demurred. A King's attention, however, can only be avoided for a short period of time, and she soon found herself at the palace. Emily was able to speak Korean, having learned it while assisting her father, and she quickly won over the court with her obvious intelligence and wisdom, becoming one of Kojong's most-trusted confidants. As she spent more and more time within the walls of the vast palace, their relationship gradually grew stronger and stronger until finally the Emperor did something unimaginable - - he professed his love for her and proposed marriage.

They married before the representatives of the United States, England and Japan, and the entire population of Seoul. The first accounts were published on November 29, 1903, in the *Boston Sunday Post*:

[[“At the entrance to the palace were stationed a great squad of the imperial guard, who, armed with hatchets at the end of poles, prevented the throng from crowding in too close. All along the proposed line of march similar guards were placed. In the narrow streets immediately surrounding the palace the Emperor's army awaited a signal to march.

The signal was finally given. At the head of the procession moved the generals of the army and the most favored troops. When a thousand or more soldiers had passed, trumpets blared, the palace gates were thrown wide open, and in glittering helmets and armor of five hundred years ago out marched the Emperor's bodyguard.

Following the bodyguard came the attendants in dazzling silks and waving plumes. Finally with a deafening din of drums, two chairs emerged. In one of these chairs sat the Emperor Yi Hi {Kojong} and in the other Emily Brown, Empress of Corea. Never before had a civilized being been appareled as she was. From head to foot she was covered with gems and silk so thick that they fell in folds like heavy woolen cloth.

Above the royal chairs waved a banner with a flying dragon fourteen feet long. Under the banner was an immense red parasol, indicating to the people that their monarch had shared his power and throne with the woman by his side."]

One newspaper wrote, "It seems incredible almost, that in this day that news of such widespread interest should be so delayed in reaching the native home of the young American woman."

Of course it was incredible because Emily Brown never existed, and the entire story is fiction. Even more incredible is that this story is still viewed by some people as fact. The Austrian newspaper, *Neve Freie Presse*, first printed the article and then other papers, such as the *Boston Sunday Post*, carried their own versions of the story.

This story seems so captivating because of the half-truths and outright lies that fill it. There were two American missionaries, a Dr. Hugh Brown and his wife, both from Union Gap, Pennsylvania, but they arrived in Seoul in 1891. [There was also a Miss Mary E. Brown, a northern Presbyterian missionary who arrived in Korea in September, 1903 and resigned in 1906]. The first Presbyterian missionary and doctor to settle in Korea in 1884 was Horace Allen - - later an American [government] Minister to Korea, who, incidentally was from Ohio. Emperor Kojong did marry in 1903, but to his concubine Om, a Korean woman.

Was the story a deliberate hoax or just a horrible mix-up? Some people have suggested that Horace Allen was responsible for the story in an attempt to generate support for Korea with the American government. Perhaps a reporter wrote about Emperor Kojong's wedding to Om and either he, or the editor of the *Neve Freie Presse* got their facts mixed up. Of course, another possibility is a reporter in Korea made up the story for his own reasons.

I doubt we will ever discover the true author of this story. Time tends to distort and hide secrets as it passes, and, if a mistake or lie is repeated often enough, especially in print, it eventually becomes a fact that few historians bother to check, and further legitimize with their own repetition. The power of the pen is indeed great.

(from *The Korea Times*, January 3, 2004, Seoul, Korea, first in a weekly series of articles entitled *Choson Through Western Eyes*, by Robert Neff - - sent by e-mail to friends and family in America by Mrs. Horace H. (Nancy) Underwood II)

KOREA MISSION
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD
KOREA
OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
IN THE U.S.A.

C.C. VINTON, M.D.
TREASURER

SEOUL,

Seoul, Korea

December 21st, 1903

S.A. Moffett & C.C. Vinton

Dear Dr. Brown:

The undersigned were commissioned at the Annual Meeting of this Mission to express to you the pleasure of all in coming into the new and closer relation with you which results from the change in the adjustment of secretarial duties at the Board rooms. Our grief at severing the close tie that has existed between Dr. Ellinwood and ourselves we have taken care to communicate to him. Our expectation is that the bond that unites us to you will go on strengthening throughout the years as did our feeling toward him. We have already many ties holding us to you. We know you personally from your visit among us. We have experienced your personal kindness in many ways - not a few of us. And as a mission you have already contended for the means of promoting our advancement. We know that we have already a warm place in your prayers, and we have confidence that you will ever bear us at the Throne of Grace. Our wish for you is that you may long continue our secretary, that strength may be given you for many years of service in this capacity, and that we may draw constantly nearer you in confidence and in spiritual labors together. We have an equally cordial recollection of Mrs. Brown as of yourself, and we rejoice that she seems one degree nearer to us and to our work because of the relation you have entered to us. May God grant that you both enjoy together many years of further service in the upbuilding of His Kingdom in foreign lands.

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel A. Moffett
C.C. Vinton
(Committee)

Pyeng Yang, Korea

December 27, 1903

Graham Lee

Dear Mother:-

It is Sunday evening and the family is getting settled for the night. Margaret has the earache and Blanche is fixing something for her. Gra is sniffling in bed for he just had to be spanked. Mylo is just starting for bed and Newlon and Lisette [Miller] will soon be on the way.

We had a very delightful Christmas. On Thursday afternoon we all met at Mr. Baird's house and the children gave us an entertainment which was very much enjoyed. Miss Armstrong, our school teacher, has been having them practice for some time. After their entertainment was over, then Santa Claus came in with his bag and made all happy. Mr. Koons, a new member of our mission, had the honor of being Santa Claus this year.

On Christmas day we had a service for the Koreans which they seemed to enjoy exceedingly. Our part of the program was a picture drawn by Dr. Whiting, another new member of our station. Dr. Whiting can't talk Korean, so I did the talking while he drew the picture. It was a night scene showing the inn, star, shepherds and wise men and the people all appreciated it very much. Another part of the program was a motion song by a dozen little boys trained by Miss Kirkwood, another new missionary. This little song simply captured the audience and one man in the audience was all "broken up" by it. After the little chaps were through I saw him wiping his eyes for a long time. Near the end of the program a collection was taken to be used by the deacons during the year to help the unfortunate. This year the collection was 750 yang. This would mean about the same as if Westerners should take a collection of seven hundred and fifty dollars on Christmas day to be given away to unfortunate people.

The box you sent didn't get here for Christmas. It would have gotten here in time but the river froze earlier than usual this year. The box was sent from Chemulpo all right. But the steamer was unable to come up the river, so the box was landed at Chinnampo and is there now. We are sending a man down tomorrow to get it and several others.

Your last letter telling about Grandma's party came by last mail. How I wish we could have been there. Some day there is going to be a glad reunion and no more of parting. I like to think of Father with all his trials and suffering over, waiting for us to come.

Dear Grandma, how I wish we might see her again. She is an example to us all. If I live to be an old man I trust I may learn from her how to grow old as a Christian should, and that our later years may be as hers have been, a benediction and a blessing.

You asked about that clipping you sent out which told how Emily Brown had become the queen of Korea. The story is true enough except in two particulars. In the first place, Mr. Brown never had any daughter, Emily; and in the second place there never was any Mr. Brown. The whole thing is invention (Shanghaied news) without the shadow of a fact as a basis.

I just returned a few days since from my last country trip. Mr. Moffett and I held a class for ten days at one of his country churches. The weather was bitter cold and it wasn't possible to heat the church, so we had to take things as they came. Every day I taught wrapped up in a big sheepskin lined coat. How the Koreans managed to stand it I don't know, but they did, and seemed to enjoy the lessons. I don't believe you would get many people in America to attend a Bible class for ten days and sit in a room where the temperature was scarcely above the freezing point. Now I'm going to quit and let Blanche add a word. With love to all,

Your affectionate son,
Graham Lee

(from the Samuel Hugh Moffett collection of Samuel Austin Moffett papers)

Syen Chyun, Korea

December 29, 1903

Esther L. Shields

Dear Dr. Brown:-

Your kind letter of October tenth reached me today and I thank you for it. I have been intending for some days to write to you in answer to an earlier letter and also in reference to Dr. Field's furlough.

While in Pyeng Yang last autumn, your good long letter of July 16th reached me, and I delivered your message to Dr. Sharrocks and others. Now we are back in the midst of the work in Syen Chyun, finding so much to be glad and grateful for, and also finding many opportunities of using the principle voiced in Moodys(?) suggestion: - "to set ten men to work instead of doing ten men's work."

January 11, 1904. Tomorrow is to be the last day of a week's class which we've been having with the women of the church at Nap Chun, in Mr. Ross' territory. Kang Si, Miss Chase's faithful helper, is with me, and we have been having profitable days, I am sure, though I realize my deficiencies very keenly, especially in the use of the language and in the number of questions asked which I cannot answer promptly. But it's delightful to meet these women, and I'm sure we do help each other.

I expect to spend a week in study at "Nymbang" following this class, which will make the seventh place visited since Annual Meeting. I hope to be in Syen Chyun during February and to go in March to Eui Ju for "girls' school", and class work there. Our Spring class for the women (from "all over") who can come, is to be held in April; then we shall see if I can go to Sak Ju in May, as I should very much like to do. I have not opportunity now to give you any details of the class-work, but hope to send reports later.

I hope that nothing will make it necessary for the Board to render a decision different from that which the Mission expressed at last Annual Meeting about Dr. Field's furlough. She really needs very much a relief from the work, as she forces herself to do much of what is now in her hands, and feels utterly worn out when it is done. In a recent letter she said that it was "a drag", yet she enjoyed thoroughly much of it - but found that she was looking forward expectantly to the furlough this year. This is not what I had intended to write and is not the most important reason, though I don't know how much longer Dr. Field could keep on without a change. She is greatly needed at her home, and I have been impatiently waiting for the time to come when she could go, and feel that her detention might be a very serious matter. Miss Parsons can tell you how nearly Dr. Field came to asking for her furlough the year she visited us, and I am not sure but what Dr. Field herself wrote to Dr. Ellinwood.

Another not unimportant reason is that I now hope to spend next year in Seoul, and hope to do part of the work that Dr. Field would be likely to do, should she remain, thus probably making it more convenient in mission plans to have her absent next year than later. But I still think that the all-important reason is that her heart is not at rest because she feels the home folks need her now, and it seems to me that it is clearly her duty to go, so I do trust that the Board will grant approval of the Mission's request.

With best wishes for the New Year, and kindest regards to Mrs. Brown, I am

Yours sincerely,

Esther Lucas Shields

(from microfilm reel #280, Vol. 233, letter #124)

