

Board of Foreign Missions Report title page

THE
SIXTIETH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
Presented to the General Assembly, May, 1897.
New York:
Presbyterian Building, 156 Fifth Avenue.
1897.

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MISSIONARIES SENT OUT IN 1896-1897.

Missions in Japan.

Rev. G. P. Pierson and Mrs. Pierson, returning.

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HOKKAIDO: *Sapporo*—Sapporo is the capital of the Hokkaido (Yezo), 550 miles north of Tokyo; station occupied, 1887; laborers—Rev. George P. Pierson and Mrs. Pierson, Miss S. C. Smith and Miss C. H. Rose.

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The Hokkaido

The Hokkaido is the large island to the north, formerly known as Yeso [*sic*]. The government is laboring to develop this part of the empire as rapidly as possible. The new settlers come from many parts of Japan, and being here in a new region, free from the social and religious bonds of their old homes, are, as a class, the most

receptive minds now to be found in all Japan. Otaru, the port of Sapporo, is a growing, busy city, of 40,000 inhabitants.

Evangelistic.--The church at Sapporo has been for some time entirely independent of Mission aid. At present, however, it is without a pastor, and Mr. Pierson is supplying its pulpit. A small church building has been erected at Takegawa [*sic*]; and a larger one will soon be built at Kamikawa. The work connected with these churches is most encouraging. The church at Mornbetsu [*sic*] has awakened to new effort ; and the little group of believers at Mororan [*sic*] deserves great credit for its liberal contribution towards a site for a church building. In Otaru, Mr. Pierson is in friendly touch with the people. They come singly and in groups, asking to be taught. Besides her work in the school, Miss Smith has been abundant in her labors in the Sunday-schools connected with the Sapporo Church, numbering nearly 400 scholars. In the summer she gives herself especially to work in the interior.

Educational.--The *Girls' School* at Sapporo has been in charge of Miss Smith and Miss Rose, the teaching falling to the lot of the latter. The school has increased in numbers, and has never been so prosperous as now. In Otaru, also, there is a growing school of much promise. Miss Rose has received permission from the authorities to reside there, and during Mr. Pierson's stay in Sapporo, Mrs. Pierson will take her place in the Sapporo school.

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LIST OF MISSIONARIES, 1897-98.¹

DATE OF APP'T	NAME.	MISSION.	STATION.
1888	Pierson, Rev. and Mrs. George P.	East Japan	Tokyo.
1880	Smith, Miss Sarah C.	East Japan	Sapporo.

¹The year of this report is mistyped in the original. It appears in the 1896-1897 report but as shown here.