



# “Loyalty in Action”

# THE WORLD-WIDE FIELD

## Korea, an Unentered Field

F. W. FIELD

KOREA is Japan's nearest neighbor; so we who have brought the closing message to the "flowery kingdom" are brought close to the needs of the "hermit nation." For centuries Korea was shut away from the rest of the world, like a hermit in his hut. But this exclusiveness has vanished; there is a friendly feeling toward foreigners, and the laws are liberal.

Korea is situated directly west of the main island of Japan. It has an area of eighty-five thousand square miles, rather less than Great Britain, and a population estimated at between six and ten millions. The government is weak, but under the influence of Japan various enterprises and reforms have been introduced.

Many curious and interesting customs prevail among the people. Travelers paint fantastic pen pictures of cities built of low mud houses, along narrow streets trod by people in long white garments and towering hats. But these odd externals soon lose their novelty; of deeper interest are the spiritual conditions and needs of the people. Buddhism and other forms of heathenism prevail. Yet the door of Korea is wide open to the entrance of the gospel, and already several denominations of Christians have well-

alphabet, consisting of simple characters, each with a fixed phonetic value.

Some of their books are printed wholly in these native characters, while others contain Chinese ideographs. Europeans require two or three years of study before they can begin to use the language in giving religious instruction.

Of late we have felt much interested in this needy field, and are praying that God will lay the burden upon some hearts to bring the closing gospel message to this people. We shall be more than willing to furnish further information to any whose hearts may be so impressed. Strong, energetic, consecrated young people are required for such a



KOREAN CIVIL OFFICERS

field. These Oriental countries may not offer all the comforts and luxuries to be found in our American homes; but they do offer glorious opportunities for winning souls for the Master. The Lord calls for volunteers. Who will go? and who will send them?

(Chairman) and Parker, Brother and Sister L. Currow, Sisters Parker, Peoples, Read, and Edwards, and Brother A. Currow.

Prayer was offered, which was followed by reading the record of the first council in the Christian church, as recorded in Acts 15. Remarks were made by the Chairman, to the effect that questions of a similar nature had to be dealt with in this the first council of believers in this message in Fiji. As there, the Holy Spirit was needed now to direct and preside, that the work might be rightly done, and harmoniously carried forward in the future.

Brother A. Currow was appointed secretary. The Chairman read a list of items for consideration, and suggested the appointment of a committee of three persons to prepare resolutions on the same. The three appointed were C. H. Parker, Pauliao Bunoa, and A. Currow.

The medical work was taken up for discussion, pending the report of Committee on Resolutions. Brother and Sister L. Currow had been sent here as self-supporting medical missionaries.

Brother Currow was asked to express his desires, and to make suggestions. He first read a report of the work to date: Number of treatments, 66,—free, 29, representing £6; paid, 37, representing £10 15s.

The report was received with pleasure, especially as it represented but three weeks, the work being not yet known in Suva. The blessing of God was attending the treatments in a marked manner. The following outline was presented by Brother Currow for consideration in council: Name by which the work shall be known; the basic idea or form; the charges to be made for natives; the location; health foods and sanitary supplies; advertising among the natives.

These subjects were considered and voted upon separately, thus: Name, Fiji Medical Mission; that the basis be educational, for whites and natives; that a nominal charge be made the natives, payable in cash or labor, according to ability of individual; that as soon as ad-

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Mimi Scharffenberg  
(1883-1919)



Photo courtesy of GC Archives.



January 22, 1920

## THE ADVENT REVIEW AND SABBATH HERALD

at Olean, N. Y. Brother and Sister Joseph Capman, assisted by Brother Shull, have been doing faithful work at this place, and as a result between fifteen and twenty loyal persons have united with the church. The time spent with these new believers was much enjoyed. Their hearts were wide open for the reception of truth, and God greatly blessed them. Some have been severely tested, but regardless of trials, they have determined, with Moses, rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. May God keep them all, and add to their number, is our prayer.

At Olean, leaders were appointed. Dr. Eldridge and his family have moved to this city, and will add greatly to the working force in Olean. The little company, with its new officers, is now in a position to do aggressive work. We were pleased to see so many young people at the meeting, and to hear their earnest testimonies.

Meetings were held at Salamanca, Tunesassa, Rochester, and Buffalo. At Rochester we were joined by Elder Haskell, whose messages were greatly appreciated by all. His mind was clear, and his studies connected and convincing. At each place new leaders were elected. The meetings were inspiring. It is evident that God is visiting his people. Elder Haskell had great freedom in presenting his messages at Buffalo.

The school at Tunesassa has made great improvement since I was there last. The order and discipline are good, and God's blessing is upon the institution. There is a promising future before this school.

Little did I dream that this would be the last trip among the churches I should be privileged to make with Elder Russell. During the last eight years a kind Providence has thrown us together in labor, first in Chicago, and later in the Atlantic Union Conference, where, in company with Elder R. D. Quinn, we carried for

not for their good.

"God never leads his children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning." — *"The Desire of Ages,"* p. 225. The things that now perplex us will in the hereafter be made plain. This is the only comfort we can offer Brother Russell's loved ones.

D. H. KRESS.

## MIMI T. SCHARFFENBERG

It is with deep sorrow that we record the death of Miss Mimi T. Scharffenberg, who was compelled to leave Korea on account of illness. She died in Takoma Park, Dec. 19, 1919, aged thirty-six years.

Sister Scharffenberg was born in St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 7, 1883. One year afterward the family moved to Milwaukee, Wis., where she was reared and educated. She was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. Later she, with her mother, heard the truths of the advent message and accepted them. Soon after she became a member of the Milwaukee church, she engaged in city Bible work, under the direction of the Wisconsin Conference. After four years of successful labor, an urgent call came from the Mission Board for her to go to Korea and help pioneer the work in that new mission field.

A few nights before the call came, she had an impressive dream. She saw many strange-looking women calling to her and beckoning her to come to them. Their earnest faces showed their anxiety for her to come. The call to Korea a few days later led her to most earnest prayer, and then she saw the connection between the dream and the call. Hasty preparations were made, and soon she was on her way to Korea. Upon arrival there, she saw her dream in living characters — the women of Korea.

Sister Scharffenberg was a true mis-

sionary. The bereaved father and mother, mourn their loss, but they know their beloved Mimi is asleep in Jesus.

Elder J. L. Shaw had charge of the funeral services, assisted by Elder F. M. Wilcox and the writer. We laid her to rest in Washington's beautiful Rock Creek Cemetery until the blessed Life-giver comes.

R. T. DOWSETT.

## THE NEGRO DEPARTMENT

FROM Detroit, Mich., I started out to make my final visits for the year. Leaving November 19, and reaching Houston, Tex., the 20th, I spent Sabbath, Sunday, and Monday with Brother H. D. Greene and the church. There a good work has begun. Brother Greene, who has been in that place about two years, is doing very well, and with proper help and encouragement will be able to build up a strong, creditable work for the Master.

I next stopped at New Orleans, where I remained over Thanksgiving, meeting with the church on Wednesday evening. I found that the church was behind in its mission funds, and after counsel with the conference president and with Brother King, the pastor, we decided to make an effort to raise enough money to reach the twenty-cent-a-week goal, by stimulating greater activity in the Harvest Ingathering and by the giving of donations. We hope these efforts will prove a great blessing to the church and to the cause.

I next visited the land of flowers — Florida. At Jacksonville I found a thriving church, with a fine church building in process of completion, which they hope to finish very soon. I preached here Sabbath and Sunday night. I also had the pleasure of visiting Professor Walker's excellent school and business college. During Elder J. S. Green's rousing tent effort last summer, the professor and his wife were among those who were soundly

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Sister Scharffenberg was a true missionary. She soon learned to love the Koreans. She at once entered into their lives. She lived with the people, teaching them the way of the better life. It took but eleven months for her to acquire the language, after which she opened our first school for the Korean women. About





Attendees at the General Meeting of the Korean Mission. Mimi Scharffenberg is in the middle of the front row. Photo is from ESDA.





Early Korean Church Leaders, 1907. Mimi Scharffenberg is in the front row, second from left.  
Photo from ESDA.





Early missionaries and their families, 1911. Mimi Scharffenberg is on the far left.  
Photo from ESDA.





"In those times few missionaries had been sent overseas. There was no provision made for an 'outfitting allowance'; no homes had been built for them in their new location; no definite plans had been laid for language study; nor had furlough policies been established. . . .

Today the General Conference would hesitate to send a young girl of only twenty-three to an outpost mission station. And who can know the hours of loneliness, the difficulties of language study and of becoming acclimated to the strange surroundings that Mimi experienced?

The first letters to the home folks were "full of tears," but courageous."

*The Youth's Instructor*, June 15, 1948, p. 9.

Mimi Scharffenberg. Photo from ESDA.



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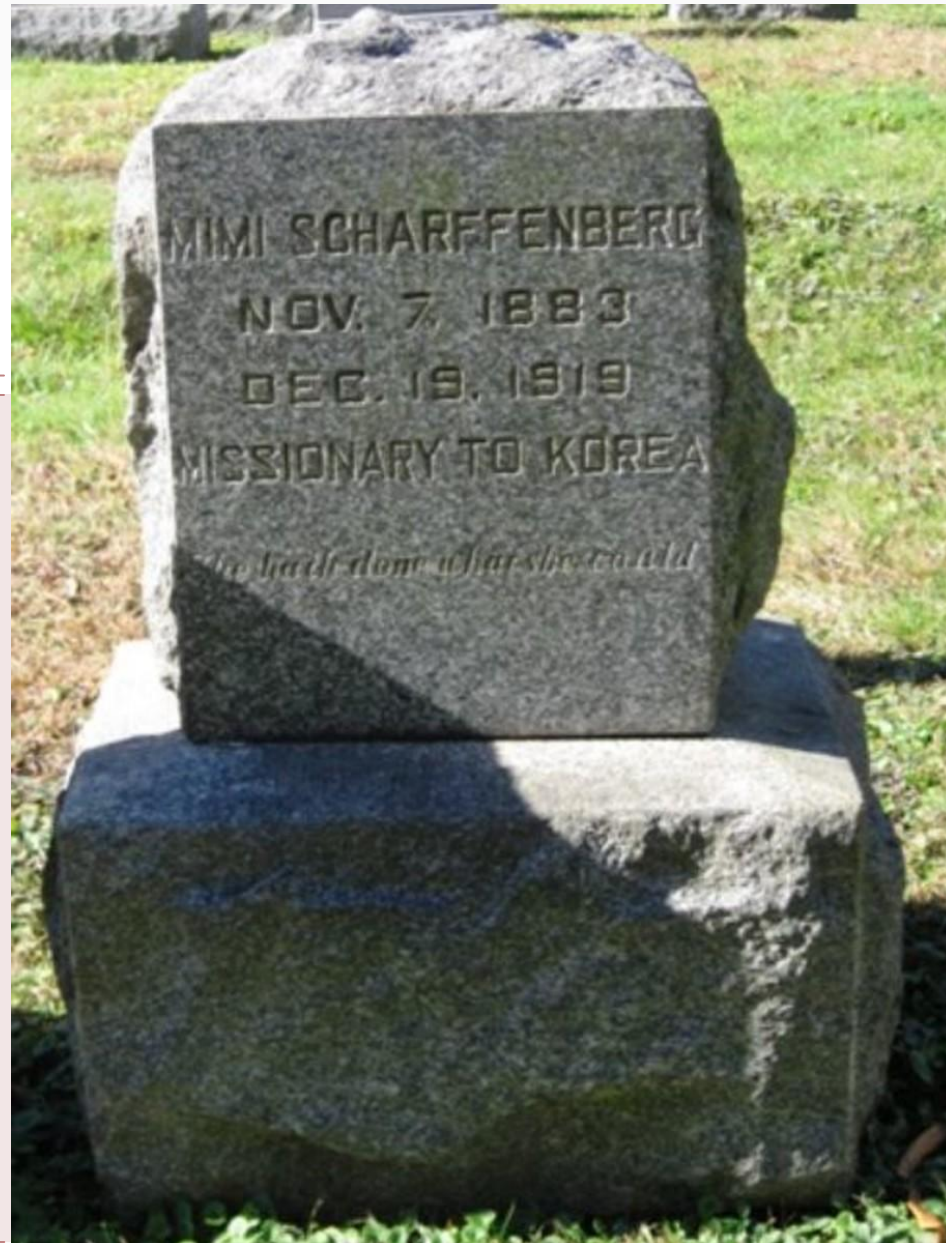
ful Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

Mimi Scharffenberg's twelve years in the Orient were spent as a true missionary. She gave herself unreservedly for the Master's service and to the Korean people. Although quite ill when returning to America, she found a woman on board ship who was interested in the Bible. As a result of the studies she gave this chance acquaintance, this woman accepted the Advent message and later became a Bible instructor herself.

Mimi's name is inscribed on the roll of honor and enshrined in the hearts of many. No one who ever made her acquaintance has forgotten her beautiful Christian character and her earnest devotion and self-sacrificing loyalty to the cause she loved.







*She hath done  
what she could.*

Grave of Mimi Scharffenberg at the Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington, D. C.






A monument honoring Mimi Scharffenberg at Sahmyook University.  
Photo courtesy of Kuk Heon Lee.

# William A. Spicer

“It shows how truly Christ is with us still in the missionary advance, even as in apostolic days.”

*The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, March 21, 1946, p. 4.





They have done what they could.  
What about you and me?