Campbell, Mary Margaretta (1858-1881)

Mary Campbell and Edna S. Cole were the first single women to serve as members of the Laos Mission and together founded the Chiang Mai Girls' School (Dara Academy) in 1879. Campbell was born on 20 March 1858. Her father was a Presbyterian minister serving in Lexington, Indiana, when she died in 1881. She and Cole were classmates at the Western Female Seminary, graduating in 1878. They came to Siam together, arrived in Chiang Mai in April 1879, and immediately undertook their educational work, which had great success. Campbell drowned in the Mae Nam Chao Phraya on 8 February 1881, and her death had a profound effect on the mission and on her many friends in the United States.