

Diary and Notes of B. C. Randall: 1898-1900

Dec. 30, 1897

At last we are off. We left Wuchow at daybreak this morning. Our boat is much larger than I require. I could indeed have been quite comfortable in one but half the size could one have been obtained. But the boat people were loath to start on a long voyage at this time of year. Most of them in fact, refused to engage their boats at any price and the few willing to engage wanted as much, and in some instances more, for their small craft as I have to pay for the boat I have hired.

Were I not pressed for time I should have waited until after Chinese New Year before starting. I could then have secured a boat sufficient large for my requirements for from say \$50 to 60\$ per month. But my Colporteurs are in the field and I have arranged to meet them at certain places enroute, at appointed times and failure on my part to keep these appointments would result in such confusion, great inconvenience to my Colporteurs and loss of much time.

For the boat I have secured—manned by 21 men and 5 women—I am to pay \$75. per month. A very reasonable figure for this class of boat is \$125. per mo. That the Captain should let his boat to me at such ridiculously low terms can only be accounted for in the presumption that he intends to do some extensive smuggling notwithstanding the clause in our written agreement to the effect that the boat is to carry no freight except such as belongs to myself.

Dec. 31

Dr. McCloy and family just returning from Shek long, where they have been spending a few days, anchored their boat alongside, and last night spent their evening with us.

Passed a party of Frenchmen—probably from Lung Chan. I am informed they are taking soundings, photographing, and otherwise surveying the river.

Jan 1, 1898

Our “bow-line” this morning crossed the deck of a vessel anchored close to the shore. One of the vessel’s crew cut the line. Our man captured him and bound him with chains intending to bring him before the magistrate on our arrival at P’ing nam. Fortunately, for the man, his friends and relatives came to the rescue—with a sum of money in their hands—and he was released. It was arranged that, besides the payment of money, the prisoner should also receive a certain number of blows on the neck. This part of the punishment I refused to permit. I am informed that had the man been brought before a magistrate he would surely have been beheaded.

Jan 2

Had a very exciting adventure today. Our people had a fight with the crews of two other boats. How the trouble commenced or what it was about I do not know, but I entered upon the scene, it was terrible to witness. The boats were all lashed together. There were over sixty men engaged in the fight. Billets of wood, stones and other missiles filled the air. I know that unless the fight be immediately stopped, more than one life would be taken. I tried to order my crew off, but they would not listen to

me. Suddenly the thought came to me that should I get on to the other boat our people would refrain from throwing, fearful lest they hurt me. It was certainly a desperate step but something desperate had to be done and that right away if our journey was to be continued and a great amount of trouble avoided. So with a shout I jumped into the midst of our opponents. The effect was magical. Both sides were for a moment as if paralyzed, and the result proved as I anticipated.

Our side ceased fighting, and before the others recovered from their surprise I succeeded in wrestling the weapons from a number of them. They fled before me on every side and I at last found myself between the two contending parties. Then in a few words I explained that my only object in interfering was to stop the fight and that the next person to raise an arm would have to account to me for the act. I then ordered my boatmen to let go the moorings and get the vessel under way. So the fight terminated. I received in the fracas, only a slight bruise on the leg.

Jan. 5

At Xweo Ping Mr. Foo (Alliance Mission) called on me this evening. Would have gone up to the Chapel but have been suffering during the past few days from billiousness and was feeling indisposed.

Jan. 7

Arrived at lung T sun this evening. Mr. Quick (Alliance Mission) called. It is market day and the town crowded with people otherwise Mrs. Quick would also have come down to the boat. Am myself sick abed with billious fever.

Jan. 10

During the past few days have been very sick with fever. How fortunate that my wife is with me. She has proved herself an excellent nurse. But for her tender care I should have been strongly tempted to return to Wuchow. Although such a step would have greatly inconvenienced my colporteurs whom I have appointed to meet. In fact, they too would have been obliged to return. All our plans for the spring campaign broken into and several months work lost.

But why allow our thoughts to dwell upon what might have been? The Lord knowest the way we take, nay rather, He directs our ways. We have but to obey his commands and His cause cannot suffer. It seems like a want of faith for one in the Master's service to speculate on what might have been.

Jan. 22.

Arrived at Nam Ning. All the Colporteurs were awaiting me. They arrived yesterday having sold all their books and calendars. Nip Hon Shan has a high fever and his feet are badly swollen. I fear he will be unable to proceed further with us.

Jan. 25

Selling books from the boat. We carried the organ to the bow of the vessel where my wife played and sang to draw the crowd to which I sold gospels. Good sales.

Jan. 29

Nip Hon Shan resigned on account of sickness. Leave Nam Ning for Pak Shik.

Jan. 30

Arrived at Shak Po Hui. Sold but 25 Gospels in the market after which I returned to the vessel and set my wife on the organ. The crowd gathered and bought 31 more books before it dispersed.

Feb. 2

Selling at No Lung Hui. My wife with her little hands full of books accompanied me. She is a brave little woman for notwithstanding the crush occasioned by several hundred people crowding, pushing and climbing over each other to get a glimpse of the, -- "Female Foreign devil"—little dreaming she is their country woman—she never flinched nor for a moment lost her head. At last it became necessary for our boat people to gather around her to keep the surging crowd back.

We had splendid sales. In less than an hour we returned to the vessel having disposed of all the books we had taken with us.

Nearly 300 Gospels sold today. My wife is anxious to repeat the experiment of today whenever occasion affords. If it be Our Father's will I shall not say her nay. She is not very strong but she is in His Hands.

Feb. 5

My wife accompanied us today to No Lung Hui and assisted at book selling. No Tung is only a small market town but the people bought freely so that we carried from the town 148 books less than we entered it with.

Feb. 7

No Chung. It is market day. An Idolatrous festival is on and a theatrical troupe is here. Thousands of people have gathered for trade and "sightseeing" and yet I and my four Colporteurs with me were unable to sell one hundred books.

Feb. 8

Self and Colporteurs sold 185 books at Chiu Kin Hui. Wife did not accompany me today as we had to walk about 10 miles to and from the market.

Feb. 13

Wife and I together sold 194 G and A and 4 New Testaments. Streets too sloppy in the town (Ha agan Hui) for her to accompany me so she sold from the boat. She is very enthusiastic in the work and keeps us all on the move. I sometimes find it difficult to keep her from taking the charge of affairs into her own hands.

Feb. 15

Arrived this morning at Xwo Fa To Kwan. Tomorrow being market day here as also at Shan Han[?] Hui—distant less than three miles—shall remain at anchor until tomorrow afternoon.

Sold 11 New Testaments today. Have some fever but not sufficient to lay me up.

A number of people have warned us to give this district and Shong Lam (18 miles above here) a wide berth as the people are said to be very fierce and are not subjects of the Chinese Imperial Government. If I receive the same kind of treatment tomorrow as I received whilst canvassing the town today, I shall conclude that these people have been grossly misrepresented.

Feb. 18

Have canvassed the two districts. Kwo Fa' and Shong Lum. The natives without exception treated me well. I told some of them of the warnings I had received regarding them and they laughed heartily.

Feb. 19

Record day. At Lam Fung Hui we sold 301 books. We arrived this evening at Qwig[?] Mah-Yan Lung Yun. Crowds of people come down to the shore to see us. One person attempted to stir up the inhabitants to refuse us the privilege of anchoring here; but the Captain used his tongue pretty fully and the man skulked away.

The poppy plant is extensively grown in this district and at present both banks of the river are bedecked with its flowers.

Feb. 20

Beats the record. Sold 582 books. Is it wrong to sell Gospels on the Sabbath (Sunday)?

When I first commenced work as a Colporteur I thought it quite right to sell "God's Word" on the Sabbath and accordingly did so. Shortly after I ceased to sell on this day—not because I deemed it wrong, but because many professed Christians (Chinese) were accustomed to do business on the Sabbath and it was pointed out to me that my selling would tend to encourage these people in their wrong doing.

Since then I have missed many grand opportunities to circulate God's Word on this day and at such times my conscience gave me so little rest that I at last resolved to sell the Gospel Whenever opportunities presented—not that I would make a practice of going forth to sell on Sunday, but opportunities often present themselves. As, for instance, today: I arrived here (Ping Mah Hui) last evening, today is market day. Thousands of people have assembled from the surrounding country. A vast majority have never before today heard of Jesus and had I not gone to them with His Word, would possibly never after this have had opportunity offered to learn of Him.

Would it have been better had I remained in the boat all day, praising God, praying that His "will be done on earth as in Heaven" whilst I at the same time withheld from these people our opportunity of knowing His Will? I cannot think so.

But while I do not hesitate to sell Gospels on the Sabbath I feel that it would be wrong in me to seek to persuade my Colporteurs to do so the same as I, and as they would rather either command or persuasion to cause them to sell books on Sunday. I leave them to sing hymns, play chess, and otherwise pass the day pleasantly.

Some of our boat men have on several occasions offered to assist me at the bookselling. I have heretofore declined their offers. Today, however, I handed a few books to two of them and sent them

forth. They sold 175 books. A brother of the Captain carried books for me. Including those sold by my wife from the vessel, we sold 582 Gospels.

Feb. 22

Good sales continue. Yesterday over 350 books and today 521 sold. No necessity for wife to go to market here to draw the crowds; the great difficulty is to keep the crowds back. Wife continues to sell from the boat and manages to dispose of a good many books.

From Ping Mah Hui to Pak Shek small cash are used (1600 cash go to the dollar) were not the price of each book printed in the margin I might easily obtain 12 instead of 8 cash per book; as it is, I fear if I were to raise the price, many people who really want the books would hesitate to buy thinking I was overcharging them, and as nobody has large cash I cannot insist on being paid in such. For such districts as use small cash I should have books without the selling price marked therein.

Feb. 23

Only 98 books today. I say only 98 and yet I know of districts in which I should be glad to be able to sell half this number in the same time.

Feb. 24

126 G. and A. today. The further we ascend the river the more rough I find the people; though as yet I have but little to complain of.

Feb. 26

Good sales again. Yesterday at Tin Chan sold 420 books and today at Lo (ua) Po Hui 394. The officials, evidently, mean that no harm shall befall me; during the past three days a body guard of soldiers has accompanied me where ever I went and today a guard boat manned by 12 guardsmen has been ordered to accompany me to Pak Shik which place I hope to reach in another week.

Feb. 27

Canvassed Yi T'ong Hui today and sold 284 books.

The Yi Tong people have a bad reputation. Yu Tong is said to be a nest of robbers, and the murderers of the Catholic priest last year are said to belong this place. I canvassed the town, however, without escort and received no ill usage. Only one man tried to be funny. He asked me to speak in the foreign "devil's" language. I told him that not being a devil I did not speak their language but that I thought nevertheless I could oblige him with a few devilish expressions. I then poured forth a volley of oaths in Chinese. The man was silenced. The crowd agreed with me that only a devil would prompt a man to use such vile expressions. I then spoke a few words on politeness and thereafter the books sold like "hot cakes".

March 1

At Tan Chan Hui. Another day of good work. 222 Gospels sold. The Tan Chan mandarin is apparently a timid man for notwithstanding we today informed him of the large force accompanying me, he deemed it prudent to add four more soldiers to the number.

We now number all told nearly Forty Strong. I think we could now put to rout a pretty strong band of robbers, and yet we were today unable to prevent a thief from picking my pockets.

If the soldiers were any expense to the Society or myself I should flatly refuse to have them with me. As it is, I would much prefer to travel alone. My trust is in the Lord and he will not fail me. I think my sales would be even better than they are were the soldiers out of the way.

March 5

Arrived here (Pak Shik) last evening. Was agreeably surprised to find so large a place. I should judge it to be fully half as large as Ng Chan.

Pak Shik is at the head of navigation on the north fork of the West river. It is on the high road to Wan Nam from the east border of which province it is distant about fifty miles.

The country is infested with robbers. The soldiers have just returned from Sai Lung Chan where, a few days ago, they put to rout a large band. They took a great many prisoners. The robbers are scattered and it is said a large number have fled to this place. The officials here are, or pretend to be, greatly concerned for my safety and have signified their desire that I return at once to safer districts/ They pretend to fear they have not sufficient force at present available to protect me. My messenger informed them that he was not commissioned by me to ask for an escort and that he thought it would be useless to try to persuade me to return until after I had canvassed the place. Today is market day so my four colporteurs and I loaded with books went to market, leaving the wife to sell from the boat. I was not in any way molested (probably owing to the escort) and the people bought freely, our joint sales today number 791 books (700 at the market and 91 from the boat). Again the record is broken. If all proves well, I hope to sell on the streets next Monday; go again to Market on Tuesday, and immediately after return down the river.

It is just wonderful how the books are going. Today being Sunday I had resolved to spend the day in quiet and canvass the town tomorrow, but it seems the people would not have it so. They came to the boat to buy books early this morning, and have been coming all day. My wife and I together sold from the boat today 303 Gospels. Should we have informed these people that we did not sell books on Sunday, and sent them away empty-handed? I think not.

The books are not sold for the sake of gain (in fact the selling price is far less than the cost of printing). If I understand aright the principal object of the Society in putting on a price is to protect itself from those who would secure the books for other purposes than to read them. The money paid is, as it were, a pledge or guarantee to the Society that the books have been secured to be read. This being the case, I feel that I have no right at any time to refuse a book to him who comes to one with the pledge or guarantee in his hand.

March 7

A great many women called on my wife during the day. They came principally to hear her play the organ. She was quite willing to oblige them in this respect but she continued to let but few leave before purchasing a Gospel. Our sales today amount to 352 books of which my wife sold 60.

March 11

The other day, at Pak Shik, the captain of a large gunboat (with whom I am acquainted) called on me and asked that I request the Pak Shik officials to permit him to escort me down the river as far as Nam Hing. I informed him that, though at times the Government had thought it advisable to appoint a guard of soldiers to accompany me, I had never as yet asked for such; and that, in fact I usually informed the officials that I preferred to travel alone.

I remember on one occasion to have absolutely refused to permit two soldiers to accompany me. I was sorry afterwards that I did not allow them to go with me, for on my arrival at the next Yun (district) I found that, afraid to return to the Yamen before having first carried out their orders, they had walked the whole distance. Tired and footsore they came down to the boat next day after my arrival, and begged me to give them my "neng t'ip" (card) as an evidence to their superiors that they had guarded me safely through the district. I not only gave the poor fellows my card but also a few cents for refreshments on their homeward way.

Early this morning we passed a wreck at the foot of the rapids just above Fan Chan. She proved to be the guard boat commanded by the captain who called on me at Pak Shik.

March 26

At Nam Ning. Lan Yi (The Chinese General of Formosan fame) is here enlisting soldiers. A few days ago near Wing Shun seeing a large vessel descending the river he demanded to know what it contained. On being informed that it carried a party of French Railroad Engineers who were surveying the country between Lung Chow and Kwei Lam he ordered his soldiers to board and search the vessel and, so rumor has it, to kill any Frenchmen found on board.

Fortunately for them, and perhaps for the welfare of China, the engineers were all ashore and not to be found.

Have sent two colporteurs (Long Shik Chong and Wong Wai Nam) across country to Loi Pan. They are to return to Ng Chan two months hence.

Took tea this afternoon with Mandarin Mok Shin Hei; not because it is necessary, but as a matter of courtesy, he has ordered gunboats to keep me company to Ng Chan.

Had a queer customer this evening. He is the son of the Sai Lung Chow Mandarin who died three months ago. Last week he engaged a theatrical troupe to kidnap his stepmother. One of the troupe was to marry her if she consented, otherwise she was to be murdered and her two female attendants sold into slavery. She and her servants managed to escape from their captors and reached Nam Ning in a fishing boat the same day that the young man with his father's corpse arrived here.

The rascal has returned to her her clothes but the two thousand dollars stolen from her chest, he still holds in his possession. This evening he called to buy a New Testament. I had none in stock but rather than let him go away, my wife sold to him her own testament.

Wong Ting Sui, a tea trader on his way to Canton also called on me this evening. His is the son of a mandarin in Wan Nam. He gave me much useful information relative to roads into and through the province of Wan Nam. He made me a present of a cake of Wan Nam tea. I in return gave him the "Five Gospels". He is a very intelligent young fellow. On his arrival at Ng Chan he is to call on me, when I hope to introduce him to the brethren.

Have notified the Captain that I will not pay him boat hire for today as I consider our delay here unnecessary.

April 1

Today at Nam Hong send Long Kam Tsan and Lei Yung Nam across country to Pak Hoi. Arriving at Pak Hoi they are to proceed thence to Lik Chuen Yun, thence to Wat Lam Chow, returning by way of Pak Lan to Ng Chan. They expect to be gone about two months.

One of the boat people (a young man named Ling) informed me that he wishes to join the church on our arrival at Ng Chan.

April Messrs. Landes and Jaffrey of Alliance Mission, passed up the river this morning. I met them at about 19 o'clock A.M. [?] 12 miles above Kwei Yun. They are on their way to Nam Ning where they hope to be able to open a Mission station. I supplied them with a few gospels.

April 11

Called on Mr. and Mrs. Fee (Alliance Mission) at Kwei ping. Pastor Pan (Baptist Mission) returning from Kwei ping to Shek Tong overtook us this evening about 8 miles above Tai Wong Kong, and accompanied us to that place. He informs me that a mob of 300 or 300 men destroyed a Catholic Mission Station not far from Shek Tong on the 1st inst.

August 28, 1898

Telegram from Shanghai dated (Aug. 26) instructing me to proceed to Manila by first steamer.

Aug. 29

Arranged with Philip Hinkley of Alliance Mission to oversee work in Kwong Sai. No salary fixed upon. Am to instruct Mr. Bondfield to forward \$200 to Mr. Hess before end of September. Leave Wuchow at 10:30 A.M.

Aug. 31

Arrived at Hong Kong

Sept. 2

Papers (passport) consular invoice, ticket to Manila, etc.

Check from B.B. and T. Depot for \$500. Bank having informed me that nothing from Shanghai had been paid to my account during month of August.

Sept. 3

Leave Hong Kong on steamer for Yuen Lung.

Sept. 6

After a delightful passage of 60 hours arrive at Manila, and, completely tired out with custom's delays and other hinderances reach our hotel at 5 P.M.

Such a hotel! The clerk informed us there was a double room two of us might occupy at the rate of \$5 per day and invited us to be seated in the hall until after we had seen the proprietor. As the landlord was slow to put in an appearance we asked what might it be that delayed him and received for answer that the gentleman was taking a nap, but would soon wake up. We urged business necessitating early attending to, and were finally permitted to enter our room.

Sept. 7

Complained this morning that no soap had been put in our room and that as we were unable to read by candle light we asked that a lamp be substituted for the candlestick. The clerk politely informed us that we must supply our own soap, and that as the landlord considered lamps dangerous, we must try to content ourselves with candles. As a concession, however, the clerk agreed to see that we were supplied with clean towels. I much feared he would refuse to replace the dirty one with clean until washing day.

Breakfast menu:--3 fried duck eggs, 3 small slices of cold roast beef, 1 roll and coffee. Tiffin and dinner on par with breakfast. Many of the guests are greatly dissatisfied but compelled to content themselves with "growling" or sleep on the streets as there is no place to which we may go with any hope of better accommodation or attendance.

My hunt today for a house of any description was without success.

Miss Alice M. Spradlin, of the Women's Christian Board Mission, is the pioneer missionary lady to the Philippines. She spent some time in India nursing cholera patients. She arrived here about one week ago and is stopping at this hotel.

Called on U. S. Consul Williams this morning. He spoke of the people here as being densely ignorant of religious truth and expressed himself as highly pleased that our Society had, thus early, resumed operations in the Philippines. Mr. Williams assures me we have his sympathy and may expect his hearty support.

There are, according to Chinese estimate, 2000 Cantonese and 40,000 Fukeinese (Amoy) in Manila. Total estimate of Chinese in the Philippines about 80,000. A large number of them have joined the Catholic Church, but, only a very few, so the Chinese inform me, are converts to the faith. They united with the Church simply because they believed they would secure thereby better protection and greater facilities for business.

Sept. 9

Succeeded in finding a "bungalow" in suburbs. Rent \$20. per month. It is not much of a place, but I consider myself very fortunate in getting any place at all. At present everything here is very dear. Owing to a strike among the coolies a delay in discharging freight from the Yuen Sang has been occasioned so that up to the present I have been unable to get our stock ashore. In conversation with the soldiers I learned that the "Army Christian Commission" has done and is doing a great good work among the troops.

Sept. 13

Have spent the whole day getting books from the steamer to custom house, and will probably require all tomorrow before I have them safely landed here. Owing to the hostile attitude of the

insurgents and frequent assassinations, the patience of the U.S. troops is being tried to the utmost. Serious trouble may be looked for in the near future if the present state of affairs continue any longer. The troops are very vigilant otherwise an attack on the city might be expected at any moment.

Sept. 13

3 P.M. Just one week since I arrived in Manila and I have just succeeded in getting our books from the steamer to the shore. The dilatoriness and formalism of the "Dons" have certainly not been improved in the customs department since the arrival of Uncle Sam. The importation duty on my two cases of Scriptures amounted to but \$5.30 (Spanish tariff) and yet because of additional charges I held a receipt from the customs for \$10.34. There is so much "red tape" connected with the system that one is obliged to secure the services of an "agent" (Dispacho de las Mercancias) to whom an additional \$3. has to be paid. A young friend of mine from Hong Kong brought with him \$10.00 with which to pay duties on his importations. He has had to telegraph for \$25. more in order to get his goods through. Shippers will do well to delay shipments to Manila until after the tariff has been revised and the present system of Redtapism abolished. Letters from Mr. Bosshard, Rev. Bondfield and Mrs. Hess, also letter dated Sept. 2nd from H. K. Bank advising me that \$609.25 has been paid to my account by the B. & F. B. S. The said amount (\$609.25) I have entered in August account. The \$500. Received from Mr. Pearce will be placed to credit of Manila account. Have written to Mr. Hess today, fixing Salary of Mr. Hinkey at \$25. per month. Mr. Hinkey will report to me direct, until close of present year and sales under his superintendence during this time will be included in my annual returns.

Sept. 14

The wildest and most extravagant rumors current one day only to be contradicted and replaced by others quite as startling on the day following. The first Parliament of the Philipines (insurgent) Government meets tomorrow.

Sold today 20 Span. Bible; 17 Span. Testaments; 45 Span. portions; 1 English Bible and one English Testament. Many people wished to buy but feared the maledictions of the priests were they to do so. From every side the cry of the Philipino is, --"Teach us English. We want schools", "We want to learn English". Whatever their motive, there can be no question as to the desire/ A desire so intense that not all the power of the priesthood could prevent crowded attendance at Mission Schools wherein English would be taught. The people can be reached, and that right speedily, if the above suggestion be carried out.

Sept. 15

The case of Scriptures packed at Hong Kong depot, wet and damaged by rain whilst waiting shipment in Hong Kong must be sold for what they will bring.

Sept. 16

Sufficient time has been allowed me to feel the pulse and ascertain the temperature of the people here. Make known to the world that "the harvest is ripe but the laborers are few". The people are thoroughly disgusted with a corrupt priesthood but are not averse to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. There is a wonderful opening for missionaries willing to teach English. The work can

be made self supporting from the start. If missionaries of any Protestant denomination will notify me by what steamer they expect to arrive I will meet them and guarantee to fill their schools.

Sept. 18

Thirty five Kilos (about 22 miles) by rail through a low, flat, fertile country brings us to Malolos, the headquarters of Aquinaldo "President of the Philippine insurgents" and to Malolos I went yesterday to interview the said "President".

Unfortunately the time for my visit was ill-chosen, the day being devoted to thanksgiving to God for his protection of Aquinaldo against three prisoners the night previous.

I was asked by the secretary to call again but pled the importance of my mission and was finally admitted into his, Aquinaldo's, presence.

He is a young man of quiet mien, slight build, very dark complexion, eyes and features that would seem to indicate a trace of Chinese or Japanese blood commingled with that of the Philippine, age about 29 years/

When I saw him he was dressed in a quiet suit of black without decoration or other mark of distinction.

He was about to proceed to the church where thanks were to be offered, so that my interview was necessarily short. In fact he must have delayed the series somewhat to see me; for the bells of the city had already ceased clanging, the guards were drawn up in line from the "palace" to the church and the band that was to precede him on the march had already commenced to play.

I, therefor, after congratulating him on his escape from his enemies, briefly explained the object of my visit; asked for a passport and presented to him in the name of our Society, an English Bible and Spanish New Testament.

He has promised to send me the passport asked for, and has signified his willingness to grant me another audience at which are to discuss the liberties to be granted and protection given to Protestant Missions; the present attitude of the people against the "priesthood" and the probable reception to be expected from their hands by Protestant missionaries.

The world in general does not and probably never will know of the abominable practices and atrocities of the Spanish priesthood in the Philippines. Murder is by no means the least in the crimes scored against them. God knows! It is high time for the people to revolt. The wonder to me is that the Philipinos are not all Atheists.

I care not to write in detail, what I am persuaded of by many and strong evidences. I will simply state that (from good authority) transportation and confiscation of property often followed the refusal of Philippine gentlemen to surrender their daughters to the lustful passions of the priests.

I saw the three prisoners who night before last attempted to poison Aquinaldo, one of them has already offered to confess and has, I believe, insinuated that the plot was hatched and movements directed by the priests.

The priests must already know for what purpose I am here. Whenever we pass I perceive they eye me closely and I have received more than one warning from would-be friends to be on my guard. I hardly think, however, that they will, in the present state of affairs, care to molest me.

The political power of the priesthood hereafter cannot now be predicted, but it is safe to assume that under any form of government, it will never again attain to the proportions of the past.

In all that I have written let it not be thought that I have attempted to cast any reflections on the Catholic clergy as a whole. I only refer to the Spanish priest of the Philippine Islands and I know that the priests of other countries, especially those of America, did they but know of the corruption that has obtained here in the past, would be among the very first to raise their hands and voices in protestation.

Oh, that I had two or three hundred Bibles! English and Spanish in one volume. Send them on as quickly as possible. In the meantime, send immediately 1000 English Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) No Acts, and 100 cheap English Testaments. I can sell them with the Spanish Testaments and Gospels now on hand. Sold today 1 English and 1 Spanish Bible; 7 English and 7 Spanish Testaments; and 30 English and 30 Spanish portions.

Sept. 20

Letter and cheque for \$1500. To Mr. Pearce. The Philipines do not want Bibles in the Spanish language. I fully believe that not many years hence English will be the only language of the country.

Sept. 22

Have sold all the Spanish Bibles and testaments except three, and these are rather expensive than the people care to purchase, otherwise they too would be gone. It will be very hard to dispose of many Spanish Bibles unless I have English ones to sell with them.

A gentlemen holding a high and responsible position in the U.S. Govt. called on Aquinaldo (leader of the insurgents) yesterday. During the interview, my name was mentioned. Aquinaldo on being assured that I am here in the interests of Protestantism and that I represent one of the largest Protestant Organizations in the world, is said to have looked pleased and to have stated to the gentleman that he is about to grant me a passport (good for three months) to travel throughout his camps.

Never before in any Spanish country has there been such a grand opening for Protestant Missionary workers. But where are the workers? Beside myself, only one, and she a lady who know not one word of Spanish. But she had her hands full, if I am correctly informed.

I called on her (Miss Spradlin of "Women's Christian Board") this evening. She fully agrees with me that the opening for mission work is unexceptionally good. Consul Williams today also expressed himself to the same effect.

Missionaries, unable to speak Spanish, bound for the Philipines, should bring with them a supply of English primers, elementary readers, and a Spanish English Dictionary.

Sept 23.

Called at "Red Cross" hospital and distributed old stock, much damaged Spanish scriptures. Miss Spradlin has kindly undertaken to see that they fall into the proper hands.

Sept. 27

Mr. Bondfield's letter of 7th inst. lies before me. I quote paragraph 11 to wit: "I want you to send as full reports of your experiences as the committees at home are watching this work in Manila with exceptional interest.

“If you think one of the Spanish subjects or some other suitable man should be permanently stationed in the place let me know at once and I will write home.

“If you prefer to work the islands yourself for a couple or three years, I am sure the society would be only too delighted and we would arrange for someone else to take up the work in Wuchow.”

That a sub-agent should be permanently stationed here, there can be no doubt. Nor do I hesitate to affirm that to send a Spaniard here to undertake the work would, for the present, be very unwise. His life in the interior would not, in my opinion, be worth a rush-light. Let him be of any other station and, if he understands some Spanish so much the better. But to the suggestion that I take up the work here permanently, I know not how to answer. Usually quick to decide and prompt to act, I must, nevertheless, in this instance pen reply with but a faltering hand.

I like the climate and I like the people. The hardships of the colporteur here are not to be compared with those of China. So that could I but feel that I had the Lord’s sanction in so doing, my answer to Mr. Bondfield’s suggestion would be at once gladly and definitely given.

The Lord set me to Southern China and I believe he had, also, sent me here, pro tem, but he had not yet given me to understand that He desires me to remain here permanently, and unless I become convinced that such is His desire, I feel that I ought not hastily to decide so to do.

Should the Society before the end of the year send another to relive me, I shall gladly return to my work in China. In the meantime, should I decide that I ought to remain in the Philipines I will immediately notify the Society to that effect.

Sept. 28

Three cases Scriptures arrived from Hong King several days ago, but I will be unable to pass them through the customs before Friday. (30th Inst.)

Sept. 30

What we have heretofore written relative to the atrocities and abominable practices of the priests here has since been confirmed by many and reliable witnesses. Except that of the Order of Jesuits (who are said to have kept themselves unspotted as regards chastity) the great majority of the priesthood may be branded as libertines of the very lowest type. Men of almost unlimited power who scrupled not at the means adopted to remove any obstacle attempted to be placed between their lustful passions and intended victims.

I refrain from citing instances that have come to my knowledge only because I feel my inability to write in language at once, clear, and sufficiently delicate for the sensitive ears of some who may read or hear read these notes.

Unlike the priests of England and America who are, I believe, proverbably poor, the priests of the Philipines are said to be immensely rich. I am told they possess vast tracts of the best farming land in the Islands and that during the “Blockade” here they paid into the treasury at Manila \$1,000,000. as a contribution to the “War Fund.”

Whence this vast wealth? Much of it the result of extortion. I write advisedly in this matter and I will here cite one or two instances of the many means adopted by the “padres” to add to their revenues.

Burial Rites:--The priest will not perform these last “rites” unless he be will paid for so doing. Is a man too poor to pay the price demanded for the burial of relative or friend, he is handed a box with a

slot cut in it, and an image of a saint on the top and is sent out to beg. On his return should the money thus obtained prove to be less than the amount demanded he is again sent out. Nor will the priest officiate until the amount contributed equals to that demanded.

During the small-pox epidemic there a short time since, large number of corpses lay before the church doors because the priests refused to bury them before the "Burial rites" fees be paid.

There are many churches in Manila. One of them was pointed out to me today whose revenue derived from fees paid for burial-rites, masses, and other ceremonies is said to have reached \$100,000. per year.

In company with Mr. Hykes of the A.B. S. I today visited one of the cemeteries here. I should judge its area not to exceed 3 acres. It is surrounded by a wall some 8 or 9 feet thick and within this wall the dead are buried. The wall contains three tiers of repositories. With the exception of a very few, all of which are occupied, a rental of \$33. in case of adult and \$16. for children is charged for each five years of occupancy, rental to be paid in advance. Failure on the part of relative or friend to renew rental results in the exhuming of the body when the coffin is burned and the skeleton cast away. Judging from the large pile of uncovered human skulls and bones we saw at the back of the cemetery, I would infer that suspensions of payment have of late been numerous. When I viewed the pile, a dog was standing on its top nosing a skull.

But let us draw a veil over the only too real picture. It is already sufficiently revolting. Suffice it to say there are 1278 repositories for adults and 504 for children and as I said before, nearly all are occupied, so then the revenue derived on account of this one cemetery of say three acres area would amount to about \$50,000. in 5 years, that is \$10,000. per year, or between \$3,000 and \$4,000 per acre.

I was today informed by a gentleman that M. Alonzo Lallave, formerly a R. C. priest here, but who having become a protestant through reading the word was sent to Manila as a sub-agent of our society in March 1889 and was here poisoned, lay before the cemetery gate over 24 hours, the priests having refused him the right of burial. The gentleman informed me that he became aware of the fact when he attended the funeral of a friend, by the stench arising from the putrefying mass and that he with others after much trouble (he did not say of what the trouble consisted) finally succeeded in getting the remains of Lallave interred.

Issues during September 345 distributed as follows: to wit:

Description	Sales			Totals
	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	
Spanish	39	47	172	
English	<u>9</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>20</u>	
	48	69	192	309
		Grants		
Spanish		14	21	36
English	<u>1</u>	—	—	—
	49	83	213	345

Chaplain Pearce of the 14th U.S. Infantry is devoting all his spare time to mission work among the natives.

A fair knowledge of medicine stands him well in hand. He can scarcely walk the street without receiving supplications to visit some sick one. The natives seemingly cannot understand his willingness to assist them without demanding pay therefor. They consider him as of altogether a new type of "padre" to those with whom they have heretofore had dealings. Chaplain Pearce informs me that the people are not at all averse to hearing the truth proclaimed and that he considers the harvest fully ripe.

Cannot some of our "Medics" feel that the Lord would have them labor here?

Oct. 2

In my letters of yesterday I took occasion to again refer to some of the corrupt practices of the priests here. My reason for so doing was, not that I deemed our committee desirous of such data but because Mr. Hykes of the A.B.S. assured me of his intention to inform the home Committee of the society he represents to these, the afore mentioned practices.

Should our committee require further information of the corruption that has obtained here in the past I must first be instructed to that effect, otherwise I should confine my investigations to only such channels as may lead to a knowledge of present and future prospects and requirements.

Mr. Hykes remained here but one week. He has, however, in that time gathered sufficient information to be aware that the prospects for operations in the Philipines could not well be more fair and he assured me of his intention to recommend that the American Society commence here forthwith.

That the Bible Societies are in communication with each other relative to occupancy, etc., it is but reasonable to suppose, and as my opinion will no doubt be of some weight in the matter of arriving at conclusions and arrangements, I will here state that:

Whilst it may possibly be desirable that only one society operate on the island of Luzon, there is, I believe, sufficient work here for both societies.

Should the United States retain permanent possession of Luzon and, for this reasons, the B. and F. B. S. decide to leave the work here to the American Society, there is still open a large field for labor in the other Islands of the Philipines.

Should the retention of Luzon by the United States be deemed insufficient reason for our retirement from the Island, and both Societies decide to establish agencies or sub-agencies in the Philipines, I would not recommend that any arrangements referring to a partition of the field of labor be at the present moment entered into; and I would recommend that for the time being the B. and F. B. Society establish a sub-agency at Manila.

Oct 4.

One and a half weeks devoted to getting books through the customs only to find them very much soiled and damaged. The two cases from Singapore were poorly packed and have evidently been much exposed to the weather before reaching me. I fear I shall find it difficult to dispose of the books at *any* price.

Am suffering from severe cold in the head, my throat is sore and I can scarcely speak. Shall rest tomorrow and, if all proves well, go to Malolos on day following to interview Aquinaldo and endeavor to obtain promised passport.

Oct. 7

Who would have believed Gen. Aquinaldo, President (so called) of the Philipines to be a champion of Protestantism, and yet in our remarkable interview of yesterday, he expressed himself in no uncertain language.

“Whilst my advisors”, said he, “protest merely against a corrupt priesthood, I myself am a protestant against Roman Catholicism.”

He expressed himself pleased to know that already the field is occupied by one protestant society and that others are soon to be here, and he assured me that we not only have his sympathy, but may expect his hearty and active co-operation in circulating God’s word among his people.

Being asked his opinion of the reception Protestant missionaries might expect from the people, Aquinaldo replied, that because of ignorance the bitter enmity of the people against the Catholic priests extended also to the protestant clergy. That moreover the people having in the past had their minds greatly prejudiced against Protestantism would be even less inclined, at the moment, to allow a protestant missionary to reside in or pass through the country unmolested than they would a Spanish priest.

Aquinaldo assured me that during the present state of affairs, it would be very unwise not only as regards my personal safety, but also for the interest of Protestantism, because of the complications which might arise were I injured—for soul, at the present moment to attempt to dispose of our scriptures in the province of the Pangasinans, and that his “advisors” have strongly urged that the granting of a passport for that province be yet a little longer deferred .

A number of Pangasinan scriptures purchased of us by U. S. Consul Williams and presented by him, through me, to Gen. Aquinaldo, was gratefully received and will be distributed by him (Aquinaldo) amongst his advisors in Pangasinan.

Aquinaldo, in the course of our conversation having repeatedly assured me of his earnest desire to see God’s Word in the hands of the people, finally asked if we were willing to place at his disposal a few Spanish Bibles and Testaments to be presented by him, personally, to his advisors(those who with him rule the people). He believes that by so doing a great step in the advancement of the cause of Christ and of Protestantism in the Islands will have been taken. I believe I know the mind of our Society and have accordingly promised the desired grant.

Consul Williams this morning expressed himself pleased with the action we are taking in this matter and has promised to purchase from time to time Scriptures for distribution amongst the poor.

I might add that Aquinaldo fully believes the time is not distant when instead of being obliged to force our way, Protestant Missionaries will be welcomed into the country, by the people. That it remains but for them to learn that we seek not political power nor to rob them of their sustenance, but to educate and enlighten them in the Truth.

Oct. 8

Grant Aquinaldo for distribution amongst his “Advisors” .
10 Spanish Bibles and 12 Spanish Testaments.

My cold still continues and I am suffering from dysentery. Can do but little or no work until after my health improves somewhat.

Oct. 11

Books from B. B. and I depot short 6 New Testaments, probably stolen in examination department of customs sheds.

Am very weak and unfit for work. The least exertion winds me.

Oct. 13

Thieves, last night, broke in and stole among other things taken was \$12. from my hand bag and \$3.60 from pants pockets of Mr. Rosa. I do not think they took away any Bibles.

Oct. 14

Feeling some better but far from well. Spent a few hours at book-selling this afternoon.

Oct. 23

When I feel sufficiently well to sell I find no difficulty in disposing of our books, but I almost feel that I should not be here. I am very weak so that it requires but very little exertion to exhaust me. My cough continues to distress me. It may be well to cancel all orders for goods not already enroute.

Oct. 26

Because of sickness and wet weather I have been permitted to devote but few days of the present month to book-selling and yet I have already succeeded in selling over a thousand books.

I have been much surprised at the readiness and in many instances the eagerness of the Chinese to purchase. Of course there have been some, as there always are, to sneer at the "Jesus doctrine" and to laugh at those who purchased a book, but most of the Chinamen to whom I offered a book bought, well knowing what they were buying.

Some have expressed a wish to be allowed to call on me that they may be taught more of the Truth as it is in Christ. One or two have expressed a desire to be received into the Church as soon as opportunity offers, whilst many have signified their intention to attend meetings when missions are opened. I believe an evangelist speaking the Amoy dialect, could do much good here.

The thieves have succeeded in getting into the house twice since I have occupied it. Last night they tried it again but failed. The fellow that was trying to get through the window looked like an American soldier.

The tariff on Spanish books is twice that on books printed in any other language. I am endeavoring to get the duty reduced one-half.

Oct. 31.

Letter from Mr. Bondfield a few days since informing me that our Society has decided to leave the field to the A. B. S. and instructing me to return to Wuchow as early as possible in December. These are welcome instructions.

First. Because I don't believe the Lord wishes me to remain here any longer.

Second. Because I do not think my health would permit of my remaining here even though such were my wish.

Third. Because instead of saving some of my salary I am losing money every day that I remain here. When I first arrived beef sold for 80 cents a lb. It is now much cheaper—condensed milk now worth 55 cents a tin, butter 1. and upwards per lb., potatoes 16 cents a lb., kerosene 4. a can, etc. Should the

present prices continue and I remain here much longer, what little I have saved in the past would soon be spent. So then, I shall not be sorry to leave here.

Issues during the month of October as follows: to wit:

Sold	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
Spanish	10	15	54	79
Philipines			41	41
Chinese		20	1000	1020
English	1	2		3
	11	37	1095	1143
	10	12		22
	21	49	1095	1165

Nov. 5

The Gospels in the Pangasinan dialect sent me from Singapore I most feared, because of their soiled condition and because of my inability to reach the Pangasinan province, I would be unable to dispose of at any price. The thought that I might be obliged to take them with me on my return to Hong Kong has often troubled me. Fortunately, my troubles in this respect are at rest. Within the past few days Gen. Aquinaldo has issued a proclamation granting to all foreigners (except Spaniards) the right to travel freely in and through the territory governed by the insurgents and today I found those willing to purchase the entire lot of books and to assist in circulating them. Chas. A. Glunz and Frank A. Jackson, in charge of the Army and Navy Christian Commission each contributed \$10. and U. S. Consul Williams gave me \$3. Messrs. Jackson and Glunz have moreover offered to assist me in the distribution of the books, and I on behalf of the society have agreed to pay travelling expenses of one of them.

We purpose starting for Pangasinan Tuesday morning and, if all proves well, will probably be gone three days. We hope by active work to distribute all of our books and get away from the province before any serious objection can be raised.

Messrs. Jackson and Glunz inform me that they have succeeded in making all necessary arrangements for the carrying on of their work during their absence and that they will be on hand to board with me the six o'clock train in the morning.

Nov 7.

I today obtained permission from R. R. officials to carry one of our two cases of books in the passenger car. This we propose to open just before reaching the Pangasinan province and to distribute its contents from the car windows to those whom we may see at the different stations en route. The books in the other case we purpose keeping for distribution at Pangasinan, the principal town in the province.

Messrs. Jackson and Glunz inform me that they have succeeded in making all necessary arrangements for the carrying on of their work during their absence and that they will be on hand to board with me the six o'clock train in the morning.

Nov. 10

Have just returned from Dayupom. As prearranged Messrs. Jackson and Glunz met me at the depot early on Tuesday morning. We succeeded in getting both cases of books in the car with us and at 6 o'clock A. M. had started on our journey.

Before reaching Malasiani (the first town on the line, in the province of Kangasowan) we opened one of the cases and laid out our books on the seats handy for distribution. The few we gave away at Malasiani were sufficient to advertise the purpose of our trip so that the train had scarcely come to a standstill at the next the station (San Carlos) before a crowd with expectant faces and outstretched hands had gathered about our car. We handed out what few we could during the two minutes stoppages and then proceeded to Calasco.

Here again a crowd even greater than at San Carlos! Brother Glunz had his camera ready and succeeded in getting a "snapshot". My references to the accompanying photo it will be noticed that a Roman Catholic priest is struggling to get near the window. He failed, however, to get sufficiently near to be handed a book.

On our arrival at Dagupan, judge to my surprise, to find the same priest at the depot awaiting our descent from the car. On his asking if we were willing to either sell or give a book to him, I explained that we were distributing gospels translated into Pangasinan dialect by one who had formerly been a priest here, but who had become converted to Protestantism through reading the Bible. He assured us that he would be pleased to obtain a book so I have him, not only the Gospels and books, but also a Spanish New Testament. After thanking us he invited us to dine with him and offered to put us up at the convent during our stay at Dagupan. We, however, thought it prudent to decline his hospitable offer!

We opened the second case and commenced to distribute on the principal street in the town, but the press of the crowd soon compelled us to seek shelter in a Chinese store. The Chinaman bolted the door to keep out the crowd and then led us to a room having a barred window facing the street, and through the bars we commenced handing out the Gospels. A body of soldiers sent from headquarters of the General in command of the Philippine forces in the Province, attempted to keep the crowd about the window in order. A glance at the photo taken by Brother Glunz will at once show how futile was the attempt. The last books had but just been given away when a messenger arrived with an invitation for us to call on the General.

At Headquarters we partook of a good dinner and after a short talk with the General from whom we obtained permission to photograph places or things of interest in the town, we started on a tour of inspection.

Dagupan is situated about 120 miles north of Manila and is said to number about 40,000 inhabitants. Most of whom I should judge to be very poor. Wherever we went the people manifested nothing but the most friendly spirit towards us. They invited us to their homes, offered us refreshments and climbed trees for green coconuts to quench our thirst. The men whom we passed all raised their hats, and the women and children saluted us with friendly expressions.

We visited the Barracks, went through the rison, ascended by boat the river quite a distance into the country and took quite a number of interesting photographs.

Of the pleasant remembrances of our trips to Pangasinan I must not forget to mention the sweet music of the band that played for us on the last evening of our stay in Dagupan, and this is the town and Pangasinan the province against entering which we have been so repeatedly warned. The

people may be very anti-Protestant, but if so they certainly love Americans more than church. They knew us to be Protestants, but they also knew us to be Americans, and on more than one occasion we heard a chorus of voices shouting "Vivan los Americanos", "Viva America."

Nov. 13

Messrs. Glunz and Jackson contributed \$20 towards purchase of Pangasinan scriptures for free distribution. Mr. Jackson also paid his own travelling expenses (amounting over \$15) to assist in the work. They now offer to take over the remainder of our stock of Bibles and Testaments and to pay therefor, \$85.40. They make this offer because of my statement to them what I expect soon to return to Hong Kong and they do not wish to see the books taken from the country/ The amount offer is about two-thirds value reckoned at marked selling price, but many of the books are much soiled and damaged. I think their offer not only fair, but even very generous and have agreed to let them have \$85.40 worth of books at regular selling price and to grant them the remainder of our stock of Bibles and Testaments on condition that the proceeds derived from sales be used to defray expenses incurred in circulating the books, and should the amount derived from sales exceed cost of distribution, the difference of amounts shall be forwarded to Rev. G H. Bondfield, Shanghai.

Nov. 14

Mr. Bondfield's letter of 3rd last, requesting me to procure certificate of death of Don Manrique Alonzo Lallave received this P.M.

Nov. 15

Mr. Bondfield informs me that Scriptures ordered for Manila are on their way from London and suggests that I remain here to dispose of them. Before receipt of letter I had already made arrangements to leave Manila by first steamer. My health, however, is somewhat improved so that had I sufficient books on hand to keep me employed whilst waiting for the consignment from London, I should think the course suggested by Mr. Bondfield the only proper one to pursue. As the matter stands, however, I have not one dollar's worth of either Pangasinan or Spanish Scriptures on hand and what I have I can easily dispose of within two hours' time.

To remain then means, so far as the Society work is concerned, comparative idleness, and we cannot afford to be idle for our work in Kwong Sai requires attention. Mr. Risky, now acting for us in Wuchow, has informed us that he will be unable to continue the superintendent's office 1st December next.

To our reply notifying him of our intention to return early in December and requesting him to either continue charge of affairs or endeavor to secure services of Dr. Macdonald until our return, we have, as yet, received no answer. Moreover, our "returns" for the year now passing could be more readily prepared and with less delay forwarded to the agent were I in China at close of the year.

In consideration of the above mentioned reasons I conclude that our wisest course and one that will be approved of by Mr. Bondfield—when he has fully considered the matter—will be to act on instructions contained in agents letter of 14th October.

To this end I have arranged with Rev. C. A. Owens (M. M. pastor of Manila) to receive and dispose of consignment of Scriptures en route. He to deduct cost of distribution from proceeds derived

from sales and forward balance to Rev. G. H. Bondfield, B. & F. B. S. , Shanghai. Should the Society decide to establish a sub-agency in the Philipines, Rev. Owens has expressed his willingness to act as its representative.

I have also in view as a desirable sub-agent of our Society, Dr. Hart, now connected with the "Red Cross" organization. Dr. Hart is an American, a working Christian, an able physician, and speaks Spanish fluently. I hope to see him in a day or two when I shall endeavor to obtain his application for position as sub-agent of our Society—should we decide to remain on the field. In order that Mr. Bondfield have opportunity to order differently should he not approve of the steps I propose taking, I shall remain here until 1st December. If I am to remain longer I shall look for a telegram containing instructions to "stay".

Certificate of death (or rather Burial) of M. A. Lallave obtained from British Consulate today. This, I think, will be all that is required but should I be able to get further evidence of value during my stay here I shall not neglect to forward it on.

Nov. 20

Visited today the grave of Lallave. The remains lie in the Protestant (San Pedro) cemetery situated about three miles from the city. No headstone marks the last resting place of Lallave. No epitaph describes his martyrdom. Only a small sheet of tin, numbered and hanging from one of the bushes that surround his well-kept grave. Except for the guidance of the caretaker we would have found it difficult to discover the spot. We asked how he knew it to be the grave of Lallave and received for answer that the plot before us contained the remains of the only priest buried in the cemetery.

Question: Do you remember the circumstances attending the death of Lallave?

Answer: No. I only know from my predecessor that he did not belong to Manila but came from the country and that he was poisoned.

Question: I suppose but very few persons come to visit this grave?

Answer: Not many, but there are certain priests who come occasionally.

Question: Who are these priests?

Answer: I do not know, but they come from the country.

What I would not give to learn the names and obtain the addresses of these priests. Who can they be?

Perhaps brothers of the order to which he once belonged; perhaps that they still hold in fond remembrance and reverence the man whom their church has pronounced a heretic accursed.

Nov. 21

Called on Dr. F. I. Hart and suggested since he intends to remain in the Philipines to engage in Mission work, that he apply for sub-agency of our Society, should we decide to establish here.

Dr. Hart informs me that the salary we might be willing to pay for his services would not be sufficient to support himself and family and that he will therefore be obliged to continue his medical practice. He, however, intends to devote every spare moment to mission work and thinking some arrangement might possibly be made whereby he devote half his time to the interests of our Society. I have asked him to write to Rev. Bondfield relative to the matter. If I understand aright, Dr. Hart was a resident of New York and was sent to Arizona by the Presbyterian Home Mission Board, where he remained five years superintending the organization of Indian schools.

Than Dr. Hart, I know of no one more desirable or better fitted to represent our work in the Philippines. He informs me that he will write to Dr. Bondfield by first mail.

Nov. 29

Leave Manila (Per S. S. Esmeraldo) for Hong Kong.

Dec. 2nd

Arrive at Hong Kong. Leave stock on hand for the present at B. B. & T. Depot.

Dec. 6

This morning boarded steamer "Do Sing" bound for Ng Chan. Captain refused to take us as passenger stating as reason that he had received instructions from Consul General Wildman to refuse me passage.

Received this afternoon sub poena to appear as witness in trial of Capt. Toulman to be held at Canton Dec. 8th.

Dec. 14

Toulman was convicted of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. Leave Canton for Wuchow (Ng Chan).

Dec. 15

Arrive at Wuchow. Settle Society accounts with Mr. Hinkey and again resume charge of work in Kwong Sai.

Tsong pan Tsoi left our employ to work for Alliance Mission on 1st.

Dec. 16

Examining stock in Depot and instructing caretaker.

Dec. 17

Paid Depot rent for December and in afternoon leave for Hong Kong.

Dec. 19

Arrive Hong Kong.

Dec. 22nd

Send annual returns and letter to Shanghai total issues during the year 26, 719.

Dec. 26

There being no very great necessity for my presence in Wuchow at end of month, and as I am looking for instructions at any moment from Shanghai relative to my future movements, I have decided to remain for the present in Hong Kong and have therefore sent to Dr. Macdonald cheque with which to pay colporteurs for month of December.

Dec. 28

After consultation with Mr. Pearce I have arranged with Rev. Byrde, C. M. to occupy our house in Wuchow and to take charge of our colporteurs during my absence from Kwong Sai.

Jan. 12, 1899

Sent cheque to Miss Wells with which to pay families of Colporteurs.

Jan. 13

Rev. Byrde having decided not to occupy our house in Wuchow and Dr. Macdonald in his letter of 30th ult. Having offered to superintend our colporteurs whilst I am away. I have today after consultation with Mr. Byrde and with his full consent decided to accept offer of Dr. Macdonald and have written him to this affect.

Jan. 18

Telegram from Shanghai to proceed to Manila. I would much rather remain in China, but since the Society deems it expedient that I yet a little longer work in the Philipines, I shall lose no time in getting away.

I today sent cheque to Dr. Macdonald for payment of colporteurs for month of February.

Jan. 27

Per steamer "Benveneue" take passage for Manila.

Jan. 30

Arrive at Manila.

Feb. 1st.

There is a marked change in the attitude of the natives towards the Americans in Manila since last November. Then they were "Buenos Amigos". Now they are threatening. Then they were very polite, now the Americans must give way or collide with them on the side walk. What they then but asked for, they now demand. They seem to have lost all faith in the good intentions of the American Government and unless something is speedily done to reassure them I fear trouble in the very near future. Commenced selling on the streets today. Addressed meeting in Christian Commission tent this evening.

Feb. 2nd

Selling on streets. A storm is certainly brewing. Many of the American soldiers are complaining bitterly at what they are pleased to term "the insolence of the niggers". From what I can learn, it appears that the American army and posts are strictly commanded not in any case to fire on the Philippine pickets. It is claimed that the order is known to and taken advantage of by the Philipinos. That they come within our lines and when ordered back sometimes return, but at other times, laugh at us and call us cowards. They are said in some instances to have aimed their guns at our boys and challenged them to fight.

Feb. 3

Another day of small sales. Each and all the Philipinos with whom I have conversed on the present crisis, express themselves as confident that no force that America can put on the Islands, now

that the natives are supplied with guns and ammunition---could conquer them. This, of course, is as absurd as the assertion made by so many of our boys, namely, that should we commence fighting, we will drive the native army before us from one end of Luzon to the other in less than three weeks' time.

Feb. 4

It is reported that the Philipino leaders have held a "war council" at Malolos and that the war party was largely in the majority: that Aguinaldo succeeded in preventing the immediate commencement of battle only by assuring the council that he has passed his word to notify the foreign consuls at Manila of the intentions of his government at least 24 hours before any fighting take place.

Feb. 8

The insurgents last night at about 9 o'clock attempted to take the city. All through the night the boom of gun and rattling fire of musketry was to be heard on every side. The fight still goes on and the insurgents are showing themselves to be brave fellows. The only unhappy boys among the Americans are those through infirmity or other causes obliged to remain inactive. Many of them shed hot tears when they found they could not go to the front.

10 o'clock A.M. It is estimated that about 30 Americans and 3000 insurgents have been killed. There will probably be hot times here for a day or two.

Feb. 18

Fighting still continues. Insurgents are sustaining great losses, whilst the number of Americans killed does not yet exceed 100. An uprising in the city is looked for at any moment. The Philipinos are stubborn and evidently don't know when they are whipped.

Feb. 19

All through the night just passed the firing muskets and bo[]k of cannon drove sleep from the eyes of the nervous and timid ones. The walls of my bath room are build of brick and cement so I have promised, should it be deemed necessary, to allow my landlady, her daughters, niece and two sons to sit in the bath-tub. If the arrival of the expected reinforcements from America will hasten, the cessation of hostilities, the sooner they arrive the better.

Feb. 22

Visited Hospital for wounded insurgent prisoners and distributed a few Spanish gospels. There are 110 wounded in the hospital and they are receiving the best of care and attention. They appeared and expressed themselves grateful for the books given them and I ascertained that most of them are able to read.

Feb. 25

Mr. Pranteh visited hospital for insurgents today, and informs me that he found many of the wounded reading the Scriptures I left with them the other day. Consul Williams has expressed himself pleased with the action we are taking and has asked that he be allowed to contribute somewhat towards cost of next books thus given away. During the past few days there has been considerable fighting in the city and the foreign inhabitants are beginning to be found in ever part of the town. They

fire on the police patrol from windows of the houses and as they use smokeless powder, it is very difficult to locate them.

Practically nothing is being done here in Mission work. We do not even assemble ourselves on Sundays for divine worship.

Feb. 27

Bishop Thoburn (Methodist) from India arrived here today.

Feb. 28

Issues during the month as follows:

Sales	English and Spanish Testaments	22
	English	1
	Chinese	100
	Spanish	9
	Spanish Portions	20 -- 152
Grants	“ “	60

March 3

Order English Bibles, Chinese Testaments and Spanish portions.

March 5

Bishop Thoburn preached in the Philipines theatre today. Only a small number present.

March 6

Distributed 920 Spanish portions amongst the prisoners at Presidio. The books are paid for by donations. Consul Williams and another gentleman each gave \$10. Mr. Wilson donated \$5.

I have been obliged to spend several days in seeking means to get the books into the hands of the prisoners. Provost Marshal Gen. Hughes on whom I called thought there is enough trouble in the cit already, and was unwilling to chance the possibility of further difficulties or disturbances arising by allowing the prisoners to have Gospels, so he refused to permit the distribution. I judge the General must be a Catholic and, though in other respects a brave man, feared to incur the displeasure of the priests. I finally secured from Chaplain Creasy a letter of introduction to Major Bean, in charge of prisoners at Bilibid, and he allowed me to distribute the books at the Presidio.

March 12

Bishop Thoburn again preached today. Not until late in the week will Gen. Hughes grant us the privilege to assemble for Divine Worship on Sunday following whether by permission or not I cannot say, but the theatrical shows held on Sunday get out their posters early in the week.

March 18

Bishop Thoburn left today. He intends, so far as I can ascertain, to arrange for the opening of a college here. Rev. Owens will probably return to America.

March 21

Note from Pascual H. Poblete enclosing letter of recommendation from Rev. R. O. Walker, our agent in Spain. In 1896 on the outbreak of the first rebellion Senor Poblete was deported by the Spanish Govt. and confined in a penal settlement. After his release he was employed by the Credit Lyonnais where Rev. Walker found him and enlisted him into the services of our Society. Senor Poblete translated for us the Gospels Matthew, Mark, and Luke, also the Acts of the Apostles. Peace between America and Spain having been restored, Sr. Poblete left the latter country and came to Manila. On his arrival here and before disembarking from the steamer by which he came he was arrested by the Government and has since the 1st of March been kept in confinement. I called on Poblete this afternoon. He informs me that he has not as yet been given a hearing and does not know for what reason he is being held a prisoner.

March 22

Looked over Registry today and find no charge of offense entered opposite name of Poblete. The Lieutenant in charge informs me the case of Poblete will be laid before the Provost Marshal this afternoon.

March 23

Called on Provost Marshal in behalf of Poblete but could get but little satisfaction or information. The Provost Marshal either could not or would not inform me of the charge preferred against Poblete except that it is of a very serious nature. He finally admitted that the arrest was ordered by Major General Otis and that Poblete could not be released until Gen. Otis so ordered. When I mentioned that I would then either call upon or write Gen. Otis relative to the matter, Gen. Hughes assured me that I would probably accomplish no good by so doing and strongly advised me "to keep my skirts clean." The general evidently has but a poor opinion of Poblete. My judgment were it based on but the two interviews I have had with Poblete, would be that he is an intelligent man possessed of very considerable influence over his countrymen and that he is well disposed towards the American Government. But I have more than this on which to base my opinion. Poblete comes to me highly recommended by Rev. R. G. Walker who knows him well and has asked me to befriend him. So then, regardless of predictions and admonitions of Provost Marshal Gen. Hughes, I have but one course open, namely, to continue my endeavors to ascertain charge against Poblete, get our Government to give him a hearing and, if possible, be on hand to speak a good word for him.

March 24

Wrote to Major Gen. Otis today as follows:
Esteemed Sir:

I am greatly interested in the case of a Philippine gentleman named Pascual H. Poblete, who was arrested on board the Spanish steamer Buenos Ayres and has since the 1st inst. Been confined at Police Headquarters situated on corner San Juan de Letron and Anda Streets.

Should the reason for detention of Senor Poblete not be of a private nature, I respectfully petition that it be known to us.

I am in receipt of a letter from our agent in Spain, dated 18th January, 1899 and bearing testimony of the high moral worth of Senor Poblete and of his ability to be of great service in advancing our interests in the Philippines.

Should the said letter be of any value to Senor Poblete in his present trouble, I will cheerfully submit it at such time and place as may be directed.

Any information you may feel at liberty to give us will be thankfully received.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Yours respectfully

B. C. Randall, Rep. of British and Foreign Bible Society in the Philippines.

March 31

Malolos has fallen and Gen. Montenegro is dead. The beginning of the end of the struggle. In a few weeks we may look for peace. Issues during month as follows: English Bible 0; English and Span. Test. 24; Spanish Test 12; Spanish Portions 920; Grants—Tagalog Portions 120; Total 1143.

April 1

Moved today to live with family of Senor Poblete.

April 2

Poblete examined by Gen. Otis yesterday. Gen. Otis wants guarantee. Wrote to wife of Poblete as follows:

Dear Madam:

In reply to inquiries of your husband as to my nationality, and as to my willingness to vouch for him, I am pleased to inform you.--

1. I am an American

2. Should our Government be willing to accept of my guarantee I will vouch for your husband.

You are at liberty to show this expression of my willingness to befriend your husband to Maj. Gen. Otis.

Yours respectfully, B. C. Randall.

April 3

Today received the following:

Office of United States Military Governor in the P. I. Manila, April 2nd

Mr. B. C. Randall. 5 Auleaque St., Manila, P.I.

Sir: the Military governor directs me to acknowledge for him the receipt of your letter of 24th ult., and to say in reply that Mr. Pascual H. Poblete was arrested in company with insurgents venturing to this port from Spain. As nothing incriminating against him has been found he has been released.

Very respectfully
(signed) C. H. Murray, Major and Inspector Gen. U. S. V. Sect.

April 4

Poblete not yet released, sent his wife to Gen. Hughes with copy of letter received from Gen. Otis. Mrs. Poblete was informed at Headquarters of Provost Marshal that no order had been received for release of her husband, but that if she would bring the original letter of which she had a copy, steps would at once be taken to ascertain why Poblete is still detained.

April 5

Poblete released today. Wife took original letter to Headquarters of Provost Marshal. Officer accompanied her to Headquarters of Military Governor with result that Poblete was set at liberty this afternoon.

Though not really sick I am yet suffering somewhat from dysentery.

April 8

Dysentery getting worse. Am feeling very unwell. Rev. Harriman (Eclesia) wants me to accompany him to Iloilo and Cebu, could get us passage free on one of the transports, but I am afraid to start on the journey feeling as I do, so I have given Mr. Harriman some Spanish and Tagalog tracts I get from Senor Poblete and have sold him some New Testaments (Spanish).

April 9

Sent Tagalog Gospels to Rev. F. F. Miller, Singapore, as per order of Mr. Bondfield

April 10

Sent cablegram to Mr. Bondfield for Tagalog Scriptures, the books are selling fairly well. Also ordered by letter large supply of Spanish Testaments. Engaged colporteur to sell on commission. He is a Tagalog named Isaac Youson, and is recommended by Mr. Poblete.

April 11

Passed books through customs today without the aid of a customs agent. Hereafter, will have no difficulty looking after this work myself.

April 17

Our colporteur has thus far done fairly well. I allow him 2 cents on each book sold.

April 21

Miss E. Wells on her way to Australia spent the day visiting Manila. I took her up to home of Rev. Owens accompanied Miss Spradin returned with her to the vessel. Rev. James Rodgers also arrived today. Mr. Rodgers represents the American Presbyterian Board and has come here to stay.

April 22

Spent most of my time today with Rev. Rodgers. A rich Philipino gentleman called to see me today but I was not at home. He is a Protestant and wishes to offer, free of rent, a hall in which to hold Divine services.

April 23

Introduced Rev. Rodgers to Poblete. We have arranged to call on the rich Philipino tomorrow.

Two native priests called on Senor Poblete this evening. Poblete did not hesitate to inform them that he is a Protestant and that he hopes soon to be able to publish a religious paper to be called La Lux (The Light).

They either thought or pretended to think that Poblete was not speaking seriously, for they made light of the matter and did not attempt discussion. One of them pulled from his pocket two tracts (Spanish and Tagalog) entitled (translated) "Light and Truth". The Gospel for the Philipines—God is Love—and offered them to me as he had no use for them. I assured him that I had a large number on hand and persuaded him to keep them. They were probably two of many that I put in circulation this morning before service.

April 24

I, Senor Poblete, and Rev. Rodgers, today, called on Senor Panlino Aamora living on Calle Berderio detras de la Iglesia Cathedral. Senore Zamora is a Protestant and I should judge thorough Christian. He is said to be wealthy and a man of considerable influence. He is the gentleman who called to see me about a week ago. He seems very desirous that Divine Services for Philipinos be commenced at once and offered to Rev. Rodgers, rental free, a large room for that purpose. He believes with Senor Poblete that, after peace has been restored, very many philipinos in the provinces will join the ranks of Protestantism and that Scriptures will sell well.

April 26

I was informed, this evening that the priests have issued a circulation notifying the inhabitants that the British and Foreign Bible Society is selling books that are prohibited by the church and warning the people against buying them. I am glad to know that the priests are working up and becoming alarmed. It is an evidence that the leaven is beginning to work.

April 27

The two priests that were here a few days ago called again this evening. They evidently came to reconvert the "heretic" and soon opened up their batteries, but did not have it all their own way. Poblete stood his ground, and I placed myself behind him with a Spanish Bible in my hands. The priests were at first bold in making assertions, but when Poblete answered each and all of their arguments by simply reading from the bible portion to which I referred him, they came somewhat disconcerted. As a parting shot, however, and possibly to show that they too could quote Scriptures, one of the priests referred us to John XX: 22. I would have given him credit for a better knowledge of the Bible had he not drawn from his pocket a paper to which he referred before citing the verse.

On leaving they said they would come again. If, in order to prepare themselves for the next struggle, they will study the Bible, I shall not feel that the time we have spent in discussion has been wholly wasted.

April 30

Sales during the month as follows:

	Bibles	English	6		
	"	German	1		
	Testaments	English and Spanish	14		
	"	Spanish	72		
Sales	"	Chinese	100		
	Portions	English	1		
	"	Tagolog	525		
	"	Pangasinan	<u>10</u>	729	
	Testaments	English and Spanish	1		
Grants	"	Spanish	7		
	Portions	Spanish	147		
	"	Tagolog	<u>9</u>	<u>164</u>	Total 893

May 1

Colporteur returned this morning. He was arrested as a suspect and imprisoned two days. He had either lost or someone had stolen his papers of identification. Hence the delay in his release.

May 2

I hope in a few days to see the insurgents lay down their arms. Last Friday a commission from the Rebel leaders waited on Maj. Gen. Otis to arrange terms of peace. Gen. Otis treated them kindly but told them plainly there must be surrender unconditional. It is said, however, he gave them to understand that all who came in and gave up their arms would be allowed to depart unpunished. The Philipino leaders have since been holding a conference and a report is current this afternoon that a lieutenant has been sent in and is now conferring with Gen. Otis. I believe, therefore, that the struggle is about over. Oh that the Tagolog scriptures were here now. My colporteur informs me that he thinks we will have no difficulty in disposing of two or three hundred a day in the provincial towns. But I have less than 500 Tagolog portions left and not one Spanish. The few Tagolog books I have are scarcely sufficient to keep my Colporteur busy until others arrive, and as I wish to keep him employed, I am not attempting to sell.

Rev. Rodgers called on the commissioners a few days since. Permission to hold public services for Philipinos was not denied him, but he was advised that it would probable be the interest of the work to wait yet a little longer before assembling and as he thinks there is wisdom in the advise, no meeting has yet been called. I suppose the officials would have advised us not to sell books; had we asked them, but, as we did not, we have been able to put in circulation since the present struggle commenced, over 2200 books.

May 7

Rev. Rodgers held service for Philipinos today in my room. 6 Philipinos present. All seemed greatly interested and each took an active part in the service.

May 12

My colporteur is not selling many books of late. He seems to think the city has been thoroughly canvassed and says the people are pleading poverty. I am afraid he is lazy and therein lies the difficulty. Yesterday I easily sold 19 and today 41 books. I had hoped he would be able to make sufficient from the books he sells to keep him until a new supply arrives, but unless he gets a move on himself, I shall have to sell the books myself, and let him seek other employment whilst waiting for arrival of next consignment.

The Rev. Harriman has returned from Iloilo, Cebre and other southern ports. He succeeded in disposing of most of the Testaments and tracts with which I supplied him before being stopped by the Provost Marshal.

Permission to circulate religious literature in the hospitals and prisons here has, I understand, been refused to Chaplain Wood and also one or two Catholic priests. I haven't asked permission to sell Gospels and don't propose to stop until ordered so to do, or until our supplies run out.

May 13

The "Sons of St. Ignatius" becoming alarmed at the number of Gospels and Protestant tracts that are finding their way into the hands of the people, have organized a "defensive campaign."

The following is an extract from "Oceania Espanola" of today with a few comments on left by self.

Notes	Sunday Sermons
The protective charms blessed by the priests and worn by the Philipinos have not succeeded in preventing the "dreadful catastrophe" but have materially added to the revenue of the priests--- 20c each.	Frightfully moving is the condition of the Philipino people, the effect of the dreadful catastrophe which we all have witnessed.
The moral and spiritual training of the Philipinos has long been in the hands of the priests, whose actions to say the least, have been very immoral. No doubt a great struggle for reformation will be required by the Philipino of his training has heretofore been by example.	If the physical struggle is great, no less profound is the moral struggle.
A few thousand copies of the Gospel (without notice) have already been circulated in the hospitals, prisons in the homes and on the streets here.	Gospels and Protestant tracts are multiplying in the hospitals and prisons, a sure sign of the propaganda that will be made.
The priests are desirous that interpretations, not	Desirous of guarding their flank, the Sons of

<p>translations of the Gospel be given the people so the sons of St. Ignatius have begun a defensive campaign and have placed an eloquent and sympathetic orator in charge of defense, who will no doubt for a time move and enchant his audience but when the people became better acquainted with the words of that "Eloquent and sympathetic" orator who spoke "as man never yet spake", it will require more moving and instructing discourses than on the reformation and lives of the reformers to prevent them from reading the wonderful words of life that are found in the Gospel.</p> <p>No doubt, the large attendance at the "Sunday discourses demonstrated that the people are found of intellectual entertainment" but that there are not here even "literary circles" where one can find such entertainment would seem to suggest that those having charge of the education of the people have sadly neglected their duty. A few short months ago the Spanish patriots and soldiers were taught to believe that in defending their soil they were also by force of arms, defending Faith against a horde of American Protestant invaders. They have not forgotten the proclamations issued at that time and they now know they were intentionally misinformed by those whose desire for a continuance of "political influences" led them to dishonor their priestly calling.</p>	<p>Ignatius have begun a defensive campaign by a series [serious] of most brilliant sermons which are being preached at the nine o'clock mass on all festival days in the Church on Calle del Argobispo.</p> <p>Father Rosel has been placed in charge of the work of piety. All who know the impassioned eloquent and sympathetic orator will understand beforehand the reason for the large and select audiences which attend these solemn services. The audience leaves, moved and enchanted by the full-toned and insinuating voice which, at times, full of sorrow and pathos again, scintillating with sublime indignation in describing the struggles between Catholicism [missing text]</p> <p>There is no doubt that the time is most opportune for those moving and instructing discourses. After completing an historical and critical study of the right of free thought and of the life of Luther, he will take up the life of John Huss, John of Leyden, Henry VIII, Calvin and all the other innovators and protectors of the Reformation.</p> <p>Here, where there are not even literary circles where one can find intellectual entertainment, the Jesuit Fathers with their Sunday Discourses (as the large attendance of the faithful already demonstrate) will succeed in making this service not only a defense of Catholicism but also a bond of union for the Spaniards who remain here. For although the defenses were last in the war, and with them our political influences in the soil, We must defend the Faith, the tie which unites us to this land.</p>
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After reading the above, this morning I concluded to test the influence it would have on the people. So I went to the doors of the Vinordo Church and sold to the people coming out after mass. I sold 40 Gospels before breakfast. I did not hesitate to inform the people that the Gospels were the Protestant version and that they were prohibited by the priests for purchasing. Some bought without comment, others said they purchased to see what was in the book that the priests objected to.

May 14

Rev. Rodgers, held in my room this afternoon, meeting for Philipinos. 13 Philipines present.

May 21

Except to note the arrival here of Rev. Hibbard (Presbyterian) and two Episcopalian Missionaries, nothing of importance has transpired during week just passed. Divine services in my room this afternoon. 22 Philipinos present.

May 22

I am informed that the Jesuit "orator" in his discourse yesterday referred to me as a "very dangerous man". He said that whilst he did not know me personally and could therefore say nothing against my moral character, yet the fact that the Bible Society, taking advantage of the "open door" had sent me here and also the work I had already accomplished, as was evidence by the large number of Gospels and Bibles I had put in circulation, were sufficient to justify him in pronouncing me a very dangerous person, and he urged the people against having dealings with me.

June 30

Month spent at Hong Kong and visit to Wuchau. Give up house in Wuchau. Arranged for Book Depot with Dr. Macdonald (Rent to be \$3. per month to commence July 1st.)

July 31

First half of month spent in visiting homes of colporteurs, etc. in Kwong Tuong. Later half month in Wuchau. Rent from Dr. Macdonald cottage at \$15 per month. Rent to begin Aug. 1st.

Aug. 2

Past week spent in hospital suffering from colic. Dr. Macdonald ordered me to Hong Kong for examination.

Aug 5.

Return with families to Wuchau.

Aug. 9

Arrive at Wuchau.

Aug. 15

Letter from Mr. Pearce notifying me of certain charges that have been preferred against me by Messrs. Cunningham and Quick and asking that I proceed to Hong Kong as soon as I conveniently can to said charges.

Called on Mr. Jaffey and Mrs. Hose. Showed to them letter from Mr. Pearce, and informed them of my intention to deny charges.

Mr. Jaffey informs me that Mr. Cunningham had seen or heard of the charges as they appear in letter of Mr. Pearce and pronounced them exaggerations. Mr. Jaffey and Mrs. Hose disclaimed all knowledge of any determination of the part of members of their mission to decline to visit my house. Showed letter of Mr. Pearce to Dr. Macdonald who strongly urged me to remain in Wuchau for the present.

Letter to Mr. Pearce denying charges set forth in his letter and asking that investigations be put off until Mr. Bondfield comes to Hong King in October.

Aug. 16

Letter to Mr. Bondfield expressing desire that a number of the Alliance Mission, having authority to act in the name of that Society, be invited to attend the investigation.

Aug. 18

Send messenger to Kwei Lam with letters to Twong Pen Tsoi.

Oct. 19

Investigation held at Wesleyan Methodist Mission. Committee: Mr. Bondfield, in chair, Dr. Macdonald and Mr. Hess, Associates. Decision. Not guilty.

Journey across country to Pakhoi thence to Hoi Nam and return.

Nov. 3

Start from Ng Chan this morning at 8 o'clock. Raining and cold, H. M. wind blowing. During the day passed two dead bodies floating down the river.

Nov. 4

One of our colporteurs fell over board and had a very narrow escape from drowning this morning. Entered Pak Lan river (33 miles above Wuchow) at noon today.

Nov. 6

Sold a few books at Kam Kai Hui.

Nov. 8

Selling at LeLong Hui. Thus far have not seen any guard boats on the river. I asked a boatman why all other rivers on which I have thus far traveled in Southern China had guard boats stationed every two or three miles distant apart whilst on the river there is not one to be seen. He answered that the Government feared to station boats here lest the robbers come and steal the guns from them. I do not credit this man's explanation as regards the Government but it is quite evident that robbers and turbulent men are very numerous in this part of the country for fortified places of refuge to which the villagers may flee in case of attack are to be seen from many mountain tops. These fortifications are built and defended by the villagers without aid from the Government. Last night we had a "tiger scare". Whether there was a tiger about I cannot say. Some of the boat people thought the object seen might be a large dog, but the captain's wife insisted that it was a tiger and made enough noise not only to frighten us somewhat, but also to scare away the object of her fears.

Nov. 11

Arrived at Yun Yun and sold over 200 books. Leave today for Pak Lan. During the Kwong Lai rebellion of last year, Yung Yun was captured and sacked by the rebels. (The Chinese here call them "the Robbers") At about 2 o'clock in the morning of 29th last, the "Robbers" entered the city by the

West gate. The North and South Gates being closed, the terrified inhabitants fled through the East gate which opens on to the river. In attempting to cross the river, it is said, several hundred lives were lost. Including the number drowned it is estimated that not less than a thousand lives were taken in the capture of the place. The Rebels sacked the city for two days when they were put to route by the Gov. forces.

Nov. 13

Arrived here (Pak Lan) yesterday afternoon. With colporteurs sold over 250 books today.

Here at Yung Yun the city was taken without a struggle by the rebels. If they be deserving the name of rebel, for the pillaged, burned and murdered as they advanced. A large portion of the city (within the walls) was given over to the flames, over a thousand innocent lives were taken and the city completely looted. The rebels beheaded the two mandarins and held the city 17 days but on July 19th were compelled to flee before the Govt. troops who killed and captured many hundred.

The Pak Lan people are, generally speaking, well disposed towards foreigners though much less so than the inhabitants of Yung Yun.

Nov. 15

15 miles overland brings us to Wat Lam Shan which place we reached late this afternoon. The road between Pak Lan and Wat Lam is, for southern China very good though in places much cut up by the wheel-barrows that are here used for carrying freight. Three of my colporteurs though not really sick were still not feeling sufficiently strong and well to walk 15 miles. So they each hired a man with wheelbarrow to wheel them. They travelled on freight. That is, they paid according to weight and distance travelled. It cost them thus about 25 cents each to travel 15 miles. On our arrival here it was feared the inn keepers would refuse to take us in. So we found shelter in a Buddhist temple. The people are very boisterous. So much so that neither the threats of the attending guards nor persuasions of the Buddhist priests could disperse the crowd of inquisitive sightseers. But they were apparently afraid of the "Devil" for I had but little difficulty in keeping them quiet. The term "devil" applied by the Chinese to Foreigners is not here merely a name. A great many, if not a majority, of the Wat Lamites believe us to be what they call us, and it was amusing to listen to their comments; on my looks and every action. One of them on expressing surprise at hearing me speak Chinese was laughed at by the others and called a fool, for not knowing that "a devil" can speak any and every language.

Nov. 16

Late last evening when I retired to rest there were Chinese loafing around the door hoping for a sight of me, and this morning at daybreak the crowd began to reassemble and clamor to see me; but the excitement did not reach its height until about 11 o'clock when I took a stroll about the city. Along the streets as I passed all business was for a time being suspended.

Storekeepers left their customers and rushed to the street doors to see me and to protect their property from thieves. The stores were full of people who had deserted the streets to give me free passage and see me as I passed. As far ahead as I could see on either side was a line of outstretched necks and eager expectant faces looking for the "foreign devil" whose coming the children running before me announced.

Since my return to the temple, the whole of afternoon has been spent in entertaining visitors, merchants and literary men whose bright intellect have enabled them to find some plausible excuse for calling me.

Wat Lam may well be called the center of last years scene of carnage. Several villages round about here were burned but the rebels were repulsed with heavy loss in their attempt to take the city. The number killed is estimated at 18,000. This may be an over estimate, but there can be no doubt as to the number of lives taken during the few days struggle reaching into the thousands.

Two French gentlemen, said to be mine prospectors, but possibly travelling in the interest of their Govt., arrived here last evening and with them I spent a pleasant hour.

Arrived this afternoon at Shun Po and engaged vessel to take us to Pak Hoi.

Nov. 17

Colporteurs sold 80 books here this morning and at 11 o'clock we started on our journey down the river. The number of our sales since leaving Wuchau 3 weeks ago, amounts to 1000.

Nov. 18

Sold over 200 books at Pok Pak and leave for Sha Ho.

Nov. 19

Travelled all night and arrived here (Sha Ho) In time for market today.

Nov. 26

Arrived at Pak Hoi and called on Dr. Hill who kindly placed at our disposal the town chapel.

Sham Po to Pok Pak		30 miles
Pok Pak to Sha Ho Hui	3	30 "
Sha Ho to Shek Shung Hui		18 "
Shek Chung to Shen Lok Hui		18 "
Sheng Lok to Teo Tsin Hui		9 "
Io Isui to Shek Hung		5 "
Shek Hung to Lin Shan		12 "
Lim Shan to Pak Hoi (Watter)		33 "

Nov. 27

Colporteurs and supplies safely housed in Chapel. I am stopping with Dr. Hill. Have enjoyed perfect health since leaving Wuchaw until today. Now I am feeling somewhat indisposed.

Nov. 28

Sick (Malaria)

Dec. 4

Left Dr. Hill's to live in chapel for a few days; have been quite sick but am feeling much better today. Dr. and Mrs. Hill have been very kind to me and given me every attention during my illness.

Dec. 5

Colporteurs have devoted one week to canvassing Pik Hoi with but very indifferent success. I shall start them all out into the country tomorrow and then D. V. will take first opportunity to get to Hoi Han.

The best planned hospital and most attractive and neatly laid-out premises I have yet found in southern China is the church mission property at Pak Hoi.

Dec. 15

Leave for Pak Hoi on S. S. Hailan. This is the first steamer to leave here for Hoi How since 27th Nov. During the past week I have been trying to get passage on one of the several Chinese junks lying here awaiting a favorable wind, but the wind continues from the south and no amount of money will tempt the Captain to weight anchor until a strong north wind blows as it is only with such a breeze that they have any assurance of escaping the Wai-Chan pirates. Go where he will in Southern China, the traveler is constantly being cautioned to beware of robbers or pirates but here there seems to be very strong grounds for fear.

The piracy of Chinese junks by the Wai-Chan and Chan Wan fishermen is of almost daily occurrence, and had I not been very anxious to reach Hoi How by the 15 inst. I should not have attempted to secure passage on a Chinese junk.

Dec. 16

Arrived here (Hoi How) this afternoon.

Dec. 18

The supply of Scriptures ordered to arrive here on or about Dec. 15th are not yet to hand. Wrote to Mr. Bosshard on Saturday relative to the matter and today am sending letter to Mr. Bondfield.

Dec. 25

Arrived here at Kau Chan this morning. It is market day and we succeeded in disposing of a large number of books.

The landlord of the Inn here has recommended to me two young men to sell books. They were well-dressed and appeared to be intelligent fellows so I have them some books to sell about their homes to which they were returning in the H. W. part of the island. They have promised to report their success as book-sellers to the Mission at Hoi Hau when they next go to that place.

Dec. 26

Ha Man is but a small market place, but we succeeded in selling nearly 200 books here. After I had sold considerably over 100, my carriers asked to be allowed to sell a few, so I gave to each 25 books which they disposed of without difficulty. I permitted them to keep the cash (sales receipts). How they were anxious to carry for me tomorrow and have asked me to let them sell at the next market. The people here have been coming to the inn all the afternoon to buy books. Some of them are very sociable. After reproving them several times for their socialistic tendencies, I was at last obliged to rap

one of them rather smartly across the fingers to remind him that he had no right to give to others things belonging to me. I haven't had any trouble since.

Dec. 27

At Tai Chung, today, I was unable to sell but about 30 books. It appears the people here have a notion that if they buy a Gospel and take it home some of their family will be taken seriously ill. My carriers, however, were able to refute their assertions and laugh at the superstitious fears and succeeded in selling all their books. They are so pleased with their success that, this evening, they bought, presented to me, a lot of bananas.

My interpreter spent considerable time, this morning, trying to convince the people here that I am not a Frenchman. How well he succeeded I cannot say, but a great many cast angry glances at me during the day and I fully expected trouble though as yet no harm has befallen me. I suppose the blood of my early ancestors does still course through my veins. They, the people in these parts, have no friendship for the French. Later—my carriers have just informed me that they will not sell Gospels in Man Cheong. They say they would certainly be mobbed if they attempted to. Quite a number of people have informed them that a few years ago Hoi Sing Sang (Mr. Gilman?) was in these parts with books and that a great number of people died. Many attribute the larger number of deaths to the presence of Mr. Gilman and to the books he sold and are very bitter against the missionary and his wares. As I have also received information from several sources that the Man-Cheong-ites are just now very hostile to foreigners because of the late actions of the French at Kwang Cahn Wan and the current report they are about to demand, or take by force, this the Island of Hainan, I have decided not to go to Man Cheong.

The books have, thus far, sold so well that I have but a few hundred left and these I shall probably be able to sell on my return journey to Hoi Han. Tomorrow morning, therefore, all being well, I shall go to Lung Fat.

Dec. 28

When it stopped raining this morning the weather still continued to look so threatening that, instead of going to Lung Fat, we decided to return to Ha Man. The Han-Man-ites evidently want our books. Day before yesterday we sold here about 250 Gospels and today we have had no trouble in disposing of nearly 150 more. As before, so today, the people come to the Inn to buy. My carriers are doing well as book-sellers and give every evidence of honesty in their work. One of them today took out 50 books. I promised to give him ten cents if he succeeded in selling them all. He brought back two books and thereby failed to earn the extra money. He might, had he been dishonest, easily have given or thrown away the two books and claimed to have sold the fifty.

Dec. 29

Last night the robbers were out in force. Such a shouting and shooting of muskets. There wasn't one of the several hundred inhabitants of the market (Ha Man) but most have been wakened by the noise. Yet not one dared venture outside his door until after the robbers had gone. At first alarm, I tried to put a little spunk into the guests of the Inn at which I was stopping, but they were too thoroughly frightened, and I gave up the attempt in disgust. Fortunately for us, the thieves got all the plunder they could well carry away from the adjoining Inn and did not molest us.

The thieves handled one poor fellow very roughly, but I had more pity for the young man from Singapore, where he had been for over ten years hoarding the few dollars which were to purchase for him a wife and home, but which the thieves succeeded in finding and taking with them. The poor fellow lost over a thousand dollars and was but one day's journey from home to which he would have been obliged to return entirely naked had not some of us helped him somewhat.

Dec. 30

Returned to Koi Hau this P.M. All the books sold.

Jan. 2, 1900

Five thousand gospels and Acts received today. I wrote to Mr. Bosshard asking that he send us but 2000 or 3000 and that the balance be forwarded to Wuchow, but I suppose he did not get my letter in time.

Jan. 3

Arranged to leave 2000 Gospels and Acts with Anw. Presbyterian Mission and returned 1400 books borrowed from Miss Shaeffer.

Leave tomorrow for Pak Hoi by steamer. Colporteur Long Chung and the interpreter will proceed overland.

Jan. 11

Arrived here (Pak Hoi) on 5th inst. And found two Colporteurs in from the country. The weather being very cold and blustering, I permitted them to remain in until today. Eo Wan Yin returned day before yesterday. He is not well so have permitted him to return at once to his home in Shiu King.

Colporteur Lei Tin Ying the other day at Lim Shan entered the store for a well to do manufacturer and merchant and was greatly surprised at the welcome accorded him. The reason was soon forthcoming. The merchant whose name is Sham, becoming convinced that "things made by hand" could not of themselves make things seen in Nature "not made with hands", had several years before discarded his idols as worthless and looked for a Being higher and more worthy of adoration than they. A tract, a portion of Scripture, perhaps a Gospel, which at times reached his hand, gave him a glimpse of the Unknown God for whom he was seeking, and he thirsted for more information. Hence, the cordial reception of our Colporteur when Sham learned that he knew somewhat of this God and worshipped him. They spent the day together and Lai imparted to Sham much knowledge as he himself possessed. The next day, Sham, leaving his store in charge of his clerks, the two proceeded to Pak Hoi where Lei introduced Sham to Bishop Burden and the Missionary brethren.

Sham is now preparing to enter the Church. As an evidence of his conversion, I might add that being about to take a journey of two or three weeks, visiting his customers. Sham has just bought from Lei 400 Gospels to take with him.

Jan 15

All the Colporteurs have come in and our books are all sold, so will return, via Hong Kong, to Wuchow at once.

Am feeling very unwell.

Jan 25

At home once more and sick.

Jan. 31

Sales to date 9545 Gospels and 4034 Calendars.

Letter written by Benjamin Cutler Randall to his sister Ellen Palmer Randall

Kwei Lam
Prov. Of Kwong
China
Nov. 2/90

Dear Sister Nellie:

If I hope to keep the promise made to you just before leaving Westerly---namely, that I would send you an account of my first journey into the country after my return to China, I must begin at once to copy from my notes as I still have but little time to spare for writing for at least a month after my return to Wuchow.

You have already been apprised of the arrival of "Number Three". I have but to add that he is called "Herbert Wells".

You have also been informed of my removal to Wuchow. I will therefore, after just mentioning that I am enjoying fairly good health and that I left Annie and the children well, at once commence with my notes.

Oct. 9, 1901.

For the sum of \$90.00 (Mex.) (equal to \$45.00 gold) I have engaged a small "houseboat"—containing four (4) rooms and a kitchen and requiring a crew of eleven (11) men and two (2) women—to take me to Kwei Lam, the capitol of Kwong Sai, and return. The journey will probably require nearly two (2) months as it is our intention to remain at Kwei Lam two (2) or three (3) weeks before starting on our return trip.

Two colporteurs accompany me and I hope to find another two either whilst ascending the river or on my arrival at Kwei Lam. They having gone there early last August with supplies for about three (3) months work.

We got away this morning at seven but an hour later dropped anchor in the "Fu River" and the captain went on shore, ostensibly to purchase provisions for the trip, but probably to get salt and other dutiable freight which the boat people hope to smuggle up the river, for, on my return from town a few hours later, I found a large number of sacks of salt in the hold of the vessel.

Our contract stipulates that no freight shall be carried except such as belongs to me and were it not that the crew would probably "go on strike" and thereby delay us several days were I to enforce adherence to the terms of the contract, I should, at once, order the salt put ashore. Most of the salt belongs to the crew and it is not at all probable they would leave it behind. Even as it is, two (2) two of the crew refused to go with us because they—having lost their advance wages at the gaming table last evening—were, this morning, unable to purchase any salt to take with them. We captured one of the two and compelled him to go t work, but the other escaped.

We weighted anchor at three-thirty (3:30) P.M. and are now fairly started on our way up the river.

October 10

This afternoon, in checking supplies to be taken on the trip, I found that two (2) cases of Scriptures had been left behind so we anchored and set four (4) men in the "sampan" (small boat) after them.

Oct. 11

Sampan returned with books at four (4) P.M. and we are again under way.

Oct. 12

Early this morning at Kwon To (23 miles above Wuchow) we passed a camp of gold miners. About one hundred (100) men were at work.

The method employed is very primitive. The miner standing in water waist deep sinks a V shaped wooden trough to the bed of the river and, holding it down with his feet, scrapes the bedrock above the trough with a tool somewhat resembling a pick-axe or a mattock. The force of the stream carries the sand and gravel into the trough which, when full, is raised to the surface and used the same as a miner's gold pan for which it is an excellent substitute.

Needless to say much that might otherwise be gained is lost by this primitive method. The average daily earnings is said to be from ten to fifteen (10 to 15) cents. I am informed that there are a number of other camps further up the river.

Oct. 13

Today being Sabbath I offered the boat people a "day-of-rest". They preferred, however, to work and so we continue on our journey.

The crew is not engaged by the day but receives a fixed amount (each man \$2. Mexican) to take the vessel to Kwei Lam.

The sooner we arrive the sooner the money is earned. Of course the Captain is desirous of making a quick run for the sooner we reach Kwei Lam the sooner the expense of feeding the crew ceases.

When we are ready to return a new crew will be engaged to take us down the river. The new crew will receive no money compensation for its services.

Oct. 15

Had a very exciting experience this morning whilst attempting to ascend the "Sheung Young" rapids.

Twice we had all but succeeded in getting over them when the vessel got caught in a cross-current, broke away from control, and was rapidly carried to the foot of the rapids. On the second occasion as we were being swept down stream the vessel grazed a large boulder and for a few moments we feared she was going to pieces. Had she not been a new boat, and staunch, I would now, if alive, be otherwise engaged than in penning these notes. The only damage sustained was a small hole in the bottom which was quickly patched up. For extra "hands" were now engaged and, after a hard struggle the third attempt was successful.

Possibly we might still have been lying at the foot of the rapids had not the captain finally appeased the wrath of the "Tann God" with a generous quantity of "spirit-money", rice and cash, all of which was strewn broadcast over the waters.

This may well be called a "river of rapids". I am informed that, large and small, there are no fewer than three hundred and sixty-one (361) between Wuchow and Kwei L'am, a distance not exceeding two hundred (200) miles. What power could here be obtained for milling purposes!

Oct. 17

Arrived at Chin Ping (78 miles above Wuchow) this afternoon and immediately sent my card to the District Mandarin who was not sufficiently polite to acknowledge the courtesy. Colporteurs managed to sell a few Gospels but the villages along the river have been pretty thoroughly canvassed during the past few years and our sales are consequently not large.

Oct. 18

Neither at the Lekin, or, Salt Customs Stations, at Chin Ping which were passed early this morning, was the vessel searched. I, yesterday, sent my card to the officials of both stations inviting them to examine the boat if they so desired. I learn today that neither was the message conveyed nor the cards delivered. The house flag was considered by the boat people sufficient evidence that the vessel was chartered by a foreigner and would hesitate to search the boat at a very early hour lest they disturb my slumbers; and would fear to detain us until a later hour lest I complain of the detention.

I do not much blame the boat people for trying to evade paying lekin dues; for the customs officials are, as a rule, very unjust; and have more than one method for extorting money from the boatpeople.

A captain, for instance, will declare truthfully the amount of rice on his vessel—let us say, 1000 piculs. The customs official will insist that there are no less than 1300 piculs. The captain invites officials to weigh the rice. Official orders captain to wait until he has time so to do.

After a day or two of waiting the captain is constrained to offer official a small bribe. After which there is no necessity for weighing as the official becomes, at once, convinced that the captain is an honest man. I have conversed with many boatmen concerning the proposal to place control of the

lekin customs in the hands of the foreigners and, without exception, all have expressed a wish that it may be done. Surely no better evidence of the corruption of the officials could be wanting.

Oct. 23

Fifteen days of travel and only reached the foot of the rapids just below Ping Lok, or, 123 miles above Wuchow.

The river, at present, is here very shallow and the channel narrow on which account we have been anchored half a day waiting our turn to ascend the rapids with nothing to do but watch the trained cormorants catching fish for their masters. The water of the Fu River is as clear as crystal so that the motions of the cormorants as they swim after and catch their prey may be easily followed. Fishing with cormorants is, I think, much grander sport than angling.

Oct. 24

Arrived at Ping Lok this morning. The Prefect sent me his card and seemed very solicitous for my welfare. Three soldiers accompanied me when I went through the town book-selling. Together with my two colporteurs we disposed of one hundred and twenty-six (126) Gospels.

The boatpeople passed the three customs stations here without being challenged. What ruse, if any, they adopted this time I haven't the least idea. We anchored fully three hours close to the upper station but, so far as I know, no customs officials came near the boat. The boatpeople are jubilant. They have yet two more stations to pass before reaching our destination; with what success remains to be seen. Whilst I would not intentionally assist them in any way neither will I raise a fight to prevent them. Having evaded the customs thus far they now stand to lose all their salt if it be found by either of the customs further up the river. We got away from Ping Lok at 2 P.M. and are now anchored about two miles above that town.

Owing to the shallow water but one boat can account the rapids at the same time. Our travelling is, therefore, necessarily very slow. Ordinarily we should have reached Kwei Lam in the time we have taken to get thus far on our journey, but it is highly probable we shall not see that place in yet another week or more—too late to pick up the two colporteurs I had hoped to find there. They will probably leave Kwei Lam before learning of our coming.

Owing to the shallowness of the river the weight of the salt on the vessel now retards our progress. I, therefore, this morning ordered its removal. I fully expected trouble—possibly to use force—before my orders were carried out; but nothing disagreeable happened. The Captain, at once, chartered a boat into which the salt was discharged.

The Captain intended to use our house-flag on the smaller boat but when informed that I would certainly report the matter and have the boat searched if the flag were used on any but the vessel I had chartered, concluded to run the gauntlet without the flag.

Just before reaching Yun Sok the Captain asked permission to work the vessel part of the night, and, when I gave consent, immediately left the boat; ostensibly to buy provisions at Yun Shok whilst we continued on our way. We passed the Yun Sok customs without being challenged at 5 P. M. and an hour after, further up the river, found the Captain awaiting us. Again I am at a loss to know what trickery was resorted to; since I refused to lend the use of my card—the boatpeople having failed to deliver my

message to the customs officials at Ping Lok. Possibly the soldiers on the guard boat were, this time, bribed not to detain us. Had we been challenged we could not have again got under way until after nine o'clock tomorrow morning—the customs being closed for today. So I am not sorry that we passed unchallenged. When the salt was transferred from one vessel to the other this morning I was surprised to note the large quantity we had on board. I had been informed that there were but fifteen (15) or twenty (20) sacks, but what I saw this morning—I verily believe—would not fall far short of ten thousand (10,000) catties. How the boatpeople managed to stow so much in the bow and stern of the vessel is something to be wondered at, for I would not permit a catty of salt in the hold under the rooms I myself occupy. I usually invite the customs authorities to search the bow and stern of a vessel I have chartered but never permit them to search my dwelling quarters. I merely inform them that nothing dutiable is stowed therein.

We passed a very large market town () today and sold a considerable number of gospels.

Oct. 27

The scenery of the country through which we have been passing during the past few days exceeds in grandeur anything I have ever seen.

Conceive of a vast and highly cultivated plain thickly studded with small mountains of marble which rise up abruptly from its surface for hundreds of feet and take on such shapes that it requires but little stretch of one's imagination to trace in one or another the form of almost any animal desired. High and jagged bluffs; perpendicular precipices; sugar-loaves and perfect cones, the diameter of whose bases are greatly exceeded by their altitudes; and, winding its tortuous way through it all, with here and there a rapid, a beautiful river whose waters are as clear as crystal.

He would be but a very poor lover of nature whose eye could tire of looking upon such grand and beautiful scenery.

I witnessed a terrific combat between two buffalo bulls this afternoon. A herd of water buffaloes was quietly browsing along the river's banks when a strange bull, escaping from his herder attempted to cross the river. He was met in midstream by the bull belonging to the herd and the battle commenced. They fought for at least fifteen minutes, most of the time not more than one hundred and fifty feet from our vessel. The struggle was furious, and, until near the end, the issue very doubtful. At last the stranger broke away and ran down the river bank closely followed by his victorious opponent. Whether he was, in the end, killed I could not see but before we got far on our journey the other had returned to the herd.

Oct. 28

Notwithstanding repeated warnings one of the sailors this morning insisted on returning his salt to our vessel, so I threw him and his salt overboard. Fortunately for him the water was shallow and his salt recovered, but it was not brought back to this vessel.

Oct. 30

All of yesterday and the day before we travelled through a very rough and mountainous district; to traverse which, except by river, would tax the capabilities of even a mountain goat. Now, again, the

country is opening out. We arrived at Tai Hui this noon and are now anchored a mile or two above that place. The Captain has just informed me that it is quite probable we may be attacked by robbers tonight—a conversation heard by one of the crew at the market today would indicate that a plan to rob us is on foot.

Whatever the foreigner may have accomplished in the formation of China, he certainly has not yet succeeded in introducing the “one price” system in trade. I have known my “boy” (servant) to waste over half an hour at market buying a few ounces of pork and to return boasting that he had saved five cash (1/4 cent) in the transaction.

An illustrative of Chinese methods in trade I might cite the following incident which I today witnessed at Tai Hui.

A peanut vendor was squatting in the bow of our house-boat having a good look at the “foreign devil” (your humble servant, who was sitting in the front room with door open) when a third party (also attracted by the presence of the “foreign devil”) inquired the price of peanuts. “Twelve for a cash” (1/2000 of gold dollar), replied the vendor.

“Dear, very dear, you must give thirteen.”

“Twelve is all that I will give.”

“Oh, don’t be so stingy! Thirteen; give thirteen.”

“I’m not stingy; but if I gave thirteen I would gain no profit.”

“Nonsense, give thirteen and I’ll buy.”

“Good. I’ll give thirteen if you won’t pick the largest---just take them as they come.”

The buyer squats before the basket and counts aloud as he selects: “One, two, three-----seven, eight, ni----“

“Hold on! You are taking all the larger ones.”

“I’m not, I’m taking them as they come.”

“You are taking the large ones. I can’t let you have thirteen like those; I’d lose money.”

“Then I won’t buy.” (Throws them back in basket)

“You were picking the largest.”

“I was not. There, now look!” (again commences to count) “-----one, two, three-----ten, eleven, twelve,-- --“

“Hold on, you already have thirteen.”

“I have not.”

“Don’t tell lies.”

“I’m not lying. I have but twelve.”

“You lie, you have thirteen.”

“There! Count them yourself. (Holds them out to be counted) There!”

“Yes, I was mistaken. There are but twelve. Here!” (Hands small peanut towards customer)

“I won’t have that. You picked the smallest.”

Customer takes out larger one. Vendor in grabbing for it knocks it from customer’s hand and the peanut falls through crack to bottom of vessel:--

“Now you’ll have to give me another.”

“Get the lost one. It was your fault.”

“Give me another or I won’t pay.”

Finally the vendor gave another peanut and received his pay (1/20 cent), after which the purchaser lifted a desk board to recover the lost peanut but was pushed aside by the vendor who secured the nut and returned it to his basket; and, the transaction being closed, politely wished the other to:

“Walk slowly.” (Goodbye)

“Please be seated” (Goodbye), “Good sales,” replied the customer.

Oct. 31

I sat up until long after midnight waiting to receive the expected robbers but was agreeably disappointed. A very heavy gale which lasted throughout the night may have inclined them to defer their visit. There can be no question as to the boatpeople being in a funk for we no sooner came to anchor this evening than they commenced to hide away everything of value, even the spare anchor was not overlooked but was safely stowed under the kitchen floor. And the Captain has just finished nailing fast the window shutters. I much fear, if the robbers do come, I need hope for but little assistance from the crew. Even as I write they are importuning me to fire a few rounds of ammunition from my revolver as a warning to the robbers, if they be near. That we are not unprepared for them. I prefer, however, to keep my ammunition until needed.

Later: I must comply, if the boatpeople are to get any sleep and I any rest, so, here goes for my gun.

Nov. 2

Still climbing the rapids! Yesterday morning we were less than three miles from Kwei Lam and, this afternoon, we still have over two miles travel before reaching that place.

We waited all this forenoon for our turn and are now but just started. I can count fourteen vessels anchored at the foot of the rapids we are now climbing. It is not now probable we will reach Kwei Lam before tomorrow evening.

5 P.M. Fortune seems to favor the smugglers. Having ascertained this afternoon that notwithstanding my repeated warnings the boatpeople had again smuggled salt on board, I, personally, invited the customs officials here (Kwei Lam) to search our boat. They were at meal and probably did not wish to be disturbed for they asked no questions and informed me that they did not desire to (would not) search the vessel. Ten minutes hence we will have reached our destination.

Later: Rev. Byrde and Mr. Laird called this evening and carried me off to dine with them.

The two colporteurs I had hoped to meet here were driven southward by the cold—for which they were poorly prepared—and have probably returned to Wuchow.

Nov. 3

The robbers have come and gone carrying with them a few keepsakes of small value and nearly all belongings to the boatpeople.

They chose the hour of 3:30 this morning for visiting us. There were five in all; three of whom boarded the vessel. One succeeded in breaking an entrance into the kitchen before we were aware of their presence. As soon as the alarm was given, the three on the boat “scooted” notwithstanding their two comrades called on them to stand and fight it out. The robbers were out of reach before I appeared

upon the scene prepared for action, so that I was of but little or no use to the boatpeople unless the more knowledge of my being on board was sufficient to inspire the robbers with for the issue if it came to blows. Be that as it may, they were unwilling to fight—evidently concluding that, under the circumstances,

‘Twere better that they run away,
And live to fight another day.’

I called at the Yun Yamen this afternoon to report the matter to the District Mandarin and to place into his hands the names of three of the five thieves, but was informed that that official was out feasting. I left word that I wished to see him at the earliest convenient moment on a matter of much importance that would not admit of delay.

I again at a later hour sent one of the colporteurs, with my card, to ascertain if the Mandarin had returned and would give me an audience. The colporteur assured the Mandarin that the matter of which I wished to inform him was very important, but the magistrate declined to see me. If I saw fit to call tomorrow afternoon he might give me audience. He informed my colporteur that he did not believe I had much to tell him and that he was not to be tricked into giving an audience on the plea of matters of importance.

Nov. 4

The pirates were more successful in their operations last night. They left us undisturbed but attacked and looted a large houseboat that is stuck in the rapids just above us. The houseboat is chartered by a mandarin on his way to his newly appointed district and is accompanied by a guard boat (river gunboat). The pirates are evidently less fearful of their own countrymen—even though they be in force—than of a “foreign devil”. For, whilst they ran from our vessel as soon as the alarm was given, they could not be driven from the vessel on which was a mandarin even after a cannon had been three times fired from the bow of the guard-boat to frighten them away. Of course, the river guards were unable to go to the rescue whilst manipulating their big gun. ‘Twere absurd to expect them to be in two places at one and the same time, and so, though no fault of theirs, the robbers secured their plunder and got safely away.

I wrote to the District Mandarin this morning, informing him that I would no longer put up with his procrastination and warned him that unless he, at once, appoint an hour for receiving me and hearing my complaint I should certainly notify the U.S. Consul at Canton of his (the Mandarin’s) disposition to treat Americans disrespectfully and of his unwillingness to exercise his official authority to help them. An intimation that he would be pleased to give me an audience was thereafter soon forthcoming and I appeared before his “highness” fully intending to scold him sharply for his incivility.

He evidently anticipated my intentions and gave me little opportunity for putting them into effect. I made many attempts to crowd him into a corner but all to no purpose. He had ready an excuse or explanation to cover each and every charge. Having but little regard for the truth, he was too much for me. However, I think I partially succeeded in my purpose for he not only at once took in hand the matter I laid before him but, also, before I left his presence assured me that he would take pleasure in calling on his presence assured me that he would take pleasure in calling on me tomorrow afternoon if I could make it convenient to receive him.

Rev. Byrde and Mr. Laird spent a pleasant hour with me this afternoon.

We have two yamen-runners on board to “protect” us during the night another now accompanies me wherever I go—except, perhaps, to bed to which, as it is quite late, I will now retire.

Nov. 5

Colporteurs, each with a supply of six hundred (600) books, started for the country this morning and I shall not probably see them again for two or three months.

My sales in the city today amounted to one hundred and fifty-seven (157) books. I have but few left and will probably start down the river day after tomorrow.

The Mandarin called, in state, this afternoon. The usual procession of runners preceding and following his chair; the men carrying the huge red umbrella, etc., etc., were all in attendance. The Mandarin has, therefore, by this friendly act “saved his face” and now stands freed from the charge of incivility.

Moral:

- (1) If you hope to get recognition or assistance, to which you are entitled, from a mandarin, do not ask a favor, but demand a right.
- (2) If opportunity affords, and you wish to hasten the lagging footsteps of a mandarin in the discharge of his duty, charge him with want of politeness, on incivility.

9 o'clock P.M.

Three more runners from the Yamen to add to my safety. They have bamboo drums which they are instructed to beat throughout the night. Two of the lads are pounding away as I write. Query: Is the nuisance intended to frighten away the thieves, to keep the guards awake, or to drive slumber from my eyes?

I am almost inclined to believe that my friend, the Mandarin, --under the cloak of wishing to provide for my safety—is making use of this custom (Chinese) to get even with me. If so, the balance will, certainly, be on his side of the sheet before morning.

Nov. 6

I sold, this morning, one hundred and nineteen (119) books, after which the Rev. Byrde accompanied me and we together sold sixty-three (63) more. Our joint sales for the day, therefore, amount to one hundred and eight-two (182) books.

Mr. Laird and Rev. Byrde dined with me this evening.

As I have devoted fully six hours to hard work and travelled seven or eight miles, I am feeling too tired to write much this evening and will retire early.

Nov. 7

Tired though I was when I pillowed my head last evening, it was in vain I sought respite in slumber. The incessant rat—tat—rat—tat of the drum beaten by the watchman completely drove all sleep from my eyes. I called to the fellow several times to stop the infernal racket but all to no purpose.

In the very early hours of the morning, when I could stand the strain no longer, I rose from my bed and started for the bow of the vessel fully determined either to stop the noise or pitch the guard and his drum overboard.

Groping my way in the dark I had reached the front door and was in the act of sliding back the door bar when the ever vigilant sentinel commenced to cry out like one possessed, "Robbers; thieves; robbers!"

The cry was taken up by the others and, for a moment, a pack of coyotes serenading the moon in the full could scarcely have made a greater racket.

I was, for an instant, so startled that I stood transfixed to the spot on which I stood—quickly, however, recovering my scattered wits, and, hoping to be of assistance in repelling the boarders, I seized my revolver, which fortunately, lay close to hand and burst upon the front door.

There stood our worthy sentinel apparently on the very verge of collapse; trembling in every limb like an aspen leaf and leaning heavily against the anchor-post for support. So overcome was he with fear that even his voice was beginning to desert him and strange sounds—more resembling the thick speech of a drunken man than the tones of a person on his senses—issued from his lips. There, too, were his three worthy comrades lying huddled on the deck with a "min-toi" (thickly padded quilt) drawn completely over them; possibly hoping thereby to escape molestation even as an ostrich hopes to escape its pursuers, by hiding its head, when closely pressed.

But the Robbers; where were they? I saw none and when I asked the question of the sentinel, he, at first, merely pointed with his hand to indicate the direction they had taken. His mind, however, was still so confused that he was not probably aware that, in order to have gone the direction he pointed out, the robbers must have eclipsed even that late miracle worker of Utah—Joseph Smith. For whilst Mr. Smith, at most, walked but a short distance and that every slowly upon the waters—(and it has been insinuated by the gentiles, however justly I cannot, of course say, that he was aided by a plank sunk just below the water's surface)—the robbers must have run upon the water a distance of over one-eighth a mile in considerably less than two (2) minutes to have vanished from sight before I appeared on the scene. And they certainly could have had no planks under their feet.

When the men had recovered the use of his tongue sufficiently well to speak intelligibly he still insisted that the robbers had departed in the direction he had, at first, pointed out. When the absurdity of his statement was pointed out to him he admitted that it was "strange, very strange," yes, "extraordinarily strange", but, nevertheless, the fact remained and then, again, they might have been "devils"—you know.

How thankful I should be to my friend, the Mandarin, for so kindly and amply providing for my safety.

Dined with the brethren last evening. Sales for day 177 Gospels. Have but few books left and have ordered start down river tomorrow morning. Whilst out selling I find the Captain has taken advantage of my absence to load the vessel with goods intended to be smuggled down river. Have ordered every catty discharged immediately and have notified the Captain that the anchor will not be weighed until my order is carried out to the letter, and that each day of delay here will cost the boatpeople six dollars (\$6.) They have already chartered another boat and commenced discharging.

Nov. 8

Vessel discharged of cargo by noon and we, at once, weighed anchor but had not travelled more than a mile before I discovered that the vessel is short handed—but seven sailors instead of thirteen being on board—so we have again come to anchor and will not budge a foot until the full complement is

engaged or, failing to hire more men, the delay, at the rate of \$6.00 per day, covers the value of the vessel; when I shall take possession, and myself, engage a crew. Have notified the Captain to this effect.

Nov. 9

Full crew obtained and we, last evening, reached the head of the rapids just below Kwei Lam. Mr. Laird here boarded us and will accompany me to Wuchow.

We anchored last evening alongside the large houseboat looted by the pirates the other night. Besides the guard-boat there are two or three fair sized freight boats accompanying the vessel. So that the Mandarin must have had at his command no fewer than fifty or sixty able bodied men. Guns, pistols, and side arms were also to hand and yet a mere handful of pirates made no difficulty in successfully looting the ship.

This morning as we were about to descend the first large rapids below Kwei Lam a large number of boatpeople ascending the river attempted to compel us to wait on them by blocking the channel below us with their vessels. They forced one small vessel just ahead of us to discharge all her cargo that she might be floated into shallower water and thereby clear the channel for them. As we were entitled to the right of way and would be delayed several hours if we waited for the vessels below us to pass the rapids, I insisted that they must give way to us and, when they refused to listen to me, threw two of the crew vessel and one from another overboard. The channel was thereafter soon cleared and we proceeded on our way.

Nov. 10

We, early this morning, passed the wreck of a small vessel that had come to grief on the rapids not far below Tai Hui.

The damaged freight was piled on the banks close to the wreck and another vessel was anchored alongside waiting to take it on when sufficiently dry.

Nov. 11

We passed Young Sok at dusk this evening. Just before reaching the customs station Dr. Laird called my attention to the fact that the two Yamen-runners (guards) who are accompanying us were not on the vessel. Shortly after we discovered them snugly ensconced in the bow of the smaller vessels that are carrying the freight ordered discharged from our boat and which are hovering around us much as a pilot-fish darts hither and thither around the shark it accompanies and quick to take refuge in the shark's mouth at the first indication of danger. As we passed the customs station the smaller boats came close alongside of us and the ruse was apparent. The customs officials, knowing the guards were accompanying us, evidently thought we were unwilling that they travel on the same vessel as ourselves and had chartered the smaller boat for their accommodation. The ruse worked.

Nov. 13

Arrive at Ping Lok at nine this morning and departed at two this afternoon.

Colporteur Yu Yat Kwong arrived here from Wuchow just as we were starting away.

Have ordered him to work the district west of here, and, gradually working his way southward to Wung Kong, return by the end of the month to Wuchow.

Nov. 16

Our vessel is leaking badly. Although she was thoroughly overhauled and caulked just before leaving Wuchow her timber have been so strained and wrenched in shooting the rapids that she now requires almost constant bailing to keep her afloat.

Notwithstanding all our watchfulness we have, thus far, failed to prevent the boat people from smuggling freight onto our vessel. Today whilst the boatmen were trying to repair a serious leak I discovered a large number of umbrellas stored under the floor of the room occupied by my servants. They were

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As they did not get down t the vessel before we weighed anchor at Chin Ping they were obliged to walk the whole distance.

One of them put in an appearance this evening and asked me for my "card" to take back with them to the mandarin as evidence that they had escorted me safely to my journey's end. When I objected that, inasmuch as I had not had the pleasure of either their company or protection, they were not entitled to my "card", the poor fellow prostrated himself before me and begged that I send him not back without some acknowledgement of hi shaving faithfully discharged his duty. No, in pity, I gave him a card.

Before closing these "notes" of my first journey into the country since my return to China, it may be as well to add that, if they seem to savour of things worldly rather than of things spiritual, they are written not so much with the view of showing how our Lord's Word is being received by this people as descriptive of the people to whom we are carrying the Word.

If, at times, my manner of dealing with these people may, to him or her who may read these notes, seem unnecessarily harsh, I have no excuse to offer except that my few years experience in this land teaches me that, if one would not be greatly delayed in travel it is sometimes experience to force his way. Not that I would, in any way, attempt to injure a Chinaman but—as in the case of the men I threw overboard in the shallow water of the rapids—a little wetting or, perhaps, the employment of some other equally harmless means in securing one's rights will often save many hours of hot, and, in the end, fruitless argument. With the brutal manner in which some foreigners (not missionaries) treat their servants I, certainly, have no sympathy and I have yet to learn that I have ever yet made an enemy of a Chinaman through ill-treatment.

The boatpeople (on the vessels from which I threw the three men into the river) who were successful in escaping from my clutches were among the first to join in the laugh occasioned by the sorry plight presented by their less fortunate companions as they emerged from the water. When being chaffed by his messmates, the only comment of the man on our vessel, who went overboard with his sale, was, "It is very fortunate the master threw me into shallow water, for I cannot swim."