

## **Introduction to Documents in Personnel Files of Hokusei Gakuen's Founders**

In recent years, the Presbyterian Historical Society (PHS) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA, has made available to the public upon request documents from the personnel files of missionaries serving under the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (PCUSA). Though the PHS records contain files with information on over twenty PCUSA missionaries who served at Hokusei Jo Gakko during Sarah Smith's years in Sapporo, those of three key figures are presented here: Sarah C. Smith, Alice M. Monk, and Elizabeth M. Evans.

Smith's and Evans' files contain relatively few materials and Monk's by far the most of the three. From among these, several particularly informative documents from each missionary's records are transcribed here. They shed light on the path the lives of these heads of school at Hokusei took, what they sought to accomplish, and the progress they made toward reaching their goals.