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1908

# Canton Christian College: its field and work in China

Canton Christian College

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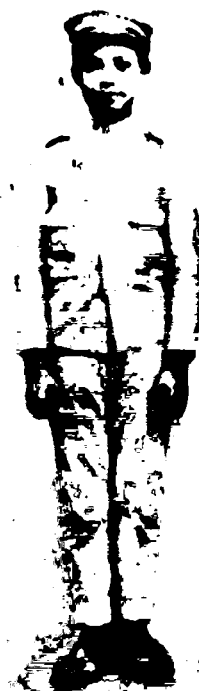
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# Canton Christian College

ITS  
FIELD AND WORK  
IN CHINA



CHRISTIAN, MISSIONARY, UNDENOMINATIONAL,  
FOUNDED IN THE INTEREST OF THE MISSIONS OF  
ALL DENOMINATIONS AT WORK IN SOUTH CHINA



1908

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COLLEGE ADDRESS

Canton Christian College

Honglob, Canton, China

**M**AKE CHINA STRONG." This is the cry of patriotism and progress throughout China, the key-note of the Reform Movement. To make China strong the Anti-Opium edict has the support of the people. To make China strong, the people themselves are abolishing the foot-binding torture,



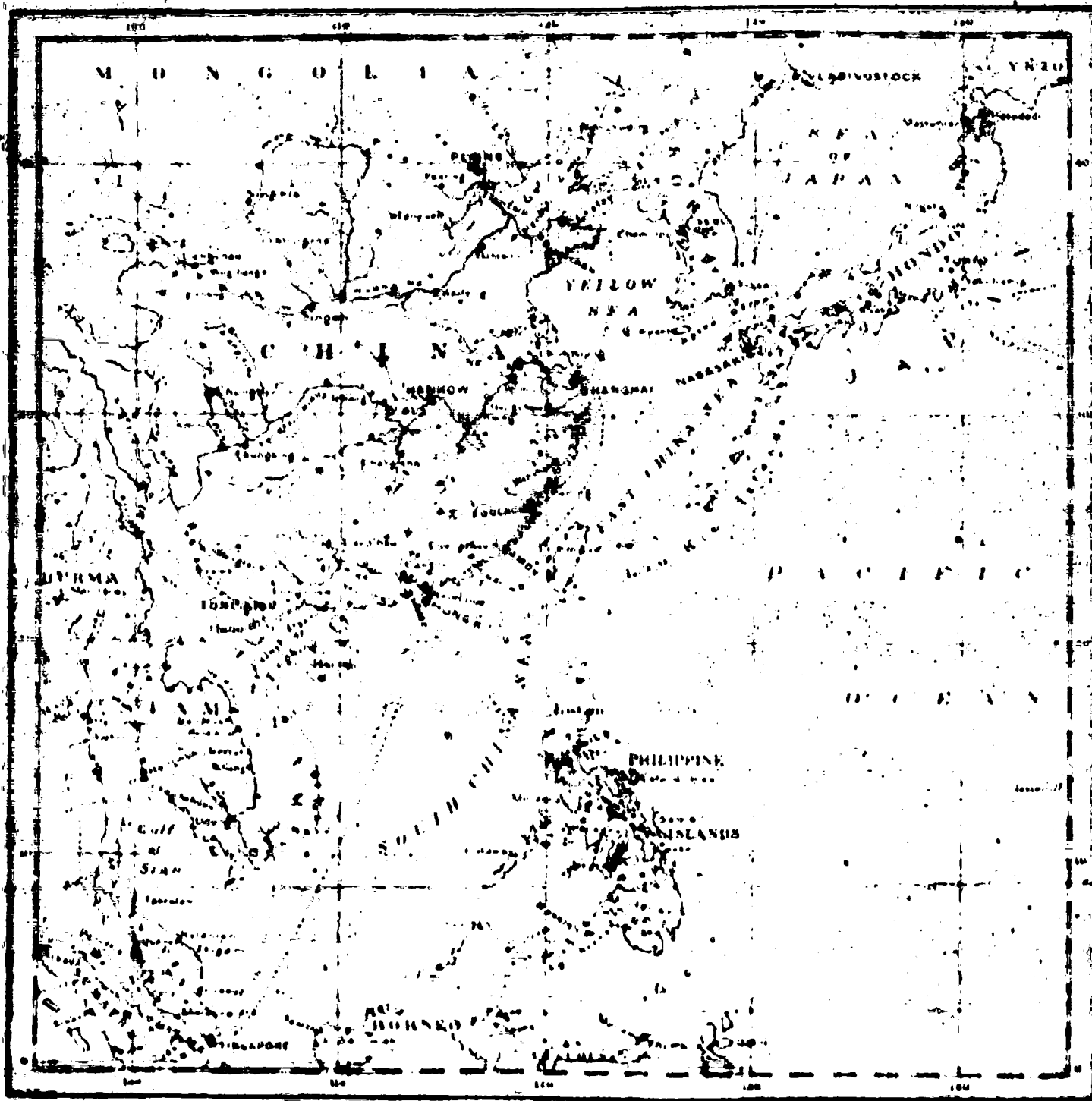
Two Students  
Recently Become Christians

which has so crippled the women as to disable mothers in the proper care of their children. And to make China strong the whole nation is seeking the "useful learning" of the West, which has made Europe and America strong and given Japan her place among the nations.

Bewildered, and lost in the immensity and newness of her problems: lacking schools, lacking teachers, lacking leaders, the supreme need of China is guidance and help in her first steps along the right way. The opportunity presented to the Canton Christian College for aiding China in this crisis of her history should awaken the enthusiasm of every person who can take any part in its development.

We strive and build not simply for a college, but that the Empire and the race may be quickened by the light and life-giving power of an educated leadership trained in a Christian school. The time to help China is now.

# Strategic Position of Canton

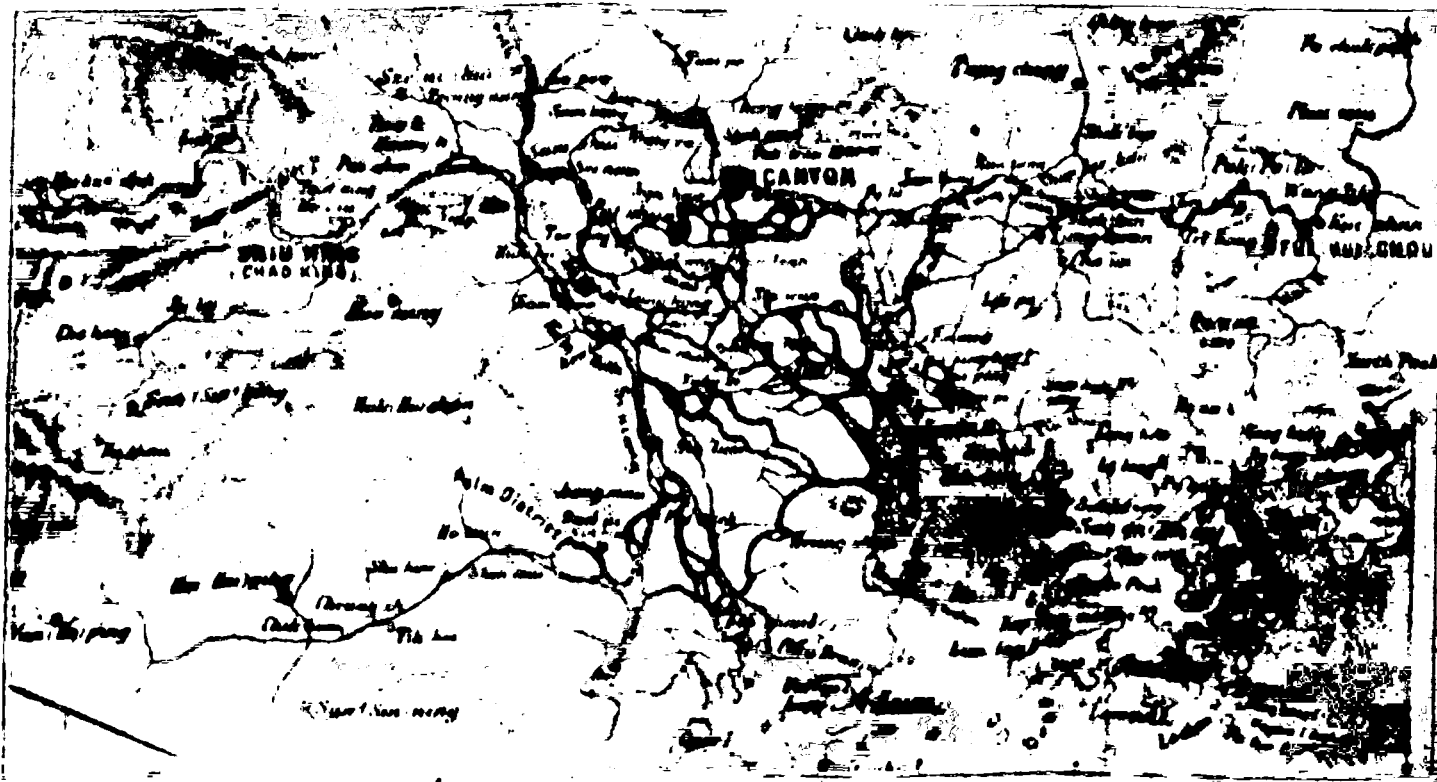


## Strategic Position of Canton

**C**ANTON, the Southern gateway of China, is the commercial, literary, and official metropolis of South China. It has a population of over two millions, and is the capital of the two provinces of Kwang Tung and Kwang Si, which together support a population of about forty millions. The people from these provinces are almost the only Chinese who travel extensively. They are found engaged in leading occupations in all parts of the Empire, in all adjoining countries, and scattered over all the world.

Canton is situated on the Pearl River, ninety miles from the British island and port of Hongkong. It is the nearest Chinese city to American territory in the Philippines.

From this point all China can be influenced by an educational institution.

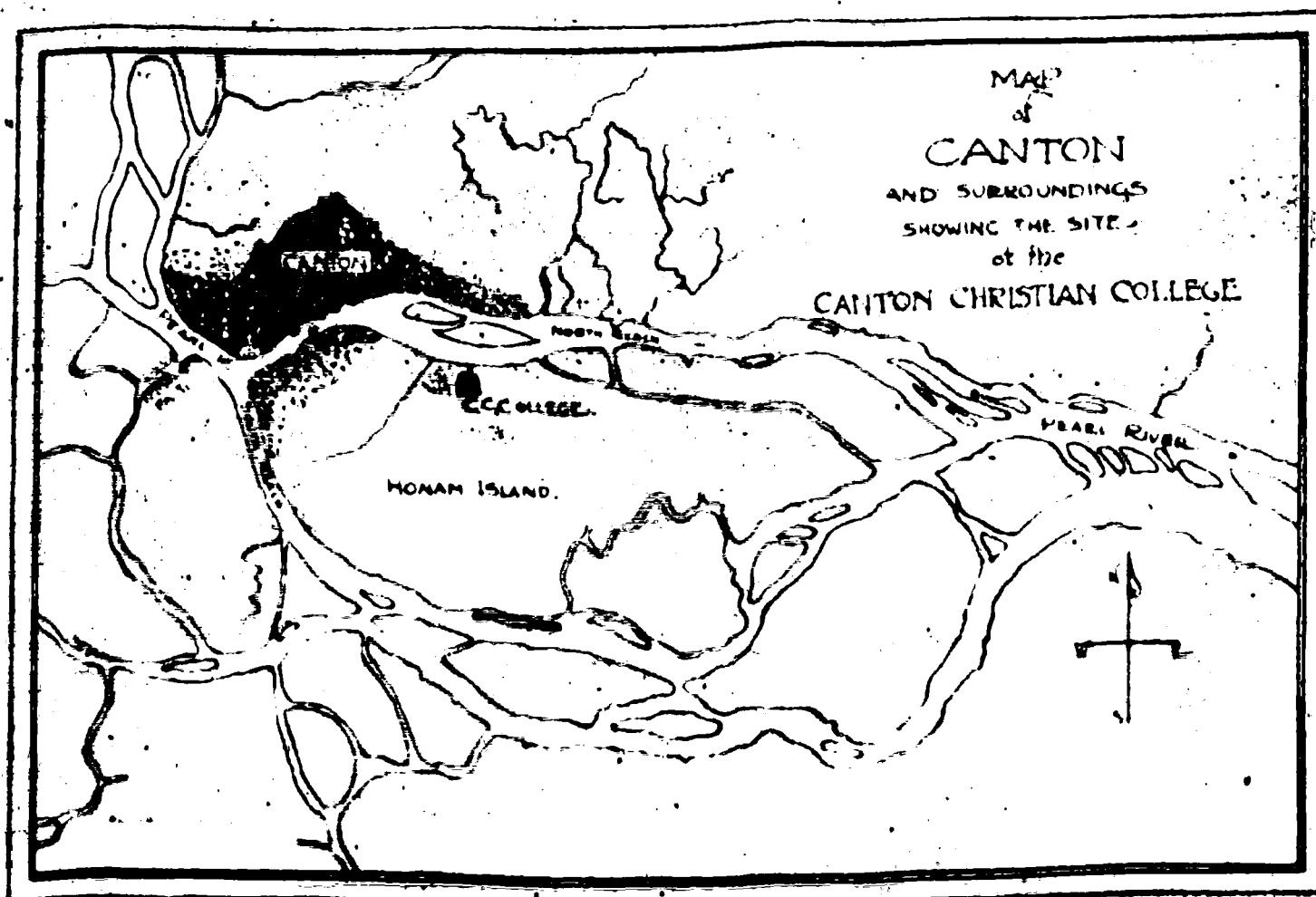


Relation of Canton to Hongkong, Macao and the Delta

An American school of learning of the first class at Canton will be vital in promoting good relations between the two nations facing each other on the Pacific, America and China.

Situated thus at the most strategic point in the Empire, at the capital of this extensive and densely populated territory, where multitudes of young men and women are eager for Western knowledge, the Canton Christian College has been established and is vigorously prosecuting its work.

### Canton and Environs



## Location at Canton

**T**HE College is located on the south bank of the Pearl River, on a hill, in full view of the city. It is just across the river from the east suburb of Canton, having all the advantages of proximity to the city, with pure air and greater freedom from the temptations of city life.

The site is one of great beauty, overlooking rice fields, orchards, and gardens, with an exceedingly fine view of the river, city, and distant mountains.

The Trustees have already purchased forty acres of ground, and to this should be added enough more to provide for unhindered growth, to provide for missionary residences and denominational schools that will inevitably gather at this center, and to protect the university and settlement from encroachments by Chinese villages and tradesmen.

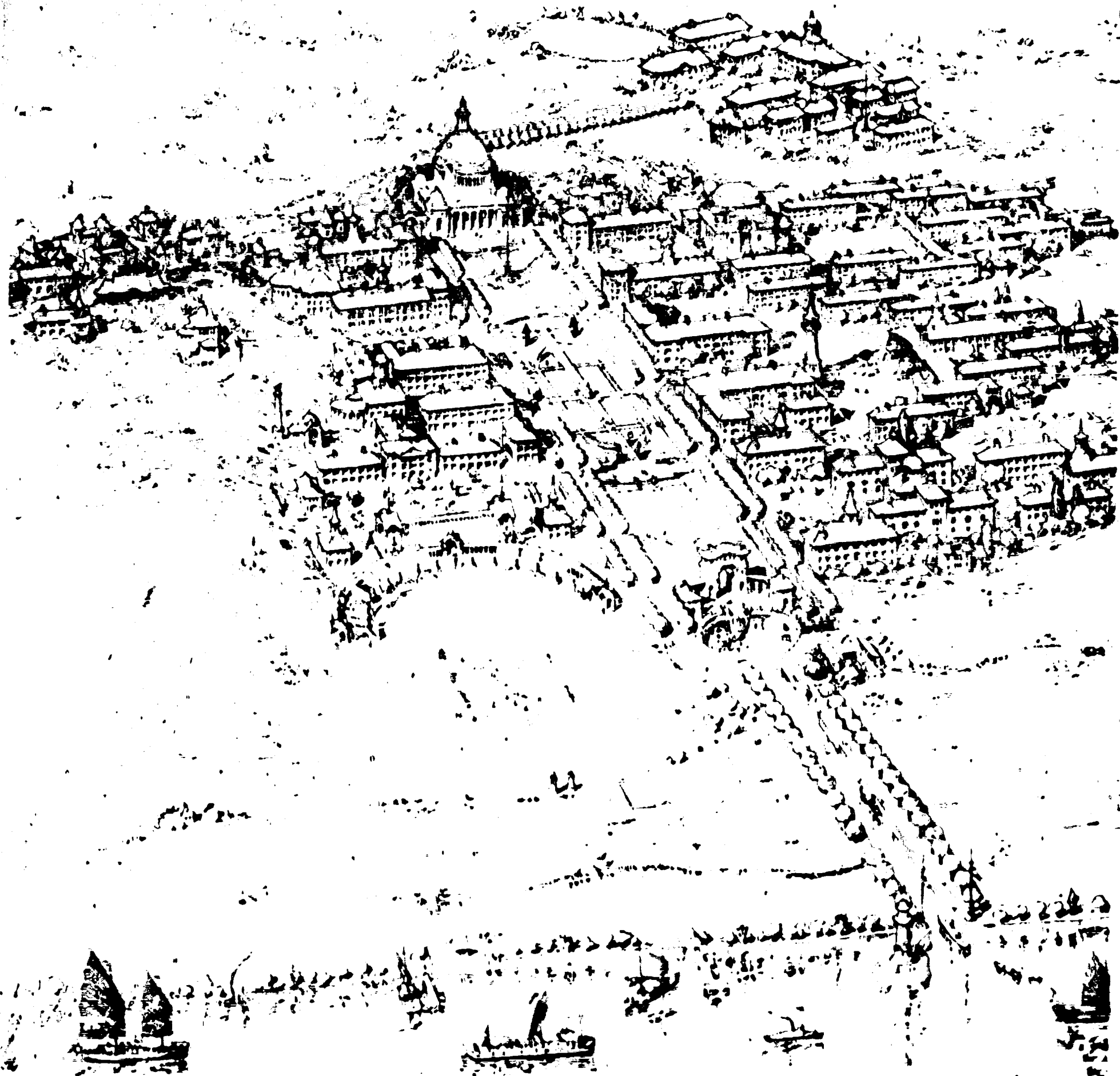


Neighbors



Village amid the Trees and Rice Fields, South of College Grounds



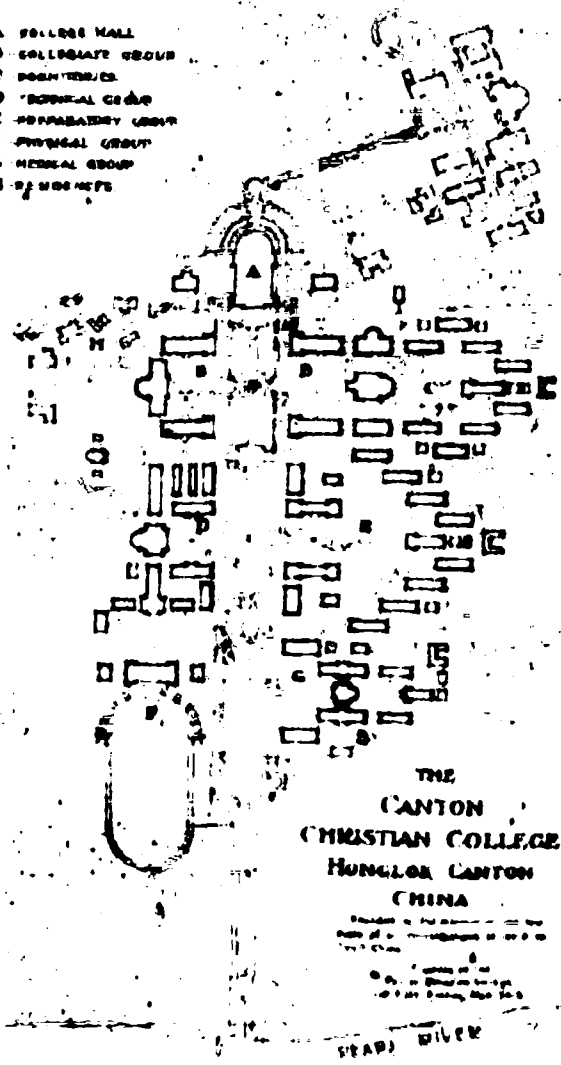


Mird's eye View of the Projected University at Hongkai, Canton,  
China. Trustees of the Canton Christian College, New York

Designed by J. H. & S. W. Linn, A. S. 1870

## Architectural Plan of the College Grounds

- A COLLEGE MALL
- B COLLEGIATE GROUP
- C DOMESTIC
- D BOTANICAL GARDEN
- E PREPARATORY GROUP
- F PHYSICAL GROUP
- G MEDICAL GROUP
- H RECREATION



**T**HE Founders of the Canton Christian College had in mind the ultimate establishment of a Christian University as a center of intellectual and spiritual culture for South China, and to this end the Trustees have had a monumental plan of the grounds made, in which the whole scheme of buildings for the present and ultimate needs of the College, the walks, grades, and campus spaces, have been carefully studied.

## Historical Resume



Rev. B. C. Henry, D.D. of the Pres-  
 prominent people of different  
 raise funds in the name of the  
 lege in China," afterwards  
 Canton Christian College," and  
 had secured about \$82,000 in

Mr. Henry Martin of Phila-  
 Mr. David Torrens and Mrs.  
 Mr. John H. Converse of Phil-  
 Thaw of Pittsburg were among  
 to this fund.

president of the College in  
 Canton about January, 1888.  
 fully conducted a school for teaching English and science until  
 the spring of 1891.

The failure to secure land after diligent effort, the return  
 of Dr. Happer to the United States on account of declining  
 health, and the reopening of the question of location, caused  
 a further delay of two years in the starting of the College.

The College was incorporated under the Regents of the  
 State of New York, December 13, 1893.

IN the year 1884 the American Presbyterian Mission at  
 Canton authorized the Rev. B. C. Henry, D. D., who was  
 about to return to the United States on furlough, to solicit  
 the cooperation and contributions of friends of Christian educa-  
 tion in China in the founding of a college at Canton. Following  
 Dr. Henry, in December of the same year, the Rev. A. P. Happer,  
 D. D., returned to America charged with the same mission, and,  
 after receiving the endorsement of the Board of Foreign Missions

byterian Church and of many  
 denominations, proceeded to  
 "Trustees of the Christian Col-  
 changed to "Trustees of the  
 by the end of the year 1887  
 gifts and subscriptions.

delphia, formerly of Cincinnati;  
 Robert L. Stuart of New York,  
 delphia, and Mr. William  
 the first and principal givers

Dr. Happer was elected  
 June, 1887, and arrived in

He success-



Mrs. Robert L. Stuart



Rev. A. P. Happer, D.D.

In 1894 the Trustees took over by purchase from the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church its Fati School and property, in the suburbs of Canton, after which the College project passed through a period of four years without change in the character of that school, which the Trustees relinquished and resold to the Board of Foreign Missions in 1898. A call was then issued for three Christian educationalists, which resulted in sending out Rev. Oscar F. Wisner, M.A., D.D., as president, Andrew H. Woods, M.D., and Clancey M. Lewis, B.S.

With its new organization the school opened with six students. In two weeks by November 6th the secretary reported twenty boys, twenty of whom were in regular attendance. In June of 1899, on account of the disturbed condition of China, the school was moved to Macao, a Portuguese settlement near Hongkong, where it remained until removed to its present location in 1904.

In the first school year, in March, 1904, at Canton, 100 boys were enrolled. In 1905, at Canton, 106, one hundred and three, and in 1906, one hundred and three, eighty-five were enrolled, the number being at present about one



Rev. Oscar F. Wisner, D.D.

hundred and forty. College opened June 3, 1899, the number had doubled, and had registered twenty-nine regular attendance. In June of 1899, on account of the disturbed condition of China, the school was moved to Macao, a Portuguese settlement near Hongkong, where it remained until removed to its present location in 1904.

At the opening of the school year, in March, 1904, at Canton, 100 boys were enrolled. In 1905, at Canton, 106, one hundred and three, and in 1906, one hundred and three, eighty-five were enrolled, the number being at present about one hundred and forty.

This material evidence of the permanence and steady growth of the College is having a marked effect upon the Chinese Church and upon the Chinese gentry and officials.

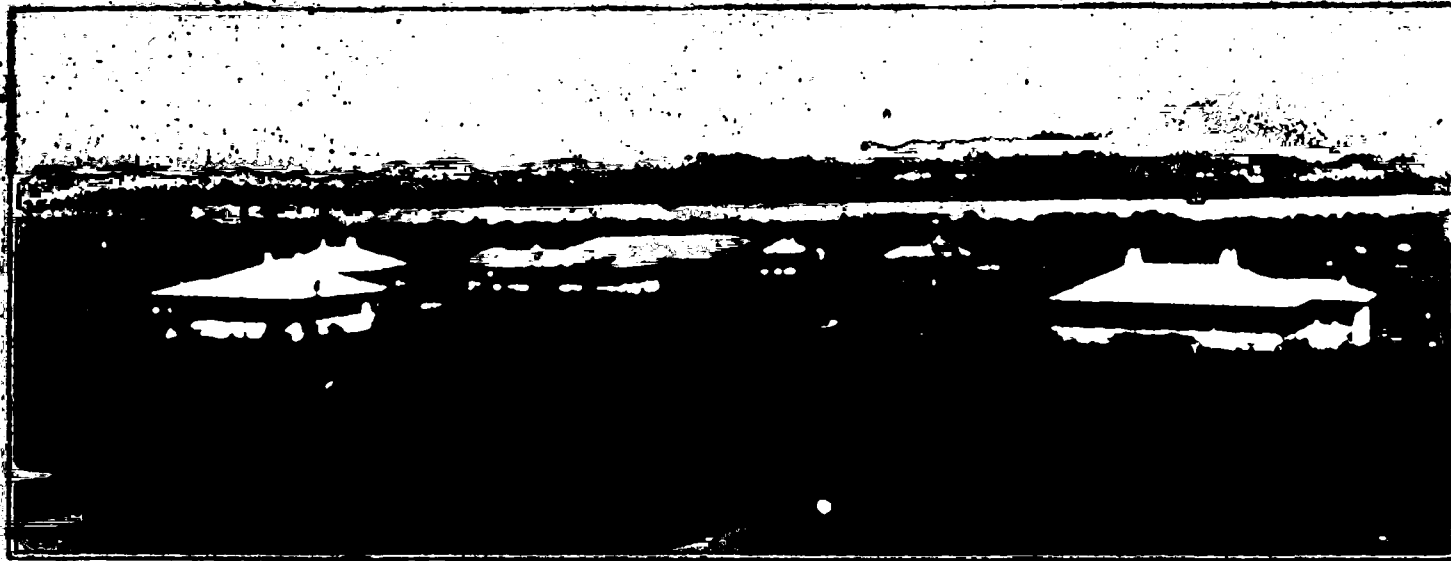
Undoubtedly it will draw attention to the fact that Christianity stands for what is best in the life of the nation and give a dignity and power to the Christian Church and its institutions.



Mr. David Torrens



Mr. Henry Martin



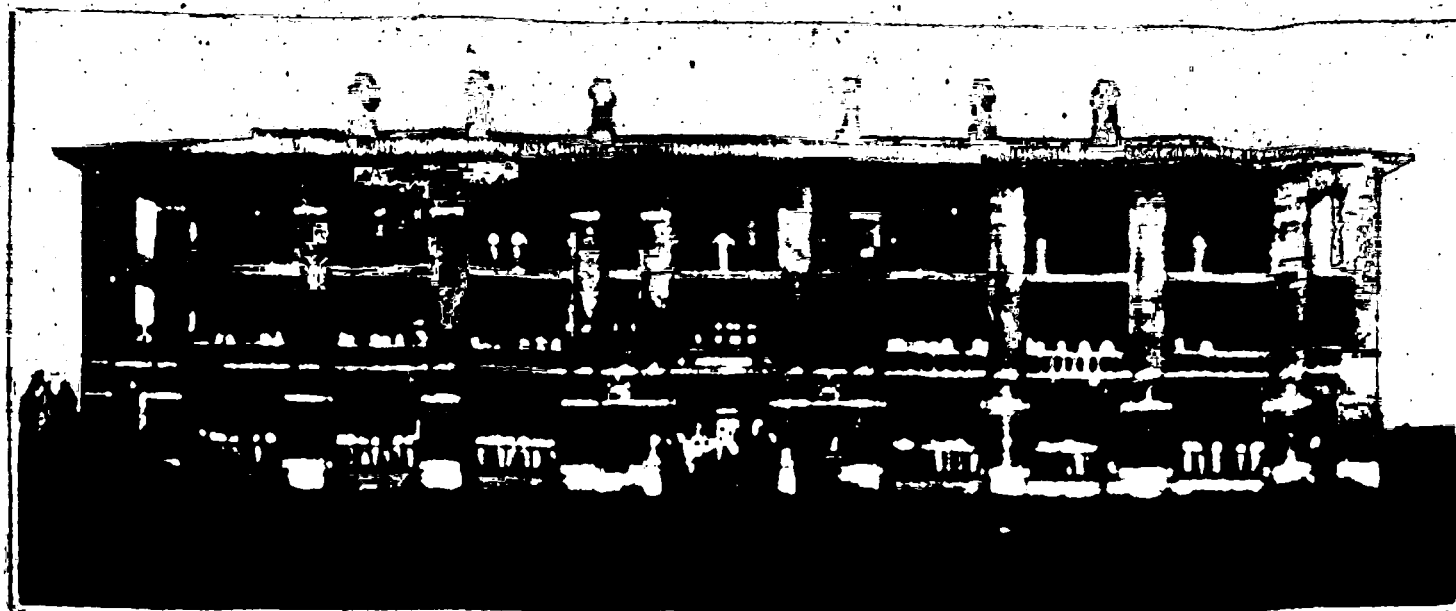
Looking North from the New College Hall

## College Grounds

**B**EGINNING in 1904 on the new site with the erection of a group of temporary bungalows, which are now occupied as dormitories, there have been added three one-story houses for professors and a College Hall, just completed. Even in these temporary structures, greatly lacking in convenience and comfort, the school has made fine progress.



Present Bungalow Dormitories



New College Hall

Dimensions, 53 x 166 feet, Corner stone laid July 13 1906, Occupied January, 1907

## College Grounds

**A** THOROUGHLY suitable modern building, the new College hall is constructed of brick and reinforced concrete; the first and second stories are used for classrooms, the third for the dormitories of the unmarried American teachers.

Visitors to Canton and the missionaries and foreigners residing there remark at once on the delightful situation, the substantial construction, and the handsome appearance of this building.

A three-story brick and concrete dormitory to cost about \$15,000 and to accommodate one hundred students should be provided at once to meet the natural growth of the school.



## Student Body

ONE hundred and forty students were in attendance at the beginning of the second half of 1907. These students pay their board and about ninety dollars gold each per year for room rent and tuition. Under the system of training and school life at the College the change in new students is so marked as to amount to a transformation. Their minds are awakened and freed from the dull routine of memorizing, their mental food is sufficient for great expansion in their horizon and interest, and they become alert, responsive in class and chapel and on the athletic field and in social intercourse.

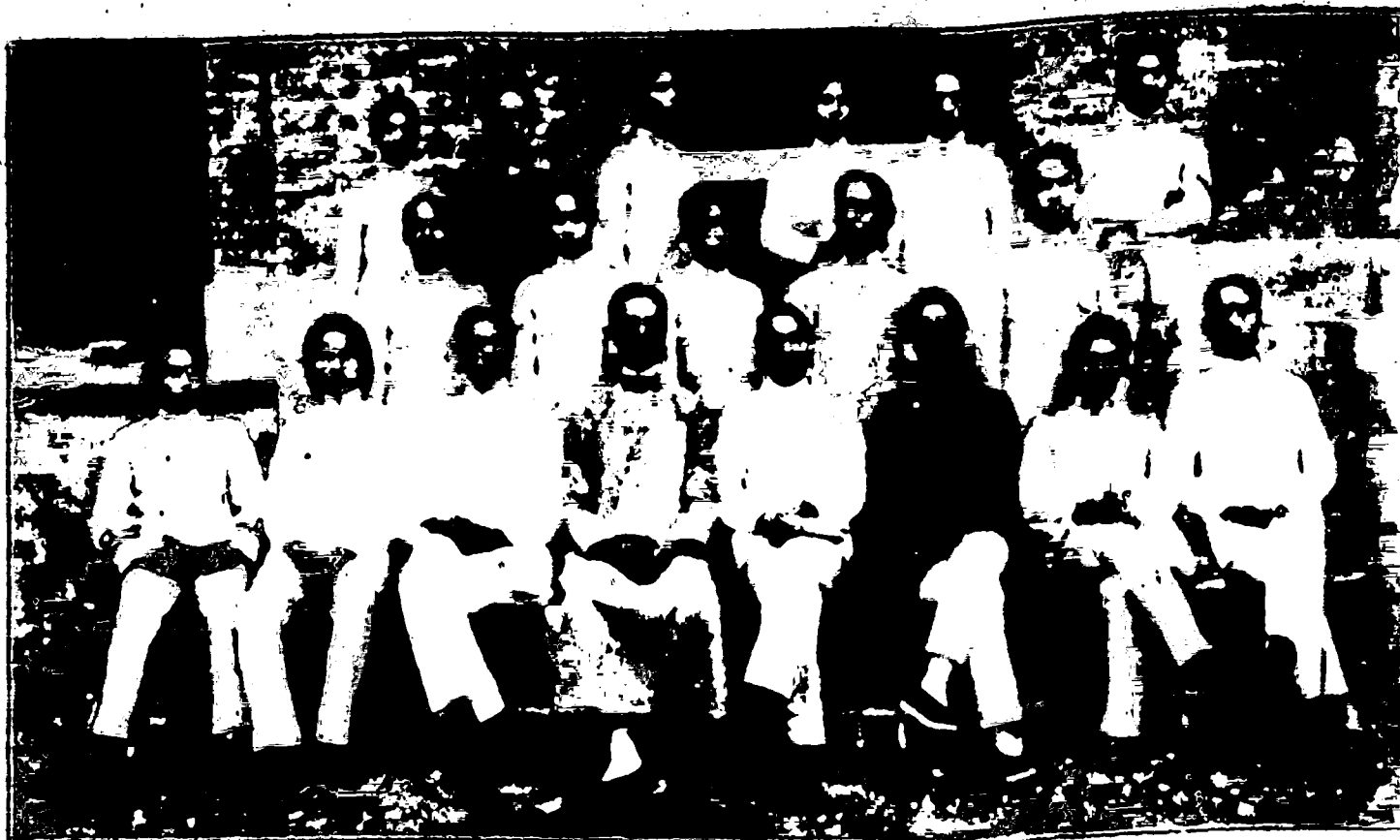
Chinese students, generally speaking, are more amenable to discipline and more diligent in the pursuit of their studies than American students of the same age; they experience somewhat greater difficulty in studies requiring constructive thinking, owing chiefly to this deficiency in their early training rather than to any marked difference in mental power.

The almost total lack of competent teachers is the great hindrance of the Chinese Government in its efforts to establish modern schools. This is the opportunity for the Christian educator in China to make the men who will be the makers of the new China, as scholars, educators, physicians, statesmen, business men, and as leaders. - Never has there been a greater opportunity for Christian enterprise than here and now, but if the Christian educational work is to take the lead it must be pressed forward vigorously without delay.



Scene in North Kwang Tung





College Christian Association Group

## Religious Life and Work

**T**HE Student Christian Association numbered thirty-two members at the beginning of the year. It has a weekly meeting for prayer and the presentation and discussion of subjects affecting the daily life of students.

**Religious Influence.** The influence of the religious work in the institution was manifested in two recent services, when forty-four students expressed their desire to become Christians, fourteen of whom saw no hindrances, while to the other thirty the way was not yet clear.

**Village Work.**—In addition to work within the College grounds, the Christian Association has carried on a work of teaching and lecturing in the schools and ancestral halls in the villages within a few miles of the College, which contain a population of over a hundred and seventy-five thousand. In this village work one or two Christian boys take several boys not yet professing Christians along with them, who enter heart-



"The Man With the Hoe"



Village Ancestral Halls. Second-Degree Poles

ily into the work of teaching and explaining. These groups are welcomed by the school teachers and head men of the villages. Mr. Chung Wing Kwong, Chinese head-master in the College, has taken active part in organizing and cooperating with the boys in this mission work, which is not only evangelistic, but often includes educational talks. It illustrates the beginnings in one direction in which the College will exert an influence as a great evangelizing and uplifting power.



College Football Team

## Athletics

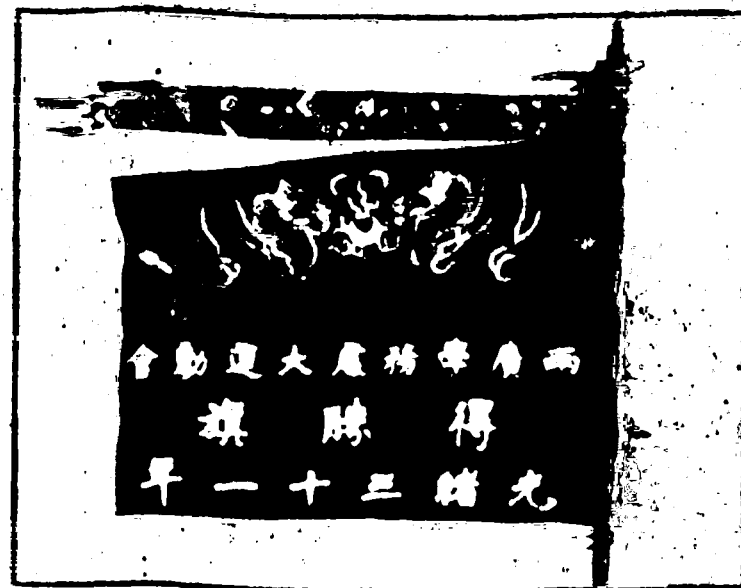
**N**OTHING marks the spirit of New China more distinctly than the enthusiastic turning of the students to athletics. A few years ago it was considered undignified for a student to take any exercise more violent than a slow walk. Long finger-nails were in fashion and ill health common.

When athletics were first introduced as a stimulant to physical development, the boys played baseball and association football in their long coats which reached to their heels, and when they desired to run would first have to "gather up their skirts." How great the change! — a change

which is becoming general among Chinese students. In the College this year there are six football teams and several baseball, basketball, and track teams. The boys are no longer under compulsion to exercise. Interest in their games is as earnest as in their studies, which in China is proverbial.



Winning Track Team, 1906



Flag of Victory, First Trophy

The first track meet in South China was held January 16-17, 1906, on the Government parade ground at Canton. It was arranged by the Bureau of Education of Canton, and forty-seven schools were enrolled. It was attended for two days by two thousand students, and sixteen thousand spectators, the Viceroy, and many Chinese officials and foreign residents being present. The Canton Christian College scored the largest number of points and carried off the Flag of Victory, which was presented by the Viceroy.

The second track meet, held January 4, 1907, was arranged by a Student Association



Track Meet, 1907

of forty schools, organized by Mr. Chung, the Chinese head-master of the Canton Christian College. This meet was carried through in a much better way than the first, was highly successful, and received the approval of all concerned, the Chinese gentry and officials contributing \$500 Mexican toward the expenses. Over \$1,000 was received for admissions to reserved space. Chinese officials, foreign residents, and many Chinese ladies were among the many thousand spectators.



Mr. Chung Wing Kwong

### Girl Students

**F**OR several years a few girls, relatives of the Chinese teachers, have been admitted to preparatory classes of the College with good results. Their records have been equal to or better than those of the boys. Many others have also applied for admission.

Provision should be made for a women's department, with its own dormitories and classrooms, but with laboratories and



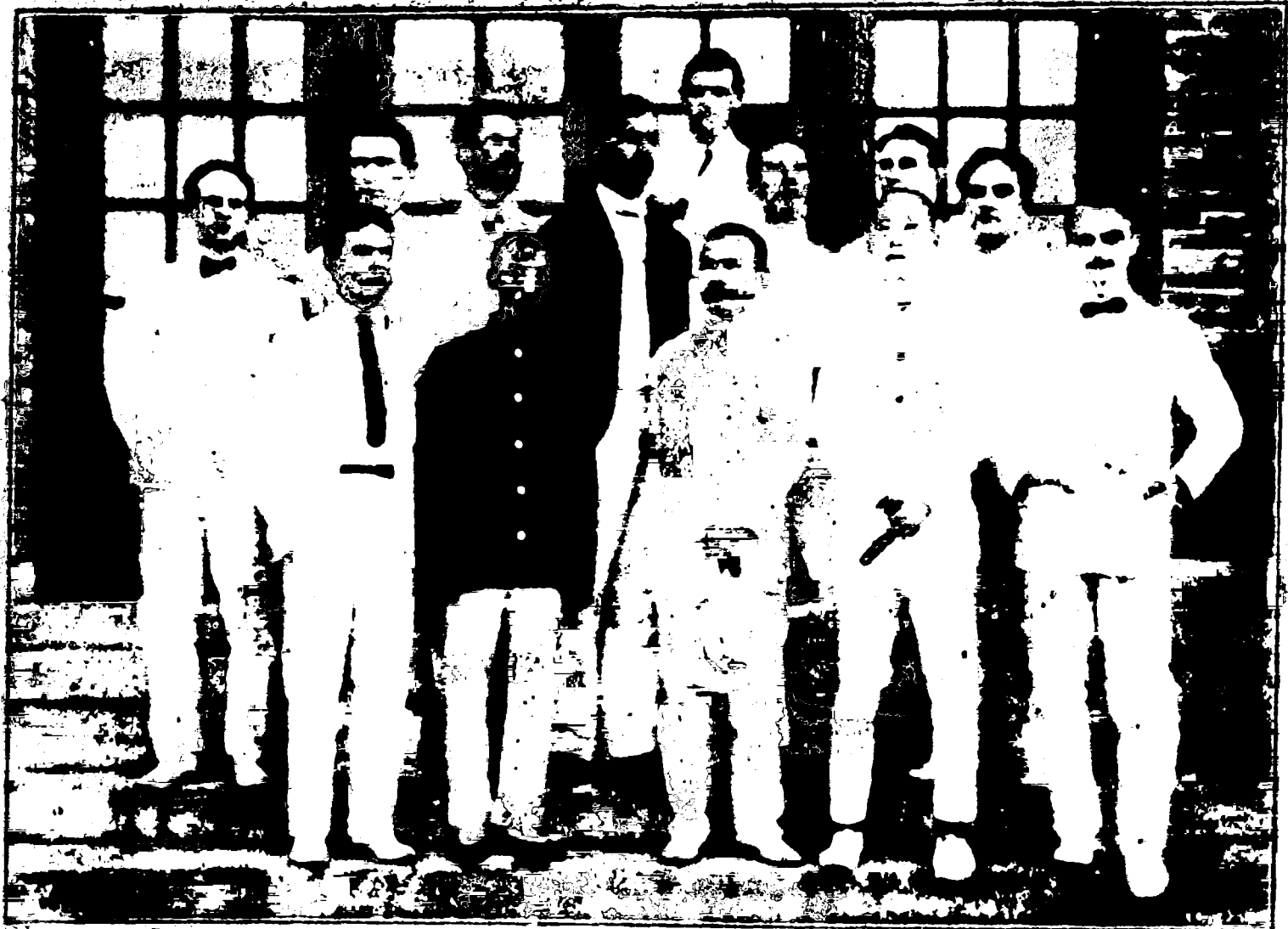
special courses of other departments available. The first need of the preparatory school for girls is a building and two American women teachers.

So eager are Chinese girls for an education that some of them have gone to the Government schools in Canton disguised as boys; others have studied under special tutors to their own undoing.

**Yuan Shih Kai**, the most able and powerful statesman in China, Grand Councillor of the Empire, "The Great Viceroys," "The Man of Iron," after proclaiming the need of modern schools everywhere, in a notable address recently given in Tientsin, said: "The establishment of schools for girls is still more indispensable because women are the roots of the nation. It is needful that in all the provinces rich and poor be educated alike."



Yuan Shih Kai



Pomeroy      Laird      Morrow      Wisner      McCracken      Chung      Fuson      Bergstresser      Clelland  
 Wannamaker      Ng      Chung Jr

### Faculty and Work

**C**HARLES K. EDMUNDS, Ph.D., Acting President; Olin D. Wannamaker, M.A., Henry B. Graybill, M.A., Clinton N. Laird, M.A., Chester G. Fuson, B.A., Owen E. Pomeroy, B.A., C. A. Bergstresser, M.A., James E. Morrow, B.A., Rev. Earl C. Clelland, G. W. Groff, B.A. The Rev. O. F. Wisner, D.D., has resigned after nine years of faithful service as President.



Edmunds



Graybill



Groff

The Faculty is composed of picked men, graduates from American colleges, who have had experience as Christian workers, and who have consecrated themselves to the task of building up a Christian university. The Chinese members of the teaching staff maintain a high standard of Chinese scholarship. The Chinese teachers are acquiring a command of the English language by taking the regular course in science, history, and modern method.

The work of the institution, except in the Chinese department, is conducted largely in English. For the most part the students are in the preparatory school, there being only a few students in the collegiate grades. It is proposed to include manual training in the elementary courses, which will culminate in an industrial department for those not choosing the higher academic work. In due time courses will be conducted in pedagogics, engineering, and other subjects, the purpose being to cover the whole sphere of university training.

Rev. Charles C. Creegan, D. D., Secretary of the A. B. C. F. M., writes under date of November 15th, 1907, as follows:

I want in a word to tell you how greatly pleased I was with all that I saw of the Christian College at Canton during the day which I spent there last April. I found a large and well located campus; a splendid building, admirably adapted for its purpose; an able faculty, and a fine body of bright and promising students. I had the feeling while there, and after the lapse of several months I still feel that there is no institution in China, especially in the southern part of the Empire, that is destined to do more for the millions in that great land, if it is properly equipped and endowed, than that excellent Christian College. If any word of mine can be of help to you at any time in securing the funds which that college greatly needs, please command me.



## Medical School



J. C. McCracken, M.D.

THE original plan of the College included a School of Medicine. The Christian Association of the University of Pennsylvania has assumed responsibility and control of this school, and through a special board of trustees is conducting the work under the title of "The University Medical School in Canton, China." It is, in close affiliation with the College, and united with it in the effort to build up a Christian university. Their plan is to establish, first, a dispensary, then a fully equipped hospital, and, coincidentally, a medical school, in which, under the strongest Christian influences, the high intellectual and scientific standards of teaching and research of the University of Pennsylvania shall be maintained.

They have already obtained \$15,000 for the purchase of a site and for the erection of a hospital on land contiguous to that of the Canton Christian College.

The complete plant will give immediate relief to the sick, promote original research in the wide field of tropical disease, and, most important of all, will send out men trained to meet the needs of their fellows, build up other medical schools modeled after the one whose degree they hold, and be themselves centers of Christian influence and towers of strength in the communities into which they go.

The University Medical School is supported by the students, alumni, and friends of the University of Pennsylvania. The annual budget for the support of the work and two physicians, the second of whom will go to China in the fall of 1908, will be \$5,000. Josiah C. McCracken, M.D., '01, Physician in charge, Edward C. Wood, Treasurer, Houston Hall, West Philadelphia, Pa.

Professor Andrew H. Woods, M.D., of "U. of P." Medical School, '09, has given seven years of faithful service as a teacher in the College, in professional practice in Canton and in preparing the way for the medical school, showing a thoroughness in his work that must stamp the school for quality.



Andrew H. Woods, M.D.

## A Word in Season



ONE of the faculty, Mr. Olin D. Wannamaker, writes as follows: "It is hard for me to believe that there has ever been in the history of missions a greater opportunity than now, faces the Church in China. An Empire of great past history and of untold possibilities for the future is throwing itself open to all sorts of modern influence and will assimilate those that are most persistent in pressing themselves upon her. It almost seems as if with one impulse all the educated classes of China were entirely determined to turn face about from the past to the present and the future. It reminds one of the words 'From the days of John the Baptist the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence and the men of violence take it by storm.' All the motives that induce to motion are stirring in the Chinese mind—desire for wealth, craving for power, a sense of shame and an aspiration to be held in esteem among the peoples of the world, love of learning, and the longing for a better life—these, together with hatred of supposed enemies, are pressing the people forward into the new world. It is the crisis now. If the people who care for the world of man do their duty at this time, they can make the leaders of the Empire, they can exercise a guiding power in the coming decades of Chinese history."

## Income Needed

THE founding of a college implies either an immediate endowment or a sufficiently strong combination of givers to provide for its maintenance and development. In addition to receipts from students, an income of \$15,000 a year is needed to cover current expenses. This amount would maintain the present work and steadily build up the college course.

Dormitories, professors' houses and endowment funds are required, but an adequate income to apply to current expenses is the first and greatest need of the institution. At present the Trustees are receiving in gifts from individuals and interest from invested funds a little over \$7,500 per annum, about half the minimum amount needed. Up to date \$20,000 has been invested in land and buildings and equipment, \$4,000 remaining invested in interest-bearing securities. The Trustees therefore earnestly ask for gifts for this work in China.

## John Hay Memorial Building

**I**T is proposed to erect on the College grounds a memorial building to the friend of China, our late Secretary of State, John Hay, whose diplomatic skill and the confidence reposed in him did so much in securing a world declaration in favor of the integrity of the Chinese Empire and the open door.

Generous gifts have already been made and promised, and it will depend upon the amount received as to the size of the building and the use to which it can be put.

The dedication of a suitable memorial to John Hay in connection with the Canton Christian College will deeply and permanently impress the Chinese people, and will be of world wide interest.



<b>That they might know Thee,</b>
<b>the only true God, and Jesus</b>
<b>Christ, whom Thou hast sent</b>

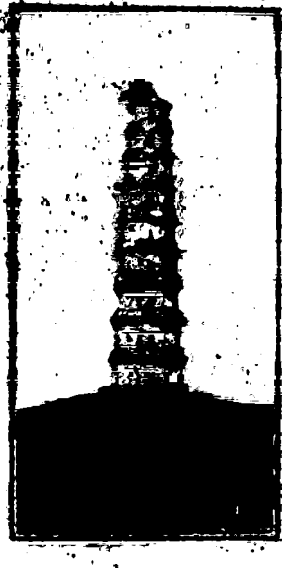
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Written by a young student of the Canton Christian College on the Pagoda Wall.

"**W**HEN we come here from our college we know that our old countrymen were very clever and made such a building so strong, since about 1,000 year ago. Mr. Lo Pan was a great carpenter and builder too. Many pagodas were made by him. Our college is in Honglok. We come here for two times, one is on the day of thanksgiving of God (Thanksgiving Day), and one on December 17, 1904."