

the high tide that rolled into the Whangpoo from the great Yangtze twice a day.

But this proved too slow a process and too wasteful, so when the second part of the campus was raised, a neighbor sold earth as deep as could be dug and hundreds of men were employed each with a high wheelbarrow carrying two baskets, each containing a bushel of earth. Grease is too expensive for these men to use in profusion, so the wooden axles of the barrows kept up a constant wailing from early dawn until pitch dark as basketful by basketful the foundation of the campus was built.

Then in 1918 when the campus addition was purchased, the day of small things was past and a huge iron pipe a half mile long was laid and all day for many months a muddy stream was pumped in from dredger barges filling in the first depression made on the campus and raising the low marsh of the newly purchased addition.

Mud is cheap but the cost either by the painfully slow basket process or by the more rapid muddy stream was almost as much as the original price of the land. But in a few years the value of the land in the suburbs of this great growing city had increased ten times.

5. FOUNDATIONS

When a part of the campus had been raised to a height of six feet, trenches were dug down through the soft earth to the marshy soil beneath. Into the marshy soil piles were driven. On top of the piles four feet wide and six feet deep a mixture of lime and sand and broken brick was pounded into a solid mass. This was done by a band of a dozen men mounted on a high platform and raising a huge wooden pestle suspended from ropes and letting it drop on the mass to the rhythm of an Oriental chant.

It took eight long months to prepare the foundations of Yates Hall, the first college building. This was typical of the early life of the institution. As so much



Laying the Corner Stone of Yates Hall.



The Corner Stone.

time was spent before the walls of the first college building appeared above ground, so the college was the product of long years of unnoticed preparation. The spirit of Christianity, the missionary movement and its advent in China each added to that unseen foundation that was firmly laid for the rising walls of this Christian educational institution.

This strong foundation of Christian purpose explains much of the later achievement of the college that would be hard to account for otherwise.



The Old Bell Tower

CHAPTER II. BUILDING

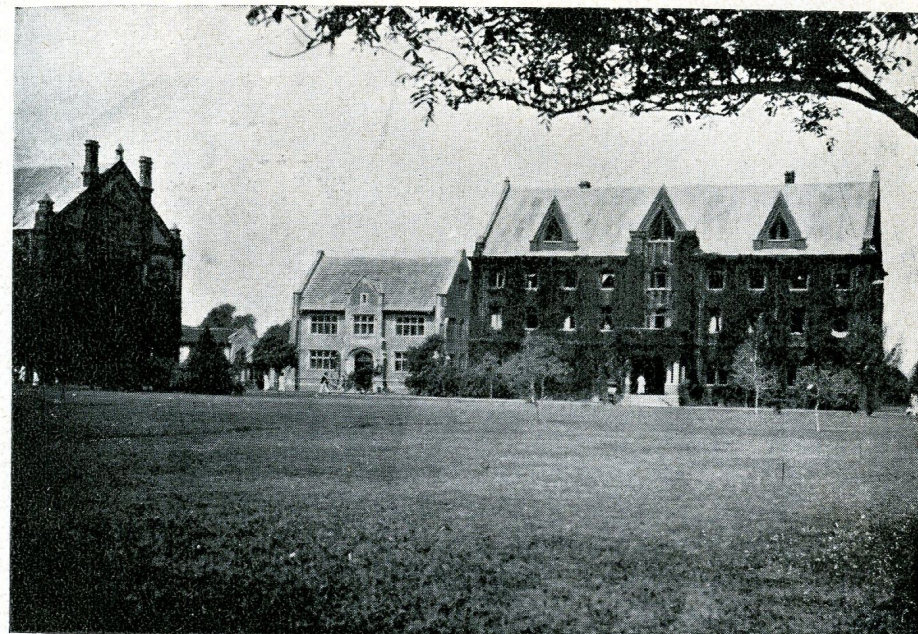
6. THE CORNER STONE

On January 21, 1908, the corner stone of Yates Hall was laid by the Hon. E. W. Stephens, the president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and also president of the first meeting of the joint convention of Northern and Southern Baptists of America. Consul-General Denby of the United States and His Excellency the Taotai of Shanghai were in attendance. Many others were present who had a greater interest than these worthies and who have built during the years the structure that is now known as the University of Shanghai.

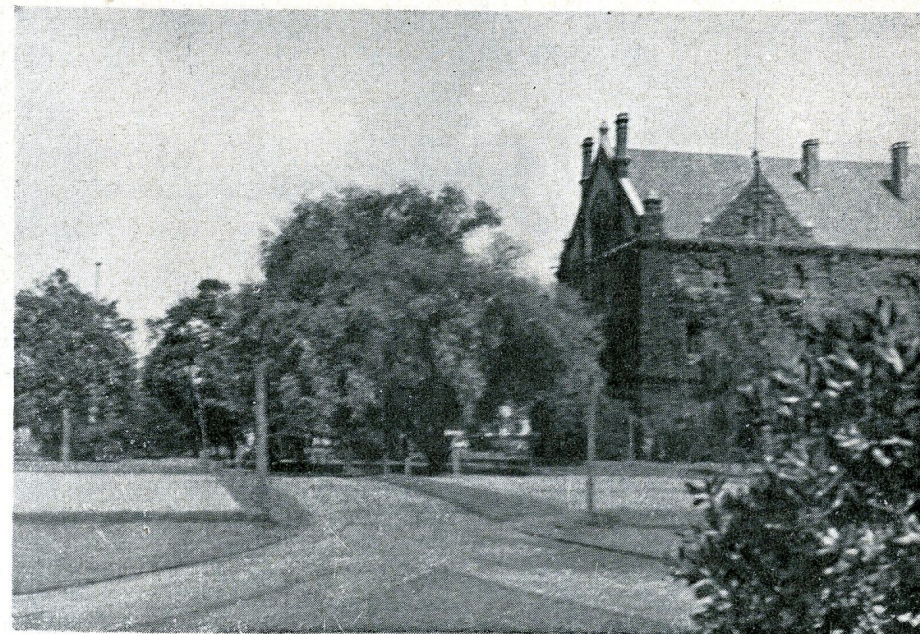
Because there was no passable road, the numerous guests came from Shanghai in a steam launch landing with great difficulty on the muddy shore of the river. It was a desolate prospect and gave little promise of the institution to be: a pile of mud in the midst of a reed marsh, a rack of scaffolding, piles of bricks ready for the walls, and a cube of stone in the midst. But this was the corner stone not only of Yates Hall, but of the whole institution. It was laid in faith and that faith has borne fruit. At the celebration of each successive anniversary men will gather about this stone and thank God for the faith and toil of those who laid this the first corner stone of the first college building of the University of Shanghai.

The first students will always remember Yates Hall with peculiar affection. For over five years this was the only college building. This hall contained classrooms, laboratories, library, offices, chapel and even dormitories, such as they were, with eight or ten students in each room of the third story and as many as fifty crowded into the attic.

In spite of crowded and inadequate conditions these students laid the foundations of the present great body of alumni of the University of Shanghai.



Yates Hall, Gymnasium, Breaker Hall.



The Old Willow Tree

7. THE OLD WILLOW TREE

When the land for the college was purchased, there were a few willow trees along the edge of a low rice field. Because of limited funds the first land that was raised amounted to only about one fourth of the total of the land purchased. This left a bank six feet high all around the edge. A seed from one of the willow trees dropped on the top of the bank and coming up formed a little leaning willow shoot. But in spite of neglect it escaped destruction and now is one of the largest trees on the campus and in the summer is a favorite gathering place for students as they wait for cars to go to the city.

The old willow tree is typical of the small beginnings of the institution as a whole. The whole College, Seminary, and Middle School staff consisted of eight persons, four Chinese and four Americans, the Freshman class counted only seven, and there were no other college classes, and only two Middle School classes of about thirty students.

It was several years before more of the land could be raised, and the water used to come within twenty feet of Yates Hall on the east and of the door of house No. 11 on the west. It was six years before another large building, Breaker Hall, was built. Even the student body remained almost stationary for several years.

In fact, it was not until 1914, the year of the beginning of the Great War, that the college began to show signs of breaking the little shell of the beginning days. But actually like the unnoticed growth of the little neglected willow the college was building up inner strength that was little noticed especially by those within. Teachers were added one by one, equipment was slowly accumulated in library and laboratory, and the number and loyalty of the student body grew apace. In those days a friend in Shanghai once remarked that some day Shanghai College would be one of the most influential educational institutions in this part of China; we who



The Front Gate.